



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 12 May 2011

### **WRITE ON: O'FARRELL DELIVERS ON PEOPLE'S PETITION PLEDGE**

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell today announced the delivery of his people's petition pledge to improve accountability and give the community a greater voice in the Parliament.

"I'm pleased to announce petitions signed by 10,000 or more people will be debated in the Parliament," Mr O'Farrell said.

"We promised to be an accountable government and this will ensure issues of concern to the community get a voice in Parliament," he said.

"I want to put people back at the centre of decision-making in NSW and allow them to directly contribute to the agenda for Parliament.

"I promised my Government would inject more democracy into Parliament by giving power back to the people – and now we are delivering.

"After 16 years of Labor, people felt locked out of decision-making and that people's views weren't being heard.

"Petitions presented to Parliament were treated with contempt by Labor.

"One of Labor's final acts was to prove their contempt for the Parliament by shutting it down early in an attempt to stop the inquiry into Kristina Keneally's bungled and dishonest power sale.

"I'm determined to restore respect for the Parliament.

"That's why we've introduced laws to stop the early shutdown of Parliament ever again and to give people's petitions a voice," Mr O'Farrell said.

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