



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**COMMITTEES**

**Electoral Matters Committee**

**SPEECH**

**Tuesday, 6 February 2001**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

## SPEECH

<b>Date</b> Tuesday, 6 February 2001	<b>Source</b> House
<b>Page</b> 23906	<b>Proof</b> No
<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Responder</b>
<b>Speaker</b> Pyne, Chris, MP	<b>Question No.</b>

---

**Mr PYNE** (Sturt) (4.59 pm)—Mr Deputy Speaker, I beg your indulgence to make a short statement to the House.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Jenkins)**—Indulgence is granted.

**Mr PYNE**—As the House is aware, the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters is undertaking an inquiry into the integrity of the electoral roll. As part of that inquiry, Mr Lee Bermingham was invited and agreed to appear before the committee at a public hearing held in Brisbane on Thursday, 14 December 2000. Unfortunately, Mr Bermingham failed to appear at the public hearing at the specified time, so a summons was served on Mr Bermingham to appear at the hearing that day. Mr Bermingham failed to appear before the committee on 14 December 2000 in response to the summons. As this is a serious issue, under House standing order 362(b), the committee is acquainting the House with this matter. Under Senate standing order 176(2), one of the senators on the committee will similarly report to the Senate.

Following the completion of the hearing on 14 December 2000, Mr Bermingham contacted the committee secretariat to explain his reasons for not attending. He subsequently appeared before the committee at a public hearing held on Tuesday, 30 January 2001 in Sydney. Accordingly, the committee does not wish to take this matter any further.