



MEDIA RELEASE

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Preparations for the 2015 NSW State Election

The NSW Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters will hold a public hearing this **Friday 24th October**, to hear evidence for its inquiry into Preparations for the 2015 NSW State Election, Gareth Ward MP, Chair of the Committee announced today.

"NSW has a long record of conducting elections successfully," Mr Ward said, "but it is always timely to put this record and plans for future elections under the microscope."

The Committee's inquiry is considering 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.

"We will be examining how the NSW Electoral Commission is taking the lessons of the Western Australian experience on board in its planning for the 2015 state election," Mr Ward said.

The public hearing will also consider how changes to the laws governing election funding and expenditure impact on election planning, the application of new technologies to voting and ensuring the integrity of the electoral process, and how the election is being promoted to the community, including new voters and young people.

The hearing will commence at **9.15am** this **Friday 24th October** at NSW Parliament House, Sydney.

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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