

AIM: Representative democratic government of the people by representation whereby constituents and their representative develop and maintain two way communication with respect to law making decisions.

METHOD:

1. Develop and implement an SMS based application whereby constituents of the electorate can inform their rep directly of their preference for "ay" or "nay" for each major bill due to be presented to the house for voting.

We will depend on our elected representative to keep us informed about the status of bills that are being debated in the house. We will be depending on their feedback from the house to us to inform our opinions.

In the case where a majority of constituents submits their preference, the rep should vote in the house according to the will of that majority.

Where a majority of constituents have not indicated a preference the rep must base their vote in the house on whatever information is available to them within the electorate.

For a representative sample it is essential to enlist as many participants as possible. Only when a majority of constituents are participating can there be meaningful and usable interactions.

2. To develop an application whereby constituents can submit a request to their representative for them to submit a private member's bill to the house on their behalf and to provide a way for other constituents to support the request. When a majority support the request the member will submit the bill. This is probably best managed through a social networking site with a forum and polls. Such an online social network would be a valuable tool to keep constituents informed and to manage suggestions for private member's bills. A good example of such networking software with which I am familiar is <https://www.ning.com/> but there are others offering similar features usually including polls and campaign fund raising tools. Enlisting all voters into such a site can be canvassed by SMS but best implemented with a powerful web site driven by email as account identifier – another data item requiring consent. This can be obtained and retained within the app.

These applications can be operated by the rep's staff through an online network operating at oxley.nsw.gov.au

Verifying each constituent's presence in the electoral roll for the State District of Oxley requires:

Given names:	
Family name:	
Postcode:	
Suburb or Locality	
Street name	

The commission provides a single user interface at <https://check.aec.gov.au/>
As a member of the house, the representative will have access to the electoral roll. It would be possible to work with the electoral commission to establish an application program interface (API) for validation purposes.
It would be preferable to maintain, with their permission, a link between the data required for each voter's electoral presence and their mobile number.

To verify mobile number will require “Y” reply to text received:

I allow the NSW parliamentary representative for Oxley to use my mobile number to contact me for the purposes of providing my political preferences

Y or N

Requests to constituents for feedback will contain a link to the community web site document describing the bill with links to the parliament bill definition and informative background information on the bill. Economy demands 160 characters or less

Example:

BILL IDENTIFIER: 0001 VOTER ID: xxxxxxxxxxxx

Sentencing Procedure Amendment

<http://oxley.community/bills/B0001>

Y or N

It is necessary to obtain the bill identifier and the respondent's identifier (mobile number?) with their response. SMS provider's gateway can support required API and web hook.

The member's social network membership database can manage a link between the respondent's mobile number and their local record.

It would be necessary to obtain each constituent's consent to obtain and store the data being used:

data necessary to verify their presence on the electoral roll
their mobile number
their response to each bill before the house*

- * retained only up to the time when the bill is decided to determine
- (a) ensure each constituent has only responded once and
- (b) to enable a tally

Information about the electorate's will can be extracted from the data collected and used to inform the representative. It can be reported through the rep's web presence which would be most effective if it is a comprehensive social networking site.

There is a sample form now at <http://www.oxley.community/database.php>

Consideration of integrity and storage protocol is yet to be determined.

AEC may permit – even assist with – an API for validation of enrolments.

For a full blown social network, an extension of this data collection and storage can be devised to deliver a site login for participants with password interface. A good choice of social networking software will incorporate these tools.

The following will be presented at oxley.nsw.gov.au/database.php

To assist your elected representative to take your preference on bills to parliament they are providing an SMS based service to facilitate your active participation.

To operate this service the member's staff need the following information from you:

To facilitate communication between you and your representative:

Mobile number:	
Email address:	

To verify determine your eligibility to vote in the Oxley electoral district.

Please visit <https://check.aec.gov.au/> to confirm that you are enrolled in Oxley State District.

Your representative's staff will use this information to validate your participation.

Given names:	
Family name:	
Postcode:	
Suburb or Locality	
Street name	