



MEDIA RELEASE

The Future of Victoria's Electoral Administration

27 March 2014

A parliamentary committee has recommended sweeping reforms to Victoria's electoral system with the release of a report in State Parliament today.

The report is the result of the Electoral Matters Committee's inquiry into the future of Victoria's electoral administration – the most comprehensive review of any Australian electoral system ever completed by a parliamentary committee. The report recommends:

- **Optional Preferential Voting for Victorian Legislative Assembly elections**
- **Introducing a reference to the Legislative Council as the Victorian 'State Senate' and Legislative Councillors as 'State Senators'**
- **Endorsing a 2 week early voting period for state elections**
- **Discontinuing the traditional election night state tally room and replacing it with a less formal celebration of democracy on election night at Federation Square**
- **Giving this Committee more power to oversee the work of the Victorian Electoral Commission**

The Chair, Mr Bernie Finn, MLC said today 'these recommendations are the result of two years of comprehensive research by the Committee and extensive consultation with expert stakeholders in the community'.

'These changes are designed to modernise Victoria's electoral system and help Victoria meet head-on the challenges of a changing electoral environment'.

For further information and comment regarding the Committee's report contact:-

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Copies of the report are available from the Electoral Matters Committee website www.parliament.vic.gov.au/emc or by contacting the Committee secretariat, email emc@parliament.vic.gov.au or phone 8682 2885.