



Submission No 2 from Adrian Jackson

In addition to my original submission today I wish to add the following. I support the current preferential voting system and in the Senate the above the line and below the line options for voting. The will of the voter is served either way and just because it does not go the way that the 2 major parties would like from time to time then that is just to bad.

I voted Wikileaks who came 7th on primary vote for the Senate in Victoria but the preference flow did not help them this time - "that life" as Hinch would say - as Ricky Muir from AMEP got the 6th Senate seat bumping off Senator Helen Kroger who came 7th.

So in Victoria we have elected for 01 Jul 14 two ALP, 2 Liberal, 1 Green and 1 AMEP. This is more representational that in the past when it was mostly all ALP or Coalition in the Senator. It will be interesting to watch how Muir represents Victoria as we did with Steve Fielding. I dont recall any crocodile tears from the Coalition when Steve Fielding (Family First) won on preferences a decade ago. Preferential voting does represent the will of the people as the most popular candidate (on preferences) is elected.

MP's including Tony Smith who "rabbit on" about the fact that Muir only got a small primary vote dont get it. Candidates win using the preferential voting not by the primary vote unless they get 50% plus one vote in the House of Representative and preferences are not distributed.

As for these so called "preference deal" between candidates we all know that only the major parties benefit from these so called "deals" as it is rare that the preferences of the major parties are distributed as they usually are the last two parties standing after the preferences from other candidates are distributed.

I love voting below the line but usually do it at a pre poll on the first day the polling station open weeks before the big election Saturday.

Regards, Adrian Jackson.

WA - While I have not done election work as a scrutineer for about 10 years from what I observed then I thought that the AEC procedures in Victoria (Melbourne Ports specifically) were

good. I did some post election scrutineering of postal votes too in the AEC HQ in Victoria. It would appear that in WA procedures, including security of ballot papers, were not followed.

Taxpayer Funding of Candidates - I do not support any taxpayer funding of candidates. Post election candidates get about \$2,50 per vote but only for candidates who get 4% plus of the primary vote.

Funding should be Fair - Having said the above I think my view will be ignored by the committee as the two major plus some others have much to gain from we taxpayers funding of candidates from parties with increasingly fewer members.

4% Rule - The 4% rule should be abandoned as its bias against independent and small party candidates. It is also discriminatory and perhaps corrupt as it appears designed to discourage some candidates by imposing a financial penalty (no funding). If funding is to occur then all candidates should get \$2.50 (or whatever it is currently) per vote regardless of whether they get one vote or thousands of votes.

\$ 10,000 - Another funding option could be funding all candidates UP TO the value of \$10,000 per candidate, per election, after they provide receipts for the costs of advertising, posters, leaflets and HTV cards etc for their campaign irrespective of how their campaign went vote wise. If they can only provide receipts for a lesser sum then that is the sum they should be paid.

Nomination - The nomination procedure for all candidates should be identical. Bulk nomination on separate nomination forms for party candidates should be abandoned. Every candidate whether an endorsed party candidate or an independent should be required to complete the form and submit it personally to the returning officer for the electorate the candidate is standing in with the deposit. The form should be signed in front of the returning officer and no other nominators (50 or more for some candidates) should be required. Currently the nomination procedure is not a level playing field. We should encourage candidates not discourage them. The more the better for a choice for voters.

Senate - For the Senate all the candidates for a party or group must front up to the AEC state HQ with their nomination form too.

Ballots - The names of political parties should not appear on ballot papers as this may create a bias for voters. Only the name of the candidate should appear. It's up to the voter to sort out who's who on the ballot paper not the AEC or this committee.

Committee in Melbourne - If the committee is visiting Melbourne to take submissions please advise the details of such a visit. If not why not?

Acknowledgement - Please acknowledge receipt of this submission and what the committee's recommendation are after all submissions have been read and factored into their deliberations.

Regards, Adrian Jackson.

