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8 October 2018

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By email: em@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Supplementary Submission – Inquiry into the Proposed Amendments to the *Electoral Legislations Amendment (Electoral Funding and Disclosure Reform) Bill 2017*

Philanthropy Australia thanks the Committee for the opportunity to give evidence to it on Friday 8 October.

As requested, Philanthropy Australia is pleased to make this supplementary submission outlining some modifications to section 302P of the amendments, regarding what constitutes ‘appropriate donor information’.

Many philanthropic entities are unincorporated, and therefore under section 302P, they would need to provide ‘appropriate donor information’ as per item 3 of the section in order to prove that they are not a ‘foreign donor’.

Providing the information in column 2 of item 3 would be impractical for many philanthropic entities.

We believe that it would be more appropriate to provide that in the case of a registered charity, including a philanthropic entity, particulars of the entity’s registration with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) would be sufficient to prove that it is not a foreign donor.

Such information is publicly accessible at no cost through the ACNC Register.

Making provision for this would be consistent with the treatment of incorporated entities in item 2 of section 302P, whereby 'particulars of the entity's registration with the Australian Securities Investment Commission evidencing the entity's incorporation in Australia' are regarded as 'appropriate donor information'.

Philanthropy Australia hopes this information is of assistance to the Committee. If the Committee wishes discuss the matters raised in this submission or any other matters further please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Wickham, Policy & Research Manager,

Yours Sincerely,

Sarah Davies
Chief Executive Officer