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## Rattray Named Leader for Government in Tasmania's Upper House

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Premier Jeremy Rockliff has appointed independent Member of the Legislative Council (MLC) Tania Rattray as Leader for the Government in Tasmania's Legislative Council, with Liberal MLC Kerry Vincent as Deputy Leader, to foster collaboration in a hung parliament.

Tasmania's Premier Jeremy Rockliff has selected independent MLC Tania Rattray to lead government business in the Legislative Council, with Liberal MLC Kerry Vincent as her deputy. The move aims to enhance cooperation in the upper house amid a minority government.

In a strategic move to navigate Tasmania's hung parliament, Premier Jeremy Rockliff has appointed independent Member of the Legislative Council (MLC) Tania Rattray as Leader

for the Government in the Tasmanian Legislative Council. Announced on August 8, 2025, the decision positions Ratray, a seasoned independent representing McIntyre since 2004, to steer government legislation through the upper house while maintaining her independent status. Liberal MLC for Prosser, Minister Kerry Vincent, will support her as Deputy Leader of Government Business, as reported by ABC News.

Ratray, who previously served as Deputy Mayor of Dorset Council, accepted the role to promote collaboration, a priority after the July 2025 election resulted in a hung parliament. In a statement to ABC News, Ratray emphasized that Tasmanians expect their representatives to work together sensibly, and she is committed to delivering on this expectation. She noted, however, that she would not support legislation conflicting with her constituents' interests, ensuring her independence remains intact. Rockliff praised Ratray's appointment as a step toward enhancing cooperation in the Legislative Council, according to The Mercury.

The appointment comes at a critical time, with a no-confidence motion against Rockliff's Liberal minority government looming when parliament resumes on August 19, 2025. The Liberals secured only 14 of the 18 seats needed for a lower house majority, per ABC News, forcing reliance on crossbench support. Critics, including Greens MLC Cassy O'Connor, have questioned whether Ratray's role compromises her independence, suggesting it could "neutralize" an independent vote, as reported by The Queenslander. Ratray dismissed these concerns, stating to ABC News that such appointments are not unprecedented and her focus remains on serving McIntyre.

Ratray's extensive experience, including her 20-year tenure and roles on committees like the Public Works Committee, equips her to manage the upper house's legislative demands. The appointment also aims to alleviate the workload of Liberal ministers, who juggle multiple portfolios. As Tasmania's political landscape remains turbulent, Ratray's leadership could prove pivotal in stabilizing government operations, though its longevity hinges on the upcoming no-confidence vote.