Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters



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MEDIA RELEASE

Committee to look at boosting voter engagement, participation and confidence

How can we increase voter engagement and confidence in our electoral system? What reforms are needed to increase the participation of groups in our community that have lower enrolment and turnout rates?

The Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters is looking at these issues as part of an inquiry into proposals to increase voter engagement, participation and confidence.

'We're asking people to share their thoughts about ways to improve voter engagement and participation in elections,' said Committee Chair, the Hon Peter Primrose MLC. 'This is an opportunity for us to look at reforms that will ensure that all voters in our diverse community can be active and engaged participants in our elections.'

The Committee will consider proposals to improve the security and integrity of the electoral system, and those that are aimed at building voter confidence in electoral processes.

'Voter confidence is vital to a well-functioning democracy,' said Mr Primrose. 'Public confidence in elections can be eroded by perceived weaknesses in the electoral system, and by misinformation and disinformation campaigns.'

The inquiry will also consider options for technology assisted voting that have been identified by the NSW Electoral Commission. Further, the Committee will look at ways to improve systems for political donations, electoral funding and party governance, and specific laws that relate to electoral funding and political parties.

More information, including the full inquiry terms of reference, can be found on the <u>inquiry</u> <u>webpage</u>.

Submissions close on 16 August 2024.

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