# **Policy Document**



# **Government Reform**

#### Restoring Integrity, Accountability, and True Representation in Politics

### Our Political System is Broken

For too long, Australia's political landscape has been dominated by career politicians and corporate interests, leaving everyday Australians without real representation. Political parties have transformed into closed networks that serve their own interests rather than those of the people. This must change. Public office should be a service, not a career. Politicians must be held accountable for their actions, their spending, and their policies. Our democracy must return power to the people, ensuring that decision-making reflects the will and needs of everyday Australians.

## **Key Reforms for a Better Democracy**

To create a more transparent, accountable, and citizen-driven political system, we propose the following measures:

#### 1. Ending the Era of Career Politicians

- Introduce a maximum of **three terms** for members of the House of Representatives and **two terms** for Senators.
- Prevent mid-term resignations for reasons other than ill health. If a member forces a by-election by resigning, they should bear the financial cost.
- Implement a **lifetime ban** on former ministers using their position for personal financial gain by joining corporate boards or advisory roles in industries they previously regulated.

#### 2. Increasing Transparency and Accountability

- Establish an Independent Unit within the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to oversee and adjudicate key political matters, including:
  - o Approval or rejection of government advertising to prevent political propaganda.
  - Scrutiny of political appointments to ensure positions are filled based on merit, not party loyalty.
  - Oversight of expense claims and electoral allowances to prevent misuse of taxpayer funds.

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- Evaluation of pork-barrelling claims to curb politically motivated spending.
- Citizens selected for service will be chosen randomly and receive training to ensure informed, fair decisions.

#### 3. Ending Corporate Influence in Politics

- Ban all corporate, union, and foundation donations to political parties. Only individual citizens should be allowed to donate, with a cap of \$10,000 per year.
- Eliminate public funding for political parties and candidates. If a party cannot sustain itself through community support, it should not rely on taxpayer money.

### A Call for Change

Our democracy belongs to the people—not to political machines, career politicians, or corporate interests. We need leaders who are truly representative of everyday Australians, who view public service as a responsibility rather than a career path, and who are willing to be held accountable for their decisions. This policy represents the first step in restoring faith in our political system and ensuring that the government truly serves the people.

The time for change is now. Let's rebuild democracy together.

YOUR Vote, YOUR Voice...