

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-06 – 01 November 2005

Question: F22

Outcome: Australian Electoral Commission

Topic: Amendment of financial disclosure returns

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Senator Carr asked:

How many amendments were there made to party or candidate returns for the last year? And for the previous year, as well—2003-04 and 2004-05.

Answer:

Political parties lodge financial disclosure returns annually whereas candidates lodge them after an election.

Annual financial disclosure returns for the 2004/05 financial year are not publicly available until 1 February 2006 and therefore, information in relation to these returns cannot be provided at this time. Political parties lodged a total of 48 amendments to 2003/04 annual financial disclosure returns.

39 candidates at the 2004 election amended their candidate election financial disclosure returns: 9 candidates changed their returns to 'Nil' returns, the remainder provided additional information required or clarification of required information in their returns.