

From: [Heidi Sutherland](#)
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Subject: Submission to the Electoral Reform Bill
Date: Thursday, 16 January 2014 10:09:45 AM

I am writing to voice my concerns about how the laws that the Queensland Attorney-General is trying to introduce for tougher ID requirements. I believe that will affect the ability of a subset of our population's ability to vote, such as indigenous Australians, those with a disability, the very old and some young people who don't necessarily have ID forms such as driver's licences and passports that the majority of us take for granted. These people's voices are already under-represented in our political system and this move will exacerbate this when, as voting is compulsory in Australia, we should be encouraging and supporting all to be able to do so. The burden on checking IDs will be greater and more costly at election time and is unlikely to stop the few people that engage in voter impersonation, as I'm sure they will find alternative ways if so determined. In return for this apparent benefit for which there is no evidence at the moment, many will be denied their right as Australian citizens to vote.

Regards,

Heidi Sutherland

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