

**From:** Warren Garrett <garrettaw@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 26 December 2021 04:25 PM  
**To:** Secretary  
**Cc:** Power Ash  
**Subject:** Response to RSL Victoria Proposal for consideration

Greg,

Thank-you for the opportunity to comment on the ERAG proposal.

The arguments they put regarding each of the three approaches are relatively cogent and easily understood. But, to my mind, the one thing missing is a breakdown on the relative size of service and life members in each of the state sub-branches.

For example if there are only few “large” sub-branches and a multitude of “small” the analogy with the Australian senate vote breaks down. In Australia the three largest states have the overwhelming majority of voters. This is probably not so in the Victorian RSL. This is indirectly referred to by the comment that if all sub-branches were the same size there would be no need for a sliding scale as is currently the case.

Of course one can never legislate against apathy - despite compulsory voting - so, then, what is another option?

Generally the query above also weakens the “hybrid” model thus leading me to the “one member, one vote” option. But in this model can we eventually get the current branch stacking problems currently seen in the Victorian ALP? I think not because the right to vote is based on military service not who pays one’s joining fee,

Of course various single issue “lobby” groups may arise from time to time but if everyone has had an equal opportunity to be heard (by vote)) then so be it.

So I am inclining towards the “one member, one vote” option particularly as the internet and AEC can be accessed. Of course some more senior members may not be internet savvy but such a group is rapidly declining in numbers and so becomes the exception rather than the rule.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Warren G

On 24 Dec 2021, at 2:34 pm, Secretary <[secretary@wagarattarsl.org.au](mailto:secretary@wagarattarsl.org.au)> wrote:

Dear Life & Service Members,

Via a State Executive Communique issued on the 12October 2021, our State President, Dr Robert Webster advised the network that they were establishing an Electoral Reform Advisory Group (ERAG).