



Help End Marijuana Prohibition SA inc
po box 1019, kent town, S.A. 5071
hemp info line # (08) 8297 9442
e-mail: hempSA@va.com.au
internet: www.hemp.on.net

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEMP Campaign Debrief

It's all over bar the counting, but in this last phase of the election process HEMP is more than pleased with it's results.

With 70% of the Legislative Council counted (above the line votes) HEMP has received 11, 831 votes (1.58% or 0.19 quotas).

Below-the-line votes, absentee and postal votes, are yet to be counted, and are likely to see HEMP get around 15,000–16,000 votes, perhaps marginally better than our result in 1993.

In the Lower House, HEMP stood candidates in three electorates; (Elder, Hanson and Reynell) with Independent Marijuana Law Reform candidates standing in a further three (Kaurna, Mitchell and Wright). The results (as of Saturday 11.49pm) were as follows: (NB: absentee and postal votes NOT included).

(Independent HEMP – Legalise Marijuana)
Electorate / Candidate / No. of Votes / percentage

Elder	Jo Stokes	560	3.7%
Hanson	Mark Eckermann	580	3.8%
Reynell	Cathy Crago	956	5.8%

(Independent Marijuana Law Reform)

Kaurna	Mick Krieg	804	5.1%
Mitchell	D Elsley	755	4.7%
Wright	G McDonald	413	2.5%

HEMP is hopeful that after distribution of absentee and postal votes we will clear the 4% mark in all three lower house seats (and get all our deposits back).

Outcomes:

We stopped the three plant plan! The Liberals didn't dare wheel it out, opting instead for "Time to Act" a mish mash of half measures, that go only half way towards addressing the major problems that the prohibition of Cannabis causes.

Bad Guys Voted Out!

Bernice Pfitzner (Legislative Councillor)

Dropped to the supposedly safe number 5 on the ticket, Bernice lost out the No Pokies candidate, lawyer Nick Xenophon. A member of the LC Select Committee on Drugs, Pfitzner supported a "get tough" attitude to Cannabis users.

Sam Bass (Florey)

Hardline ex-cop Sam was notoriously anti-pot. Some of his speeches to the House were pure "Reefer Madness" (see Hansard for details).

Stewart Leggett (Hanson)

Cannabis Law Reform Society founder Mark Eckermann's 380 votes (4.0%?) undoubtably helped dump the right wing anti-pot crusader and branch-stacking fundamentalist Christian Stewart. After his last confrontation with HEMP at the HEMP hypothetical, Mr Leggett had a heart attack, now he's on the dole queue!

Other anti-pot Liberals to lose office included Joe Rossi (Lee), Julie Grieg (Reynell) where Cathy's 956 votes at 5.8% is a best ever for a HEMP candidate at any election, Heini Becker (Peake) and Harold Allison (retired)