



Noted BB 4/8
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PRIME MINISTER
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Her Excellency the Hon Quentin Bryce AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia
Government House
Dunrossil Drive
YARRALUMLA ACT 2600

Your Excellency

I write to advise you to prorogue the Parliament and dissolve the House of Representatives, as set out in section 5 of the Constitution, and take the necessary action for a half Senate election in time for the elections for both houses of Parliament to be held on Saturday, 7 September 2013.

The current term of the House of Representatives expires at midnight on 27 September 2013. Section 28 of the Constitution provides you with the discretion to dissolve the House of Representatives before that date. An election for the House of Representatives must be held by 30 November 2013.

A half Senate election must be held in the twelve months preceding the expiry of the terms of half the senators on 30 June 2014. Holding the half Senate election at the same time as the House of Representatives election will spare the Australian community the additional expense and disruption that would result from holding two separate national elections within months.

The details of the election timetable I propose are:

issue of writs	:	Monday, 5 August 2013
close of rolls	:	Monday, 12 August 2013
close of nominations	:	Thursday, 15 August 2013
polling day	:	Saturday, 7 September 2013
return of writs (latest date):	:	Wednesday, 13 November 2013

Under section 12 of the Constitution, the Governor of a State may cause writs to be issued for elections of senators for the State. Accordingly I invite you to propose to each of the Governors of the States that the dates proposed above be adopted for the purpose of the election of State senators.

Enclosed for your approval and signature is a proclamation, based on the practice in recent years, which will prorogue the Parliament from 5.29 pm on Monday, 5 August 2013, to Saturday, 7 September 2013, and dissolve the House of Representatives at time 5.30 pm on the same day.

The Parliament has passed the appropriation bills for 2013-14. Therefore, there are sufficient funds to enable the work of the administration to be carried on through the election period.

I would appreciate your confirmation, in accordance with established practice, that you have no objection to the public release of this letter and your reply, at an appropriate time.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Rudd



Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

The Honourable Kevin Rudd MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

My dear Prime Minister,

When you called on me today, you handed me your letter of today's date advising me to prorogue the Parliament, dissolve the House of Representatives and take the necessary action for a half-Senate election to enable the elections for both Houses of Parliament to be held on Saturday 7 September 2013.

I confirm my acceptance of that advice. I shall today invite State Governors to take the necessary action for the holding of Senate elections. In accordance with your recommendation, I shall issue a proclamation proroguing the Parliament and dissolving the House of Representatives.

I have noted your assurances that Parliament has appropriated sufficient funds to enable the work of the administration to be carried on through the election period.

I have no objection to the public release of your letter and this reply at an appropriate time.

Yours sincerely

Quentin Bryce.

4.8.13.



PROCLAMATION

I, QUENTIN ALICE LOUISE BRYCE, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting under section 5 of the Constitution:

- prorogue the Parliament from 5.29 pm on Monday, 5 August 2013, until Saturday, 7 September 2013; and
- dissolve the House of Representatives at 5.30 pm on Monday, 5 August 2013.

Signed and sealed with
the Great Seal of Australia
on 4th August 2013

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Quentin Bryce".

Governor-General

By Her Excellency's Command

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Julia Gillard".

Prime Minister