



Australian Private Equity & Venture Capital Association Limited

01 February 2018

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email only: pjcis@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Review of the Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme Bill 2017

We refer to our appearance before the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (Committee) review of the *Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme Bill 2017* (Bill) on 30 January 2018, and the joint submission dated 23 January 2018 lodged by four co-signatories (the Australian Bankers' Association Inc, the Financial Services Council, the Insurance Council of Australia and the Australian Private Equity & Venture Capital Association Limited (AVCAL)).

As requested by the Committee on 30 January 2018, we have sought to determine the percentage of our members which may fall within the definition of a "foreign principal" under the Bill.

Based on our review of our membership records, we estimate that around four percent of the AVCAL membership base may fall within the definition of a "foreign principal" as articulated in section 10 of the Bill. This estimate is premised upon AVCAL's interpretation of the Bill, and without having received legal advice. AVCAL currently has 179 member organisations in total.

We note that for the purposes of the Bill, having even a single member that falls within the foreign principal definition may render AVCAL liable to register under the proposed scheme, thereby underscoring the potentially broad reach of the draft legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further information to assist the Committee with its review of the Bill. If you would like to discuss this issue in more detail, please feel free to contact either me or Christian Gergis, AVCAL Head of Policy & Research, [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

Yasser El-Ansary
Chief Executive
AVCAL