



*This is an example of a number of form submissions with similar content*

To: [Committee EM \(REPS\)](#)  
Subject: Sub066 Dean Massam  
Date: Sunday, 23 February 2014 11:19:57 PM

I refer the table below and ask that it be included and submission to the Australian Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters.

regards

Dean Massam

**AEC and Election Processes – Problems and Solutions**

<b><u>Problems</u></b>	<b><u>Solutions</u></b>
The names of dead people remain on electoral rolls allowing groups to organise to vote using these names.	<b>The AEC needs to monitor death notices and the notifications from State Offices of Births, Deaths and Marriages to remove the names of all deceased people from the rolls prior to elections.</b>
Not many Australians are members of political parties but many temporary AEC employees are in fact members of political parties.	<b>Members of registered political parties must be excluded from permanent and temporary employment with the AEC to remove any conflict of interest and support the independence of our democracy.</b>
Prior to the election the AEC writes to all officers in charge of polling booths around Australia to direct them to award preferences between the top two candidates as predicted by the AEC.	<b>Legislation must be amended to cease this practice entirely. The AEC must not be involved in predicting election results and preferences must be distributed in accordance with the results of ballot counting only.</b>
Election results or predictions by the AEC are published for eastern States electorates before voting in Western Australia and South Australia has been completed.	<b>The AEC must not publish predictions or results for the eastern States before voting in Western Australia and South Australia has been completed.</b>
No personal identification (ID) is required to vote in Australia - so how do we know who votes? The production of ID is required for the purchase of medicines and a range of other activities in Australia.	<b>All potential voters must produce positive identification before they are permitted to cast a vote.</b>
Currently when a person votes at a polling booth their name is crossed off the roll in that booth only. However, this does not stop people from voting in all other booths in their electorate.	<b>All booths in each electorate should be linked by computer or the internet to ensure a person cannot vote multiple times at different booths.</b>
When the AEC officer issues an elector with a	<b>All ballots must initialled by polling booth officials</b>

<p>ballot paper in the polling booth, he or she must initial the ballot, giving the impression that only votes with initials can be accepted by the AEC as genuine.</p> <p>But this is not the case, as all ballot papers initialled or not can be counted if they are properly filled out.</p>	<p><b>and all un-initialled ballot papers must be ruled informal.</b></p>
<p>Currently, party scrutineers are not provided with a list of the names of polling booth officials and their corresponding initials, to enable verification of officials' initials on ballot papers.</p>	<p><b>The AEC must provide all party scrutineers with a list of the names of polling booth officials and their corresponding initials, to enable verification of officials' initials on ballot papers.</b></p>
<p>All polling booths still use pencils for voters to fill in their ballot paper. Why, because a mark made by a pen can't be rubbed out while a pencil mark can.</p>	<p><b>Legislation needs to be amended to ban the use of pencils, or better still, electronic voting needs to be introduced before the next election.</b></p>
<p>The AEC use cardboard boxes with flimsy seals to store ballot papers with plastic wrapped around them.</p>	<p><b>The use of sturdy metal boxes which can be properly secured and not tampered with should be re-instated.</b></p>
<p>Currently there is no way of knowing where a ballot has been cast so it is easy to move votes from one booth to another or add votes.</p>	<p><b>All ballots need to be colour-coded for each booth and accounted for and reconciled to the number of ballots issued.</b></p>
<p>Pre-polling starts up to 19 days prior to the election and the votes are not counted until the day after the election - 20 % or more of all votes cast were pre-poll votes.</p>	<p><b>Pre-poll votes can only be cast by those with a genuine need to vote early.</b></p> <p><b>All pre-poll votes need to be counted with scrutineers present, if not announced, on the day they are cast.</b></p>
<p>Pre-poll votes are left in unguarded rented premises which provides the opportunity of interfering with the ballot boxes or removing them as was done in Western Australia.</p>	<p><b>Security at all premises where pre-poll votes are stored must be significantly upgraded.</b></p>
<p>In Western Australia, 1,370 two metre long votes disappeared. Was it because, with the election of Senator Dio Wang, the Palmer United Party would hold the balance of power in Australia?</p>	<p><b>All recommendations in the report by Mick Keelty AO (former head of the Australian Federal Police), which exposed the AEC's lack of security and faulty handling of the election in Western Australia, must be implemented.</b></p>
<p>The electoral act allows political parties or candidates to mail postal vote applications to voters along with candidate and political party election campaign material.</p>	<p><b>Political parties or candidates should not be permitted to mail election campaign material to votes with applications for postal votes.</b></p>
<p>Postal vote applications can be completed on-</p>	<p><b>Postal vote applications should not be permitted</b></p>

<p>line and either mailed, emailed or faxed to the AEC. This process can be manipulated as some parties have created websites which resemble the AEC site and the same process as outlined above can be undertaken.</p>	<p><b>to be completed on-line.</b></p>
<p>Postal vote application forms sent to voters by a political party can be completed by the voter and then returned to the party or the candidate, rather than the AEC. (The party must forward the form to the AEC for processing). Once the application is processed, the AEC is then required to send the ballot papers to the address on the application form, which can be the address of the party rather than the voter's address. What happens to the ballot paper from there is anyone's guess. This process is open to all manner of manipulation.</p>	<p><b>All postal vote application forms must be sent by the applicant/voter directly to the AEC and ballot papers must be sent from the AEC directly to the applicant/voter.</b></p> <p><b>Completed ballot papers must be sent by the voter directly to the AEC and not to a party or candidate address.</b></p>