

**From:** [Cheryl Taylor](#)  
**To:** [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to the Electoral Reform Amendment Bill  
**Date:** Thursday, 16 January 2014 3:48:09 PM

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I'm very concerned that the laws being considered are likely to lead to disenfranchising many voters, especially indigenous people, Australian living in remote communities, young voters, and people living with a disability. As an elderly person myself, I'm above all concerned that these laws might hinder my own ability to vote in elections, as a result of increasing infirmity.

The right of people to vote, and the equal weighting of all votes is fundamental to Australian democracy. Please ensure that any new laws do not erode these fundamental rights.

The proposal to check everyone's ID will make the queues at polling stations longer, and some voters will be discouraged by this; or they will be physically unable to stand in long queues for long periods. More polling officers will need to be hired, and this will raise the cost of elections for taxpayers.

These laws are unnecessary, since there is no evidence that "voter impersonation" is frequent, or that it has ever affected the outcome of an election.

Cheryl Taylor

