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The Parliament of the
Commonwealth of Australia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS'
INTERESTS

Special Report together
with minutes of proceedings
of the Committee

20 March 1985

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COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Membership

Dr R.E. Klugman, M.P. (Chairman)
Hon. A.E. Adermann, M.P.
Hon. N.A. Brown, Q.C., M.P.
Mr D.M. Cameron, M.P.
Mr L. Kent, M.P.
Mr E.J. Lindsay, R.F.D., M.P.
Mr M.J. Maher, M.P.

Clerk to the Committee

Mr L.M. Barlin



SPECIAL REPORT

1. The Committee is established by standing order 28A adopted by the House of Representatives on 9 October 1984 a.m. Its duties are set out in the standing order as follows:

- (1) to inquire into and report upon the arrangements made for the compilation, maintenance and accessibility of a Register of Members' Interests;
- (ii) to consider any proposals made by Members and others as to the form and content of the register;
- (iii) to consider any specific complaints made in relation to the registering or declaring of interests;
- (iv) to consider what changes to any code of conduct adopted by the House are necessary or desirable;
- (v) to consider what classes of person (if any) other than Members ought to be required to register and declare their interests, and
- (vi) to make recommendations upon these and any other matters which are relevant.

2. On 9 October 1984 a.m. the House of Representatives also adopted resolutions which provide, among other matters:

That within 28 days of making and subscribing an oath or affirmation as a Member of the House of Representatives and within 28 days after the commencement of the first period of sittings in each subsequent calendar year while remaining a Member of the House of Representatives, each Member shall provide to the Registrar of Members' Interests, a statement of -

- (1) the Member's registrable interests, and
- (2) the registrable interests of which the Member is aware (a) of the Member's spouse and (b) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support,

in accordance with resolutions adopted by the House and in a form determined by the Committee of Members' Interests from time to time, and shall also notify any alteration of those interests to the Registrar within 28 days of that alteration occurring.

(3) All Members of the House of Representatives made and subscribed an oath or affirmation as a Member of the House of Representatives on 21 February 1985. The period of 28 days within which they were required to provide statements of registrable interests therefore expired on 20 March 1985.

(4) Nominations of the full membership of the committee were not received until 20 March 1985 and the House agreed to the appointment of Members on that day. The first meeting of the committee was held later that day but in the time available it was not possible to determine a form for use by Members in registering their interests. As a consequence it has not been possible for any Member of the House to comply with the requirement to provide a statement of registrable interests within the required period.

5. The committee recommends that, in the case of Members of the House of Representatives of the 34th Parliament who made and subscribed an oath or affirmation on 21 February 1985, a further period of time, namely 28 days from the day of issue of the forms of annual return by the Registrar of Members' Interests, be granted within which they will be required to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Members' Interests in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the House on 9 October 1984 a.m.

R.E. KLUGMAN
Chairman

20 March 1985

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

34th Parliament - 1st Meeting

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
20 March 1985 at 6.15 p.m.

1. Present:

The Hon. A.E. Adermann, M.P.
The Hon. N.A. Brown, M.P.
Mr D.M. Cameron, M.P.
Mr L. Kent, M.P.
Dr R.E. Klugman, M.P.
Mr E.J. Lindsay, R.F.D., M.P.
Mr M.J. Maher, M.P.

2. Membership of Committee

The membership of the committee, appointed by resolution of the House this day, was announced.

3. Appointment of Registrar of Members' Interests

Mr L.M. Barlin, Deputy Clerk of the House of Representatives, announced his appointment by Mr Speaker on 21 February 1985, as Registrar of Members' Interests and Clerk to the Committee.

4. Chairman

On the motion of Mr Adermann, Dr Klugman was elected as Chairman.

5. Form of Annual Return by Members

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Adermann -

That a Special Report be presented to the House recommending that an extension of time be granted to Members within which they will be required to provide a statement of registrable interests.

6. Special Report to the House

The Chairman brought up a draft Special Report.
Report, by leave, taken as a whole, amended and agreed to, after debate.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Adermann -

That the draft Special Report, as amended, be the Special Report of the Committee to the House.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned until 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday next.