

Jacqui Lambie Network 2016 Policies

Jacqui Lambie's The Jacqui Lambie Network (JLN) is a minor political party with a presence in the Australian Senate following the 2016 double dissolution federal election.

The JLN ran Senate candidates in Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

Key policy principles

The JLN released a suite of policy principals in the lead up to the 2016 election, including:

Defence

- The JLN has indicated it will "always have a special interest in all matters associated with veterans, former and serving members of the Australian Defence Force and their families" and will advocate for:
 - The withdrawal of Australian troops from the Middle East.
 - The immediate establishment of a Defence Abuse and Veterans' Welfare Royal Commission.
 - The establishment of a National Service Trainee and Apprenticeship Scheme (NSTAS), incorporating the ADF and state TAFE's.

Veteran Welfare

- The JLN acknowledges those who have honourably served in our military and will advocate for:
 - Fair pension's indexation for Veterans and former ADF members.
 - The automatic grant of a Health Gold Card to all Australian veterans who have served in war-like or war-zones, in order to access the best medical treatment.
 - The establishment of the Australian Veterans Educational Assistance Act or the Digger's Act. The act will allow Australian diggers, after they discharge from the Australian military and free of charge – to further their education qualifications or vocational and trade skills.

Education

- In efforts to boot military number and resources, the JLN supports:
 - Major reform to the TAFE system in order for the system to become more proactive in training students who are studying to increase their trade and other vocational educational skills and qualifications.

Tax Reform

- The JLN supports the Financial Transactions Tax (FTT) in order to guarantee extra government revenue for the protection of pensions and entitlements of retired Australians and defence veterans.
- The JLN will consult with the community about whether Australia should allow people with three or more investment properties to negatively gear.
- The JLN opposes any move to change or increase the GST rate of 10%.



- The JLN supports the removal of GST from women's sanitary products.

Halal and Other Food Certification

- The JLN will advocate for all food certification to be clearly and easily identified and a formal reporting or auditing mechanism is put in place which will easily allow law enforcement and security agencies to ascertain whether monies paid for certification are misused in the support of terrorist activities.

Indigenous

- The JLN agrees that the Australian constitution should be changed to officially acknowledge Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island (ATSI) as the first peoples.
- The JLN also supports dedicated indigenous seats being established for Australian Parliaments.

Conscience Votes

- The JLN believes that elected members should be free to exercise their conscience when all moral and ethical issues such as same-sex marriage, abortion debate, euthanasia and republic are considered in the Parliament or by the Australian public and will advocate for:
 - The JLN supports any change to the definition of marriage to be decided by a vote or plebiscite of the people at the next federal election.

Foreign Aid

- The JLN supports a halving of the Foreign Aid Budget and re-allocate this funding towards Higher Education.

Special Economic Zones

- The JLN calls on the Australian federal and state governments to stop the ad hoc granting of special economic incentives for certain companies – and to develop an organised plan to establish special economic zones in rural and regional where the worst social indicators and unemployment rates are being recorded.

Carbon Tax and ETS

- The JLN believes in climate change and the need to de-carbonise the base-load energy production of all the world's nations and will advocate for:
 - The doubling of base-load renewable energy in the form of Hydro Electricity; and
 - A community debate, followed by a national referendum on the introduction of nuclear power generation.

Nuclear Power

- The JLN believes that if a majority of Australians agree to allow the establishment of a home-grown industry of nuclear power generation; this will foster the opportunity to de-carbonise Australia's base-load national energy supply and achieve the same purpose as a carbon tax or ETS for the environment, while keeping the cost of electricity low and competitive with Australia's major trading partners.

Cost of Power and Energy

- The JLN believes the cost of living and doing business because of the relatively high price of Australian energy, has not received the serious political attention and discussion it deserves and will advocate for:



- “a broad-ranging parliamentary inquiry, which is tasked to find out why our business and households are forced to pay inflated bush-ranger electricity, power and fuel prices?”

Agriculture

- The JLN strongly supports the creation of a National policy to protect Australian Prime or Priority Agricultural land and condemns the major political parties, especially the Nationals for allowing this - what it believes - policy failure to exist for so long.

Jacqui Lambie

Jacqui Lambie was first elected to the Senate in 2013 as a member of the now defunct Palmer United Party. Ms Lambie’s term as a Tasmanian Senator began in July 2014. She resigned from the Palmer United Party in November 2014 to sit as an independent.

In May 2015, Ms Lambie formed the Jacqui Lambie Network.

Ms Lambie has served as a soldier in the Australian Army for over a decade. She has been a fundraiser for Rotary and acted as the membership, events and promotions ambassador for Burnie Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

In 2015, Ms Lambie revealed that her 21-year-old son had an ice addiction, which has led her to advocate for the right for parents to involuntarily detox their children aged 17 and under.

The Jacqui Lambie Network website lists Ms Lambie’s primary policy interests as veterans’ affairs, unemployment and national security.