



# MEDIA RELEASE

HON ROBERT BROKENSHERE MLC

FAMILY FIRST  
*The Independent Party*



## FAMILY FIRST PASSES GUARANTEE AGAINST GOVERNMENT NEGLECT OF COUNTRY HEALTH

Thursday 27 November 2008

Just before 1am this morning, FAMILY FIRST MLC Robert Brokenshere has succeeded in legislating the Premier and Health Minister's political guarantee in the Legislative Council, to ensure that the guarantee has the force of law.

"Our Bill simply legislates the Government's press-release guarantee", Mr Brokenshere said, "Because without that guarantee having the force of law, it's only a political guarantee and not worth the paper that it is written on".

"FAMILY FIRST makes **no apology**, as an independent watchdog party, for fighting for country people to have equal access to hospitals, emergency services and other health services to their city cousins", Mr Brokenshere added, "We have seen broken promises before from this Government – a Government that has been on record saying it has the strength to break its promises – and so we simply can't trust the Government's paper-thin guarantee"

"I thank the State Opposition, as well as every one of my crossbench colleagues the Hons Ann Bressington, Mark Parnell, Sandra Kanck and John Darley who supported this guarantee – that is a powerful statement in itself that all parties from a range of political standpoints agree with FAMILY FIRST that it is important to legislate a guarantee for country health"

"I urge country people to contact their local member and Health Minister John Hill urging them to support FAMILY FIRST's legislated guarantee of country health services"

The battle for guaranteeing minimum standards of Country Health services now shifts to the House of Assembly where the State Opposition will need to pressure the Government to support FAMILY FIRST's Bill.

*Links:*

[Robert Brokenshere's speech introducing the Guarantee Bill](#)  
[Robert Brokenshere's Summing up last night concluding debate on the Bill](#)