

# Senator the Hon. Mark Arbib

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*Assistant Treasurer*

*Minister for Small Business*

*Minister for Sport*

*Manager of Government Business in the Senate*



## **Senator for New South Wales**

Mark was elected to the Senate at the November 2007 Federal Election. Since his term began in mid-2008 he has served as a member of the Senate Standing Committee for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Joint Statutory Committee for Corporations and Financial Services and Joint Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. He was Parliamentary Secretary for Government Service Delivery from February-June 2009 after which he became Minister for Employment Participation and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Government Service Delivery. In September 2010, Mark was promoted to a wide range of portfolios, becoming Minister for Indigenous Employment, Economic Development, Social Housing, Homelessness and Sport. In December 2011, Mark became Assistant Treasurer, Minister for Small Business and Manager of Government Business in the Senate. Mark also maintains his position as Minister for Sport.

Mark joined the ALP in 1992 and since that time he has become an influential member of the Labor movement. Roles he has undertaken in NSW include those of Young Labor President, State Organiser, Assistant General Secretary, and General Secretary from 2004-2007. He is also a member of the ALP's National Executive and National Executive Committee. Additionally, he was a part of the Campaign Team that led to Labor victory at the 2007 Federal Election.

Prior to entering Federal Parliament Mark had gained a Master of Arts in Political Science (UNSW) and worked as a metal trades assistant, a lifeguard and as an official for the Transport Workers' Union. More recently Mark has also worked in business development for Bell Potter Securities.

In Mark's maiden speech to Parliament he asserted that parenthood is the compass with which he wishes to guide his time as a Senator – he sees his personal understandings of family life as a meaningful starting point to ease the pressures that Australian families face. It is here he points to furthering the campaign for paid maternity leave, child care and other support measures that will better serve families – mothers and fathers alike – and build the value of work/life balance.

Mark has highlighted 3 key platforms from which to transform Australia's economy to meet the economic, social and environmental challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: Education, including the uptake of rapidly advancing technology; Indigenous equality; and Climate Change.