

Date Received: 21 February 2014

From: Val Wigzell
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2014 5:27 PM
To: Committee, EM (REPS)
Subject: Sub067 Val Wigzell



To Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters:

Subject: Voting in Senate elections

My **preferred solution** to the problem of preference deals with Senate voting papers:

1. Do away with above the line and preferential voting entirely.
2. Candidates listed, with party affiliation, if any, by ballot for positions.
3. Voters make a valid vote if they vote 1 for just one candidate. If there are six vacancies, the maximum number of candidates a voter can vote for is six, marking the ballot paper as follows: 1,2; or 1,2,3; or 1,2,3,4; or 1,2,3,4, 5 or 1,2,3,4, 5,6. Any of these combinations of votes would be valid.
4. No party can put forward more candidates than there are vacancies.
5. The six candidates with the highest number of votes are elected.
6. I accept that this may still leave us with a large voting paper, but the outcome would be much more democratic.

Alternative solution: Abolish preference tickets and allow voters to list their own party preferences above the line in Senate elections. Outlaw preference deals between different political parties and groups.

(Mrs) VA Wigzell