



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT BILL PASSED

Legislation to ensure Labor's early shut down of Parliament before the last election is never allowed to occur again has been passed by Parliament, NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell said today.

The amendment to the Constitution Act 1902 effectively means in future the NSW Parliament will remain open and functioning up until Australia Day in an election year.

The change does not affect any reserve powers of the Governor to prorogue Parliament without advice, such as when a Government loses its majority.

"With the passing of this legislation, the public can now be reassured the Parliament's work will be finished and information will be provided," Mr O'Farrell said.

"There will be no attempt ever again to hide from the public the sort of information the former Labor Government sought to hide before the election.

"The former Labor Government acted shamefully in proroguing Parliament in December last year in an attempt to stop the Upper House inquiry into its bungled and dishonest power sale.

"The public was outraged by Labor's trashing of the democratic process as shown by the verdict it delivered on election day.

"This law is another important step in restoring accountability and integrity to Government in NSW," Mr O'Farrell said.

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