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Biography - **David Julian Fawcett**, BSc, MBA, MAICD, QTP, psc

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David is a Senator for South Australia in the Australian Parliament, elected at the Aug 2010 and Jul 2016 Federal Elections. Prior to his role as a Senator, David has been a business owner, an elected Member of the House of Representatives, a professional pilot and a member of the Defence force for over two decades.



In the 45<sup>th</sup> Parliament, David is a Deputy Government Whip in the Senate and is the Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. David is also a member of Committees dealing with: Intelligence & Security; Treaties and Legal & Constitutional Affairs. David also Chairs the Government members Policy Committee for Legal Affairs. David writes and advocates extensively on initiatives that would lead to a more effective and efficient national defence force including a sustainable defence industry capability. He has also been active in working for reform in Australia's aviation policy and approach to aviation safety regulation.

David previously served in the 41<sup>st</sup> Australian Parliament as the Member for Wakefield (South Australia) from 2004 – 2007. David was Chair of the Government members Policy Committee for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, as well as a member of five other policy committees supporting the Ministers responsible for Defence, Agriculture, Health and Ageing, Transport, Education and Training. He was also Chair of a Government Task Force monitoring and evaluating a national policy roll-out by the Attorney General's Department.

Prior to Parliament, David served for over 22 years in the Australian Defence Force as an Army officer. His full-time service culminated in an appointment as the Commanding Officer of the Royal Australian Air Force, Aircraft Research and Development Unit (ARDU). He was responsible for the conduct of experimental flight test in support of the RAAF and Army spanning fast jets, heavy aircraft and helicopters. David has tertiary qualifications in science and business administration, is qualified to fly both aeroplanes and helicopters and has served throughout Australia, in neighbouring countries and in the UK as a regimental pilot, senior flying instructor and experimental test pilot. His work in the area of night pilotage systems and displays has been internationally recognised and led to David speaking at a number of overseas conference and workshops as well as helping to facilitate the civil aviation use of night vision goggles in Australia while a member of the Government Policy Committee for Transport and Regional Services. After his full-time service, David remained active as an experimental test pilot through part-time Reserve service with the Defence Force.

David is married, has two adult children and lives in Adelaide, South Australia. He has travelled widely and lived in Asia, the UK and in other parts of Australia, and has been active in community life. He has been the patron of a number of sporting bodies, an honorary member of Rotary and a contributing member of professional bodies. He is currently a member of the international Society of Experimental Test Pilots, the Australian Flight Test Society and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Strong, healthy family relationships are a priority for David. As his family and work have moved into different phases, the need to maintain a healthy balance has governed to a large extent the degree to which he has been able to pursue his other personal interests. These include sailing, aviation, cooking, Australian history and music. He has been involved in both dinghy and offshore sailing and holds a Royal Yachting Association Coastal Skippers certificate.