



***"MEDIA RELEASE"***  
***19.08.2010***

# **SHORTEN DELIVERS !**

## **It's Got to be BILL!!**

### **ALP to receive 250,000+ Disability Votes?**

Thank you for the overwhelming response to the Disability Speaks election choice survey.

Bill Shorten (and the ALP) will no doubt be rewarded for his hard work and visionary approach to National Disability Insurance with a staggering 83% of the Primary votes of disability supporter respondents.

With between 200,000 - 400,000 severely and multiply disabled Australians supported by their families, friends and carers totalling some 1.6 million people in total, there is no doubt that in ballot boxes around the country the ALP will benefit significantly in what looks an increasingly close election.

Comments included

- It is time for a full time Disability Cabinet Minister, it must be Bill!
- I voted Liberal all my life, but I'm voting for Bill!
- Without NDIS we are stuffed and the ALP raised the idea and they are more likely by miles to deliver!
- If the ALP lose I will kill myself, all hope will be gone!
- I have signed 63 friends to vote ALP, I can't go on!

**The Hon. BILL SHORTEN ALP**



<http://www.alp.org.au/agenda/>



The Liberals were very much seen as late to the Disability party and there was a significant underlying belief in comments that Mr Abbott would not deliver.

Their Disability Policy announcements yesterday barely raised a flicker of interest.

With only 6% of voters indicating Liberal as their first preference it is unlikely if the Liberal party wins they will be thanking the disability sector for their support.

It is clear many in the disability sector do not believe the Liberals will follow through on NDIS

Noting the significant lift in disability lobbying maybe if the Liberals lose in a cliff-hanger they will broaden their disability vision in the future?

Comments included

- The SA State ALP sucks, I'm voting Liberal!
- Mitch for Prime Minister!
- The Liberal / Pyne education card is so good let's hope the ALP pinches the idea?
- Cabinet will sink the Abbott maternity leave plan, what hope has NDIS got?

## **The Liberal Party / Coalition The Hon. Mitch Fifield**



[www.liberal.org.au](http://www.liberal.org.au)



The survey suggests the Greens will get more primary votes from the disability sector than the Liberal Party with 8% indicating they were the protest vote of choice on disability.

The Carers Party at 3% have slightly reduced the Green vote with a number of respondents talking of swapping from the Greens to the Carers Alliance and Family First, the Democrats and the Nationals all received the odd comment but few promised votes

Comments included

- The Greens must get as many Senate seats as possible
- If the Greens hold the balance of power we are all better off
- You vote for the Greens because you hate the rest
- Lets hope the Greens are better

but conversely

- The greens believe in voluntary euthanasia, that's scary.

## **The Greens, Lead Senate Candidate Penny Wright SA**



<http://greens.org.au/policies/care-for-people/disability>



What was very evident in the responses was the very very high level of despair and cynicism of the disability community. Most voting comments arrived full of negative rhetoric and pain. The two most pertinent comments of many many were

- I don't vote, I never will. They all will never help people with disabilities, they all don't care!
- My intellectually disabled son is a grown man. He does not get a vote. He has no voice and no power. Why not?

Disability Speaks would like to thank all respondents to this survey that numbered nearly 150 (and continue to arrive)  
We would also like to thank all the Members of Parlt, their support staff and our committee for their availability and support in recent times  
We wish every one the best of luck in Saturday's election

**David Holst**

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