



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

18<sup>th</sup> March 2003

### **Sad day for Australia - Windsor**

In a short statement from Parliament House in Canberra today, Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor said the announcement by the Prime Minister that Australian troops would be committed to a war against Iraq without a United Nations mandate was a sad day for Australia that could create horrific ramifications for Australians in the future and questioned the Prime Minister's logic in making the decision.

"The logic used by the Prime Minister to commit troops is flawed and could in fact generate the very terrorist acts that the Prime Minister says he is attempting to stop.

To not allow the Federal Parliament to debate and vote prior to making a decision was also a mistake," Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor said he wanted the Electorate of New England to know that he did not support Mr Howard's position.

"Rightly or wrongly, I believe that the majority of people in New England oppose Australia's involvement without the support of the United Nations and I will be voting accordingly.

The decision to move outside the normal processes of International Law sends a message to all Nations that there is no longer a process involving the Nations of the world in determining how to deal with rogue states.

It also indicates to the terrorist groups that they have achieved a victory in destabilising International Law," Mr Windsor said.