

The Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party's Ricky Muir this week made an unsuccessful last roll of the dice to try to delay the government's Senate voting reform legislation. The bill will prevent almost all "micro" players being elected to the Senate, and facilitate the government driving out most of the current bunch if it holds a double-dissolution election.

But Muir tells Michelle Grattan the reforms have not been properly scrutinised and the process to approve them has been a sham. While he acknowledged the need for some reform, he believes the government is scapegoating him for being elected on 0.51% of the primary vote.

"Do I appreciate that some kind of changes could happen? Absolutely. But it needs to be a long, thought-out, thorough process with proper public consultation," he says.

Muir, who was reticent about speaking out in public in his first months in the Senate, is now fiesty. He is taking a high-profile and ready to fight for his political reputation at the election.

*Michelle Grattan does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organization that would benefit from this article, and has disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond the academic appointment above.*

**Read more** <http://theconversation.com/politics-podcast-ricky-muir-fight-to-stay-in-the-senate-56353>