

**To the Honourable the Speaker and the members of the House of
Representatives.**

This petition of a concerned citizen of Australia requests the House to instruct the Attorney General's department and the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters to conduct an audit of compliance with Section 44 of the Constitution for all members of parliament who were born overseas.

As things stand at the moment the Australian Electoral Commission cannot ask a candidate or member of parliament if they comply with S44 of the Constitution, the AEC must take a candidate or MP on trust rather than being able to confirm they comply with the Constitution.

The Special Minister of State has advised me by telephone that he has refused to respond to a petition to the House presented 23 November 2015 asking who is responsible for monitoring and policing S44 of the Constitution.

There may be up to three members of parliament who do not comply with the constitution and because of the way the various laws operate and because the Special Minister of State refuses to respond to a petition about the matter, a private individual has no way of getting an answer from a member of parliament about their compliance. This petition is the only way outside the 40 day period after an election is declared that the Australian Constitution can be monitored and policed.