Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0173

Ley, Sussan Penelope

(1961 -)

Born	19611214
Occupation	Parliamentarian

Summary

A member of the Liberal Party of Australia, Sussan Ley was elected to the House of Representatives of the Parliament of Australia, representing the electorate of Farrer, New South Wales, on 10th November 2001. She was re-elected at the next eight elections, and was Leader of the Opposition for nine months in 2025-6 before resigning from Parliament on 27 February 2026.

Details

Ley's experience includes: working as an air traffic controller at both Mascot and Tullamarine airports, she has her commercial and aerial stock mustering pilot license. Since 1986 she has helped on the family farm.

After obtaining a degree in Economics and her Masters in Taxation and Accounting, Ley worked at the Albury Branch of the Australian Taxation Office as Director, Technical Training.

Ley held ministerial positions in the 2004-2007 and 2013-2022 periods of Liberal-National Party government. She was elected Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Liberal Party, and thus as Leader of the Opposition, on 13 May 2025, the first woman to hold this position. She was defeated by Angus Taylor in a party room ballot on 13 February 2026 and resigned from Parliament a fortnight later.

On 14 September 2026 Ley was appointed by the Albanese Government to a position on the Snowy Hydro Board.

A complete record of her parliamentary service, including a link to her first speech, can be found in the Parliamentary Handbook of the Commonwealth of Australia (see below).

Published resources

Resource Section
Farrer: Sussan Ley, NSW Liberal Party,
http://www.nsw.liberal.org.au/campaigns/candidates/ley.cfm

Sussan Ley: Liberal for Farrer, Country Liberals,
http://www.countryliberals.com/sussanley/sussanley.html

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Book
Ley, the Hon. Sussan Penelope,
https://handbook.aph.gov.au/parliamentarians/00AMN

Author Details
Anne Heywood

Created 14 November 2001
Last modified 15 September 2026