



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS

Inquiry into the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017

Issue date: 13 February 2018

Public hearing on political donations Bill

The Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters will hold a public hearing tomorrow in Canberra on the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017.

The Committee will hear evidence from Professor Joo-Cheong Tham from the University of Melbourne Law School.

Committee Chair Senator Linda Reynolds said it was important for the Electoral Act to keep pace with changes in political campaigning and to provide a clear and level playing field for all political actors.

“The political landscape and campaign environment has radically changed from what the Electoral Act was originally drafted to regulate,” Senator Reynolds said.

“Globally, there is increasing media suggesting foreign attempts at influencing elections around the world. This is problematic because the real and perceived integrity and fairness of elections is critical to peaceful democratic government.

“While the Electoral Act has long recognised that a range of political actors participate in Australian elections, it has become clear that there needs to be more clarity about what constitutes a political actor, and what their obligations are.”

Information on this inquiry and a copy of Professor Tham’s submission is available at <https://www.aph.gov.au/efdr>.

A copy of the Bill is available [here](#).

Public Hearing Details:

Date: Wednesday, 14 February 2018

Time: 9:45am

Location: Room 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra

Media enquiries:

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For background:

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