



NDIS - Libs withdraw support Fifield calls Gillard's bluff?

MEDIA RELEASE: December 8th, 2011

Liberal spokesperson on disability Senator Mitch Fifield has called the bluff of Prime Minister Julia Gillard on the desperately needed National Disability Insurance Scheme

Fifield's comments echo the thoughts of over 80% of the respondents to the Disability Speaks online survey on NDIS.

In an address to CEO's of major disability organisations in Canberra Fifield has indicated that Bi Partisan support by the Liberals was no longer a given.

In strong language the Liberal spokesperson has belittled the financial commitment of the ALP to additional disability support claiming

- The ALP has provided no guaranteed timeline for NDIS
- The recently announced NDIs agency is questionable
- There is no new money for NDIS

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/national/national/general/liberals-rear-up-over-disability-scheme/2383876.aspx>

In what will be seen by the disability sector as a devastating blow to NDIS, anger is sure to erupt particularly given the failure of Fifield to suggest an alternative to NDIS given his personal admissions of the depth of understanding of the disability crisis.

Disability Speaks knows if Gillard wants to regain the faith of the disability sector she has only one option available to her.
That is to put her money where her mouth is!

This needs to be in the form of short term crisis funding as recommended by the Productivity Commission and a long term NDIS funding plan attached to a commencement date.

NDIS now officially has the wobbles. Only Gillard and the ALP can save it!

David Holst

Chair - Disability Speaks Steering Committee & Intellectual Disability Association of S.A (IDASA)

Mob. 0418 555 683

Web. www.disabilityspeaks.com.au

Email. disabilityspeaks@internode.on.net



Disability Speaks is run by the Intellectual Disability Association of South Australia (IDASA) and will distribute on behalf of any organization that meets suitable criteria online information that is of wide disability community interest via our database that now numbers nearly 4,000 recipients for Government, advocacy groups and other major disability organizations. We aim in the lead up to elections, state or federal, we can distribute policy and support information from political groups. Such distribution is not in any way endorsement by Disability Speaks. From time to time Disability Speaks will also distribute media releases commenting on developments in the disability sector. We strongly encourage you to forward all releases to your friends, clients and disability supporters and encourage them to subscribe direct. To do so simply send an email with the subject "subscribe" to the address below, to unsubscribe please use "unsubscribe" in the subject line instead.