



Hon Cameron Dick MP
Member for Greenslopes

In reply please quote: 529223/1, J/10/01882



Queensland
Government

Attorney-General
and Minister for Industrial Relations

22 APR 2010

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr ~~Laurie~~ Neil,

Thank you for your letter dated 24 March 2010 concerning Petition No.1353-09.

The petition proposes an Identification Electronic Voting System (IEVS) for Queensland, requiring each voter to provide proof of identity at a polling booth so their name could be marked electronically as having voted. The petition claims an IEVS would assist in ensuring a voter could not cast further votes.

I have asked the Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) for advice on the issues raised in the petition.

Currently, Queensland does not require voter identification when electors present to vote at a polling booth. Post an election, all electoral roles are electronically scanned. This process identifies multiple voters as well as non-voters.

I am advised that multiple voters are carefully scrutinised by ECQ and instances of apparent wilful multiple voting by electors are referred to the Queensland Police Service for investigation.

No Federal, State or Territory Electoral Commission in Australia has a fully operational IEVS.

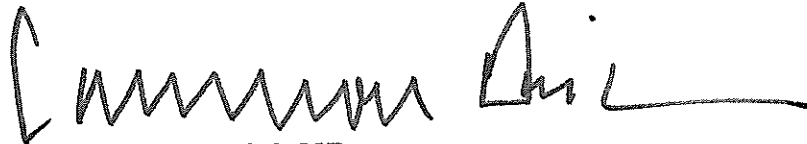
In order for an IEVS to be effective, all issuing points, such as polling booths, would have to be networked to a central database. Not all issuing points in Queensland have the capacity to be networked, due to the remoteness of locations and therefore lack of internet connectivity.

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In addition, requiring electors to provide proof of identity may be problematic.

For these reasons, the Queensland Government is not currently considering introducing an IEVS. I thank the signatories to Petition No.1353-09 for expressing their views on this issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cameron Dick', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Hon Cameron Dick MP
Attorney-General
and Minister for Industrial Relations**