

# 2000 Members Handbook

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## Introduction

*Politics involves the art of communication. Not only do political parties need to communicate to the electorate, but also to their own party membership.*

*This Members Handbook provides information for ALP members and prospective members on the workings of the Victorian Branch.*

*It also includes useful information on who's who in the Party, as well as the history, structure and organisation of the ALP.*

*A mass-based Party, like the Australian Labor Party, needs its members to be actively involved in the Party; this publication provides details on how members can become more involved.*

*It is hoped that this Handbook will prove to be a valuable asset to ALP members. This handbook includes all changes made up to and including the State Conference of June 2000.*

**David Feeney**  
State Secretary

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# Labor Values: Security & Opportunity

## LABOR'S CENTRAL VALUES

1. The Australian Labor Party had its origins in the aspirations of the Australian people for a secure, decent, dignified and meaningful way of life, in which every person has the opportunity to fully realise his or her potential.
  - Labor's driving force today continues to be those aspirations.
2. More than a century ago, Australian working people recognised the need for a political voice to protect their interests, and to advance the living standards and improve the quality of life for themselves, their families and those in need.
  - Labor today remains faithful to that tradition, continuing our close historical relationship with the trade union movement.
3. In a globalised economy and society, Australians face new pressures and uncertainties, and more than ever need government leadership to provide security, create opportunity and manage and moderate the forces of change.
  - Labor is totally committed to providing that leadership.
4. Labor is today, as throughout our history, guided and motivated by a set of central values: fairness, compassion, individual freedom, labour rights, responsibility, democracy and community.
5. Fairness. Labor believes that all people are created equal in their entitlement to dignity and respect, and should have an equal chance to achieve their potential. For Labor, government has a critical role in ensuring fairness by:
  - ensuring equal opportunity;
  - removing unjustifiable discrimination; and
  - achieving a more equitable distribution of wealth, income and status.
6. Compassion. Labor is committed to protecting and supporting those who are disadvantaged, oppressed or simply struggling to cope.
  - The Labor tradition has always been to reach out, embrace, protect and support those in need.
7. Individual Freedom. Labor is committed to a just and tolerant society which fully protects the rights and freedoms of all Australians, including especially the fundamental political and civil rights of everyone to freedom of conscience, expression and association, and to due process of law.
8. Labour Rights. Labor is committed to protecting and advancing the fundamental rights of working people to join trade unions, and to organise, collectively bargain and strike.
9. Responsibility. Labor believes that rights must be accompanied by responsibilities to behave honestly, humanely and fairly. Those responsibilities must be exercised:
  - by individuals, toward each other and the community which supports them;
  - by social and economic groups and organisations, toward each other and the wider community; and
  - by governments, toward their own people, other governments and the wider international community.
10. Democracy. Labor is committed to the essential democratic principle that every person should have the right to a say, directly or indirectly, in every decision that effects his or her life. That right includes:
  - democratic participation in the choice of governments;
  - the opportunity for a meaningful voice in decision-making in the workplace; and
  - the opportunity for a voice in planning, environment, the delivery of public services and similar matters.
11. Community. Labor believes that the best chance for the future, for Australia and all Australians, lies in our working together for the common good.
  - Within Australia, Labor is committed to a society in which every person is able to actively and productively participate in the life of the community, and the whole community responds sensitively to individual needs.
  - Labor is committed to a community that embraces cultural diversity and reconciliation, based on mutual respect and acceptance. Genuine reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is crucial to our capacity to face the world as a united, peaceful and just nation.
  - Within the international community, Labor strongly believes that every country's national interests, including our own, are best protected and advanced by cooperation rather than confrontation and conflict.

## LABOR'S PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

12. Providing Security. Labor's first priority is to provide security for all Australians. This includes:

- job security during our working years;
- income security during both working and retirement years;
- personal security in the event of serious illness, injury or other crisis, or in the case of disability;
- security and safety in the community living environment; and
- security of the nation against external threat.

13. Creating Opportunity. A second Labor priority is to provide opportunity for all Australians:

- to realise fully their individual potential throughout their lifetime;
- to advance their living standards and quality of life;
- to gain access to employment, education, housing, health and welfare services, information technology, culture and recreation, and the legal system; and
- to participate cooperatively in the life of the nation and the communities within it.

14. Managing Change to Ensure Security and Opportunity. Labor has always sought to anticipate and understand the forces of change at work in the national and international communities - not to resist that change, but gain the maximum benefit from it while moderating and smoothing its impact.

- Successful governments are those which understand and communicate the reality of that change, and manage it in a way that both creates opportunity and provides security.

15. Labor recognises that the twenty-first century will inevitably be a period of increased globalisation - with dramatically expanding international competition and technological development, and ever-growing interdependence.

- Labor believes that this offers Australia unprecedented opportunities to become a world leader in balancing a dynamic economy with a just society.

16. Labor has led the way in recognising the necessary interrelationship between economy, society and environment. It is our fundamental belief that:

- economic progress is not an end in itself but a means to achieve social goals; and
- economic and social changes can only endure if they are environmentally sustainable.

17. What makes Labor governments distinctive is our belief in the critical role of government:

- We believe that strong and active government leadership, with an effective and efficient public sector operating in partnership with a thriving private sector, best manages change to provide security and opportunity for all Australians.
- We believe that government is not an impediment, but rather a crucial force in building and realising the full potential of individuals, the economy and our whole society.

18. Labor believes that government is critical to the achievement of social justice, in ensuring:

- sufficient basic income to provide a decent quality of life for all Australians;
- universal social rights (including fulfilling employment, quality education and affordable health care and housing);
- equal rights for those in groups subject to discrimination; and
- special support for those with particular needs (including Indigenous Australians, women, people from non-English speaking backgrounds, the long-term unemployed, homeless, disabled, frail aged and mentally ill).

19. Labor sees government as a guardian of the common good, not only in achieving social justice but in securing many public goods which are simply unlikely to be delivered as effectively, if at all, by the private sector and a free market.

- We see our society as not just a market but a community with mutual responsibilities. Not all values have dollar equivalents.

20. Labor has a distinctive vision of how Australia should present itself in the wider international community. We should be, and be seen to be:

- a modern, innovative, socially and economically advanced, united multicultural society;
- willing to take a confident and independent position in advancing our national interests, and doing so energetically and creatively.
- willing to pursue wider good international citizenship objectives; and
- willing to pursue those interests and objectives by working in cooperation with others.

## LABOR'S DISTINCTIVE APPROACH

# History, Organisation and Achievements

## **History**

The Australian Labor Party is one of a small group of political parties which are genuine Labor Parties:

**The trade unions belong to the Party.** This distinguishes a Labor Party from social democratic parties, although they may have common ideals and philosophies, and from broadly-based progressive parties like America's Democratic Party.

In Labor Parties, the trade unions do not merely support the party. They form part of its structure by being affiliated with it. The only other parties which are strictly comparable with the Australian Labor Party are the British and New Zealand Labor Parties, which affiliate trade unions at a national level. Australian unions affiliate at the State level but the broad party structure is the same. The Scandinavian Labor Parties of Sweden and Norway have some similarity with local branches of unions affiliated with local branches of the party. Much weaker Labor Parties exist in Canada and Ireland, and there is the special case of Israel. Labor Parties are rare but where they exist they have been long-lived and influential.

**Australia's oldest political Party** - The Australian Labor Party is Australia's oldest party. It was formed as a federal party when the former Australian colonies federated in 1901. It is 20 years older than the Country Party and 45 years older than the Liberal Party. The origins of the Labor Party go back before federation to the governments of the colonial states. Separate Labor Parties were formed in the States during the formative decade of the 1890s. These parties were sponsored by the trade union movement which participated very actively in the foundation of the infant political movement. In Western Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, there were no strong and coherent Labor Parties until after federation. By 1900 strong Labor Parties had emerged in Queensland and New South Wales, quickly taking up a prominent role in Parliamentary politics.

**Australia's first Labor Government took office in Queensland in 1899.** It lasted five days. Although these early Labor Parties were strongly influenced by the trade unions, they were never confined to union membership and interests. Their earliest programs and platforms show that they sought the support of farmers, small businessmen, non-union employees, including clerical and other white-collar workers. From the start the Labor Party was essentially a pragmatic and non-doctrinaire party, representing a broad range of social and economic interests. It was broad in appeal and moderate in aims, although this did not stop its opponents from attacking it as extremist.

**Federal Parliament** - The Australian Labor Party

entered federal politics at the first Commonwealth elections of 1901, when 16 Labor members were elected to the House of Representatives and eight to the Senate. They met before the first sitting of Parliament on 8 May, 1901 and agreed to form a federal Labor Party. J.C. (Chris) Watson, a Sydney printer and a former member of the New South Wales Parliament, was elected the first leader of the Party.

During the first decade of the Commonwealth, the ALP gradually increased its numbers and influence. In the first years the membership of the Parliament was divided on the tariff issue between Free Traders, Protectionists and the Labor Party. The Labor Party was weakest in numbers but more coherent and tightly organised than the amorphous free trade and protection factions. The support of the Labor Party was often decisive in getting important measures through the Parliament. **Australia's first Labor Federal Government took office in May, 1904, with Watson as first Labor Prime Minister.** It was a minority Government which lasted for just over three months.

In the following years, the Labor Party mostly supported the Liberal protectionist policies of Alfred Deakin. In October, 1907, Watson was succeeded as leader by Andrew Fisher, a coal miner from Gympie in Queensland. **Fisher formed the second Labor Government in October, 1908.** It was a minority Government which, with Deakin's support, lasted until June 1909. At the elections of April, 1910, Labor won a majority in both houses and for the first time was able to embark on a program of reform and innovation. **It founded a Commonwealth Bank, introduced a maternity allowance,** established a Navy, brought more employees within the scope of federal industrial law, took over the issuing of bank notes, and introduced a per capita system of payments to the States.

The Government was defeated in May 1913, but won a subsequent double dissolution election in September, 1914. Fisher was again elected Prime Minister as Australia entered World War 1. The Fisher Government was committed to the war and to the strong patriotic sentiments which it aroused. In October, 1915, Fisher resigned to become Australian High Commissioner in London, and W.M. Hughes who had been prominent in Labor politics for more than 20 years became Prime Minister.

**First Labor Government** - The ALP was the world's first successful Labor Party by an overwhelming margin. **By 1915 it had formed three Governments in the Federal Parliament and had governed in all States, although only very briefly in Victoria.** Its success at winning office meant that

Labor Governments could be judged on their record, and inevitably some sections of the movement were disappointed. In particular, important elements of the union leadership in the major states of Victoria and New South Wales were disappointed at what Labor Governments had achieved. Labor Governments often took office at times of economic difficulty. State Labor Governments did not satisfy the unions as employers in industries such as State railways.

Bread and butter irritants became mixed with broader social and political differences between elements of the Labor movement and these were reflected in Labor Governments and in the Labor Party. These pressures culminated in the great struggles over conscription in 1916 and 1917.

**Conscription was supported by a majority of leading Labor politicians and opposed by nearly all union leaders.**

The union officials and other elements within the Party used their control over party organisation to eject pro-conscriptionist politicians from the Party. In the process the Federal Labor Government was destroyed, and Hughes and several ALP Parliamentarians left the Labor Party and joined with the Opposition to form a Nationalist Government.

A weakened Labor Party struggled through the next ten years trying to re-establish the political supremacy it had lost in the conscription split. It was led by Frank Tudor who replaced Hughes, and then by Matthew Charlton. Both were solid trade unionists who could not match the popular appeal of the Nationalist Party leaders, Hughes and Bruce. The federal party did not recover until 1929 when the National-Country Party coalition was defeated after it tried to impose punitive industrial legislation. The ALP won the election of October, 1929, and its leader, J.H. Scullin, became Prime Minister.

**Scullin Government** - The Scullin Government was soon engulfed in the worldwide depression. It proved incapable of evolving the economic and social policies needed to maintain living standards and social services, although it was badly hampered because it did not control the Senate. The Scullin Government was defeated in the Parliament in November, 1931 and lost the subsequent election.

J.A. Lyons, a Minister in the Scullin Government, left the Party with a group of dissidents opposed to the Government's economic policy. They joined the Opposition to form the United Australia Party with Lyons as Prime Minister. Discontent which had simmered between industrial and political wings of the Labor Movement broke out into open factional warfare during the 1930s. A number of Labor politicians at both federal and state levels were expelled, and splinter parties were formed.

**John Curtin** - Factional disputes within the party were not quelled until late in the decade. Scullin was succeeded as federal leader in 1935 by John Curtin

who gradually re-built the federal party and restored its electoral appeal and effectiveness. Curtin became war-time Prime Minister in October, 1941. **He gave resolute and inspiring leadership to the Australian people during the war**, and a group of experienced and capable Ministers provided the administrative back-up needed for a successful war-effort. The Curtin Government also devoted considerable attention to drawing up a blueprint for the post-war reconstruction of Australia.

**The Chifley Leadership** - Curtin died in July 1945 and was succeeded by **J.B. Chifley who implemented the ALP's plans for post-war reconstruction**. The Chifley Government achieved some notable reforms but was hampered by constitutional impediments. Electoral reaction against war-time austerity and post-war controls was an important factor in the defeat of the Chifley Government in December, 1949. Chifley died in June 1952 and Dr H.V. Evatt was elected leader. Labor narrowly lost the federal election of 1954 after the coalition Government created a notable diversion with the Petrov Royal Commission.

**During the 1940s and early 1950s strong pressures had built up within the Labor movement over the activities of Communists in the trade unions**. The Communist Party was then a united and coherent political unit and a number of its members reached prominent positions in the trade unions. This created problems for the ALP because it meant that part of its affiliated membership was under the leadership and influence of another political party. Counter movements were formed within and without the ALP to fight communism. The most important was an organisation known as "The Movement" led by B.A. Santamaria and strongly influenced by Catholic social doctrines.

In 1945 the ALP had set up Industrial Groups in some states to oppose Communists in union elections. "The Movement" which operated as a secret organisation, dominated many of the Industrial Groups and built up increasing influence within the party itself. In a protracted struggle between 1954 and 1957 supporters of "The Movement" and the Industrial Groups were forced out of the ALP, which tacitly gave up any claim to intervene directly in union affairs. In the following years, the Communist Party split into three competing factions; this meant that there was no longer any powerful and united group of union leaders outside the ranks of the ALP.

**Arthur Calwell** - The great purge of "The Movement" and the Industrial Groups left the ALP in an extremely weakened position. The party lost three elections under Evatt who resigned in 1960. Under a new leader, Arthur Calwell, Labor almost won the 1961 election, when the electorate swung strongly against the Menzies Government after a stringent credit squeeze. The Party's political fortunes declined in the following years, plunging to a disastrous defeat in the 1966 election, which was dominated by the

participation of Australian troops in the Vietnam War.

**The Whitlam Years** - Under a new leader, E.G. Whitlam, the party gradually recovered in the closing years of the 1960s. **Whitlam embarked on an ambitious program of policy reform**, linking it with important changes in the party machinery. Labor narrowly lost the 1969 election, but won comfortably in 1972. Between 1972 and 1975 the Labor Government attempted a wide-ranging program of reform extending over every area of public policy. It made many significant advances but its efforts were frustrated by an Opposition majority in the Senate. This sparked a double dissolution election in May 1974 which Labor won with a reduced majority, although it failed narrowly to win a majority in the Senate.

The Whitlam Government continued its program of reform and innovation, but during 1975 it was embroiled in a series of controversial incidents. **Opposition from the Senate mounted until October 1975, when it refused to pass supply for the functions of Government. This sparked a protracted constitutional crisis which was resolved when the Governor General, Sir John Kerr, dismissed the Labor Government and appointed the Opposition minority as a caretaker Government.** Labor was badly beaten in the subsequent election in December 1975 and 1977.

**Hayden and Re-organisation** - Bill Hayden was elected Leader of the Party in 1977. His first task was to set about **rebuilding morale** within the ALP and he presided over a **comprehensive review of the Platform and organisational structure**. In 1980 Hayden led the Party to within 13 seats of winning Government.

**The ALP Under Hawke** - On February 3, 1983, the day that former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser announced a March 5 election, Bill Hayden resigned as Leader. **He was replaced by former ACTU President, Bob Hawke, who led the Party to a convincing poll victory.** The new Labor Government took office on March 11 with a 25 seat majority. Elected on a platform of national economic recovery and reconstruction and national reconciliation, the Hawke Government moved quickly to honour its campaign undertakings. **In its first term, the Hawke Government made impressive progress in restoring national economic health. Economic growth improved, the explosion in unemployment was arrested.**

While the end of the drought and the improved international economic climate were important factors in a brighter economic outlook, the Government provided both the framework and, where necessary, the stimulus to ensure the recovery was broadly based and sustainable. **A key element of the Government's economic policy was the involvement of all sections of the community**

through the National Economic Summit, the Prices and Incomes Accord and the Economic Planning Advisory Council.

A new universal health insurance system, **Medicare was established** which guarantees all Australians medical and hospital care.

While the task of rebuilding the economy and getting Australians back into jobs was the top priority, the first term of Government also saw the implementation of many of the ALP's campaign commitments including **increasing unemployment and social welfare benefits**, the introduction of a Sex Discrimination Act, the rescue of the **Steel Industry** and the revival of the housing industry.

**The Hawke Government was re-elected in December 1984** at an early election held to synchronise the scheduled Half-Senate election with the House of Representatives election. The Parliament was expanded and the Government's majority was reduced from 25 in the old House of 125 members, to 16 in the new House of 148 members. The second term saw a concentration on the economic problems of the Federal Budget Deficit and the Current Account Deficit, and a general consolidation of the Government's economic and social reform programs. It was during the life of the second Hawke Government, that Treasurer Keating warned of the dangers of Australia becoming a "Banana Republic" if the nation did not change its attitude to most matters economic.

**On 11 July 1987, despite the difficult economic conditions, the Hawke Labor Government was re-elected to a historic third term, with its majority increased to 24 in the House of Representatives.** The priorities for the third term continued to be a streamlining of the Government sector (the number of Departments was reduced from 28 to 16 Super Ministries) in a revitalised economy. The work of expenditure restraint and reform of the taxation system (Capital Gains & Fringe Benefits Taxes) saw Federal Budget surpluses. Part of the surplus was used to redeem National Debt, and part was used to fund the Government's radical Family Package that means tested many Government Welfare programs and focussed benefits on low income earners. Age pensions were increased to 25% of Average Weekly earnings.

**The Hawke Government was re-elected on 24 March 1990** for a fourth term with a majority of 8 seats. The Democrats continued to hold the balance of power in the Senate. The Government's focus continues to be implementing its economic reform and social justice strategies. Micro-economic reforms continue to be a feature of debate and action, and the reform of retirement income and health a feature of the social agenda.

On 20 December 1991, Paul Keating was elected as ALP Parliamentary Leader and Prime Minister. The

ALP Government launched the "One Nation" package and continued to strive for a fairer, more just and equitable society.

**On 13 March 1993, Paul Keating led the ALP to its 5th consecutive election victory.** For the first time since 1966, an incumbent government was returned with an increased proportion of the vote.

### **The ALP Under Keating**

Under Paul Keating's leadership, the ALP strove to set a new agenda after a decade in power. It achieved this in a number of policy areas.

Under the Creative Nation package announced in 1995, the minimum Australian content on Television was increased. Funds were made available to take the arts across Australia including through a new Festivals Australia programme to give access to arts to regional and rural areas.

The Native Title Act was a seminal point in the reconciliation process with Australia's indigenous communities. The Act provides a practical means for dealing with native title without constant litigation

The Act provides for a co-operative approach between all levels of government, recognising that the States and Territories have primary responsibility for land management and encourages mediation and negotiation. The Act provides specially adapted tribunal and court procedures for native title issues where negotiation fails.

On the heels of the Native Title Act, the Federal Labor Government placed the issue of Australia becoming a Republic on the political agenda.

The Federal Labor Government announced in 1994 a three stage program to reform and improve the Sex Discrimination Act to further protect and promote the position of women in the workplace.

Labor also passed legislation to make discrimination unlawful on the additional ground of marital status and disability.

738 200 new jobs were created between 1993 and 1996. The introduction of Working Nation provided the long term unemployed the work experience needed to compete effectively in the labour market.

The number of young people aged 15-19 who are full-time unemployed is 44% lower in 1995 than in March 1983. In March 1983, 158100 young people aged 15-19 were unemployed. In December 1995, this was down to 88100.

Labor established the Childcare Cash Rebate in 1994 to recognise that child care is a legitimate work-related expense. The rebate is applicable on child care costs where both parents or the sole parent are working, studying or looking for work.

The Parenting Allowance replaced the dependent spouse rebate and provides the spouse at home (usually the mother) with an independent income. The rebate is means-tested on the carer's income only.

The number of childcare places skyrocketed from 46000 in 1983 to 278 000 in 1996. 70 000 after school care places were established .

Since 1993, Labor committed \$80 million to a National Childhood Immunisation Program which would provide free vaccines to children, extensive education campaigns for parents and providers of vaccines, and a national childhood immunisation register to better measure immunisation coverage and provide parents with an optional reminder system.

In the 1990s, the Labor Government targetted the elements critical to the success of Australian industry, science and technology. Namely, innovation, technology uptake, business improvement, access to finance and skills development received special attention.

Labor was defeated at the election on 2 March 1996. Kim Beazley replaced Paul Keating as the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party.

# New Members Summary – By Garth Head

## **BACKGROUND**

The ALP is a political party comprised of members and affiliated unions bound together by a common set of basic beliefs (a democratic society; social and economic justice for all; and a sustainable environment).

### **ALP Members:**

Individual membership of the ALP is open to any person fourteen years of age and over. Members pay an annual membership fee based on their annual income.

Members may belong to a local branch of the Party or the statewide central branch.

Only members of local branches accrue the right to vote in internal ALP elections.

The right to vote at a branch level is attained as soon as a person's membership is accepted by the ALP's Administrative Committee. A member's right to vote in all other internal elections is attained 12 months after they join their first local branch, provided the member retains continuing financial membership.

Members attaining this qualification become eligible voting members and can vote in Federal Electorate Assembly (FEA) elections in the federal electorate in which they reside.

Local Branch members can also vote for all local ballots (called plebiscites) for selecting local candidates for public office in the electorates (Federal, State and local council) in which they reside.

The FEA elections are conducted in each Federal electorate every two years in odd numbered years. Members in each Federal electorate elect State Conference delegates and a five person FEA Executive.

These elections are carried out under the proportional representation voting system to ensure that those elected represent the broad cross section of interests present in the ALP. Under the Party's affirmative action rule, at least one third of those elected must be women members.

State Conference is the highest decision making body of the ALP in Victoria and each Federal electorate is accorded a number of delegates (out of a Victoria wide total of 180 FEA conference delegates) in proportion to the number of the ALP's members (approximately 16,000 in Victoria) within the seat's boundaries.

For example, the Federal electorate of Hotham currently has entitlement to six elected State Conference delegates based on its number of ALP members and the Federal electorate of Chisholm has an entitlement to three delegates because its number

of members is around half the number of Hotham's.

### **ALP Affiliated Unions:**

Affiliated unions pay a per capita fee to the ALP for each of their financial members and these fees provide the backbone of the ALP's finances. There are around 350,000 affiliated union members.

Affiliated unions are entitled to send 270 delegates to the Victorian ALP's State Conference, which meets in Autumn and Spring each year, in proportion to their number of affiliated members.

Union delegates, together with FEA delegates to State Conference elect the internal ALP Committees in a regular cycle of elections.

One of the most important of these elected committees is the Public Office Selection Committee (POSC), a 100 member committee which participates in the selection of all ALP endorsed candidates for public office.

Unlike individual members, affiliated unions have no direct role in selecting ALP endorsed candidates despite their important contribution to the ALP.

### **In summary, the ALP as we know it exists to meet three basic objectives:**

- To attain government through electoral success to implement policies and programs consistent with our basic beliefs to meet the needs of our community and achieve a better society;
- To develop and review policy and programs to ensure they meet the contemporary needs of our community; and,
- To maintain a viable and effective organisation capable of securing electoral success and fulfilling our policy development and review function.

The ALP operates at a local, State and at the National level.

It operates as a collectivist organisation of volunteers, parliamentarians and a small Co-ordinating Head Office staff, under a set of rules.

The ALP Rules set down the rights and responsibilities of all ALP members, including parliamentarians, and affiliated unions.

The Rules set out how the governance of the ALP will be conducted, including the selection of endorsed candidates for public office – Federal, State parliamentary candidates and endorsed council candidates.

Within this framework there is a healthy diversity of views on the best approach to policies and issues, and who will make the best candidates/public office holders



for the Party. The Rules set out the agreed mechanisms for resolving these differences within a democratic framework.

## **HOW VICTORIAN LABOR PRESELECTS CANDIDATES**

**All ALP preselections for public office are made with the direct involvement of ALP members in the seat, province or council ward for which the ALP is to endorse a candidate.**

The ALP endorses candidates for the House of Representatives, Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council (province) and local councils (wards).

Endorsed ALP members are selected by vote of eligible ALP members living in the relevant constituency (seat, province, Council ward) **and** the State Public Office Selection Committee (POSC) representing Statewide ALP interests.

To be eligible to vote in an ALP election a member must have 12 months continuous financial membership of a local branch as at the date nominations close.

### **The POSC.**

The POSC is, in Party language, known as the central panel.

It comprises 100 members elected every two years by ALP State Conference delegates.

There are 456 State Conference delegates.

The State Parliamentary leadership and representatives of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party send 6 delegates to State Conference.

The POSC is elected by the State Conference delegates under the proportional representation voting system with a requirement that at least one third of POSC members must be women.

The use of proportional representation to elect FEA delegates to State Conference and members of the POSC (as well as all other elected committees) ensures that all of the interests represented by the ALP in Victoria have a say in the selection of Labor candidates.

**Eligible local ALP members voting in a local plebiscite and the members of the POSC are each accorded 50% of the final candidate selection decision by a vote weighting process.**

The exception to this process is Senate preselection.

The Senate preselection is carried out by the POSC because a Senators' constituency is the whole State and the POSC is proportionately representative of the Party in the State.

### **A balance of interests.**

**Labor's candidate selection process ensures that neither the eligible local ALP members (preselectors) nor POSC members have a monopoly right to determine who the ALP's endorsed candidate for public office will be.**

**Generally, our selection process represents a balance between various local and statewide interests.**

For example, a candidate who has 70% preferred support from the POSC still has to receive at least 31% of preferred support from the local voters, and vice versa.

This balanced approach has the added advantage of lessening the impact of local block votes of members who are exclusively recruited and aligned to one candidate and insulated from considering the merits of other candidates.

In other words, the POSC can moderate any local biases in the interests of the whole Party. Similarly, the local preselectors moderate any central biases (say because of central deals) towards candidates who may be less electable in a local constituency.

### **Judging Candidates.**

These checks and balances are important in developing the best selection process available to us in a democratic system. But it is also important to be aware of the different emphasis, which may be present in candidate selection criteria between POSC members and local preselectors.

Both must make judgements as to candidates' electability but beyond this important characteristic consideration must be given as to how successfully elected candidates will fit together to be a winning government or opposition team in Parliament (and to a lesser extent in local councils).

Whilst it is assumed that local preselectors will weigh this vital issue, they generally do not have the advantage of POSC member's overview in making comparative judgements across a number of seats as part of selecting a Labor team.

In fulfilling their obligation of representing statewide Party interests in the candidate selection process, POSC members must have regard to criteria such as:

- Electability of each selected candidate having regard to the individual characteristics of the constituency in question (eg. Is the candidate actively involved in his or her local community and will this be of benefit to the local campaign? Are there personal characteristics which make a candidate more or less electable in the seat under consideration?);
- Any benefit the selection of a candidate may have in adjoining seats or across the state/country (eg. preselecting Cheryl Kernot and Mary Delahunty is helping the election campaigns of other Labor candidates);

- Selection of candidates with complimentary and necessary skills to act as a Parliamentary team whether in government or opposition (skills in areas such as policy, government administration, research, debating, media, etc);

A balance of representation between the various interests contained within our broad umbrella Party to maintain unity and cohesiveness (this is sometimes

- referred to as *the principle of proportionality* without which Labor (and any other political party) would permanently descend into splinter groups fighting each other for ongoing representation on a winner take all basis);
- Gender balance, ethnic community representation and electoral expectations.

In applying this criteria, the POSC may also favour candidates with a proven track record of work for the Party at a State level, at say the organisational, campaign or policy level. The work of such candidates may be proportionately better known at a leadership or State level than amongst their local constituency members, particularly members new to the Party.

Similarly, candidates with external policy, public administration, media and/or other political skills as well as those with significant popularity amongst voters may be deemed important to the Party's broader electoral success and consequently also receive high levels of POSC support over preferred local candidates.

Local selection criteria for candidates tend to have a different emphasis. Generally, preselection candidates who are personally known by local members (often in the same branch) tend to have the advantage in local plebiscites (selection votes). But there are other local criteria which should also play a key role.

The following criteria should be assessed by

preselection voters:

- Candidate's knowledge of the constituency and the issues it faces;
- Candidate's public profile/standing in the local community (not just in the ALP - we'll vote Labor anyway);
- Candidate's past and current levels of local community involvement;
- Candidate's empathy with local voters - is the candidate seen as representative of local voters; Is she/he one of them?;
- Will the candidate work consistently throughout the campaign (from the time of selection)?;
- Can the candidate represent the seat and the Party into the future; and,
- What contribution will the candidate make to Labor's parliamentary team.

### **It's your choice.**

The virtues of competing candidates for Labor preselection is ultimately in the eye of each participating local ALP member and elected POSC members.

Candidate selection under this system is the direct result of interaction between local preselectors' judgements and POSC members' judgements, in what is fundamentally the most democratic system achievable.

There has been a tendency to criticise outcomes of this process from time to time, but invariably no one offers a better acceptable system.

**Ultimately, the quality of the candidate is determined by the criteria applied by each participant in the selection process - the eye of the beholder.**

# ALP Language

**AGM** - Annual General Meeting at which officers and Executive Committee members are elected to serve for various terms of office, for usually 1 or 2 years.

**ACTU** - The Australian Council of Trade Unions; the ruling body of the industrial union movement in Australia.

**Admin Committee** - Administrative Committee; the "Committee of Management"/Executive of the Victorian Branch.

**Affiliated Unions** - Unions affiliated to the Party to give political expression to their members' interests.

**AYL** - Australian Young Labor. A national forum for youth in the ALP to express their views.

**Branch** - A section of the ALP; can refer to a local or district branch or to a State branch.

**Caucus** - A meeting of the Parliamentary wing of the ALP. May refer to either the ALP members of Local, State or Federal Parliament.

**Delegate** - A representative of an ALP branch or unit in a higher forum.

**DRO (Deputy Returning Officer)** - Assists the RO in conducting ALP elections.

**FEA (Federal Electorate Assembly)** - All members who reside within a Federal electorate. This is the organisational body for Federal seats.

**FPLP (Federal Parliamentary Labor Party)** - The federal parliamentary branch of the Party. Comprised of Labor members of federal parliament (Caucus).

**Labour Movement** - Collective name given to the industrial and political wings of the workers' movement. The industrial wing is composed of the trade unions, and is represented by the ACTU and the State THC's. The political wing is the ALP.

**Labor Herald** - The official newspaper of the Victorian Branch of the Australian Labor Party.

**MCC (Municipal Campaign Committee)** - Runs local municipal campaign.

**MHR (Member of House of Representatives)** -

Federal Lower House parliamentarian.

**MLA (Member Legislative Assembly)** - State Lower House parliamentarian.

**MLC (Member Legislative Council)** - State Upper House parliamentarian.

**MP (Member of Parliament)**

**National Conference** - Supreme governing authority of the Party, meets every two years.

**National Executive** - Administers the Party between National Conferences.

**Officers of the Party** - In Victoria, this is the President and two Vice-Presidents.

**Officials of the Party** - Paid positions: Secretary and State Organisers, Labor Star Editor.

**Plebiscite** - A ballot of ALP members in a local electorate to select the Party candidate (in conjunction with thePOSC with 50% of the vote).

**POSC (Public Office Selection Committee)**

**Proxy** or Proxy Delegate. Someone who stands in for a full delegate in a meeting of the Party.

**Quorum** - Minimum number of members required to make a meeting valid.

**RO (Returning Officer)** - Conducts elections.

**SECC (State Electorate Campaign Committee).**

**Senator** - Federal Upper House parliamentarian.

**SPLP (State Parliamentary Labor Party)**  
The State parliamentary wing of the Party (Caucus).

**State Conference** - Policy-making and governing body of the State ALP, which usually meets three times a year.

**THC (Trades Hall Council)** - Name given to the State branch of the ACTU.or **VTHC (Victorian Trades Hall Council)**

# How to find your way around the ALP

To participate in an organisation you have to know something of its structure, of the various sections and groups which go to make up the total organisation. No doubt many members have sat through meetings bewildered by the terms being thrown around, FEA; Admin Committee; Selection Panels; MCC; etc.

In this section, various aspects of the Party are briefly explained so you as a member will know what is going on and how you can involve yourself. The main thing to remember is that the ALP is a democratic organisation and encourages participation by members in its decision-making processes. The numbers in brackets refer to the appropriate rule in the Constitution.

## **Party Member (Rule 5.3)**

To have a say in the decision-making processes of the ALP you must be a member. To join you must be:

- over 14 years
- not a member of another political party
- attend a meeting of and join a branch of the Party in your federal electorate (separate requirements for Central members)
- be a member of a union affiliated to the ALP if you are eligible to join
- your application must be approved by the Administrative Committee.

## **Branch (Rule 10-10.4)**

All ALP members (other than Central members) must join a Branch in their federal electorate. The majority of ALP members are most involved in the Party at the Branch level.

A Branch must:

- have at least ten (10) members
- be approved by the Administrative Committee
- meet at least six (6) times a year (four (4) times a year for country branches)

## **Branch Executive (Rule 10-10.11)**

Five members elected by and from the members of the Branch. They are elected at the October, November or December branch meetings;

- Executive members take office in the new year;
- Executive consists of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer;
- Executive choose among themselves who is to fill the various positions;
- Executive's function is the management and organisation of the Branch.

## **Federal Electorate Assembly (FEA)(Rule 9.1.1.,9.1.2)**

The organisational unit of the Party which is established within each federal electorate.

- all party members within the federal electorate are members of the FEA;
- the non-union delegate component of the State Conference is elected by the members of each FEA.
- the FEA has a broad responsibility to further the interests and influence of the Party within its area.

## **FEA Executive (Rule 9.1.3)**

Five members elected by and from the members at the Annual General Meeting.

- consists of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, one of whom also acts as Woman's Officer
- Executive choose among themselves who is to fill the various positions;
- the Executive's function is to co-ordinate the activities of the ALP within the electorate.

## **Policy Committee (Rule 8.4)**

The role of the policy committee is to formulate policies on the policy area it has been allocated and submit such policies to State Conference. Policy committees generally consist of:

1. members elected by State Conference, and
2. the appropriate Federal and State Ministers or Shadow Ministers.

- all elected members hold office for two years.
- see section (e) for details of policy committees.
- Policy Assemblies, to which all Party members are invited, must be convened by each committee at least once a year for the general discussion of policy items.

## **Central Public Office Selection Committee (Rule 8.3)**

Consists of 100 members elected by and from the delegates at the June State Conference every second year.

This Committee shares equally with local branch members the task of preselecting candidates for Federal, State and Municipal Elections.

## **Administrative Committee (Rule 8.1)**

This committee is responsible for the implementation of policy and the general management and control of the party.

- It consists of the three Officers of the Party (President, Senior Vice-President and Junior Vice-President) and thirty other members elected by and from State Conference.
- The Administrative Committee is empowered to employ a State Secretary, organisers and other

staff as necessary.

### **State Conference (Rule 6)**

The supreme policy making and governing body of the Party. It has the power to determine all matters affecting the Party.

#### **State Conference elects:**

- President, Senior Vice-President, Junior Vice-President
- Administrative Committee
- Agenda Committee
- The Disputes Tribunal
- Delegates to National Conference
- members of Policy Committees
- Public Office Selection Committee
- Rules Revision Committee

#### **State Conference is composed of:**

- delegates elected by each Federal Electorate Assembly (40%)
- delegates appointed by affiliated unions (60%)
- leader and deputy leader of Party in two houses of Victorian Parliament
- two persons elected by and from Victorian members of Federal Parliamentary Labor Party

### **State Electorate Campaign Committee (SECC) (Rule 11)**

The duty of this committee is to run the State election campaign in the particular state electorate.

- five executive members elected by and from party members in the electorate;

- delegates from each Branch in the electorate
- Member of Parliament or endorsed candidate for State electorate.

### **Municipal Campaign Committee (MCC) (Rule 12)**

Duty is to run the Municipal Campaign for the area concerned. Consists of:

- three delegates elected by and from party members in municipality;
- one delegate from each branch in the electorate;
- candidates for office in the municipality.

### **Other Conferences**

The Party also has annual conferences for Country members, and Young (under 26) members.

### **Basic Principles of the Constitution**

- Dispersal of Power: The principle on which the present constitution is constructed is that of "divided rule". No member of the Party may be a member of more than one of the Agenda Committee, the Administrative Committee and the Public Office Selection Committee.
- Proportional Representation: The Constitution provides for the use of PR for all elections within the Party at which more than one candidate is to be elected, which ensures that minority viewpoints are heard and that groupings within the Party are represented exactly according to their strength.

## **The ALP and the Local Community**

### **Communication of Policies**

A major aim of every Branch is to create a continually developing local community presence and to communicate ALP policies into the local communities. This is done in a variety of ways with the usual emphasis on newsletter distributions and by involvement of ALP members in local community organisations.

### **Community Organisations**

Before formulating motions for State and National Conference on policy matters, some branches liaise with various community interest groups, who have an interest or expertise in a particular area to gauge community reactions on various proposals.

There is a very wide range of voluntary organisations in which Party members play an active part at local level; Ratepayers' Associations, Pensioners' Action Groups, School Councils, Housing Associations, Consumer Action Groups, etc.

The ALP encourages members to play an active part in all community organisations and to promote as far as possible Democratic Socialist attitudes within them.

### **Involvement in Local Issues**

Branches develop a strong community presence by becoming active in various community issues. By becoming involved in issues which affect the local community, this has an important role in raising the awareness of the existence of a branch in an area and in indicating continual interest in the community by the ALP.

### **Local Government**

Branches may become involved in assisting candidates for Local Government who are sympathetic to the ALP or who openly support ALP policies. In some cases the ALP endorses candidates for Local Government. In that case it is the Councillor's job to endeavour to see that ALP policy is carried out on the Council. (Branches are bound to support endorsed Local Government candidates).

# The ALP and Trade Unions

## A. Connections

### Historical

The ALP was born out of a move by trade unions in the early 1890s to have the voice of the Labour Movement heard more effectively. Trade union members were largely responsible for the formation of ALP policy and for creating the mood for electoral success for the ALP.

### Common Goals

The ALP and the Trade Union Movement have in broad terms similar objectives, that is, an equitable distribution of community wealth and resources. But both have certain specific objectives which differ. Trade Unions consist of groups of organised employees concerned with conditions of employment - wages, recreation, leave, superannuation, workers' compensation, safety regulations, etc. The ALP is an organisation of certain industrial unions and local branches of citizens concerned with the pursuit of developed political policies.

### Mutual Support

The ALP aims to support trade unions in pursuit of their industrial goals and many unions support the ALP in pursuit of its political goals.

### Organisational Links

The basis of affiliation with the ALP is in accord with the objectives of the Trade Union Movement which aim to improve the standard of living for their members. Affiliation is recognition that trade unions will not achieve all their industrial objectives in the industrial arena alone, but some conditions of service are determined by political action. An association with a political party allows an industrial organisation the avenue of pursuing its aims for the benefit of its members along more than one path.

## B. Distinctive Features

### The Trade Union Movement

The Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) is the supreme governing body of the trade union movement in Australia representing about 2.5 million workers from over 160 unions.

Unions affiliated to the ACTU represent workers in all types of employment - from truck drivers, butchers and teachers to metal workers, pharmacists and bank clerks.

The ACTU is not affiliated with the ALP and therefore does not contribute towards policy formation nor to the funds of the ALP.

The Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC) is one of six branches of the ACTU and represents the Victorian Trade Union Movement. Like the ACTU, the VTHC is not affiliated to the ALP, although most of its member unions are.

It meets fortnightly to discuss trade union policy and to deal with items forwarded by its constituent bodies.

### The Australian Labor Party

The ALP is more than a body representing affiliated unions. In addition it is composed of political branches, which are made up of people from all walks of life who are interested in the labour movement and the ideals for which it stands.

## Election Time

Parliamentary Elections are held once every three years for the Federal and four years for most State Houses of Parliament, unless called earlier by the Prime Minister or the Premier. Local Government Elections are held every three years in March.

### (i) Selection of candidates -

Responsibility for the selection of candidates for the Senate rests with the Public Office Selection Panel (POSC) elected by State Conference.

All endorsements for the House of Representatives, the Legislative Assembly, the Legislative Council and Local Government rest with a plebiscite of ALP members in the electorate concerned, and delegates from the POSC. The Returning Officer weighs the ballots from each group to ensure that 50% of the vote

is local and 50% central.

All endorsements require candidates to appear before the Selection Panel before a secret ballot is conducted.

### (ii) State Election Organisation

The State Secretary and the Campaign Committee directs the campaign on a State basis. Soon after candidates are endorsed the State Office usually conducts schools for candidates and campaign directors to advise in the most useful, tried campaign techniques. During the campaign the State Office plays an important co-ordinating role to ensure that all candidates are campaigning on the correct issues and adopting the most useful measures to win the local election. The Party Office is also responsible for the continual dissemination of material including the

printing of how-to-vote cards. Statewide media advertising of a general nature is also the responsibility of the Campaign Committee. In all of its activities during election campaigns the Party Office is always looking for volunteer workers.

### **(iii) Local Election Organisation**

After the endorsement of candidates the local branches and candidates organise campaign committees and appoint campaign directors and other key personnel. The first task is to plan a program which includes the campaign strategy and a budget for the campaign.

### **(iv) Election Campaign Activity**

The Campaign Director is responsible for ensuring that the campaign strategy is carried out and that the program determined by the campaign committee is adhered to. This usually includes the following activities:

- Postal vote collection
- Enrolment Drives
- Door-knocking program
- Campaign literature distribution
- Street signs
- Media coverage Committees
- Public meetings Program
- Shopping centre activity - a street stall
- Car stickers
- "Get-out-the-vote" activities
- Telephone canvass
- Advertising
- Interest Groups and Local Organisations
- Support Committees
- Personal Letter Program
- Research
- Fund-raising

### **(v) Election Day Activities**

Branch members are asked to assist in the distribution of how-to-vote cards and other activities on polling day. Each polling booth usually has a table which contains how-to-vote information, information for other electorates, the latest electoral roll, a copy of the relevant sections of the Electoral Act, the roster of polling booth helpers, scrutineer forms, pads, pencils and the telephone number of the campaign headquarters and any other information that may be needed.

After the close of the poll a candidate's representative or scrutineer observes the counting which normally takes place in the local Town Hall, Council Office or local school.

The scrutineers' job is to observe the counting procedure to assess the flow of preferences of minor party candidates, and ensure that it is carried out accurately and fairly and in accordance with the Electoral Act. In situations where the result is very close any candidate can request a re-count. The result of the election is announced by the Returning Officer for the electoral area and becomes law at that moment.

### **(vi) Election Jargon**

**Absent voters** - a person who will not be within the electorate for which he or she is enrolled during the hours of polling, may vote at any polling booth in the State or interstate for a Federal election, by asking for an absentee vote.

**Campaign Director** - the person responsible for the overall organisation of the campaign.

**Campaign Headquarters** - the office chosen by the local campaign committee and local candidate.

**Candidate** - a person adopted or endorsed by the Party to stand for an election.

**Door-knockers** - people who assist the candidate during the course of the campaign by door-knocking on his/her behalf.

**Enrolment Drives** - the process of door-knocking and enrolling people in Labor areas if they are not on the Electoral roll.

**Marginal Seat** - a seat with a very small majority for its holder.

**Pamphlets** - election literature

**Postal Voting** - an elector may vote by mail prior to polling day if he or she is sick or not going to be near a polling booth on polling day, after completing an application for a postal vote.

**Scrutineer** - a person who observes the count of the poll and/or the polling procedures from inside the polling booth.

### **(vii) More Information**

The Australian Labor Party "Campaign Manual" provides more detailed information on running campaigns.

# ALP Government in Victoria

**John Cain led the ALP to victory in the Victorian State Elections of April 1982.** This was the first time the ALP had been the Government in Victoria since John Cain's father was Premier in 1955.

The ALP was elected primarily because the Liberals lacked direction; there were corruption allegations associated with the Housing Department involving land deals, and the **Cain team offered an alternative of a clean, hard-working government.** The ALP provided many credible policy alternatives and people who had proven management skills evidenced while the Party had been in opposition.

**The Government re-established an economic base for Victoria which had declined under the Liberals.**

The transport system was substantially improved with new trams, trains and buses and the housing and building sectors received large increases in government assistance as a means to improving the economic base.

**May 1985 saw the re-election of the Cain Labor Government,** with control of the Legislative Council (the

Upper House). However, the control was lost when the election for one seat, Nunawading, was overturned by the Court of Disputed Returns, after the result was tied and decided by the Returning Officer drawing the name of the ALP candidate from a hat. The ALP lost the subsequent re-election for Nunawading.

In October, 1988, the Cain Government was re-elected for a historic third term. **Joan Kirner** succeeded John Cain as Premier in September 1990 as Victoria's first female Premier.

The ALP lost Government in Victoria in 1992 and Victoria suffered massive changes to government service levels and attacks on democracy. On 18 September, 1999 Steve Bracks led the ALP to a position of being a minority Government. Since then, Labor has won three bi-elections; in Frankston East, Burwood, and Benalla and has been in government for one year. The Bracks Government is delivering on the basics in health, community, safety and open and accountable government.

# ALP National Structure

The ALP is organised as a federal body with national machinery superimposed on six State and two Territorial branches.

**The National Conference is the supreme governing authority of the Party.** Its decisions are binding on every member and every section of the Party. The conference meets every three years and meetings are rotated from state to state. The main function of the National Conference is to approve regular changes in the Party Platform and to revise the constitution and rules where necessary.

**The National Conference is made up of 190 delegates** on a basis roughly proportional to the number of Federal seats in each State. Included in the delegates are two delegates from Australian Young Labor, the Parliamentary leader in each State and Territory, and the four leaders of the Federal Parliamentary Party. Apart from the regular meetings each three years, special conferences of the National Conference can be called in certain circumstances. The National Conference is the apex of the pyramid which rises on a base of over a thousand local branches of the ALP throughout Australia.

**The chief administrative authority of the Party is the National Executive,** which is subject only to the authority of the National Conference. The Executive meets at regular intervals, usually three times a year. It

has very wide powers and can intervene in every aspect of ALP activity. It is responsible for carrying out National Conference decisions and for interpreting party policy between National Conferences. The Executive also superintends the committee work which regularly revises the platform for approval of the National Conference. This work is done by policy committees which review the existing platform and recommend changes and additions where necessary. The National Executive is made up of the Party President (with a casting vote only) the PM, 20 other voting members elected by National Conference and the National and State Secretaries as non-voting.

**The Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, also referred to as Caucus has substantial independent powers.** It is subject to direction from the National Conference and National Executive, but not from any State branch of the ALP. The Caucus has evolved its own rules and procedures over 90 years of involvement in Federal Parliament. The Caucus usually meets each Wednesday, when Parliament is sitting, to plan tactics and to determine party attitudes to legislation and Government policy. Caucus meetings are controlled by a Chairperson elected by the Caucus in recent years. Caucus has developed an elaborate machinery of policy committees.

Caucus elects its Leader, Deputy Leader, Senate Leader and Deputy Leader in the Senate. In opposition it also elects an executive whose members are allocated to



shadow portfolios by the Party Leader. The Executive meets each week before the Caucus meeting and prepares recommendations for the full Caucus. In Government, Caucus elects Ministers who are allocated to Ministries by the Prime Minister. When Labor is in Government, Caucus has an overriding authority over Government decisions, a power which it has used with discretion.

**The Australian Labor Party Advisory Committee (ALAC) has been established as the major co-ordinating and liaison body between the Federal Parliamentary Party, the trade union movement and the Party machinery.** Its membership includes the four parliamentary leaders, the party's federal officers, senior officers of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU). The ALAC usually meets three or four times a year.

**The ALP's main co-ordinating agency is the National**

**Secretariat**, which is based at John Curtin House in Canberra. The Secretariat is composed of the National Secretary, four National Organisers, and a small supporting staff. The Secretariat is responsible for servicing the National Conference, the National Executive, and the National ALP Policy Committees. It directs national election campaigns under the direction of a National Campaign Committee. The Secretariat also maintains liaison with the Federal Parliamentary Party and with State branches of the Party.

## Achievements of the ALP in Government

### Federal

Establishment of an Australian Navy  
 Foundation of the Commonwealth Bank  
 Introduction of maternity allowances  
 Advancement towards equality of educational opportunity  
 Snowy Mountains Scheme  
 Introduction of broad Social Services  
 Establishment of QANTAS  
 Post-war migration scheme  
 Recognition of China and adherence to independent Australian Foreign Policy  
 Legal Aid  
 Independent Papua New Guinea  
 Land Rights for Aborigines recognised  
 Equal pay for women  
 Created Schools Commission and provided Federal funds for primary and secondary education  
 Medicare and Medibank  
 Economic Planning Advisory Council  
 Prices and Incomes Policy (Accord)  
 Saving the Franklin River in Tasmania  
 Youth Traineeship Scheme  
 Consultation with major community groups  
 Improved industrial relations climate  
 Maintenance of strong economic growth and employment growth with low inflation  
 Reform of taxation system  
 Strategy for Youth  
 National Occupational Health and Safety Commission  
 Launched AUSSAT

Sex Discrimination Act  
 Affirmative Action Program

### State

Upgraded public transport system  
 Youth Guarantee  
 WorkCare - introduction of Workers Compensation  
 Improved consultation with community groups  
 Improved industrial relations climate  
 Job creation through capital works  
 Improved industrial training  
 Improved education funding and consultation  
 Reforms to health system  
 Established Ethnic Affairs Commission  
 Established equal opportunity programs  
 Introduced Anti-Discrimination Legislation  
 Law and electoral reforms  
 VCE  
 New Tennis Centre  
 Created VUT  
 Tram Link to Bundoora, 1st new line in 70 years  
 Massive increase in public housing  
 Introduced FOI Legislation  
 Dramatic increase in school retention rates  
 Established Monash Medical Centre  
 Introduced Ombudsman  
 Restoring the role of the Auditor General  
 Restoring the Common Law rights for injured workers

# Hints for Branch Meetings

It is most difficult to attract members to attend branch meetings. The task is even harder to attract them back a second time. The main reason for this is that branch meetings often tend to be uninteresting, with too much time taken up with reading every detail of correspondence whether relevant or not, lengthy reports, etc. The branch executive should discuss ways of streamlining meeting procedures to make the meeting more attractive for the members.

People join the ALP for a variety of reasons, some enjoy the discussion at meetings, some enjoy the branch social activities, and others find enjoyment in simply working for the Party. Few find enjoyment in the formal procedures of branch meetings. We must cater for the many interests and try to make each activity as interesting as possible.

## Meeting Procedures

### *Role of the President*

The role of the President is a vital one in the conduct of any meeting if the objective of that meeting is to be realised.

The President's function begins before the meeting takes place. The President should make it her/his business to be aware of agenda and items on it, also try and be aware of what is likely from the floor in order to make proper allocation of time for each time to ensure that each is fully discussed.

The President must have a good knowledge of the rules of debate and the Party standing orders. This knowledge will enable her/him to act confidently and with authority in the course of her/his duties.

Voice is important: speak in a firm audible voice, be definite, decisive and positive. This will give you the confidence of the meeting.

A good President has the capacity to convince members that he/she will control the meeting, at the same time protect the right of speakers to be heard and provide an opportunity for all opinions to be expressed. If this is done, all members will feel at the conclusion of the debate that the subject has been fully discussed and a democratic decision arrived at.

Not all members at a meeting feel confident enough to take part in a debate even when they have something to say. A President must be aware of this reticence and should actively and repeatedly ask if people want to speak; he/she must encourage participation in the debate.

The President's bias must at no time be apparent; in fact he/she should seek to impress the meeting with his impartiality. For example, if a member holding an unpopular point of view is speaking and being heckled, the President should insist on her/his right to be heard with respect.

A President's reputation for impartiality can be speedily undermined if he/she does from the Chair, any of the things that should be done from the floor, such as speaking to motions in general debate. If he/she feels strongly about a matter he/she should leave the chair temporarily, normally before the debate starts and immediately after the mover has spoken, rather than when the debate has been going for some time. The President should not leave the chair too often to take part in debates as this will endanger her/his reputation for impartiality.

The expression of all views means that the members are fully informed when the matter is put to the vote. A President should be friendly but firm. This attitude will inspire both respect and co-operation and make it unnecessary to use authoritarian tactics to keep a meeting in order.

### *Control*

A President maintains control of a meeting by knowing the rules and by explaining in a strong clear voice the reasons for decisions made.

It is not necessary to stand to call on a speaker or for an item of business. It is a good idea to stand only when you want the full attention of the meeting when there is a good deal of interjection, or talk across the room.

When the President is on her/his feet everyone else should sit down. The President has the right to demand that no one should speak while he/she is standing. It is unwise, however, to get involved in an argument with a member who refuses to sit down or stop speaking.

A President needs above all to possess the quality of wisdom. He/she is constantly required to use their judgement in assessing points of order, in knowing when to close a debate, or in making decisions on procedural matters.

Broadly, the President's role is to assist members to achieve their objectives but the means exist for the group to retain final control of the meeting. If a member believes a President has given a wrong decision, that member has the right to move a motion

of dissent against the President's ruling.

Practice helps make a good President but there is no substitute for sound knowledge of the standing orders of the ALP and the rules of debate. Become familiar with these, have confidence in your judgement and you will be a President whom any meeting will respect.

## **Notice of Meeting Procedure**

### **Rules and Standing Orders**

The ALP Standing Orders which lay down detailed rules as to the way in which business is to be conducted must be followed.

### **Purpose**

The first thing to bear in mind is that the purpose of rules of procedure is to get the business of the meeting done in as orderly, sensible and speedy way as possible. In her/his conduct of meetings, the President should interpret them intelligently and flexibly without infringing any established standing orders or rules of the party.

### **Points of Order**

One of the most abused pieces of procedure is the point of order. This is far too frequently used as a point of interruption - as a means of intervening in the debate and taking the floor out of turn. Points of order must deal with the conduct or procedure of the debate. A point of order is not justified merely because a member makes a statement which someone else feels is incorrect. The person rising to put the point of order must prove one or more of the following:

- a) that the speaker is covering areas outside the scope of the question;
- b) that he/she is using "unparliamentary language", and
- c) that he/she is infringing the standing orders or acting contrary to the general custom of debate.

The most convenient time for raising a point of order is when no one else is on her/his feet. However, a point of order may be made at any time during the debate. Once it has been raised, the President may accept speakers to guide her/his judgement on it. He/she will then uphold or reject it.

### **Speakers**

People wishing to speak, should at all times address their comments and questions through the President. They may speak only once during any particular debate (except when exercising right of reply or in the case of amendments as outlined below) and should always say whether they are "for" or "against" the proposal. (Movers and supporters of amendments are considered to be against).

Normally there can be no more than two speakers in a row "for" or "against". If there are no further people wishing to support the other side, the President

should ask the mover to exercise her/his right of reply and close the debate.

### **Motions and Amendments -**

All motions and amendments must be seconded before being debated. This should be done immediately after the motion or amendment has been moved and before the mover makes her/his speech in support. An amendment can only be accepted if it is relevant to the original motion. If it is not, or if it is frivolous in that it so mutilates or distorts the original motion as to make it absurd, it is not in order. A direct negative is not an amendment. If a motion "That we approved the report" is before the meeting, then the proper course for a member who wished to have the report disapproved is to speak and vote against the motion, not to try to move it as a "foreshadowed" motion which means it would be debated immediately if the original motion was defeated. If the original motion was carried, the foreshadowed motion would lapse.

No one who has spoken on the original motion may move or second an amendment, though he/she may speak in the subsequent debate upon it.

### **Time Limit for Speakers**

The mover of the motion shall have seven minutes to present argument in support of her/his motion and five minutes to reply. The seconder of such motion, and all other speakers shall be limited to five minutes.

The meeting on motion without debate may extend the time of any speaker; such extension of time shall not exceed five minutes. The meeting may agree to further extensions on the same basis.

The President shall call attention to the time of all speakers one minute before such time expires. Motion for extensions may be made when the President so calls, but not later.

### **Ending the Debate**

Moving the Closure or "Gag" - At any time after there have been at least two speakers "for" and two "against" a proposition, a member who has not yet spoken may move "That the question be now put" in order to bring the discussion to a close. If this is seconded also by someone who has not yet spoken the President will normally put it to the meeting immediately, no discussion being allowed. If it is carried, the vote on the amendment or motion under discussion is taken after the mover's reply in the case of an original motion. The President has the right not to accept the "gag" if he/she thinks there has been insufficient discussion.

The President's Discretion - A more usual method of ending a debate is for the President to exercise her/his judgement. If he/she thinks that the debate has gone on long enough he/she will ask the members if they are ready to vote and will act according to their reply.

### **Avoiding a Vote**

A way of avoiding a vote being taken on a motion is to move "That the meeting proceeds to the next item of business" which may be done at any time.

If seconded, this is put to the meeting, usually without discussion. If carried, no vote is taken on the original motion. The mover and seconder must be persons who have not already spoken. If the "Next item of business" is lost, the debate proceeds as before.

### **Mover's Reply**

Unless the standing orders specifically exclude it, the mover of a motion has a right of reply. He/she should deal only with points made during the debate, not repeat what he/she has said earlier. He/she must not introduce new matter. The mover of an amendment does not have a right of reply. There can be no further debate after the mover of a motion has exercised her/his right of reply.

### **Voting**

What is Being Voted Upon - Before the vote is taken, the President will read out or ask the Secretary to read out the exact terms of the motion or amendment so that everyone knows what he/she is voting about. In order to help the Secretary get it down clearly, whoever moves a motion or amendment should give it very plainly immediately he/she starts to speak or preferably hand a written copy to the Secretary.

If tellers (vote counter) are called for they should normally be nominated from members who have not taken part in the debate. If the meeting is not large, the President and Secretary can usually count the votes accurately without tellers.

Order of Voting - When a vote is taken the amendment is put first. If it is defeated the debate on the original motion may be continued or another amendment may be moved or the original motion may be put to the vote. If the amendment is carried, the motion called the substantive motion is then put and voted upon unless another amendment is moved.

An alternative way of dealing with amendments is for all amendments and the original motion to be debated together. After the mover has exercised her/his right of reply, the vote is taken on the amendments and the motion. The last amendment is put first and so on until the amendment proposed first is voted upon last before the vote on the original motion.

President's Casting Vote - Where a vote is taken and those "for" a motion and those "against" it are equal, the President has a special responsibility. Normally the President should not vote at all on general questions but on any motion on which the members are equally divided for and against, he/she has the power to give a casting vote.

Three courses are open to her/him. He/she can vote for the motion and it will be carried. He/she can vote against it and it will be lost or he/she can refuse to vote at all, when it will be declared "not carried", and may be brought up again later. The President should not cast her/his vote lightly and if the matter is of no great importance or urgency, he/she may withhold it altogether.

Convention states that a President's casting vote is traditionally "against". On ballots (elections, nominations etc) he/she has the right to vote like any other member, but he/she has no casting vote. In the event of a tie the returning officer has the casting vote.

### **Sequence of Counting Procedures**

Far too often the time of meeting is wasted by unnecessary "divisions". The correct sequence for methods of counting votes is as follows:

#### **Voices:**

The President will ask those in favour to say "Aye" and those against "No" and will then normally declare the motion carried or defeated by level of responses.

#### **Show of Hands:**

If the President cannot decide on the voices, he/she can call for those in favour and then those against to raise their hands. This will give her/him a better indication of the respective numbers. Members disagreeing with the President's declaration from the voices should also call for a show of hands in preference to a "division".

Standing orders or procedure will provide that if a sufficient number of people disagree with the President's declaration (usually a set number) they may stand in their places and call for a "division". This means that those people in favour of the proposition must pass to the right of the President and those against to the left. No one is allowed to enter or leave the voting chambers during a division. Tellers will count the actual voters and the President will announce the result. There is no appeal against the result of a division.

NOTE The "division" is a time consuming and disruptive procedure and should only be called for if there is a genuine doubt as to the accuracy of the President's declaration. It should not be used to demonstrate the measure of one's support or opposition to a proposal this can be adequately done during the debate.

### **Quorum**

A quorum for any branch meeting shall be five for branches of less than twenty-five members and seven for branches of twenty-five members or more.

### **Suspending Standing Orders**

The suspension of standing orders can only be moved for a grave reason, i.e. to allow certain speakers longer than the allotted time if it is clear that

they have to give detailed reports or statistics, to consider an urgent matter which is on the agenda and cannot wait until general business, or to permit a meeting to continue beyond the stipulated time of closing, if an important decision would otherwise have to be postponed etc.

**Confirming the Minutes - Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There are two simple items of business which often cause trouble. First of all when the Minutes have been read (it is desirable where the Minutes have been circulated, they be taken as read), it should be moved and seconded "That they be signed as a correct record" or "That they be received". Objection can be taken to them only on the ground of inaccuracies, not because the objector disapproves of what was decided. After the minutes have been received, the President will ask if there is any business arising and this means just that it is not an invitation to continue previous debate. Of course some items will come up later on the Agenda under Reports etc., and the President usually reminds the meeting of this.

Rulings given by the President on any question shall be subject to a motion calling upon the meeting to disagree with any ruling in the event of such motion, the mover shall be permitted not more than five minutes to support the motion and the President shall be permitted not more than five minutes to defend the ruling. There shall be no other speakers. The Vice-President or any other member appointed by the meeting shall occupy the Chair during the currency of such motion.

**Preparing a Motion -**

A motion is a proposal. A motion once carried is called a resolution.

The mover of a motion should write her/his motion down, and when moving it, hand a written copy to the secretary. In this way there can be no confusion as to what is being debated, amended or voted on, and procedures are generally streamlined. Often too, the inexperienced mover will find it easier to speak to a written motion.

A motion should begin with the word "That ...". This is a shortened form of the more formal "I wish to move that ...". It should not be in the first-person. Neither should it really cover more than one subject although it may have several parts. Because of these conventions it is not always easy for the inexperienced member to frame an acceptable motion.

**Amendments -**

At any time during debate on a motion, a member may move an amendment. This will allow any part of the motion to be amended. An amendment will not be accepted if it is a direct negative of what is suggested in the motion, or if it so mutilates or distorts the motion that it becomes absurd.

In moving amendments care must be taken that it is relevant to the original motion and that the amendment indicates what part of the motion it wants altered, which words should be added or words taken out, or which should be taken out and replaced with others.

Like a motion, an amendment must start with "That ..." and should be specific and unambiguous, e.g. "That the words xyz be omitted" - "That x be substituted for y" - "That the words 'abc' be inserted before 'def' in line 3".

**Moving and Debating Motions and Amendments**

All motions and amendments should be supported by at least two people called the "mover" and "second" before they are discussed.

The following chart sets out how the discussion of a motion should proceed:-

<b>Mover</b>	Announces motion (it is a good idea to get the mover to write down the exact words of the motion to avoid later confusion on what is being discussed).
<b>President</b>	Calls for a seconder.
<b>Secunder</b>	Announces he/she will second motion.
<b>Mover</b>	States reasons for the motion and why it should be supported.
<b>Secunder</b>	Speaks in support of motion.
<b>President</b>	Asks if there is any opposition. (If there is not the vote should be taken immediately).
<b>Speaker</b>	Gives reasons for believing the motion
<b>Against</b>	should not be supported. (There should be a minimum of one and a maximum of two speakers against before any further speakers in favour of the resolution).
<b>President</b>	Asks for further speakers in favour and against.
<b>(Further Discussion)</b>	
<b>Mover</b>	The mover may wish to have a "Right of Reply" to answer any criticisms of her/his motion that were made during the discussion.
<b>President</b>	Takes the vote on the motion and gives the result.
<b>The chart below sets out the procedure that should be followed for a motion with one amendment.</b>	
<b>Mover</b>	Announces motion.
<b>President</b>	Calls for a seconder.

<b>Secunder</b>	Seconds motion.
<b>Mover</b>	Speaks in support of motion.
<b>Secunder</b>	Speaks in support of motion.
<b>President</b>	Calls for opposition.
<b>Speakers</b>	In favour and against.
<b>Mover of Amendment</b>	Announces amendment.
<b>President</b>	Calls for a seconder of the amendment.
<b>Secunder of Amendment</b>	Seconds amendment.
<b>Mover of Amendment</b>	Speaks in favour of the amendment.
<b>Secunder of Amendment</b>	Speaks in favour of the amendment.
<b>Speakers</b>	Speak in favour and against the motion and amendment.
<b>Mover of Motion</b>	The mover of the motion only can have a "Right of Reply".
<b>President</b>	<b>Takes vote on the amendment and announces result:</b>

**(If carried)** Takes the vote on the motion as amended and announces the result.  
**(If lost)** Takes the vote on the original motion only and announces the result.

**The chart below sets out procedure that should be followed for a motion with more than one amendment.**

<b>Mover</b>	Announces motion.
<b>President</b>	Calls for seconder.
<b>Secunder</b>	Seconds motion.
<b>Mover</b>	Speaks in support of motion
<b>Secunder</b>	Speaks in support of motion.
<b>President</b>	Calls for opposition.
<b>Speakers</b>	In favour and against.

<b>Mover of Amendment</b>	Announces amendment.
<b>President</b>	Calls for Secunder of the amendment
<b>Secunder of Amendment</b>	Seconds amendment.
<b>Mover of Amendment</b>	Speaks in favour of the amendment.
<b>Secunder of Amendment</b>	Speaks in favour of the amendment.
<b>Speakers</b>	Speak in favour and against the motion and amendment Announces amendment
<b>Mover of Second Amendment</b>	
<b>President</b>	Calls for a seconder of the amendment
<b>Secunder of Second Amendment</b>	Seconds amendment
<b>Mover of Second Amendment</b>	Speaks in favour of the amendment
<b>Secunder of Second Amendment</b>	Speaks in favour of the second Amendment
<b>Speakers</b>	Speak in favour and against the motion and amendments
<b>Mover of Motion</b>	The mover of the motion only can have a "Right of Reply"
<b>President</b>	Takes vote on the first amendment and announces result
<b>President</b>	Takes vote on the second amendment and announces result

**If the amendments are defeated the original motion is put, but if the amendments are carried, whatever is added to or taken from the original motion is then put as the final motion.**

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Minister for Planning  
**Hon. John Thwaites**

Minister for Transport  
**Hon. Peter Batchelor**  
Minister for State and Regional Development

Treasurer  
**Hon. John Brumby**  
Minister for Local Government  
Minister for WorkCover  
Minister assisting the Minister for Transport  
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Minister for Arts

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**Hon. Andre Haermeyer**

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**Hon. Keith Hamilton**

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**Hon. Marsha Thomson**

# ALP Committees 2000 2001

## ***Administrative Committee***

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Brian Daley (Snr Vice President)  
Karen Sherlock (Vice President)  
Gavin Jennings  
Antony Burke  
Michael Donovan  
Steve Dargavel  
Andrew Giles  
Dean Mighell  
Martin Pakula  
Tony White  
Silvana Sgro  
Natalie Sykes  
Luke Donnellan  
Robin Scott  
Garth Head  
Julie Warren  
Marsha Thomson  
Rachel Dapiran  
Nathan Niven  
Jason Murray  
Lily D'Ambrosio  
Frans Timmerman  
Bill Shorten  
Linda White  
Stephen Booth  
Kosmos Felekos  
Fiona Richardson  
Catherine van Vliet  
Dave Noonan  
Jill Hennessy  
Nazih El Asmar  
John Scheffer  
David Feeney (non voting)  
Daniel Andrews (non voting)

## ***Disputes***

Tony White (President)  
Cathy van Vliet  
Liberty Sanger  
Antonia Parkes  
Brian Tee

## ***Agenda Committee***

David White  
John Scheffer  
Barry Pullen  
Jeff Pulford  
Rachel Powning  
Phil Martin  
Telmo Languiller  
Emily Huggins  
Ben Hubbard  
Vivien Gunn  
Rosemary Barker  
Marcelle Bagu

## ***Rules Revision Committee***

Rachel Dapiran  
Sharon De Silva  
Lev Lafayette  
Tony Lang  
John Lenders  
Matt Nurse  
Fiona Richardson  
Susan Scalise  
Laura Smyth

# ALP Policy Committees 1999-2000

<b>Policy Committee</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Member</b>
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs Policy Committee	President Secretary	TBA TBA
Conservation & Environment Policy Committee	President Secretary	Fiona Richardson Lindsay Hesketh
Country Labor Executive	President Secretary	Ray Wilson Julie Flynn
Culture & Tourism Policy Committee	President Secretary	John Howie Luke Donnellan
Economics & Industrial. Development Policy Committee	President Secretary	Stephen DeRozairo Christopher Anderson
Education Policy Committee	President Secretary	Emily Dimitracopoulos Damian Mannix
Foreign Affairs & Trade Policy Committee	President Secretary	Ari Suss Jean McLean
Health & Community Services Policy Committee	President Secretary	Rob Hudson Jennifer Jensz
Housing & Local Government Policy Committee	President Secretary	Nicole Kepert Terry Larkins
Immigration & Ethnic Affairs Policy Committee	President Secretary	Joe Cerritelli Marcelle Bagu
Industrial Affairs Policy Committee	President Secretary	Michael Donovan Ruth Frenzel
Legal Affairs Policy Committee	President Secretary	Rosemary Barker Andrew Giles
Transport Policy Committee	President Secretary	Peter Bourke Rob Hamilton
Women's Policy Committee	President Secretary	Jaala Pulford Liliana D'Ambrosio
Youth Policy Committee	President Secretary	TBA TBA

**All correspondence to policy committees should be addressed  
C/- ALP, 360 King Street, West Melbourne, 3003**

# Affiliated Trade Unions

Australasian Meat Industry Employees' Union  
Australian Health Professionals Association (HSUA Vic No 3 Branch)  
Australian Institute of Marine & Power Engineers  
Australian Liquor, Hospitality & Miscellaneous Workers' Union  
Australian Manufacturing Workers Union  
Australian Services Union  
Australian Workers' Union  
Blind Workers Union  
Communication, Electrical, Electronic, Plumbing & Allied Workers Union  
Construction, Forestry, Mining & Energy Employees Union  
Federated Gas Employees Industrial Union  
Health and Community Services Union (HSUA Vic No 2 Branch)  
Health Services Union (HSUA No. 3)  
Health Services Union (HSUA Vic No 1 Branch)  
Maritime Union of Australia  
Musicians Union  
National Union of Workers  
Rail, Bus and Tram Union  
Shop, Distributive & Allied Employees' Association  
Textile, Clothing & Footwear Union  
Transport Workers' Union  
United Firefighters' Union



# Election Details

## The Nationwide Numbers

### State of the Parties

Parliament	Next Election	ALP	Lib.	Nat.	Dem.	Green.	CCA/ ONP	Inds.	Total
Capital Territory Legislative Assembly	20-Oct-01	6	7	0	0	1	0	3	17
Commonwealth House of Representatives	By Nov. 2001	67	64	16	0	0	0	1	148
Commonwealth Senate	1-Jul-02	29	31	4	9	1	1	1	76
New South Wales Legislative Assembly	22-Mar-03	55	20	13	0	0	0	5	93
New South Wales Legislative Council	22-Mar-03	16	9	4	1	2	1	9	42
Northern Territory Legislative Assembly	By Nov. 2001	7	0	17	0	0	0	1	25
Queensland Legislative Assembly	By July 2001	45	9	23	0	0	5	7	89
South Australian House of Assembly	By Oct. 2001	21	23	1	0	0	0	2	47
South Australian Legislative Council	By Oct. 2001	8	10	0	3	0	0	3	24
Tasmanian House of Assembly	By Aug. 2002	14	10	0	0	1	0	0	25
Tasmanian Legislative Council	Each May	5	1	0	0	0	0	13	19
Victorian Legislative Assembly	By March 2003	44	35	6	0	0	0	3	88
Victorian Legislative Council	By March 2003	10	28	6	0	0	0	0	44
Western Australian Legislative Assembly	By May 2001	19	29	6	0	0	0	3	57
Western Australian Legislative Council	By May 2001	12	14	3	2	3	0	0	34
<b>Totals</b>		<b>358</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>828</b>
		43.24%	35.02%	11.95%	1.81%	0.97%	0.85%	6.16%	

## Women MPs

Parliament	ALP		Lib.		Nat.		Dem.		Green.		ONP		Inds.		Total	
Capital Territory Legislative Assembly	0	0.00%	1	14.29%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	1	100.00%	0	n.a.	0	0.00%	2	11.76%
Commonwealth House of Representatives	17	25.37%	16	25.00%	2	12.50%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	0.00%	34	22.97%
Commonwealth Senate	9	31.03%	9	29.03%	0	0.00%	4	44.44%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	22	28.95%
New South Wales Legislative Assembly	12	21.82%	4	20.00%	0	0.00%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	1	20.00%	17	18.28%
New South Wales Legislative Council	4	25.00%	1	11.11%	1	25.00%	0	0.00%	1	50.00%	0	0.00%	2	22.22%	9	21.43%
Northern Territory Legislative Assembly	2	28.57%	0	n.a.	1	5.88%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	0.00%	3	12.00%
Queensland Legislative Assembly	11	24.44%	1	11.11%	2	8.70%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	0.00%	2	28.57%	16	17.98%
South Australian House of Assembly	10	47.62%	3	13.04%	1	100.00%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	0.00%	14	29.79%
South Australian Legislative Council	2	25.00%	2	20.00%	0	n.a.	1	33.33%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	0.00%	5	20.83%
Tasmanian House of Assembly	4	28.57%	2	20.00%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	1	100.00%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	7	28.00%
Tasmanian Legislative Council	1	20.00%	0	0.00%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	1	7.69%	2	10.53%
Victorian Legislative Assembly	14	27.90%	9	19.57%	0	0.00%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	1	33.33%	24	27.27%
Victorian Legislative Council	8	58.00%	5	17.86%	1	16.67%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	9	20.45%
Western Australian Legislative Assembly	6	31.58%	5	17.24%	1	16.67%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	1	33.33%	13	22.81%
Western Australian Legislative Council	2	16.67%	2	14.29%	0	0.00%	1	50.00%	2	66.67%	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	7	20.59%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>101</b>															

**Send to:**

David Feeney  
State Secretary  
Australian Labor Party  
360 King Street  
WEST MELBOURNE VIC 3003

I am interested in receiving the following ALP document:s:

**Party Rules**

**State Policy documents**

(The State Platform can be found on web site: [www.vic.alp.org.au](http://www.vic.alp.org.au))

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**National Platform/Policy Documents**

(These policies be found on web site: [www.alp.org.au](http://www.alp.org.au))

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