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Commonwealth of Australia.

## NOTIFICATION OF THE RECEIPT OF A WRIT FOR A REFERENDUM UPON A PROPOSED LAW FOR THE ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION.

I HEREBY give notice that I have received a writ, issued by His Excellency the Governor-General in the name of the King, addressed to me and to the Commonwealth Electoral Officers for the several States, commanding me and them to cause a proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution entitled "Constitution Alteration (Senate Elections) 1906" (a statement of which is attached thereto and is hereunder set out) to be submitted, according to law, in each State to the electors qualified to vote for the election of Members of the House of Representatives, and appointing the following dates for the purposes of the said submission:—

1. For taking the votes of the electors :  
Wednesday, the twelfth day of December, 1906 ;
2. For the return of the writ : on or before  
Wednesday, the thirteenth day of February, 1907.

The Statement of the proposed law attached to the writ is as follows:—

### STATEMENT OF A PROPOSED LAW FOR THE ALTERATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF SENATORS.

THE PROPOSED LAW IS AS FOLLOWS:—

THIS Proposed Law originated in the Senate, and on the twentieth day of September, Nineteen hundred and six finally passed both Houses. There was an absolute majority of each House of the Parliament to the respective third readings of this Proposed Law. It now awaits a Referendum to the people.

E. G. BLACKMORE,  
*Clerk of the Parliaments.*

R. C. BAKER,  
*President.*

20th September, 1906.

A PROPOSED LAW.

To alter the provisions of the Constitution relating to the Election of Senators.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, with the approval of the electors, as required by the Constitution, as follows:—

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| Short title.  | 1. This Act may be cited as <i>Constitution Alteration (Senate Elections) 1906</i> .   |
| Rotation of senators.   | 2. Section thirteen of the Constitution is altered:—<br>(a) by omitting the words “the third year,” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “three years”;<br>(b) by omitting the words “the sixth year,” and inserting in lieu thereof the words “six years”;<br>(c) by omitting the words “in the year at the expiration of which,” and inserting in lieu thereof “within one year before”;<br>(d) by omitting the word “January” wherever it occurs, and inserting in lieu thereof the word “July.”   |
| Extension of term of service of certain senators.             | 3. (1) The terms of service of the senators whose places would, but for this Act, become vacant at the expiration of the year One thousand nine hundred and nine are extended until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and ten.<br>(2) The terms of service of the senators whose places would, but for this Act, become vacant at the expiration of the year One thousand nine hundred and twelve are extended until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and thirteen. |
| Beginning of service of senators elected in 1906 not altered. | 4. This Act shall not be taken to alter the time of beginning of the term of service of any senator elected in the year One thousand nine hundred and six.   |

The Text of Section 13 of the Constitution and the Textual Alterations proposed to be made therein are as follows (the Textual Alterations being indicated by **LARGE TYPE**):—

TEXT OF SECTION 13 OF THE CONSTITUTION.	TEXT OF SECTION 13 OF THE CONSTITUTION AS PROPOSED TO BE ALTERED.
Rotation of senators.  13. As soon as may be after the Senate first meets, and after each first meeting of the Senate following a dissolution thereof, the Senate shall divide the senators chosen for each State into two classes, as nearly equal in number as practicable; and the places of the senators of the first class shall become vacant at the expiration of <b>THE THIRD YEAR</b> , and the places of those of the second class at the expiration of <b>THE SIXTH YEAR</b> , from the beginning of their term of service; and afterwards the places of senators shall become vacant at the expiration of six years from the beginning of their term of service.  The election to fill vacant places shall be made <b>IN THE YEAR AT THE EXPIRATION OF WHICH</b> the places are to become vacant.  For the purposes of this section the term of service of a senator shall be taken to begin on the first day of <b>JANUARY</b> following the day of his election, except in the cases of the first election and of the election next after any dissolution of the Senate, when it shall be taken to begin on the first day of <b>JANUARY</b> preceding the day of his election.	13. As soon as may be after the Senate first meets, and after each first meeting of the Senate following a dissolution thereof, the Senate shall divide the senators chosen for each State into two classes, as nearly equal in number as practicable; and the places of the senators of the first class shall become vacant at the expiration of <b>THREE YEARS</b> , and the places of those of the second class at the expiration of <b>SIX YEARS</b> , from the beginning of their term of service; and afterwards the places of senators shall become vacant at the expiration of six years from the beginning of their term of service.  The election to fill vacant places shall be made <b>WITHIN ONE YEAR BEFORE</b> the places are to become vacant.  For the purposes of this section the term of service of a senator shall be taken to begin on the first day of <b>JULY</b> following the day of his election, except in the cases of the first election and of the election next after any dissolution of the Senate, when it shall be taken to begin on the first day of <b>JULY</b> preceding the day of his election.

Dated the Twenty-second day of October, 1906.

R. C. OLDHAM,  
Chief Electoral Officer for the Commonwealth.