



Dr Monique Ryan MP Tables Bill to Clean Up Lobbying after Parliamentary Sports Club scandal.

Today, Independent Member for Kooyong Dr Monique Ryan will table her Private Member's Bill, the Lobbying (Improving Government Honesty and Trust) Bill 2025, aimed at restoring public trust in government by reforming Australia's broken lobbying laws.

The timing of the Bill is especially relevant following the revelations of inappropriate lobbying practices linked to the Parliamentary Sports Club, which surfaced during the last sitting period.

"The Sports Club scandal reminded us how insidious lobbying can be. We need stronger laws to ensure that decisions are made in the public interest—not in the interests of well-connected, well-funded insiders able to pay for access to politicians."

The Bill seeks to strengthen transparency and integrity in government decision-making by expanding the Register of Lobbyists to include third-party lobbyists, as well as in-house lobbyists representing businesses and industry bodies.

"Advocacy plays an important role in shaping government policy," says Dr Ryan. "But when it happens behind closed doors, without scrutiny or accountability, that can undermine our democracy. Australians deserve to know who is influencing their elected representatives and the laws that shape their lives."

If passed, the Bill will:

- Make details and activities of all lobbyists publicly available via an online register.
- Require lobbyists to comply with a strengthened Code of Conduct.
- Mandate regular publication of ministerial diaries.
- Impose a three-year ban on lobbying in their previous fields by former ministers and senior ministerial advisers, to prevent conflicts of interest.

"Enforcement of lobbying codes in this Parliament has been dismal," Dr Ryan adds. "We need an independent regulator enforcing strong legislation and upholding transparent standards—not a conflicted government waving a flimsy framework with the effectiveness of a wet tissue."