



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters

Liberal Party of Australia, NSW Division

Conduct of elections

1. The NSW Electoral Commission has proposed reforms to expand overseas voting options, including by allowing absent early attendance declaration voting at centres appointed by the Electoral Commissioner and removing citizenship requirements for election officials. What is your view on this proposal?

As stated in my evidence, when discussing iVote, I said:

“It is my view that we need to do everything in our power to make sure that everyone can vote.”

While I am not against voting at overseas locations, which occurs during federal elections, I believe that a further examination of an internet voting option should be considered. If such a trusted and independent system could be implemented it would also prove to be a significant cost saving mechanism for absentee voting.

2. The NSW Electoral Commission has proposed simplifying interstate voting, with similar provisions applied to overseas voting. What is your view on this?

As above

3. To improve counting timelines the NSW Electoral Commission has proposed opening early and postal votes before the close of voting on election day. What is your view of this proposal?

This mechanism is used very effectively in federal elections and should be implemented by the NSW Electoral Commission.

4. Some inquiry participants have suggested that political participants should not distribute or receive postal vote applications. What is your view on this?

As stated in my evidence, the purpose of the NSW Electoral Commission is “to deliver trusted and independent systems, processes, oversight and engagement that support democracy in NSW.”

The involvement of political participants in the distribution or receipt of postal vote applications is consistent with the purpose of the NSW Electoral Commission and facilitates the collaboration of all involved with the democratic process to maximise the casting of formal votes.