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Senator Mason
Chair
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

By e-mail: fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator,

INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT (ELECTORAL INTEGRITY & OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2005 – FINANCE INDUSTRY IMPACTS

The Australian Finance Conference and its members welcome the inclusion of the amendments in the above Bill that should ensure continued access to the electoral roll to assist the industry meet its customer identity verification obligations under the Financial Transactions Reports Act directly or through information service providers who contribute to that process. In this regard we note that a Regulation is required to specify the specific persons or organisations that would have access under this category and would welcome the opportunity to be consulted in its development.

While the amendments go some way towards addressing the concerns previously identified in our submissions to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral matters (No.s 109 & 190), we note that their full effectiveness will remain dependent on the enactment of the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist legislation currently being developed by the Government. The timeframe for enactment raises some measure of concern for our members.

We would be happy to meet with the Committee to provide further detail in this regard.

Kind regards.

Yours truly,

Ron Hardaker
Executive Director