
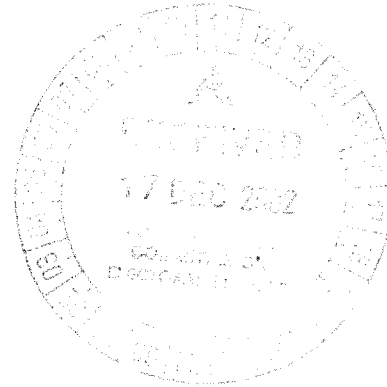


Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
Submission No. 179
Date Received 17/12/02
Secretary 

12 DEC 2002

Mr Trevor Rowe  
Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



*Dear Mr Rowe,*

As requested by the Committee at the hearing conducted Friday 20 September 2002 in Canberra, I provide the following information as a supplement to the Australian Labor Party's written and oral submissions.

1. Full disclosure of funds raised by fundraising organisations for political parties

Labor's written submission reiterated the Party's strong support for the full and prompt disclosure of funds raised by external fundraising groups.

In a media release dated 12 July 2001 Senator Faulkner said: "Labor's next funding return to the AEC would treat monies raised by Markson Sparks on behalf of the Labor Party as if they were received directly by the Labor Party".

I have contacted the New South Wales Branch of the ALP and it is my understanding that the returns recently lodged by that particular Branch have fully disclosed such funds.

2. Disclosure of funds raised from foreign companies

Our written submission outlined two broad options for the disclosure of donations from foreign companies; a blanket ban or regulation, including full disclosure.

Labor's preference for the latter option remains, though we are prepared to consider the banning of overseas donations if the disclosure regime proves ineffective.

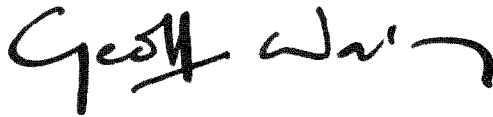
The most appropriate way forward is for the AEC to look closely at these issues and report on them so that we may further develop a view.

3. Direct Address Change

The ALP reiterates its support for a detailed report from the AEC on the issue of direct address change. Only once the administrative issues have been examined can the workability of direct address change be ascertained.

I hope the Committee finds this information useful. I can be contacted on 02 6120 0800 if further clarification is sought.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Walsh". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Geoff Walsh  
National Secretary