



The Hon. Peter Primrose MLC Chair, Legislative Council Privileges Committee Parliament House Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Our Ref: Z06/0017

Dear Sir

RE: Draft amendments to Members' Code of Conduct

I thank you for giving the Commission an opportunity to comment on proposed draft amendments to Members' Code of Conduct.

The Commission welcomes the proposed amendments.

The proposed amendment to the preamble meets a recommendation made by the Commission in its Report on Regulation of Secondary Employment for Members of the NSW Legislative Assembly referred to at page 5 of the Commission's submission.

The proposed change to clause 2 of the Code meets the intent of recommendation 55 made in the Commission's Report on Investigation into Parliamentary and Electorate Travel: Secondary Report – Analysis of Administrative Systems and Recommendations for Reform which is set out at page 3 of the Commission's submission.

The proposed addition of clause 7 to the Code addresses recommendation 8 made in the Commission's Report on Regulation of Secondary Employment for Members of the NSW Legislative Assembly which is set out at pages 5 and 6 of the Commission's submission.

There are a number of other matters in the Commission's submission which have not been addressed by the proposed amendments. For example, there is still no clarification of the terms "private financial interests" and "decisions in which they participate" in clause 1 of the Code (pages 1-2 of the submission) or clarification of the phrase "private benefit" in clause 5 of the Code (pages 3-4 of the submission). The Commission hopes the Committee will take these and the other matters raised in the Commission's submission into account as part of its review.

Yours faithfully

The Hon. Jerrold Cripps QC

Commissioner

Date: 17 July 2006