



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Media Release

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Clements the man for Parkes - Windsor

The announcement by John Clements that he will stand for election for the seat of Parkes as an Independent at the upcoming Federal election on August 21 has been welcomed and endorsed by the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor.

Mr Windsor has known Mr Clements for over ten years and believes he has the capacity and commitment to represent the people of the Parkes electorate in the Federal Parliament.

“John Clements has a combination of compassion for people, a strong capacity to develop policy and advocate ideas.

“He has had an enormous impact on the development and interpretation of water policy, something that will be critical for the Parkes electorate in the coming Parliament with the debate over the Murray Darling Basin coming to a head.

“John is one of the few people in Australia who has a firm grasp of this issue through his understanding of agriculture complete with its ups and downs and the impacts on the broader country community.

“To have John in the Parliament to negotiate an outcome that is fair to all will be very important to inland Australians and the people of Parkes in particular,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor appreciated and valued greatly Mr Clements’ input into his own representation of the people of the New England Electorate when Mr Clements was a member of his staff in 2003/04.

“John Clements is an independent thinker who can see the big picture but is still there to help work on individual people’s problems that need the attention and help of their local Member of Parliament.

“He’s no-one’s puppet and whilst being forthright in his views of what is right and wrong, he also is very open to input from others in reaching a position on an issue.

“Whilst on my staff, John was responsible for changes to disability policy that saved the smaller communities “sheltered workshops” from being centralised to major centres.

“The people of Parkes have a very real credible alternative to the parties to vote for at this election in John Clements and I would encourage them to take the opportunity to put their own voice into the Federal Parliament,” Mr Windsor said.

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080 or 0427 66 8868