



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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SLASHING RED TAPE TO MAKE IT EASIER TO DO BUSINESS IN NSW

The NSW Government is slashing red tape to save businesses time and money, consigning 152 regulations to the scrapheap last financial year.

Premier Barry O'Farrell said the NSW Government was on track to save businesses and taxpayers \$750 million by 2015 by removing unnecessary regulations.

"A strong economy needs businesses to be successful and creating jobs, not getting tied up in red tape from government departments," Mr O'Farrell said.

"By slashing red tape we are making it more attractive to do business in NSW."

In 2011, 152 regulations were removed compared to just 14 new regulations being added. The reforms are expected to save businesses and taxpayers \$233.1 million in 2012.

The NSW Government's changes mean vets who have qualified in other parts of Australia no longer have to go through another registration process before they can practice in NSW.

Trainee electricians can now receive recognition for prior learning and qualify a year earlier – saving business more than \$1.5 m a year in training costs.

The reforms mean motor vehicle dealers are now able to register second-hand vehicles online, rather than having to send an employee to wait in the queue.

Workers applying for a Construction Induction Card can now do so online while business now has the option of online work, health and safety education presentations, in place of more costly face-to-face seminars.

"Governments should be making life easier for business, not making it harder," Mr O'Farrell said.

"The NSW Government is taking practical steps to save businesses time and money – with so many regulations acting as a handbrake on business it's little wonder NSW lost its competitive advantage under Labor.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals will continue to attack red tape so businesses can prosper without government agencies constantly looking over their shoulder."