

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Australian Electoral Commission

Additional Estimates Hearing – 13 February 2007

Question: F30

Outcome 2, Output 2.1.3

Topic: Requirement for donors to disclose the date on which gifts are made

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

So the requirement for the disclosure is on the part of—you were saying, in the previous instance—the Friends of Indi, as opposed, in this instance, to the union that gave the money.

Mr Bodel—No. I would need to check the legislation, but my assumption is that British American Tobacco have in fact disclosed more than they need to; they do not need to disclose the date of their donation. In the instance we were referring to before, while they have disclosed the date, they did not actually need to disclose that date.

Answer:

Section 305B of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* requires a person who discloses a gift to a political party to indicate in the donor return the date on which the gift was given.