

**Submission
No 5**

INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC FUNDING OF ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

Organisation:

Name: Mr Mike Cottee

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I would like to submit that elections be funded entirely from the public purse, eliminating donations in all their guises (donations through third parties, fund-raising auctions, dinners with politicians etc.)

Such a move, introduced with a funding formula which was fair to both political incumbents and their challengers, and with a system whereby submissions to government and the bureaucracy were required to be in writing or in an electronic file (DVDs etc), would go a long way towards restoring faith in our political system. Errors of judgement would still be inevitable, but at least they would be made in good faith.

The perception now is that the equality of every vote cast in an election is sullied by the grossly distorting influence of donors on many government decisions.