Joint Standing committee on electoral matters Parliament House Canberra

20 March 2009

Dear Sir

While I appreciate the interim report from the Standing Committee on Electoral Matters, I wish to express a warning and make a recommendation. I can clearly appreciate the unsustainable nature of electric voting for the vision impaired but I add this caution.

I have been voting for a decade and a half and on several occasions I have been to polling booths on election day and requested some assistance in being able to vote. On not all occasions but on many occasions I have been advised by the voting assistant that I would have to vote above the line as they did not have the time to spend with me completing the "below the line" Senate electoral ballot. This concerns me because the last time I voted using the electric voting system was the first time when I felt completely enfranchised and able to truly express my opinions in a vote.

I would appreciate this comment being considered as evidence in further discussions about this form of voting.

Yours sincerely

Ms Marrette Corby