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Subject: Re: my fellow brits

Posted by [nikki6ixx](#) on Thu, 18 Feb 2010 21:10:19 GMT

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CarrierII wrote on Thu, 18 February 2010 11:47Recommendation 24:

Quote:

Citizens should be given the right to initiate legislative processes, public inquiries and hearings into public bodies and their senior management

Could have some serious ramifications, I doubt anyone in power would want that. :s

That's a very 'American' principle, and is often publicized a lot when it comes to California. The people can do petitions that lead to recalls of their government officials, or end up heading to the governor's desk as legislation. For better or for worse.

However, I don't see that kind of political action catching on in England. It doesn't seem like the Parliamentary system really lends itself to grassroots initiatives, where MP's have to be rigidly aligned with their party. I'm basing this on Canada's experience mind you, and we had a right wing party which had called this sort of thing 'direct-democracy.' It was met with criticism from the liberal left, and 'moderates.' The party then shifted to the center and more or less abandoned those principles.

It's a very 'radical' concept to let people have a direct say in politics. Naturally, the liberal elites who have run the country for the better part of 60 years would prefer that the unwashed masses didn't interfere, because the public don't know what's good for themselves.

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