

1996

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR

1995

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Membership (37th Parliament)

Mr E L Grace MP
(Chairman)

Ms M J Deahm MP

Hon J D M Dobie MP

Hon R P Elliott MP

Mr B Lloyd MP

Hon N B Reid MP

Mr R W Sawford MP

Clerk to the Committee

Mr L M Barlin

REPORT

Introduction

- (1) Under the provisions of standing order 28A by which the Committee is established, the Committee is required, as soon as practicable after each 31 December, to prepare and table in the House a report on its operations during the preceding year. With the dissolution of the House of Representatives on 29 January 1996 the Committee of Members' Interests of the 37th Parliament ceased to exist on that day. This report on the operations of its predecessor for the calendar year 1995 has been prepared by the new Committee and the secretariat from the records of the previous Committee.

Responsibilities of the Committee

- (2) Standing order 28A sets out the following terms of reference for the Committee of Members' Interests:
 - (i) 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 persons (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.

A report on each of these terms of reference follows.

Arrangements made for the compilation, maintenance and accessibility of the Register of Members' Interests

- (3) Having regard to the forthcoming 1996 Dissolution or expiration of the House of Representatives, the Committee agreed to the amended advice to be provided to Members of the new Parliament and the Form to be used for the notification of interests. These changes were necessitated by the alterations to the standing resolutions which had been adopted by the House of Representatives on 9 November 1994 in respect of the registration requirements. A copy of the amended form is attached as Appendix 1.
- (4) No changes were made to the arrangements by which the Register is maintained and available for public inspection. During the calendar year, the Register was inspected on 38 occasions, compared with 65 occasions during 1994. These inspections take no account of the copies made available through the Bills and Papers Office of notifications of alterations tabled in the House of Representatives by the Chairman on 30 March, 29 June and 30 November 1995.

Proposals made by Members and others as to the form and content of the Register

- (5) *Alterations to the resolutions of the House necessitated changes to the Form used by Members for the registration of interests. No other proposal for the alteration of the form or content of the Register was received.*

Specific complaints made in relation to the registering or declaring of interests

- (6) No formal complaint in relation to the registration of interests was received during 1995. The requirement in the resolutions for the oral declaration of interests was deleted in 1989.

Changes to any code of conduct

- (7) On 21 June 1995, Mr Speaker tabled draft proposals of a working group of Members and Senators of the Commonwealth Parliament. However, at the end of 1995, the House of Representatives had not adopted a code of conduct and as a consequence, the Committee of Members' Interests was not required to consider any changes to such a code.

Registration of interests by other classes of persons

- (8) The Committee did not consider this matter during 1995.

Other matters

- (9) As indicated in the report for 1994, the Committee was giving consideration to the need for Members to register any additional travel undertaken as a consequence of the accumulation of frequent flyer points from official travel undertaken as a Member of the House of Representatives. As a consequence of legal advice received, on 28 February 1995 the Committee determined that Members should be required to notify any additional travel undertaken by the Member, the spouse of the Member and dependent children using frequent flyer points accrued from official travel. This advice was conveyed to all Members and the requirement included in the Explanatory Notes supplied to Members.
- (10) There were no other matters under consideration by the Committee at the end of 1995.

N.B. REID
Chairman

19 June 1996

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

STATEMENT OF REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

At dissolution / At date of election
(delete whichever not applicable)

Notes:

- (1) It is suggested that the accompanying Explanatory Notes be read before the return is completed.
- (2) The information which you are required to provide is contained in resolutions agreed to by the House of Representatives on 9 October 1984, a.m. as amended on 21 March 1985, 13 February 1986, 22 October 1986, 30 November 1988 and 9 November 1994. It consists of the Member's registrable interests and 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. For the definition of "dependent children" see the introduction to the Explanatory Notes.
- (3) If there is insufficient space on this form for the information you are required to provide, you may attach additional papers for that purpose. Each paper attached to this form should be signed personally by you and dated.

Surname Other Names

Electoral Division State

1. SHAREHOLDINGS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COMPANIES (INCLUDING HOLDING COMPANIES)
INDICATING THE NAME OF THE COMPANY OR COMPANIES

	Name of company - (including holding and subsidiary companies if applicable)
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

2. FAMILY AND BUSINESS TRUSTS AND NOMINEE COMPANIES-

(i) in which a beneficial interest is held, indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and beneficial interest

	Name of Trust/nominee company	Nature of its operation	Beneficial interest
Self			
Spouse			
Dependent Children			

(ii) in which the Member, the Member's spouse, or a child who is wholly or mainly dependent on the Member for support, is trustee (but not including a trustee of an estate where no beneficial interest is held by the Member, the Member's spouse or dependent children), indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and the beneficiary of the trust

	Name of Trust/nominee company	Nature of its operation	Beneficial interest
Self			
Spouse			
Dependent Children			

3. REAL ESTATE, INCLUDING THE LOCATION (SUBURB OR AREA ONLY) AND THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT IS OWNED

	Location	Purpose for which owned
Self		
Spouse		
Dependent Children		

4. REGISTERED DIRECTORSHIPS OF COMPANIES

	Name of company	Activities of company
Self		
Spouse		
Dependent Children		

5. PARTNERSHIPS INDICATING THE NATURE OF THE INTERESTS AND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PARTNERSHIP

	Name	Nature of interests	Activities of Partnership
Self			
Spouse			
Dependent Children			

6. LIABILITIES INDICATING THE NATURE OF THE LIABILITY AND THE CREDITOR CONCERNED

	Nature of liability	Creditor
Self		
Spouse		
Dependent Children		

7. THE NATURE OF ANY BONDS, DEBENTURES AND LIKE INVESTMENTS

	Type of investment	Body in which investment is held
Self		
Spouse		
Dependent Children		

8. SAVING OR INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS, INDICATING THEIR NATURE AND THE NAME OF THE BANK OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED

	Nature of account	Name of bank/institution
Self		
Spouse		
Dependent Children		

9. THE NATURE OF ANY OTHER ASSETS (EXCLUDING HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL EFFECTS) EACH VALUED AT OVER \$5000

	Nature of any other assets
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

10. THE NATURE OF ANY OTHER SUBSTANTIAL SOURCES OF INCOME

	Nature of income
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

11. GIFTS VALUED AT MORE THAN \$500 RECEIVED FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES, OR AT MORE THAN \$200 WHERE RECEIVED FROM OTHER THAN OFFICIAL SOURCES PROVIDED THAT A GIFT RECEIVED BY A MEMBER, THE MEMBER'S SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILDREN FROM FAMILY MEMBERS OR PERSONAL FRIENDS IN A PURELY PERSONAL CAPACITY NEED NOT BE REGISTERED UNLESS THE MEMBER JUDGES THAT AN APPEARANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST MAY BE SEEN TO EXIST

	Details of gifts
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

12. ANY SPONSORED TRAVEL OR HOSPITALITY RECEIVED

	Details of travel/hospitality
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

13. MEMBERSHIP OF ANY ORGANISATION WHERE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH A MEMBER'S PUBLIC DUTIES COULD FORESEEABLY ARISE OR BE SEEN TO ARISE

	Name of organisation
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

14. ANY OTHER INTERESTS WHERE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH A MEMBER'S PUBLIC DUTIES COULD FORESEEABLY ARISE OR BE SEEN TO ARISE

	Nature of interest
Self	
Spouse	
Dependent Children	

Signature..... Date

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
NOTIFICATION OF ALTERATION(S) OF INTERESTS

Since dissolution / Since date of election
(delete whichever not applicable)

Name:

Electorate:

The following alteration(s) of interests have occurred since the date of dissolution of the House of Representatives / the date of my election *(delete whichever not applicable)*:

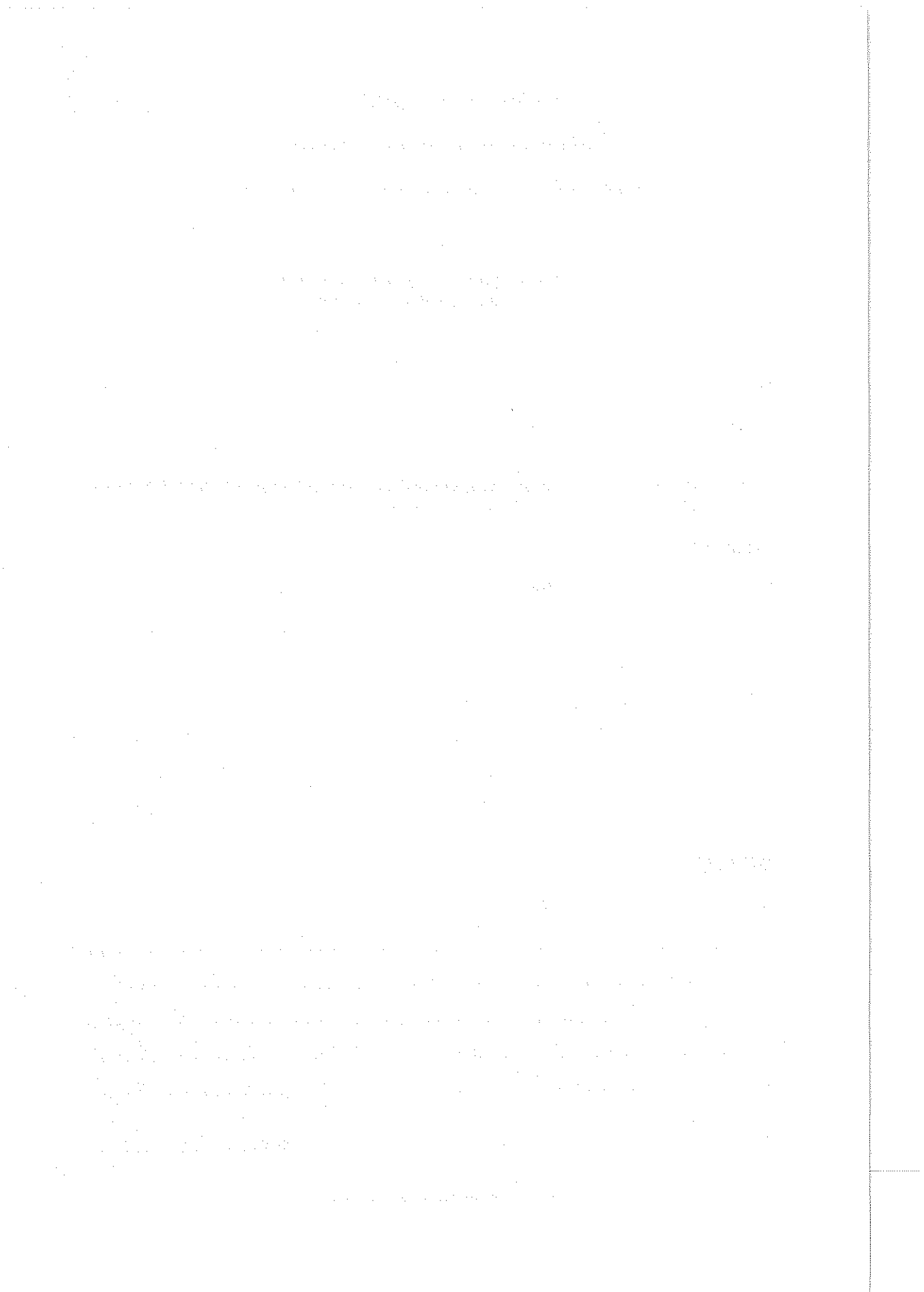
ADDITION

Item	Details
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

DELETION

Item	Details
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

Signature **Date**.....



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

37th Parliament - 4th Meeting

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
28 February 1995 at 5.05pm

1. Present

Mr E.L. Grace MP (Chairman)
Ms M.J. Deahm MP
Mr B. Lloyd MP
Mr R.W. Sawford MP

2. Minutes of Proceedings

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 7 December 1994 were confirmed.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of Proceedings - Need to notify additional travel undertaken from accrual of frequent flyer points

The Chairman advised that:

- (1) on 13 December 1994 the Clerk had written to the Attorney-General's Department seeking advice as to whether there is a requirement for Members to notify for the Register of Members' Interests, additional travel undertaken as a consequence of the accrual of frequent flyer points from official travel, and
- (2) on 7 February 1995 a response had been received from the Attorney-General's Department and supplied to all Committee members.

The Chairman also advised that written comments had been received from Mr Reid who was unable to be present and these had been circulated to all Committee members.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Lloyd -
That this Committee -

- (1) accepts the opinion provided by the Attorney-General's Department;
- (2) determines that Members of the House should be required to notify for the Register of Members' Interests any additional travel undertaken by the Member, the spouse of the Member and dependent children using frequent flyer points accrued from official travel within 28 days of the travel being undertaken; and
- (3) determines that all Members of the House should be informed accordingly.

Resolved - On the motion of Ms Deahm -

That, as requested by the Clerk of the Committee of Senators' Interests, a copy of the advice received from the Attorney-General's Department should be provided to that committee.

4. Annual Report for 1994

The Chairman brought up his draft Annual Report for 1994.

Report, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to after debate.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Sawford -

That the report be the report of the Committee to the House.

5. Reminder letter to Members

The Chairman advised that, in conveying the Committee's decision in respect of the use of frequent flyer points, the Clerk would remind Members of the amended resolutions of the House adopted on 9 November 1994 and of the need to notify all alterations within 28 days of the alterations occurring.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 5.35pm until a date and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed

CHAIRMAN

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

37th Parliament - 5th Meeting

Minutes of Proceedings of meeting held on
26 October 1995 at 5.05pm

1. Present

Mr E.L. Grace MP (Chairman)
Hon J.D.M. Dobie MP
Mr B. Lloyd MP
Hon N.B. Reid MP

2. Minutes of Proceedings

The Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting held on 28 February 1995 were confirmed.

3. Amended Statement of Registrable Interests Form

The Chairman brought up a draft amended Statement of Registrable Interests form incorporating changes necessitated by the amendment of the resolutions of the House and pointed out that a revised form would be required for Members at the commencement of the next Parliament.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Dobie -

That the Committee determines that the amended Statement of Registrable Interests form be endorsed.

4. Proposed letter to Members in the next Parliament

The Chairman brought up a draft letter which it was proposed should be sent to Members in the next Parliament.

The Committee deliberated.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Dobie -

That the Committee endorses the proposed letter.

5. **Explanatory Notes in relation to the registration requirements**

The Committee deliberated in relation to the need to amend the Explanatory Notes in relation to the registration requirements.

Resolved - On the motion of Mr Lloyd -

That the Clerk to the Committee be authorised to include in the Explanatory Notes references to (a) the use of frequent flyer points for extended travel and (b) the up-grading of the class of air travel.

6. **Tabling of notifications of alterations of interests**

The Chairman informed the Committee that he would be tabling a copy of notifications of alterations of interest received since 29 June 1995 at the end of the current period of sittings.

7. **Appreciation of service of Committee members**

The Chairman thanked Committee members for their co-operation and assistance during the life of the current Parliament.

8. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5.20pm until a date and hour to be determined by the Chairman.

Confirmed

CHAIRMAN