From: Laura Coad [lozra@hotmail.com] Sent: Thursday, 15 May 2008 2:25 AM To: Committee, EM (REPS) Subject: Voting Overseas To whom it may concern,

## **SUBMISSION 89**

Just a quick note on my experiences on voting overseas. I currently reside in the North of England and have found that there are not many Aussies who have made it up this far, which makes it very difficult to get someone to witness your postal vote. Although, I thought I followed procedures correctly when what to do in a situation when you did not have a witness, my vote came back to my Australian address as void.

It was also difficult applying for a postal vote as again you need a witness to sign i.e. someone on the Australian Electoral Roll.

I believe either the guidelines need to be made clearer or this system of witnesses needs to be simplified.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards

Laura Coad

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