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The Electoral Reform Coalition

The ERC is a non-profit society. It was formed in 1986 to campaign for a better voting system.

The ERC is not linked to any political party or business interest. It is funded by donations and subscriptions from ordinary New Zealanders.



Colin Clark
Chairperson of the ERC

I want MMP!

- ☐ I can help the campaign. Please put me in touch with your local branch.

I can make a donation:

- ☐ \$10 ☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100
☐ \$200 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other: _____

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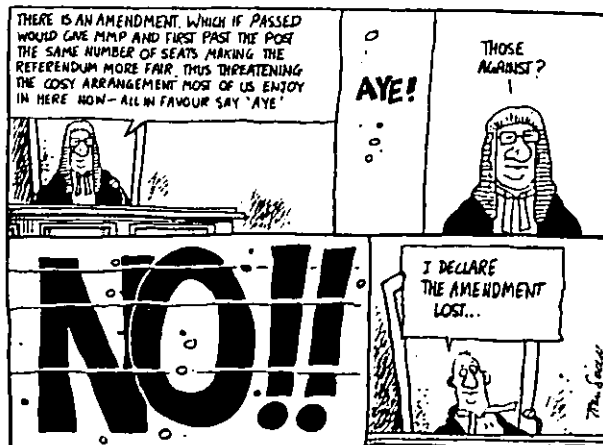
The Royal Commission on the Electoral System

In 1984 the government set up a Royal Commission to study our voting system. It was chaired by the Honourable Mr Justice Wallace.

After a \$2 million, 2-year study, the Commission unanimously recommended MMP as "the best voting system for New Zealand's present and future needs." It said that MMP was fairer, it could give us better government, and should give all New Zealanders fair representation in parliament.

Why MMP has 120 MPs

The Royal Commission argued for more MPs whatever the voting system. More MPs means fewer mistakes in law making, less power for Cabinet, and better representation for the people. Parliament agreed. But only for MMP.



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Referendum '93

MMP: Voting for Party Lists

MMP ☒

Make Your Vote Count

ELECTORAL REFORM COALITION
 Information Hotline: 0900-333-88

MMP:

Putting Voters in Control

Local MPs with MMP

With MMP you will have two votes: one for a party, and one for a local MP. The party vote decides each party's share of the seats in Parliament. The local vote decides who will be the local MP.

People will be able to vote for the party they want in government and then vote for the best person as their local MP, even if he or she is from another party.

Local MPs will be more accountable with MMP. *"I don't think there will be one 'safe' seat in ten years time under MMP because you will have to serve your constituency,"* says National MP Michael Laws.

MMP is designed to give New Zealand the best feature of our old first-past-the-post system: local MPs, and the best feature of proportional representation: fair elections

Questions:

Can list MPs be appointed by party bosses?

NO. For the first time in New Zealand, parties will be required by law to have democratic selection methods. There is no law like this for First-Past-the-Post.

Will list MPs be accountable to the people?

YES. Parties must publish their lists before the election. Lists will be displayed in polling booths. If people do not like the list they will change their votes, and fewer list MPs will be elected

Will the lists be filled with 'party hacks'?

NO. Parties will put their best people on their lists. If a list had no women candidates, or no South Island candidates it would lose a lot of votes!

Can there be changes after the referendum?

YES. MMP will be reviewed after six years. It will be possible to make changes then, if they are needed.

Why Have Party Lists?

Choosing a Government

Party lists let you vote to choose a government - separately from choosing a local MP.

Fair Elections

Party lists mean that elections can be fair: the results will reflect how all people vote. The fairness of MMP is possible because of party lists. The lists make up for the unfair results of first-past-the-post voting for local MPs.

Better Representation

Party lists can give better representation to the groups that have few MPs in parliament - like women, and Maori. Many countries with party lists have more women in parliament than any country using FPP. Better representation makes for better government.

Making MPs Accountable

Party lists give you a say on a whole team of candidates - not just one. You can vote in a good local MP, but vote against the whole party list if you don't like it.