

Committee Secretary
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
400 George St. Brisbane 4000

22 October 2019

Email: lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Madam/Sir

Re: Submission on the Electoral (Voter's Choice) Amendment Bill 2019

The opportunity to comment on the proposed Bill is appreciated.

I am strongly in favour of the proposed Bill to amend the Electoral Act 1992 to require the three dot point Amendment set out on the Committee's website.

Dot point 1 of the proposed Amendment will be welcomed by electors who wish to vote only for 1 candidate – and Dot point 2 offers an alternative for those who wish to indicate preferences for more than 1. Dot point 3 ensures instruction for the elector on the voting process.

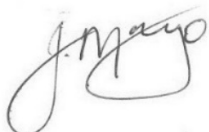
Elections for any outcome only seem fair when a voter can enter the polling process believing the weight of their vote is equal to that of other voters – and the contest is decided by the numeracy of votes in a first past the post outcome.

Generally speaking, a first past the post outcome more properly reflects the will of the people. The number of 'Independents' winning electorates in recent government elections is an example.

If I understand correctly, candidates in government elections do not have to declare if or where they will give their preferences by a set date prior to polling day. This is unjust. Quite simply, the giving of preferences causes great disillusionment within an electorate because a candidate can suddenly exercise more weight of influence than the individual voter.

This is a good Amendment that will serve Queensland well.

Yours sincerely,



John Mayo

