

## Recommendations for the distribution of preferences in the Legislative Councils proportional representation system.

I always vote below the line and number 1 to 54 or whatever the amount of candidates are, as I research the parties and their representatives online before polling day. This year, there were two people whom I personally knew before they entered politics, but they were in different parties.

As a result of this, I believe my voting slip was placed at the bottom of the counting pile, for the professional electoral officer to deal with later. Hence, on following the counting and results as they were published online, as preferences were redistributed, I did not see my order of preference alter the results by one, which they should have, had the counters actually looked at my form.

When the final preference distribution occurred for The Agricultural Region and all seats had been allocated, there were still some votes as a percentage that had not been counted. I suspect my vote was deliberately left uncounted, unless they had to.

Therefore: If this has occurred in my region, I somehow doubt the accuracy of the terms of reference, as my vote had apparently not been included.

My recommendations:

1. Include All the formal votes in the vote count and never leave any uncounted, even though all seats have been filled.
2. Have more easily and accessible information on the preferences which each party has decided on.
3. Have more easily and accessible information on candidates in the Legislative Council, as it was possible, but not pleasurable, to locate and contemplate the information. If this is easier to access, then more voters may vote below the line and decide their own preferences, thus eliminating the need for the effectiveness of parties trading preferences etc.
4. Keep the current system, but only allow parties to allocate or trade the first quarter of preferences themselves. I.e: if there are 100 candidates for LCouncil, allow parties to only trade the first 25.
5. However, if a voter such as myself, wishes to exercise their democratic right and vote fully below the line, then ALL of their preferences and order can be taken into account. This way, if the Parties preferences are extinguished, with unallocated seats, then voters who have researched who they want, get a say and not party political bulldust.

Sincerely,

Simon Emmott

P.S. Please blur my signature on any publicly available document.

## Recommendations as to how electoral equality might be achieved for all citizens entitled to vote for the Legislative Council

An analogy could be considered thus:

Assume the electorate of South East Asia (including Australia), were voting to elect members to a hypothetical parliament.

Now assume they have one vote one value, based on population alone.

Would any Australian Candidates actually get elected?

I rest my case.

Simon Emmott

