

**Submission  
No 49**

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

**Organisation:**

**Name:** Mr Michael Davies

**Telephone:**

**Date received:** 2/02/2008

---

Submission from Michael N. Davies  
To Inquiry into Political Party Funding

An important issue for most members of parliament is funding of the political party they belong to because, without funding, their chance of being elected is greatly diminished.

Thus there becomes a great conflict between the vested interest of political donors and that of the people the Member of Parliament represents.

For a Member of Parliament to be able to act without fear or favour and to be able to represent his or her constituents there must be no need or reliance of donations to political parties. Unless this is upheld the whole basis of democracy is undermined and the Parliamentarians are bound to act in favour of unelected donors.

It is now commonly acknowledged, that a certain size donation will gain you a meeting with Members and Ministers. This concept is not acceptable as it is in effect buying influence and this; I believe this is in effect corruption.

Thus I believe there should be strict limits on political donations and all donations should be disclosed on a public register for all to see.

To enable candidates to 'put their message across' I submit that sufficient public funds and resources should be available on an equitable basis to all contestants to provide airtime, postage and public forums during the election period.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Michael Davies 2<sup>nd</sup>. February, 2008