



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House of Representatives

05 DEC 2017

Citizenship Register

To the Registrar of Members' Interests,

Statement in relation to citizenship – 45th Parliament

I declare that at the time I nominated for election in this 45th Parliament I was an Australian citizen.

Section 1—Member's details

Surname	Other Names
Rowland	Michelle Anne

Electorate	State
Greenway	NSW

Section 2—Member's birth and citizenship details

Place of birth	Citizenship held at birth
Blacktown, NSW, Australia	Australian

Date of birth	Date of Australian naturalisation <i>(if not an Australian citizen by birth)</i>
16 / 11 / 1971 Day Month Year	/ / Day Month Year

Notes

- (1) The information which you are required to provide is contained in a resolution agreed to by the House of Representatives on 4 December 2017.
- (2) If there is insufficient space on this form for the information you are required to provide, you may attach additional pages for that purpose. An electronic version of this form is available at <http://members.parl.net/citizenship> (internal link).
- (3) Forward the original, signed copy of all pages of this statement to the Registrar of Members' Interests, RG.39 Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.

Section 3(a)—Member's parents' birth details

	Mother	Father
Place of birth:	Lautoka, Fiji	Hurstville, Australia
Date of birth:	06 / 10 / 1930 Day Month Year	23 / 01 / 1932 Day Month Year

Section 3(b)—Member's grandparents' birth details

	Maternal grandmother	Maternal grandfather
Place of birth:	Naqara Island, Fiji	Bau, Fiji
Date of birth:	08 / 06 / 1905 Day Month Year	11 / 11 / 1905 Day Month Year

	Paternal grandmother	Paternal grandfather
Place of birth:	Birmingham, United Kingdom	Cheltenham, United Kingdom
Date of birth:	18 / 12 / 1889 Day Month Year	17 / 02 / 1887 Day Month Year

Section 3(c)—Member's spouse details (if applicable)

	Spouse
Place of birth:	Parramatta, NSW, Australia
Date of birth:	16 / 08 / 1973 Day Month Year

Section 3(d)

Please list the steps you have taken to assure yourself you have not acquired citizenship of another country by descent, marriage or other means.

United Kingdom

My paternal grandparents were British.

Prior to first nominating for election in 2010, checks were undertaken on my behalf which confirmed that, under British law, the grandchildren of British citizens do not have an entitlement to British citizenship by descent.

In addition, my mother was born in Fiji prior to Fijian independence in 1970 when Fiji was considered a British Crown colony. She therefore may have acquired British citizenship at birth. However, under British law, for children born prior to 1983, citizenship by descent only passes through the patrilineal line. As a result, I could not have acquired British citizenship by descent from my mother.

Fiji

My mother and her family were born in Fiji.

A statement regarding the steps taken to confirm I never acquired Fijian citizenship appears at Annexure A.

Section 4(a)—Foreign citizenship

Have you ever been a citizen of any country other than Australia?

☒ **NO** — *Proceed to Section 6*

☐ **YES** — *List the countries that you have been a citizen of, and evidence of the date and manner in which your citizenship of any other country was renounced or otherwise came to an end in accordance with the laws of the relevant country.*

Country	Manner of renunciation or other manner in which the foreign citizenship came to an end	Date	Evidence attached

NB: Evidence of the date and manner in which your citizenship was renounced or otherwise came to an end **should** be attached to this form. Please date and initial each page of any attachment.

Section 4(b)—Foreign citizenship at time of nomination

On the date you nominated for election in this 45th Parliament were you a citizen of any country other than Australia?

- ☐ **NO**
- ☐ **YES** — *Provide details and evidence of any steps you have taken to renounce the citizenship of the other country prior to the date of nomination.*

Country	Action	Date	Evidence attached

NB: Evidence of the steps taken to renounce the citizenship of the other country prior to the date of nomination **should** be attached to this form. Please date and initial each page of any attachment.

Section 4(c)—Foreign citizenship now

Are you now a citizen of any country other than Australia?

- ☐ **NO**
- ☐ **YES** — *Provide details and evidence of any steps taken to renounce the citizenship of the other country.*

Country	Action	Date	Evidence attached

NB: Evidence of the steps taken to renounce the citizenship of the other country **should** be attached to this form. Please date and initial each page of any attachment.

Section 5—Member with foreign citizenship at nomination or now

Complete this section if you answered YES in section 4(b) or 4(c)

Basis on which you contend you are not disqualified under s 44(i) of the Constitution	Evidence attached
<i>NB: Please date and initial each page of any attachment.</i>	

Section 6—General declaration

I declare that I have completed this statement to the best of my knowledge and have attached all evidence relevant to my declarations.

Signed	Date:
	<div style="text-align: center;"> 04 / 12 / 2017 Day Month Year </div>

ANNEXURE A

STATEMENT REGARDING FIJIAN CITIZENSHIP LAW

My mother was born in Fiji in 1930.

The Australian Labor Party has thoroughly investigated whether I may have inherited Fijian citizenship through my mother. This was first investigated when I first nominated for election in 2010 and has been reviewed as part of the ALP's strict pre-election vetting processes at the subsequent elections in 2013 and 2016.

It was determined that I have never acquired Fijian citizenship.

I was born in Australia on 16 November 1971.

At the time of my birth Fijian nationality was governed by Chapter III of the *Fijian Constitution* of 1970 (**1970 Constitution**) and the *Fiji Citizenship Act 1971* (**1971 Act**).

Under section 22 of the 1970 Constitution, only men could automatically transmit citizenship by descent – not women.

Under section 11(1) of the 1971 Act, an application could be made to register a child born to a Fijian citizen mother as a Fijian citizen, but that application had to be made while the child was a minor.

I can confirm that no application to register to become a Fijian citizen was made on my behalf while I was a minor, or at all.

The 1970 Constitution and the legal framework established under it were abrogated with effect from 28 September 1987, following a military coup.

The military government issued the Fiji Citizenship Decree of 1987 (**1987 Decree**), with effect from 7 October 1987. The 1987 Decree preserved the rule that women could not transmit citizenship by descent.

A new Constitution came into force on 25 July 1990 (**1990 Constitution**). Chapter IV of the 1990 Constitution preserved the rule that women could not transmit citizenship by descent. The 1990 Constitution prohibited dual citizenship and provided that a person would lose Fijian citizenship if he or she acquired or retained a foreign citizenship. My mother died in 1989 but would have likely lost her own Fijian citizenship pursuant to this prohibition on dual citizenship.

A new Constitution came into force in 1997 (**1997 Constitution**). Pursuant to Chapter III of the 1997 Constitution, Fijian citizenship ceased to be automatically transmitted by descent, and thereafter children of Fijian citizens could only acquire Fijian citizenship by registration. The 1997 Constitution retained a prohibition on dual citizenship.

The 1997 Constitution was suspended in 2009, following a military coup in 2006.

The military government issued the Citizenship of Fiji Decree of 2009 (**2009 Decree**), with effect from 10 April 2009. Pursuant to section 8(1) of the 2009 Decree, the child of a Fijian citizen could apply to register as a Fijian citizen. I reiterate that I have never applied to register to become a Fijian citizen, and no such application has ever been made on my behalf.

That 2009 Decree remains in place and continues to govern Fijian nationality law.

I am and have only ever been an Australian citizen.