



HON ROSEMARY ARMITAGE MLC
Member for Launceston

18 July 2018

Dept of Justice
Office of the Secretary
haveyoursay@justice.tas.gov.au

Dear Secretary,

Thank you for the invitation to forward a submission re the review of the Tasmanian *Electoral Act 2004*.

In 2016 I was the Chair of Government Administration Committee "B" inquiry into the Tasmanian Electoral Commission.

Some of the recommendations arising from this inquiry are relevant to the current review of the *Electoral Act 2004*, and I make this submission to present them to the Department for consideration. Many of these recommendations relate to ToR 1 – modernising the current Tasmanian *Electoral Act*.

Election materials and campaigns

1. The TEC should be more proactive with regard to enforcing issues of non-compliance with Section 196 of the Electoral Act 2004 between issue of writs and close of polls.
2. The Government implement a statewide approach to achieve consistency for electoral signage across all spheres of government.

Informal voting, Local Government

4. The Government investigate adopting a provision to ensure that a ballot paper that is not fully compliant with voting instructions, but where the voter intention is clear, be counted as a formal vote.

Social Media

6. The Government further consider the matter of social media to ensure compliance with relevant Acts.

Lost or damaged ballot papers

8. The Electoral Act 2004 be amended to make provision for the TEC to be able to issue a writ certifying the progressive election of members required to be elected for a Division.

Campaign donations

10. The Government legislate for the compulsory disclosure of campaign donations from all sources.

11. Greater clarity be provided as to the status of in-kind donations and whether they should be disclosed.

Electronic Voting

12. The Government consider increasing resources to the TEC to allow it to investigate electronic voting.

I thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in regards to this Act.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rosemary". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'R' being particularly large and stylized.

Rosemary Armitage MLC
Independent Member for Launceston