

Amendment to General Business Notice of Motion No 868.

As listed on pages 11-12 of today's Notice Paper in the name of Senators Siewert, Rhiannon and McKim

To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) on Friday 15 June, the Hands Off Our Charities Alliance released a set of “Red Line Principles” that provide guidance ~~on the government's proposed package of legislation relating to foreign influence, including the Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme Bill 2017, the National Security Legislation Amendment (Espionage and Foreign Interference) Bill 2017, and the Electoral Legislation Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017~~ **to Parliament in light of some recent government proposals around foreign involvement in Australian Politics**, and
 - (ii) the Red Line Principles provide a framework to enable Parliament to get the balance right in promoting and protecting public participation in our democracy while recognising concerns over improper influence from big business and foreign entities;
- (b) affirms that it is critical that the ability of charities and not-for-profits to use funding for issues-based advocacy is not restricted; that there is a clear distinction between issues-based advocacy and politically partisan electioneering, which is already regulated in the Charities Act 2013; and that organisations do not face a greater compliance burden; and
- (c) calls on the government to:
 - (i) support the Red Line Principles, and
 - (ii) ~~go back to the drawing board on its package of legislation, and instead implement legislation that puts strict limits on corporate and all other donations to political parties, along with election expenditure caps~~ **work to ensure that any bill seeking to deal with the problem of covert foreign influence in Australia does not have unintended consequences, including adverse impacts on charities and on freedom of the press.**