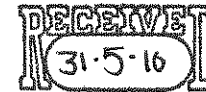


28 May 2010

Submission 21



Mr. Robin Scott MP
Chair
Electoral Matters Committee
Parliament House
Spring St
East Melbourne 3002

Dear Mr. Scott,

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 May 2010 inviting submissions to the inquiry into the Functions and Administration of Voting Centres.

I would like to submit the following points for consideration in your inquiry.

We believe that the Victorian Electoral Committee conducts the administration of voting centers with professionalism, proficiency and fairness.

However there are a couple of areas that we would suggest that the committee examine.

Early Voting Centres

There are concerns that early voting centres are not always located in close proximity to the electorate that they serve. There were no early voting centres in the following State electorates in 2006:

- Bendigo East
- Box Hill
- Brighton
- Brunswick
- Derrimut
- Doncaster
- Forest Hill
- Keilor
- Kew
- Lara
- Lyndhurst
- Malvern
- Monbulk
- Mulgrave
- Narre Warren North
- Niddrie
- Oakleigh
- Pascoe Vale
- Prahran
- Preston
- Scoresby
- South Barwon
- Williamstown

It is essential that there be an early voting centre in each electorate. This is a basic matter of fairness to all concerned and a lack of local early voting centres can result in electors being disenfranchised and failing to vote.

Voters in the Narre Warren North electorate who were unable to vote on polling day were forced to go to Dandenong to vote, this is approximately 5kms outside of the electorate.

Joint Voting Centres

We believe that joint voting centres should only exist where there is a longstanding and strong community of interest argument. In these cases, a joint voting centre streamlines the voting process not only for electors but for the staff working in voting centres on polling day. We believe that joint voting centres should, where reasonable, be aligned with electorates. Please find attached data comparing informality in single and joint booths to support this argument

Accessibility of Voting Centres

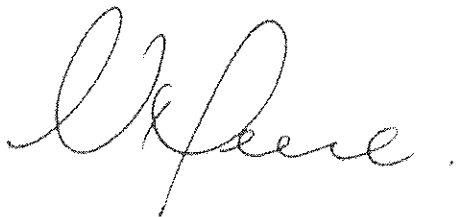
There has been some confusion in the past with the Ballarat West Voting Centre. The Ballarat West Voting Centre is located in the seat of Ballarat East and sees many voters enrolled in the seat of Ballarat West showing up to vote and being turned away. We would suggest a change in name for this voting venue.

Location of Voting Centres

We would also advocate for the Kensington voting booth to be relocated back to Kensington Primary School as it is the natural centre of the community and to where people naturally gravitate.

It has also been brought to our attention the close proximity of booths in some electorates. For example in the Bentleigh electorate there are two booths located within 240 metres of each other.

Yours in Friendship

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Reece', with a small flourish at the end.

**Nicholas Reece
State Secretary
Campaign Director
Victorian ALP**

Victorian Labor

Submission to Inquiry into Functions and Administration of Voting Centres

2006

LGA Seat	Single Booths	Single Booths Informal Vote	Joint Booths	Joint Booths Informal Vote	Difference
ALBERT PARK	10	4.5%	3	4.3%	-0.1%
ALTONA	9	6.0%	4	5.7%	-0.3%
BALLARAT EAST	26	5.2%	8	3.8%	-1.4%
BALLARAT WEST	13	3.5%	6	3.1%	-0.5%
BASS	27	3.9%	1	4.1%	0.1%
BAYSWATER	11	4.7%	5	3.8%	-0.9%
BELLARINE	17	5.5%	1	2.6%	-2.9%
BENDIGO EAST	19	3.6%	8	3.9%	0.3%
BENDIGO WEST	25	4.0%	8	4.2%	0.2%
BENTLEIGH	13	3.5%	1	3.7%	0.2%
BOX HILL	11	3.9%	3	4.0%	0.1%
BRIGHTON	13	3.9%	2	3.7%	-0.2%
BROADMEADOWS	13	4.5%	5	4.3%	-0.2%
BRUNSWICK	12	3.8%	5	4.0%	0.2%
BULLEEN	8	3.2%	8	4.4%	1.1%
BUNDOORA	9	3.0%	3	3.7%	0.6%
BURWOOD	13	5.3%	2	2.2%	-3.1%
CARRUM	13	8.7%	2	3.6%	-5.0%
CAULFIELD	10	7.2%	3	4.0%	-3.1%
CLAYTON	13	5.6%	4	2.9%	-2.7%
CRANBOURNE	13	4.4%	5	2.6%	-1.8%
DANDENONG	11	4.5%	6	3.8%	-0.6%
DERRIMUT	10	2.9%	4	3.4%	0.5%
DONCASTER	7	4.0%	9	4.6%	0.6%
ELTHAM	10	5.1%	3	3.6%	-1.5%
ESSENDON	11	4.0%	6	3.4%	-0.7%
EVELYN	12	5.8%	2	2.3%	-3.6%
FERNTREE GULLY	10	6.1%	5	3.5%	-2.7%
FOOTSCRAY	14	6.1%	2	3.2%	-2.9%
FOREST HILL	12	7.1%	1	2.1%	-5.0%
FRANKSTON	13	7.9%	2	3.6%	-4.3%
GEELONG	17	6.6%	3	3.5%	-3.1%
GEMBROOK	19	3.5%	6	4.1%	0.6%
HASTINGS	14	4.0%	6	4.0%	0.0%
HAWTHORN	13	3.6%	3	4.3%	0.7%
IVANHOE	12	4.7%	1	4.3%	-0.4%
KEILOR	10	4.6%	1	4.2%	-0.5%
KEW	13	4.5%	2	4.0%	-0.5%
KILSYTH	11	4.4%	10	4.5%	0.1%
KOROROIT	9	4.5%	3	6.0%	1.5%
LARA	12	4.2%	5	3.7%	-0.5%
LYNDHURST	10	4.2%	6	4.4%	0.2%

Victorian Labor

Submission to Inquiry into Functions and Administration of Voting Centres

MACEDON	20	2.9%	2	2.3%	-0.7%
MALVERN	12	5.3%	1	6.7%	1.4%
MELBOURNE	10	6.1%	2	3.4%	-2.7%
MELTON	15	3.0%	2	5.6%	2.5%
MILL PARK	7	7.6%	9	5.4%	-2.2%
MITCHAM	14	6.1%	1	3.7%	-2.5%
MONBULK	17	4.1%	6	5.5%	1.4%
MORDIALLOC	13	3.8%	1	5.2%	1.4%
MORNINGTON	10	4.1%	2	6.5%	2.4%
MOUNT WAVERLEY	12	7.0%	3	6.1%	-0.9%
MULGRAVE	11	4.2%	3	5.7%	1.6%
NARRE WARREN NORTH	7	5.8%	8	4.9%	-0.9%
NARRE WARREN SOUTH	11	5.5%	7	5.1%	-0.4%
NEPEAN	17	5.3%	1	8.6%	3.3%
NIDDRIE	11	3.8%	5	5.1%	1.3%
NORTHCOTE	13	4.4%	3	6.7%	2.3%
OAKLEIGH	12	3.9%	2	5.8%	1.9%
PASCOE VALE	10	3.8%	10	6.1%	2.3%
PRAHRAN	9	5.6%	5	7.6%	1.9%
PRESTON	15	5.9%	6	9.2%	3.3%
RICHMOND	12	3.5%	1	6.3%	2.8%
RIPON	40	4.1%	3	3.1%	-1.1%
SANDRINGHAM	15	5.1%	2	6.1%	1.0%
SCORESBY	9	6.9%	7	3.7%	-3.3%
SEYMOUR	28	5.3%	1	2.9%	-2.4%
SOUTH BARWON	16	4.7%	1	2.3%	-2.4%
TARNEIT	6	4.3%	7	3.5%	-0.8%
THOMASTOWN	9	3.7%	5	6.7%	3.0%
WARRANTDYTE	12	3.6%	10	5.5%	1.9%
WILLIAMSTOWN	14	4.1%	2	3.9%	-0.2%
YAN YEAN	14	5.3%	8	4.8%	-0.6%
YUROKE	9	6.6%	3	3.7%	-2.9%
Averages/Totals	17	4.8%	4	4.4%	-0.4%

Victorian Labor

Submission to Inquiry into Functions and Administration of Voting Centres

2002

LGA Seat	Single Booths	Single Booths Informal Vote	Joint Booths	Joint Booths Informal Vote	Difference
ALBERT PARK	11	2.8%	1	4.0%	1.2%
ALTONA	10	4.3%	1	5.0%	0.7%
BASS	27	3.0%	1	3.6%	0.6%
BAYSWATER	14	2.5%	1	2.8%	0.3%
BELLARINE	15	2.3%	1	3.4%	1.1%
BENDIGO EAST	22	1.9%	1	3.2%	1.3%
BULLEEN	11	3.4%	1	3.0%	-0.5%
CARRUM	14	3.1%	1	3.2%	0.1%
DANDENONG	12	5.9%	2	6.1%	0.2%
FOOTSCRAY	15	6.9%	1	6.8%	-0.2%
GEMBROOK	20	3.3%	2	3.7%	0.4%
HASTINGS	18	3.3%	1	0.8%	-2.5%
KILSYTH	15	2.9%	3	3.2%	0.3%
MILL PARK	10	4.4%	1	6.5%	2.0%
MOUNT WAVERLEY	14	3.1%	1	2.8%	-0.3%
PASCOE VALE	14	4.8%	2	6.7%	1.9%
SEYMOUR	27	2.6%	1	1.9%	-0.7%
THOMASTOWN	12	5.7%	1	3.4%	-2.3%
WARRANTYTE	16	2.3%	1	3.9%	1.6%
WILLIAMSTOWN	16	3.5%	5	2.6%	-0.9%
YAN YEAN	21	2.8%	3	3.0%	0.2%
Averages/Totals	19	3.5%	2	3.8%	0.2%