



**Inquiry into 2014 election**

Jack Medcraft to: [emc@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:emc@parliament.vic.gov.au)

16/06/2015 12:04 PM

Cc: [REDACTED]

Mr Mark Roberts

Dear sir,

I would like to raise a number of points that I feel need to be addressed before the next election takes place.

As an Independent candidate, I found it quite intimidating to stand at the pre polling booth and be confronted by party officials and supporters who were hell bent on restricting my ability to hand out flyers.

What I would like to see implemented are the following:

No more than 2 political party supporters handing out how to vote cards at one time. Also the use of emergency service personnel at the last election was highly inflammatory and biased towards one party considering the misleading information they were putting out.

This should never be allowed to happen again as they played on the public sentiment to get votes.

Have pre poll centres in areas that are easily accessible and which don't cause any inconvenience to businesses around them. The Sunbury pre polling was an absolute shambles as it cost businesses money plus it took away the parking availability for their customers.

Pre polling was abused over the period.

This facility should only be available to people who cannot get to a polling booth on the day and they should have to prove why they can't make it on that day.

Multiple voting.

There is no safeguard to stop people from voting more than once as in one booth at Dallas, one man came in to place voting papers in the box for him and his 4 wives. Although the attendant was shocked she never challenged him and his votes were counted.

Now this cannot be allowed as it leaves itself open for corruption.

What should be considered is having the electoral roll marked off electronically as voters register and this data base could be linked to all the voting centres.

Also voters should have to show ID before they are issued with voting papers as a number of people have been known to have acted on behalf of someone else without onus of proof.

Finally, I would like to see an even playing field for Independent candidates. All parties are allowed to have their political logos and identification on the voting card but independents like myself are discriminated against because all we can have is our name nothing else. I am sure that if I had had "Independent for Sunbury" on my material more people would have voted that way.

Thanks for the opportunity to submit this I only hope we can see some changes.

Steve Jack Medcraft  
[REDACTED]