



*Dr Sophie Scamps MP*

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MACKELLAR

**Statement from Dr Sophie Scamps MP – Federal Member for Mackellar**

**Private Members Bill to enshrine independent selection process for all government appointments**

The Grattan Institute's report, released today, into political appointments is disturbing. The report shows over a fifth of federally appointed board members are political appointees. This is contrary to good governance and shows there is a rampant 'jobs for mates' culture that exists in Canberra and beyond.

We need to depoliticise political appointments to help restore trust in our public institutions and to ensure we do not have another Barilaro-type scandal at a federal level.

As the Independent MP for Mackellar, I will be introducing a Private Members Bill to establish an independent and merit-based process to select candidates for government boards, committees and departmental appointments.

My team and I are currently working on the legislation and plan to introduce it into Parliament later this year.

My proposed Public Appointments Framework would ensure there is a publicly advertised and transparent selection criteria for every role, and that independent panels, free from government interference, vet and shortlist the best candidates with the Minister selecting the best candidate from the shortlist.

It is crucial that the political appointment process is free from political bias. After a decade of political appointments made by former Coalition governments, my proposed legislation is a chance for the Albanese Government to end the 'jobs for mates' culture in Canberra once and for all.

ENDS