

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
9 February 2016

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: Reporting of donations by a parent company

Senator: Rhiannon

Question reference number: F127

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 1 April 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Why does the Australian Electoral Commission ask that a parent company report any donations made by a subsidiary of it to be considered as one donation and not reported separately?

Answer:

Paragraph 287(6)(a) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Electoral Act) states that for the purposes of the disclosure provisions of the Electoral Act “a body corporate and any other body corporate that is related to the first mentioned body corporate shall be deemed to be the same person”.

Accordingly the Australian Electoral Commission seeks from the parent company the lodgement of a single disclosure return that consolidates all donations made throughout the corporate group during the disclosure period.