

—Original Message—

**From:** MAHER Judith [mailto:Judith.Maher@atsic.gov.au]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 24 March 2004 6:17 PM

**To:** Committee, EM (REPS)

**Subject:**

To the Committee

I am appalled at the secrecy surrounding donations to the two major political parties in this country - in particular the organisations that are set up to successfully screen donors and the amounts they contribute and go by innocuous names. They are perverting our democracy. I, and my family, want transparency in all aspects of government and political office. We would like to see legislation introduced to provide public funds to all political parties on the basis of voter rolls and the percentage of votes won, or some other equitable process. Our system is ethically baseless and following the abysmal American system where political and judicial public office can be bought by vested interests who then expect a pay-off when their supported party gets into office.

We expect you to do something to improve this situation.

Judith Maher

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