

HAVE YOUR SAY

Has the PM broken his promise to use his one vote majority in the Senate 'wisely and sensibly'?

Yes No

Do you agree that some of the laws passed since the government had control of the Senate are extreme?

Yes No Sometimes

Do you think a third party should hold the balance of power in the Senate?

Yes No

Which party can be best trusted in balance of power?

Democrats ALP Other
 Greens Nationals
 Family First Liberals

Comments

Name: _____

Address: _____ □□□□

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

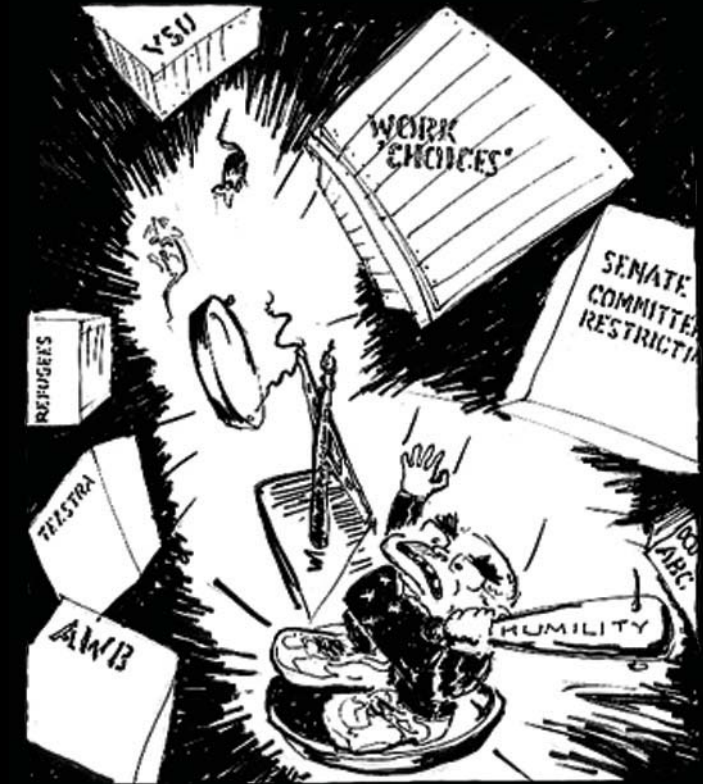
Please keep me up-to-date with developments in the Senate!

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The Prime Minister promised to use his Senate majority...

"SOBERLY, WISELY & SENSIBLY"



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A U S T R A L I A N TM
DEMOCRATS
www.democrats.org.au

www.democrats.org.au/senatewatch

Why care about the Senate?



Despite his assurances, Mr Howard is using his new majority of one in the Senate to close down parliamentary scrutiny.

Having a majority doesn't mean Mr Howard and Mr Costello are always right or that everyone agrees with what they say and do, yet that's how those in Government behave.

For the sake of democracy and accountability the Senate should not be controlled entirely by Mr Howard, or indeed Mr Beazley.

You need someone to MAKE THE BASTARDS HONEST!

YOU NEED THE DEMOCRATS

For more than 20 years the Democrats held the balance of power in the Senate, protecting Australians from the extremes of Liberal, National and ALP ideology.

In that time, the Democrats delivered:

- Stronger environment laws, transport emission controls, greenhouse abatement programs.
- A strong economy through fair and balanced tax and IR reform (before *WorkChoices*).
- Justice reforms by removing discrimination in superannuation and fairer native title.
- Stronger accountability measures.

For more information, please visit www.democrats.org.au/record

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ABUSED ITS POWER



The Prime Minister promised to use his Senate majority "*soberly, wisely and sensibly. We won't use it capriciously or wantonly or indiscriminately, and I make that solemn promise on your behalf to all of the Australian people.*"

But since taking control of the Senate the Prime Minister has gagged debate, nobbled scrutiny and fudged the truth.

The Government:

- Slashed the number of sitting days.
- Ignores dissenting voices both outside and within their own party.
- Routinely ignores questions.
- Refuses to hand over documents that should be public.
- Frequently gags debate in parliament.
- Plans to nobble and take control of Senate committees.
- Routinely votes down non-Government amendments.

The Government is no longer accountable and that's BAD FOR OUR DEMOCRACY

For more, visit www.democrats.org.au/senatewatch

The Government doesn't listen

Since gaining control of the Senate in July 2005 the Government has forced through unpopular laws without compromise:

- Limiting access to the Medicare safety net.
- Introducing extreme unfair *WorkChoices* workplace laws.
- Changing university funding in damaging ways.
- Restricting the basic rights and freedoms of all Australians.
- Forcing sole parents into the paid workforce with no support.
- Approving the sale of Telstra with little consumer protection or guarantees.
- Changing the electoral laws to make it harder for people to vote.

And they will soon:

- Allow media companies to merge reducing diversity of views and voices.
- Expand the nuclear industry in Australia.
- Introduce a national ID card.



Lyn Allison
Leader & Senator for Victoria



Andrew Bartlett
Senator for Queensland



Natasha Stott Despoja
Senator for South Australia



Andrew Murray
Senator for Western Australia