



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House of Representatives

05 DEC 2017

To the Registrar of Members' Interests,

Citizenship Register

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
CHRISTENSEN	GEORGE ROBERT

Electorate	State
DAWSON	QLD

Section 2—Member's birth and citizenship details

Place of birth	Citizenship held at birth
Mackay, QLD, Australia	Australian

Date of birth	Date of Australian naturalisation <i>(if not an Australian citizen by birth)</i>
30 / 06 / 1978 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:	Glasgow, Scotland, UK.	Mackay, QLD, Australia
Date of birth:	31 / 07 / 1955 Day Month Year	05 / 09 / 1954 Day Month Year

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

	Maternal grandmother	Maternal grandfather
Place of birth:	Scotland, UK	Scotland, UK
Date of birth:	31 / 01 / 1931 Day Month Year	01 / 05 / 1934 Day Month Year

	Paternal grandmother	Paternal grandfather
Place of birth:	QLD, Australia	QLD, Australia
Date of birth:	31 / 10 / 1912 Day Month Year	30 / 03 / 1911 Day Month Year

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

	Spouse
Place of birth:	
Date of birth:	/ / 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.

Attached is an email from the UK Home Office confirming I do not have a claim to British citizenship.

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

NB: Please date and initial each page of any attachment.

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>04 / 12 / 2017</div> <div>Day Month Year</div>

Christensen, George (Private)

From: Page, Ian (Liverpool) <Ian.Page@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, 23 August 2017 5:30 PM
To: Christensen, George (Private)
Cc: ingrid.southworth@fco.gov.uk; Hughes, Caroline
Subject: RE: Citizenship check

Dear Mr Christensen,

I can confirm that, based on the facts of your birth (in Australia on 30/6/1978 to a UK born mother), you do not have a claim to British citizenship. This is because, prior to 1 January 1983 when the British Nationality Act (BNA) 1981 came into force, British nationality could only be passed down through the male line to children born overseas.

A provision was introduced in 2003, by way of an amendment to the BNA 1981, which allowed for the Registration of persons born to British mothers before 1 January 1983 - however this required a positive action of application - followed by a ceremony at which citizenship is awarded to successful applicants.

If I can be of further assistance please let me know.

Regards,

Ian

Ian Page
Deputy Chief Caseworker for Nationality Group
UKVI Service Delivery Manager for the Life in the UK Test

UK Visas & Citizenship
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Silver Zone, 4th Floor, Capital Building, Liverpool, L3 9PP
T: 0151 213 6137
M: 07500 818295
E Mail: ian.page@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Fax: 0151 213 2974

-----Original Message-----

From: Christensen, George (Private)
Sent: 23 August 2017 02:17
To: Page, Ian (Liverpool); Hughes, Caroline
Cc: ingrid.southworth@fco.gov.uk
Subject: Citizenship check

Dear Mr Page and/or Ms Hughes,

I am writing to ascertain whether or not I am a citizen of the United Kingdom.

I am a Member of Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia and, as such, holding UK citizenship could affect my eligibility to hold office in the Australian Parliament.

This morning I spoke to Ms Southworth in the British High Commission in Canberra, Australia who referred your names and email to me to seek clarification around this matter.

I was born in Australia on 30 June 1978 to a British mother.

My mother, Margaret Anne Christensen (nee O'Brien), was born in Glasgow on 31 July 1955 and came to Australia circa 1963. She was a UK citizen at the time of her arrival and remains a UK citizen until today. However, she no longer has a current UK passport but has an Australian passport and is on the Australian electoral roll. She is a permanent resident of Australia but not a citizen.

I have never applied or registered for citizenship, residency or the right of abode in either the UK or any of its colonies, protectorates, dominions or territories. In fact, I have never even been to the UK or any of its colonies, protectorates, dominions or territories in my life.

I have previously checked whether or not I am a British citizen via information on the UK government websites. I checked in 2009 and it was clear I was not a citizen. In recent weeks I have checked again and received the attached advice stating I am not a citizen of the UK.

Given this information, I wanted to see how I could get formal advice, not on the question of whether I may or am entitled to citizenship but on the specific question of whether I am a British citizen.

If my understanding is somehow wrong and I am a British citizen, could you elaborate on what basis? My understanding is that even if I was to consider registering as a citizen, I wouldn't be a citizen until that registration was complete and I had been sworn in via a citizenship ceremony.

I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

George Christensen MP
Federal Member for Dawson

Ph +61 7 49440 662

Mob

Address PO Box 1697, Mackay QLD 4740 AUSTRALIA website www.georgechristensen.com.au

Sent from my iPhone

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