

RECOMMENDED ACTION RESPONSE

Whilst sympathizing with the hopes of those proposing letter writing to newspapers or a politician, I feel the idea would be more profitable if directed to encouraging the adoption of Proportional Representation for all elections, especially since the Society's recent success in Canberra.

Though local papers might, the daily newspapers won't print letters that advocate S.V.R. Georgists shouldn't need the reason explained to them (the same reason that politicians won't support S.V.R.). However, municipal council elections are due this August, and every August, so letters advocating the Hare Clark system for elections should be acceptable to local papers, particularly if they are controversial.

If you read your local paper, you will see the usual attacks on councillors due for re-election beginning, or equally outrageous statements being made by them. Our "local gem" is to legalize marihuana and develop a marihuana industry to create employment. Councillors are elected unopposed because those standing against them have always been defeated by the exchange of preferences to exclude anyone not wanted. Proportional Representation would eliminate this.

Without wishing to discourage them, I think it is only fair to remind our advocates of recommended action that hundreds, if not thousands, of excellent

letters have been written by Georgists to politicians since the turn of the century. A response from Simon Crean to the Danish experiment letter differed not one whit from all of the other banal responses politicians make. Accordingly, I urge our advocates to apply their collective wisdom to drafting letters to achieve Proportional Representation, which I am convinced will provide us with the route to the eventual introduction of S.V.R. anyway.

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