From:

Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Subject:

Queensland Bill of Rights Friday, 15 April 2016 9:28:41 AM

A Bill of Rights should include the guarantee of Parliamentary and Local Authority representation for all voters.

In Queensland many Local Authority Councils have too small an enrollment to accommodate single-member divisions and one-vote-one-value.

These councils are elected by the archaic and extremely undemocratic method of multi-member first-past-the-post voting.

This foul system of voting allows a minority of vested interests to elect the entire council.

An example is the 2012 results for the election of the Lockyer Valley Regional Council.

39.5 percent of the formal vote elected the entire council, and if you include the appalling number who fail to vote at all, about 28 percent of the enrollment elected the entire council.

The only true democratic way to elect councillors in such Local Authority Regions is by proportional representation, as is done in NSW, Vic, Tas and SA.

Vested interests are of course deadly opposed to such an electoral system, and it is totally appalling that the Electoral Commission of Queensland and the Queensland Government cave in to them.

Graham Wessling