

Submission

No 2

Review of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912 and the Election Funding, Expenditure and Disclosures Act 1981

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 16/05/2012

12 May 2012

Submission to

The Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters

On the 20th of October 2011 I wrote to the Director, Funding & Disclosure, Election Funding Authority of NSW when we were required to lodge a return under theDisclosures Act 1981. Our joint "Donations" totalled \$2,050 made up as follows:

1. 2011 Membership (paid 12/8/10)	\$200	\$200
2. Donation to our Federal Member	250	250
3. Donation (not specific) paid 16/8/10	250	250
4. Donation (not specific) paid 27/6/11	125	125
5. 2012 Membership paid 27/6/11	200	200

The return form shows the donor as "the name of the person whose name appears on the credit card" which is just plain stupid when it comes to couples both of whom are individual members of a political party. Had our 2012 membership not been paid early we would have been under \$1,000 each. Even with the early membership payment we are over the \$1000 by a mere \$25 each. As the membership amounts are subject to GST the actual donations are even less than shown above.

We respectfully request the Standing Committee to give serious consideration to the following two issues:

1. Persons should be treated as individuals and not grouped together according to the source of payment as is currently the requirement under the Act.
2. The amount requiring the lodgment of a return should be increased to say \$5,000 as the current limit of \$1,000 that has applied for more than 30 years is unrealistic in the present day and age.