



**Committee recommends the overhaul of the
Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912 and the
*Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

9 May 2013

In its report tabled today, the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters recommended the overhaul of the State's two most significant pieces of electoral legislation, the *Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912* and the *Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981*.

Chair of the Committee, Mr Jai Rowell MP, said "If one clear theme has emerged from this review, it is that whilst the essential principles of our representative democracy remain valid, the legislative framework through which they are given effect requires modernisation.

During the course of the review, the Committee came to the unanimous conclusion that this modernisation should be delivered by way of a new electoral act for NSW that covers both the conduct of State elections and the regulation of campaign finance and regulation, and that the new act be administered by a single statutory corporation.

Whilst those recommendations form the foundations of this report, the Committee has made a series of additional recommendations that are aimed at making targeted improvements to our electoral laws and share the common goal of promoting a legislative framework that clearly and concisely defines the roles and responsibilities of electoral participants and electoral administrators alike.

The Committee now looks ahead to reporting on its current inquiry into the 2012 Local Government elections and continuing its ongoing work to ensure the good health of our democratic processes as NSW progresses to the 2015 State Election and beyond."

The final report and full details of the inquiry can be found on the Committee's website at:
www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/electoral matters

Media Contact: Mr Jai Rowell MP, Chair

Ph: (02) 4683 2622

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