

*(This document has been scanned from the original. It may contain some errors)*

Submission no 9

**The Federation of Australian Radio Broadcasters Limited**  
**the association of commercial radio stations**  
**A.C.N 059 731 467**

*13 October 2000*

The Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral  
Matters  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the investigation by the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters into the recommendations made by the Australian Electoral Commission's 1996 and 1998 Funding and Disclosure Reports not currently incorporated in legislation, or not previously examined by the Committee.

FARB's particular interest is in recommendation 3.14 – "Disclosure of Electoral Advertisements by Broadcasters and Publishers". The industry has been similarly concerned at the amount of effort required by broadcasters to complete returns and the extent to which material is subsequently accessed, particularly in cases where the amounts are relatively small. There would also appear to be no justification in keeping this requirement for broadcasters and publishers, when the requirement has been dispensed with in the case of printers.

We would therefore support the recommendation of the committee to abolish the requirement for broadcasters and publishers to lodge disclosure returns following an election or referendum.

We trust that you will take this submission into account when you are considering your final report.

Yours sincerely,

David Bacon  
Chief Executive Officer

Unit 10 Garden Mews  
82-86 Pacific Highway  
ST LEONARDS NSW 2065

Telephone: (02) 9906 5944  
Telephone: (02) 9906 5128  
PO Box 299 STLEONARDS NSW 2065