

19 June 2008



**Legislative Council**

## **INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING**

Committee Chairman Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC today tabled the Committee's report examining electoral and political party funding in New South Wales.

Revd Nile said: 'The key message from this inquiry is that there must be significant reform of the NSW electoral funding regime, and in particular, tighter regulation of political donations. It was clear from many of the 189 submissions made to the Inquiry that reforms are urgently needed, to restore community confidence in politicians and the political process.'

The Committee's proposed model entails a radical re-writing of the NSW electoral funding scheme. The key provisions of the model are to:

- ban political donations by corporations and other organisations
- cap individual donations
- cap election spending
- make disclosure of donations and election spending more timely and transparent
- introduce greater policing of the electoral funding scheme, and tougher penalties for non-compliance.

Revd Nile called on the Government to implement the Committee's proposed model: 'The Government must take strong action to demonstrate its commitment to restoring public faith in the electoral finance regime in New South Wales. Implementing the Committee's proposed model would well and truly declare to a sceptical public, that the great political parties of New South Wales are not up for sale.'

**Revd Nile will hold a press conference at 1.15 pm today, Thursday 19 June 2008, in the Media Room at Parliament House.**

Copies of the report can be downloaded from [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/partyfunding](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/partyfunding) or are available from the Committee Secretariat by calling (02) 9230 3528.

**For further comment please contact the Committee Chairman,  
Revd the Hon Fred Nile MLC on 9230 2478**