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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Report Tabled – Administration of the 2019 NSW State Election

The Electoral Matters Committee’s report into the Administration of the 2019 NSW State Election has been tabled today at State Parliament said Committee Chair Lee Evans MP.

“The inquiry was a valuable opportunity to hear from stakeholders about what worked well at the election and where improvements could be made for the future” said Mr Evans.

The Committee made seven findings and 54 recommendations spanning a variety of areas including election timeframes and the campaign period; the electoral roll and the ballot paper; early voting; election day; and compliance with, and enforcement of, electoral legislation.

“One item of note was the increasing number of people who voted at an early voting centre over the last three State elections” noted Mr Evans. “Some called for a move away from an election day, towards a voting period to recognise this. But the Committee found there should continue to be an election day in NSW, an important part of our democratic processes”.

Technology-assisted voting was another significant issue considered by the Committee. “The NSW iVote system has advantages for people who may otherwise be disenfranchised, for example, people with disability and those in remote areas” said Mr Evans. “But iVote should not be expanded beyond this. The inquiry heard of security, reliability and accessibility concerns with the system, and the Committee has made recommendations aimed at addressing these concerns”.

Other recommendations in the Committee’s report relate to the reliability of the electronic mark-off system; the election count; and increasing the accessibility of voting in NSW. The Committee has also made a number of recommendations in the area of compliance and enforcement, including around managing complaints about breaches of electoral legislation.

The Committee received 28 submissions from a range of stakeholders during its inquiry including political parties, third party campaigners, voter accessibility advocacy groups and private citizens. It also heard from 37 witnesses across three days of hearings, including the NSW Electoral Commissioner, Mr John Schmidt.

For media comment, please contact Mr Lee Evans MP on (02) 9548 0144. Further information about the Committee’s report can be obtained by visiting the [Committee's webpage](#).