



MEDIA RELEASE

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Preparations for the 2015 NSW State Election

An inquiry has begun into the electoral processes concerning the lead-up to the 2015 NSW State Election, Gareth Ward MP, Chair of the NSW Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters, announced today.

"With the election only six months away, it is timely for us to examine electoral preparations so that the community can be assured everything is on track," Mr Ward said.

The Committee's inquiry will consider the example of the Western Australian Senate count where the voters were recalled to the polls after errors made by the Australian Electoral Commission resulted in the High Court ruling that a new election be held.

"Public confidence in our electoral system suffered an understandable blow after the experience in Western Australia," Mr Ward said. "It is important that NSW electoral authorities be given this opportunity to demonstrate that steps are being taken to avoid similar issues with the NSW Legislative Council count."

The closing date for submissions to the inquiry is **Thursday 9th October 2014**.

Further information about the inquiry can be obtained by visiting the Committee's website at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/electoral matters.

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