



AUSTRALIAN SENATE
CANBERRA ACT

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

cc.let 6529

2 September 2010

PARLIAMENT HOUSE
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Senator the Hon. John Hogg
President of the Senate
The Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr President

**INQUIRY INTO THE ADEQUACY OF ADVICE CONTAINED IN THE GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES FOR
OFFICIAL WITNESSES BEFORE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES AND RELATED MATTERS FOR
OFFICIALS CONSIDERING PARTICIPATING IN A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE WHETHER IN A
PERSONAL CAPACITY OR OTHERWISE.**

Pursuant to Standing Order 38(7), I present to you a report of the Privileges Committee in relation to the *Government Guidelines for Official Witnesses before Parliamentary Committees* and related matters.

The Senate referred the matter to the Committee on 23 June 2010, for inquiry and report by 2 September 2010.

The Committee has called for submissions on the matter and at the time of reporting has received one submission which is published on its website.

On 19 July 2010, the Governor General prorogued the 42nd Parliament and dissolved the House of Representatives. While pursuant to Standing Order 25(14) the Committee is authorised to meet notwithstanding any dissolution or prorogation of the House, the intervening federal election has prevented the Committee from examining the matter before the reporting deadline.

The matter may be re-referred to the Committee in the 43rd Parliament.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Johnson', written over a large, stylized flourish.

Senator David Johnson
Chair