

Australian Government

Australian Government response to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee Report:

Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations) Bill 2020

Introduction

On 16 March 2021, the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee) tabled a report titled *Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations Bill 2020 (2021)*.

The Government's Response to the recommendations of the Report follows below.

Government Response to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee report: <u>Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations Bill 2020 (2021).</u>

| # | Recommendation | Government Response |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | The committee recommends that the Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations) Bill 2020 not be passed. | Noted The Government notes the recommendation. Given the passage of time, a substantive government response is no longer appropriate. |

Dissenting Report by Australian Greens

| # | Recommendation | Government Response |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | That the Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Banning Dirty Donations) Bill 2020 be passed, subject to minor amendments to: • clarify the exclusion of gifts to third parties and political campaigners for a purpose other than Commonwealth electoral expenditure; • improve the consistency of terminology for 'gift' and 'donation'; and • provide appeal options for determinations relating to prohibited donations. | Refer to recommendation 1 of the Majority report. |

| # | Recommendation | Government Response |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 2 | That the Government provide for reasonable real-time disclosure of all political donations above \$1,000. | Refer to recommendation 1 of the Majority report. |
| 3 | That the Government commence a review of the electoral expenditure and finance framework. | Refer to recommendation 1 of the Majority report. |
| 4 | That the Government ensure Australian Electoral Commission funding is adequate to allow monitoring and enforcement of compliance with the political funding and disclosure regime. | Refer to recommendation 1 of the Majority report. |