

DS4SEQ - now Australia's first 'virtual' political party

The Daylight Saving for South East Queensland (DS4SEQ) Party is set to become Australia's first 'virtual/on-line only' political party.

DS4SEQ plans to contest the upcoming Queensland state election with equally 'virtual' candidates! Via its web site, the party is taking registrations of interest for people to run as candidates, who will do little else except pay their deposit. The plan is to encourage candidates to run on this basis, so that as many voters as possible will have the opportunity to send a message to the major parties, that Daylight Saving is an important issue that needs to be adequately addressed.

As part of this novel approach, DS4SEQ has dispensed with the traditional 'media spokesperson', and will instead issue formal statements only, without offering up anybody to give direct media interviews.

DS4SEQ, like other minor parties, finds it hard to compete against the major parties, given their well-established networks and superior access to funding and resources. This new approach, recognises the reality that DS4SEQ is run on a shoe-string budget, by a small band of passionate volunteers who simply want to achieve democracy on Daylight Saving.

DS4SEQ will encourage voters, who want Daylight Saving, to give DS4SEQ their first preference when voting and allocate their second preference to who they want to represent their community. By voting for DS4SEQ at the next state election, constituents can send a clear message to their next elected representative, that they want Daylight Saving.

Recent surveys, including Premier Anna Bligh's official 2010 public consultation, indicate that the majority of people want Daylight Saving in Queensland, or at least in the south-east. DS4SEQ is the only political party that supports affirmative action on Daylight Saving. DS4SEQ therefore wants to give as many people as possible, the opportunity to cast a vote in favour of Daylight Saving at the next state election.

DS4SEQ believes that it is shameful that Queensland's leaders continue to place party politics ahead of democracy, because they are scared of potential voter backlash from regional Queensland. We believe that both Premier Bligh and LNP leader, Campbell Newman, need to show leadership and resolve contentious issues like Daylight Saving, in line with what the majority clearly want.

From 2 October 2011, New South Wales, A.C.T., Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia all switch on to Daylight Saving for six months, while Queensland remains unchanged on Standard Time and will therefore operate behind all these states.

DS4SEQ contested the March 2009 state election with 32 candidates, and as a fledgling three-month old single-issue party achieved a credible result, averaging 2.5% of the primary vote across those electorates.

DS4SEQ is seeking supporters of Daylight Saving, who would like to run as 'virtual' candidates at the next state election. More details can be found on the party's web site – www.ds4seq.org.au

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