
NEWS

State cabinet reshuffle

REGION - The Fleurieu Peninsula's state political landscape is set to change in 2014, as one minister indicates he won't contest the election, and another is elevated to cabinet.

On Monday, January 22, member for Mosman Leon Bignell was promoted to minister for tourism, recreation and sport in Premier Jay Weatherill's new-look cabinet.

It is a step up for Mr Bignell, who previously has not held a role in the cabinet.

Last week, member for Kurna John Hill said he would not stand for the 2014 election, and stepped down from his roles as minister for health and ageing, mental health and substance abuse and the arts on Monday, January 22.

Mr Hill told *The Times* he considers the duplication of the Southern Expressway, the extension of railway to seaford and environmental protection measures for coastal areas as among his achievements as the member for Kurna.

"It has been a huge privilege to serve my constituents, both as the MP for Kurna and also, for more than nine years, as the minister for the southern suburbs," he said.

Other achievements include the promotion of jobs and training in the south and opening GP Plus Centres in Aldinga and Marion.

The pre-selection process will take place later this year and Mr Hill said he will do all he can to support the new candidate, when they

are chosen.

Mr Hill has held the Kurna seat since 1997, which includes the towns of Sellicks Beach, Aldinga Beach, Port Willunga, Aldinga and Maslin Beach.

Member for Finnis Michael Pengilly said is the unopposed preselected member for Finnis for the next election.

"I'll be there at the 2014 elections."

Mr Pengilly said he is always interested in shadow positions and would be interested in folios including primary industries and tourism.

Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick said he is running to be re-elected in his seat in the 2014 election.

"The River Murray and regional issues such as public transport, infrastructure upgrades and improved support for health in regional areas are my key priorities for the Hammond electorate in the lead up to the 2014 election," he said.

Mr Hammond is the current state shadow minister for agriculture, food and fisheries, and the shadow minister for forests.

Mr Weatherill announced his new-look cabinet on Monday, January 22. He has taken on the position of premier and state treasurer and cut the cabinet down to 13 positions from 15.