



Newest senator promises passion

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Liberal Party powerbroker Mathias Cormann was sworn into Federal Parliament this week as WA's newest senator, filling the vacancy created by former minister Ian Campbell.

It was a smoother than expected entry into Federal Parliament for Senator Cormann, who was initially preselected for the winnable third

spot on the Liberal Party Senate ticket for this year's election.

But when Mr Campbell retired from politics Senator Cormann was endorsed for the casual vacancy.

Senator Cormann has the six-week winter recess to prepare his maiden speech, which he will make in August.

"I'm going to be focusing on the need for WA to get a fair share of infrastructure investment from the Commonwealth . . . and water is

certainly an issue that I'm very interested in," he said.

Senator Cormann migrated to WA from Belgium in 1996 and has worked as an adviser for Richard Court and Senator Chris Ellison.

"I've always been quite passionate about making a difference to the political process," he said.

"I certainly feel very privileged that the Liberal Party in WA decided to nominate me for the vacancy."



Privileged position: New WA senator Mathias Cormann at Parliament House. Picture: Fairfax