

Report concerning an
application from
Mr Mercurius Goldstein for the
publication of a response to a
reference made in the House
of Representatives

House of Representatives
Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests



Membership of the committee

Chair Mr Russell Broadbent MP

Deputy Chair Mr Pat Conroy MP

Members

Hon Kevin Andrews MP

Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP

Mr Andrew Giles MP

Mr Ian Goodenough MP

Mr Steve Irons MP (nominee of the Leader of the House)

Ms Michelle Landry MP

Mr Tony Pasin MP

Hon Wayne Swan MP

Hon Warren Snowdon MP (nominee of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition)

Committee secretariat

Secretary Ms Claressa Surtees

Research Officer Mr Stuart Woodley

Administrative Officers Ms Laura Gillies

Ms Gillian Drew

- 1.1 Mr Mercurius Goldstein has made an application, under the procedure adopted by the House on 27 August 1997, for the publication of a response to references made in relation to him by the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP on 18 April 2016 in the House.
- 1.2 The committee considers Mr Goldstein should be given a response and the terms of the response have been agreed by him and the committee. A copy of the response is at Appendix 1.
- 1.3 In agreeing to the response, the committee notes, as required by the resolution of the House for rights of reply, that it has not considered or judged the truth of any statement made by a Member in the House or by the person seeking a response.
- 1.4 The committee recommends that a response by Mr Goldstein (at Appendix 1) to references made about him, on 18 April 2016 in the House, be incorporated in Hansard.

MR RUSSELL BROADBENT MP
Chair
November 2016

Appendix 1

Response by Mr Mercurius Goldstein to remarks made by the Deputy Prime Minister

The Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, made a reference to me, in the House on 18 April 2016, which adversely affected my reputation.

I did not so vote as the Member for New England inferred in his reference to me by name in the House. As I was not a member of the Livestock and Bulk Carriers' Association, but was their guest at a meeting of their members, I did not assume to myself any voting rights at the meeting. Any such vote or abstention by me would be moot as I was not a member with voting rights at the meeting in question.

As the vote of members was taken, I was seated on an elevated stage before an audience of some 100 or so persons gathered, most if not all of whom would have been able to see that I did not raise my hand at any time during the vote, neither for nor against the motion.