

**Barton Deakin Brief: South Australian Election 2014****17 January 2014**

The 2014 South Australian state election will occur on 15 March. All 47 seats in the House of Assembly and 11 of the 22 seats in the Legislative Council will become vacant.

The incumbent Labor Government, led by Premier Jay Weatherill, has been in power in SA for 12 years. The Liberal Opposition is led by first-term MP Steven Marshall, who won the marginal but invariably Labor-held seat of Norwood once held long-term by former Labor Premier Don Dunstan.

The election will be conducted by the Electoral Commission of South Australia. South Australia has compulsory voting, uses full-preference instant-runoff voting in the House of Assembly and single transferable vote group voting tickets in the proportionally represented Legislative Council.

**Most recent public polling**

<b>Most recent poll (2PP)</b>	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Labor</b>
Newspoll (Oct-Dec 2013)	53	47
Advertiser-Galaxy (Nov 2013)	54	46

**General information**

<b>Party</b>	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Labor</b>
<b>Leader</b>	<b>The Hon. Steven Marshall MP</b>	<b>The Hon. Jay Weatherill MP</b>
Leader since	4 February 2013	21 October 2011
Current seats	18 seats	26 seats
Seats needed to win	▲ 6	-
2010 2PP	51.6%	48.4%

**House of Assembly marginal seats**

<b>Labor seats</b>		
<b>Seat name</b>	<b>Sitting Member</b>	<b>Margin*</b>
Bright	Chloe Fox	- 0.1%
Hartley	Grace Portolesi	0.5%
Ashford	Stephanie Key	1.5%
Elder	Pat Conlon	1.7%
Mitchell	Alan Sibbons	2.4%
Newland	Tom Kenyon	2.7%
Florey	Frances Bedford	3.6%
Colton	Paul Caica	3.9%
Light	Tony Piccolo	4.2%
Wright	Jennifer Rankine	4.7%
Mawson	Leon Bignell	4.9%

<b>Liberal seats</b>		
<b>Seat name</b>	<b>Sitting Member</b>	<b>Margin*</b>
Morialta	John Gardner	2.9%
Adelaide	Rachel Sanderson	3.9%
Norwood	Steven Marshall	4.9%

<b>Independent seats</b>		
<b>Seat name</b>	<b>Sitting Member</b>	
Mt Gambier	Don Pegler	0.4% (over Liberal candidate)
Frome	Geoff Brock	7.5% (over Liberal candidate)
Fisher	Bob Such	16.6% (over Liberal candidate)

Mt Gambier has been in Independent hands since 1997.

Bob Such has held Fisher since 1989 (elected as a Liberal, but has been an Independent since 2000).

Frome has been held by the incumbent since the January 2009 by-election that followed the resignation of Liberal former Premier Rob Kerin. Should these seats change hands, they would likely be won by Liberals.

To see the full results from the 2010 state election and the 2012 by-elections, [click here](#).

\*Note: the above margins have been adjusted according to the 2012 redistribution.

## **2012 redistribution**

Since 1989, the Electoral Commission of South Australia has been required to redraw electoral boundaries after each election to ensure as much as possible that the party which wins the majority of the two-party preferred vote can form government.

In the 2010 election, the Liberal Party won a majority of the two-party preferred vote but only 18 seats, and the Labor Party won 26 seats and formed government. However, the Commission stated that it viewed the 2010 election boundaries as fair and its final redistribution, released in August 2012, moved Bright from a 0.4% marginal Labor seat to a 0.1% notionally Liberal seat.

The seat of Norwood, now held by the Leader of the Opposition, has been renamed Dunstan after the aforementioned Labor Premier. (Given this rebranding, Norwood no longer has the rare and perhaps unique possibility of producing a Premier from each of the two major parties.)

## **Legislative Council**

<b>Party</b>	<b>Liberal</b>	<b>Labor</b>	<b>Greens</b>	<b>Family First</b>	<b>No Pokies</b>	<b>Dignity for Disability</b>
Current seats	7	8	2	2	2	1

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## **Key personalities**

### **LIBERAL PARTY**

#### **Steven Marshall MP (Leader)**



Steven Marshall was elected as the Member for Norwood in March 2010. He is the Leader of the State Liberal Party and Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, the Arts, State Development and Veterans' Affairs.

Prior to becoming the Member for Norwood, Mr Marshall ran his family's furniture manufacturing business Marshall Furniture, with 200 employees. After selling the business in 2001, Steven worked in various board and executive positions, including as the General Manager of the Textile Division of the South Australian wool exporter Michell Pty Ltd.

#### **Vickie Chapman MP (Deputy Leader)**



Vickie Chapman has been the Member for Bragg since 2002. She was elected to the deputy leadership after the Liberals' defeat in 2006, and served until the leadership spill in 2009. Ms Chapman was re-elected as Deputy Leader in 2013.

Ms Chapman studied law at the University of Adelaide, and prior to entering Parliament worked as a lawyer and ran her own small business.

### **LABOR PARTY**

#### **Jay Weatherill MP (Premier)**



Jay Weatherill has represented Cheltenham since 2002. In 2011, Mr Weatherill replaced Mike Rann as Premier of South Australia. In January 2013, following the resignation of two of his Ministers, Mr Weatherill assumed the additional portfolios of treasury, arts and public sector management.

Mr Weatherill graduated with degrees in law and economics from the University of Adelaide. In the 1990s, he worked at the law firm Duncan Basheer then established an industrial law firm Lieschke & Weatherill.

#### **John Rau MP (Deputy Premier)**



John Rau has been the Member for Enfield since 2002. He became Attorney-General in 2010 and Deputy Premier in 2011. He also holds the planning, IR, and business and consumer services portfolios.

Mr Rau worked as a solicitor at Duncan & Hannon and later as a partner at Johnston Withers & Associates. He was an adviser to the Hawke Government from 1985-1988 and has served on the ALP national executive.

## Shadow Ministry

<b>Shadow Cabinet</b>	
Leader	Steven Marshall MP
<i>Deputy Leader</i> Transport & Infrastructure Status of Women	Vickie Chapman MP
Treasury	Iain Evans MP
Economic & Regional Development	Martin Hamilton-Smith MP
Health, Disabilities, Ageing & Community Services	Rob Lucas MLC
Education, Families & Training, Multicultural Affairs	David Pisoni MP
Attorney General Justice & Police	Stephen Wade MLC
<i>Leader in the Legislative Council</i> Agriculture, Primary Industries & Environment, Tourism	David Ridgway MLC
<b>Outer Shadow Ministry</b>	
Police Correctional Services Community Safety	Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP
<i>Deputy Leader in the Legislative Council</i> Sustainability, Environment & Conservation Water & the River Murray	Michelle Lensink MLC
Communities & Social Inclusion Disabilities Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Volunteers Social Housing Youth	Duncan McFetridge MP
Regional Development Local Government Science & Information Economy Business Services & Consumers	Steven Griffiths MP
<b>Shadow Parliamentary Secretaries</b>	
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary to the Leader	Peter Treloar MP
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Leader	Tim Whetstone MP
Treasury	Mitch Williams MP
Multicultural Affairs Education, Families and Training	Jing Lee MLC

## **Liberal policies**

### **THE ECONOMY**

On 27 October 2013 the South Australian Leader of the Opposition, Steven Marshall MP, launched [\*The Liberal Plan to put South Australia's economy back on track.\*](#)

As part of the *Plan's* launch, Mr Marshall announced two new major policies: the creation of a Community Infrastructure Fund and a cut to state payroll tax.

#### Community Infrastructure Fund

If elected, a Liberal Government will establish a [Community Infrastructure Fund](#) to assist local government in financing important infrastructure such as roads, footpaths and recreational facilities.

Councils will submit eligible projects to be considered once Treasury has confirmed that the council has the financial capacity to borrow the funds required. Through the Community Infrastructure Fund the State Government will pay three percentage points of borrowing costs for up to a 10-year period for successful projects. The total cost to the State Government will be capped at \$5 million per year - \$50 million in total – and will commence on 1 July 2015.

#### Payroll tax cut

If elected, a Liberal Government will provide relief to South Australian businesses by raising the [payroll tax](#) threshold. The threshold will be raised from:

- \$600,000 to \$650,000 from 1 July 2014;
- \$650,000 to \$700,000 from 1 July 2015;
- \$700,000 to \$750,000 from 1 July 2016;
- \$750,000 to \$800,000 from 1 July 2017.

The Liberals estimate that the changes will ensure that more than 1,100 businesses no longer pay payroll tax, that businesses will save up to \$9,900 per year, and that the payroll tax regime for small businesses will be more competitive than the systems in place in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia.

For more Liberal Party policies for South Australia, please [click here](#)

**For more information on the South Australian election please contact Michael Fitzgerald on +61 412 809 016 or Melanie Brown on +61 2 9191 7888.**