



TASMANIA 2014

Essential Pro-Life

VOTING GUIDE



FAMILY LIFE INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA

The aim of this voter's guide is to help you to cast your vote in an informed manner consistent with your Christian faith. It will help you to avoid choosing candidates who endorse policies that cannot be reconciled with the moral norms once held by all Christians. Legislation with grave moral consequences, proposed by the Tasmanian Parliament, is included in the voting records of each current sitting member. Pro-lifers were obviously obliged to oppose these legislative attacks against life and family. The legislation we examined is as follows:

Same Sex Marriage Bill 2012 / Same Sex Adoption Bill 2013 / Abortion Bill 2013 / Euthanasia Bill 2013

ELECTION SYNOPSIS

The Tasmanian **House of Assembly** (lower house) has 25 seats, 10 of which are currently held by Labor, 10 by the Liberals, and 5 by the Greens. The **Legislative Council** (upper house) has 15 seats which come up for re-election separately every six years. Elections are held in groups of 3 one year, then in groups of 2 the next year – following this pattern. This year the electorates of *Huon* and *Rosevears* will be contested on the **3rd May** (see below). Notably, the current Legislative Council is made up of 12 Independents 2 Liberals and 1 Labor.

Unlike other states, Tasmania uses a proportional voting system in the lower house, with 5 regions and 5 members elected from each region.

In the 2010 election neither of major parties won enough seats to form a majority government. Amidst controversy, the Governor of Tasmania commissioned Labor to form government under the leadership of David Bartlett as Premier. Deputy Premier Lara Giddings became Premier when Bartlett stood down in 2011. Giddings is a member of *Emily's List* and the *PGPD*, has a 100% anti-life voting record, and will lead Labor into this election.

2013 ABORTION BILL

In 2013, abortion was removed from the Tasmanian criminal code with a vote of 13-11 in the lower house and 9-5 in the upper – being the 3rd state to do so. The new law permits unborn children to be aborted with the consent of only one doctor up to 16 weeks gestation and with the consent of two doctors after 16 weeks. The bill also requires doctors with moral objections to refer women to a pro-abortion doctor – or risk de-registration. This is a profound and dangerous violation of conscience. The new legislation also included dreaded 'bubble-zone' laws, restricting pro-lifers from offering assistance to mothers within 150 metres of an abortion mill. Tasmania is the first state to have such laws, and violators may be charged with a maximum \$9,750 fine or be sentenced to 12 months in jail.

PRO-LIFE MINOR PARTY

The only pro-life minor party to be fielding candidates in this election is the *Australian Christian Party* – which was formed out of branches of Fred Nile's *Christian Democratic Party* in 2011. The party has 2 candidates in the lower house electorates of *Braddon* and *Bass*. Although new individual candidates have no proven voting record, it is reasonable to have some degree of confidence in candidates from a party with a pro-life Christian pedigree. The candidates are Ray Kroeze (Bass) and Kevin Swarts (Braddon).



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

KEY

- X** - Indicates that the member voted anti-life on the particular piece of legislation
- O** - Indicates that the member voted pro-life on the particular piece of legislation

SAME SEX MARRIAGE 2012
SAME SEX ADOPTION 2013
ABORTION BILL 2013

| ELECTORATE | NAME | PARTY ELECTED | NOTE | | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------|------|-----------|---|-----|
| Huon | HARRISS, Paul | Ind | 1996 | Retiring* | O | X X |
| Rosevears | FINCH, Kerry | Ind | 2002 | | X | X X |

* Paul Harriss is standing in this election as a Liberal for the **lower house** in the division of Franklin



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

KEY

- X** - Indicates that the member voted anti-life on the particular piece of legislation
- O** - Indicates that the member voted pro-life on the particular piece of legislation
- DNV** - Indicates that the member (for a variety of reasons) did not register a vote.
- Indicates a member of *EMILY'S List*
- Indicates a member of the *Parliamentary Group on Population & Development*

SAME SEX MARRIAGE 2012
 SAME SEX ADOPTION 2013
 ABORTION BILL 2013
 EUTHANASIA 2013

| ELECTORATE | NAME | PARTY ELECTED | NOTE | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Bass | O'BYRNE, Michelle | ALP | 1998 | | X | X | X | X |
| Bass | WIGHTMAN, Brian | ALP | 2010 | | X | DNV | X | O |
| Bass | BOOTH, Kim | Gr | 2002 | | X | X | X | X |
| Bass | FERGUSON, Michael | Lib | 2010 | | O | O | O | O |
| Bass | GUTWEIN, Peter | Lib | 2002 | | O | X | O | O |
| Braddon | BEST, Brenton | ALP | 1996 | | X | X | X | O |
| Braddon | GREEN, Bryan | ALP | 1998 | | X | X | X | X |
| Braddon | O'HALLORAN, Paul | Gr | 2010 | | X | X | X | X |
| Braddon | BROOKS, Adam | Lib | 2010 | | O | X | O | O |
| Braddon | ROCKLIFF, Jeremy | Lib | 2002 | | O | X | O | O |
| Denison | BACON, Scott | ALP | 2010 | | X | X | X | X |
| Denison | STURGES, Graeme | ALP | 2002 | Retiring | X | X | X | X |
| Denison | O'CONNOR, Cassy | Gr | 2008 | | X | X | X | X |
| Denison | ARCHER, Elise | Lib | 2010 | | O | DNV | O | O |
| Denison | GROOM, Matthew | Lib | 2010 | | O | X | O | O |
| Franklin | GIDDINGS, Lara | ALP | 2002 | Premier | X | X | X | X |
| Franklin | O'BYRNE, David | ALP | 2010 | | X | X | X | X |
| Franklin | McKIM, Nicholas | Gr | 2002 | | X | X | X | X |
| Franklin | HODGMAN, Will | Lib | 2002 | Opposition | O | X | O | O |
| Franklin | PETRUSMA, Jacquie | Lib | 2010 | | O | O | O | O |
| Lyons | POLLEY, Michael | ALP | 1972 | Retiring | O | X | O | O |
| Lyons | WHITE, Rebecca | ALP | 2010 | | X | X | X | X |
| Lyons | MORRIS, Timothy | Gr | 2002 | Speaker* | DNV | DNV | DNV | X |
| Lyons | HIDDING, Rene | Lib | 2002 | | O | O | O | O |
| Lyons | SHELTON, Mark | Lib | 2010 | | O | O | O | O |

* The speaker of the house doesn't vote, however Timothy Morris (Greens) made known his support for the euthansia bill after it failed to pass.
N.B. Candidate for the division of Lyons, Guy Barnett is a former Federal Senator for Tasmania where he had a 100% pro-life voting record.

NEW EMILY'S LIST CANDIDATES



EMILY'S List is a group that raises funds for, and grooms radically pro-abortion female candidates exclusively for the Labor Party. Each newly selected and funded candidate is mentored by a senior member of the *List* and if elected, all members are obliged to support pro-abortion legislation.





Justine Keay
ALP for Braddon





Sharon Carnes
ALP for Denison





Heather Chong
ALP for Franklin