



Pledge to Work in the Interests of the Australian People

What is the Revive Australia Movement (RAM)?

This pledge has been designed by the many great Australians who formed RAM. We are not a political party, we are a people's movement. We are not left or right, we are inclusive. We are Aussies who work inside and outside of the system. We are blue collar, white collar, black, white, brown. We are made of all Australians.

This pledge is first and foremost a unification umbrella. It is designed to bring Australians together, including candidates in the 2019 Federal Election, to focus on the core issues that need to be resolved for all Australians. It is secondly designed to create a national conversation and therefore educate the public about these issues and the potential solutions to them. Thirdly, this pledge will be a catalyst for real, systemic change.

The Parliament needs to be run by Australians who truly represent the needs of the people. Therefore, we ask that candidates for the Senate and the House of Representatives in the Federal Election of 2019 sign the following pledge so that Australians can make an informed choice on who to vote for in the upcoming Election.

To be clear, this pledge is not endorsing strict policy, its focus is on identifying candidates who are prepared to contribute to a national discourse on the core areas cited below. In addition, endorsement for each candidate only goes as far as this pledge, meaning the people can decide for themselves if they support their other philosophies, practices, policies and perspectives.

To reiterate, this pledge has a very simple focus. Candidates will either sign it and illustrate their desire to work in the interests of the people, or they won't. In addition, the decision of each candidate will be made clear for the public at our website and via affiliate platforms, including the media, so we encourage all candidates to choose wisely.

I, as a candidate in the Australian Federal Election, 2019, agree that the following is an essential discussion for reviving our democracy, respecting our freedoms and restoring our common wealth:

- 1) Return the Power to the People:** Voters don't want their vote to go to a candidate they do not support. Therefore, does an end to FORCED Preferential Voting need to occur? In addition, voters want an opportunity to participate in the approval of legislation. Could one way be to implement Citizen Initiated Referendums (CIR), which could be accomplished via a voting app which is inexpensive, simple and secure? (see Addendum Point 1);
- 2) Respect the Rule of Law:** The Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1901 is the document which gives the authority for a government to exist. Therefore, should it be upheld by government officials? Moreover, is the recognition of a Bill of Rights (BoR) important to protect individual freedoms? (see Addendum Point 2);
- 3) Recreate Public Banks:** Is it important to reconstruct Public Central and Commercial Banks (like the Commonwealth Bank of Australia used to be) that serves the interests of the public, including funding essential services, as well as compete with the private Big4 banks that are half foreign owned? (see Addendum Point 3);
- 4) Restore Local Production:** Should we support the widespread adoption of local and regional food and resource systems (including polycultural farming and plant-based plastics/fuels which will repair and protect our environment), because it would create more jobs outside of urban areas, revitalise local economies and safeguard our communities from financial shocks or other security issues which arise in our future?;
- 5) Return Public Assets:** Australians are generally against the sell-off of our public assets. Therefore, should we develop a plan for restoring publicly-owned, essential infrastructure that is affordable for all Australians, including ports, water licences, power, banks and land? (see addendum Point 4); and
- 6) Remove Corruption:** Should macro and minor policy be designed in accordance of the needs of the people, not to benefit those with lots of money? Should political donations by corporations be banned and full-scale, independent investigations into corruption by government officials and the lobbying industry be implemented (including restricting MPs from becoming industry lobbyists after they retire)?

If elected, I swear to focus on and contribute to these discussions to the best of my ability.

Name:

Electorate:

Signed:



Addendum for 'Pledge to Work in the Interests of the Australian People'

Australians are unhappy with politicians and the media. For example, in the 2018 Edelman Trust Barometer: *Trust in government was at 35% & media 31%*.

This is a serious concern for most people. The Revive Australia Movement have taken on the responsibility to unite individuals and groups across our country – regardless of philosophical, political or practical differences – to restore trust in these institutions by having them operate in accordance with the people's interests.

This applies to all candidates in the Federal Election, including Liberal, Nationals, Labour, Greens, the many minor parties and independents. Therefore, by signing this pledge, candidates have chosen to support the revival of our democracy, protect our freedoms, encourage Australians to make informed decisions on how to move forward and ensure the common wealth of our country is restored and preserved.

Addendum Point 1:

FORCED Preferential Voting means candidates who voters do not support can potentially receive their vote. One such alternative is OPTIONAL preferential voting (which is used in local elections), which would ensure that each individual vote in the Federal Election would stay with one of the preferences that are chosen by the voter. Another option is first past the post. Put simply, no voter should be forced to have their vote go to a candidate they do not support. It is also advised by RAM that Parliamentarians should seek the majority view in their electorate to guide their decision-making.

In addition, the people cannot start a referendum right now, only the Parliament can. And when they do, they make it a multi-million dollar mess. Instead, CIR should be seriously considered for approving legislation and sacking deceptive politicians. For example, if there are enough numbers (3% of eligible voters is suggested), citizens should be able to initiate them at low cost using an app on their phone or computer (or by mail if lacking internet access). It is inexpensive and cheap, and would also be secure because of new technologies that safeguard the vote count.

It is also imperative that the public is fully informed by the ALL the evidence put forth by both sides of any debate, which needs to be organised by fully independent bodies and broadcast via the mainstream media channels.

Addendum Point 2:

The 1901 Constitution is the rule book that allows for a government to actually exist. Therefore, should government employees be upholding it? Furthermore, Australians do not have a Bill of Rights (BoR) that is being upheld in our courts. The 1688 version, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (which is a UN agreement that Australia is a signatory too), are not being respected by our legislation.

Therefore, should a BoR be officially recognised as part of our Constitution, a document that is retrospective on all law and above Parliament and our Judiciary? In addition, a BoR is always based on the natural right that all individuals have as the supreme authority over themselves, whilst still being accountable for doing no harm, unless in self-defence. Should all legislation adhere to this supreme right?

Addendum Point 3:

Australia used to have a People's Central Bank, a return to which could restore the people's faith in the banking sector. The details of how we can return to a monetary system that enriches the people, not private stakeholders, needs to be debated by experts and agreed to by the people, however the following should be considered: follow the Constitution on the rules of money creation, develop a People's Bank, separate commercial from investment banking and create local public banks that invest all profits from money creation into social programs and community infrastructure (to ensure relevant services and projects are properly funded). Furthermore, the abolishment of domestic taxes and replacing them with a simple, flat, transaction tax is also suggested to ensure tax havens and loopholes by individuals and corporations are terminated, and speculative spending on the stock and foreign exchanges is taxed. This strategy alone (at say 5%) would double or even triple our current tax revenue.

Addendum Point 4:

The following is suggested for consideration by each candidate: it is essential we buy back some of our strategic assets, including water licences, power generation and other utilities for public ownership and affordable essential services. Farms and mineral assets should be retained in Australian ownership and utilised for job creation and food security. Australian lands in Australian hands, ensuring our common wealth is not exploited by foreign interests.

In addition, free speech is paramount in a free society. Therefore, we should consider using the Australia Post network to create public software packages – such as public media, email and social media applications – to ensure free speech is protected and censorship by the government, corporate media and big tech is circumnavigated. We should also build hardware into this service so that communication infrastructure is owned by the people.