THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

(As presented)

(Attorney-General)

Electoral Amendment Bill 2012

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2012

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

(As presented)

(Attorney-General)

Electoral Amendment Bill 2012

A Bill for

An Act to amend the Electoral Act 1992, and for other purposes

The Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory enacts as follows:

1	Name of Act
	This Act is the <i>Electoral Amendment Act 2012</i> .
2	Commencement
	This Act commences on 1 July 2012.
	Note The naming and commencement provisions automatically commence on the notification day (see Legislation Act, s 75 (1)).
3	Legislation amended
	This Act amends the <i>Electoral Act 1992</i> .
	 Note This Act also amends the following legislation (see sch 1): Electoral Regulation 1993 Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1994.
4	Offences against Act—application of Criminal Code etc Section 3A, note 1
	insert
	• s 205A (Financial representatives to keep ACT election accounts)
	• s 205B (Offence—loans to be repaid from ACT election accounts)
	 s 205C (Financial representative to ensure electoral expenditure paid from ACT election account)
	• s 205F (Offence—exceeding expenditure cap)
	 s 205H (Offence—give indirect gift to avoid statutory limit) s 236 (Offences)
5	Section 87 heading
	substitute
87	Meaning of <i>address</i> —pt 7
6	Section 87, definition of <i>related</i>
	omit

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Electoral Amendment Bill 2012

7	Part 14 headir	ıg
	substitute	
Part		Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure
8	Definitions for Section 198, n	r pt 14 new definitions
	insert	
	<i>called</i> , an extrao	rdinary election is <i>called</i> on—
	or (b)—the	aordinary election mentioned in section 101 (1) (a) e day the notice under the Self-Government Act, or section 48 is published in the Commonwealth
	or (d)—the	aordinary election mentioned in section 101 (1) (c) day the determination under section 101 (2) or (3) under the Legislation Act.
	capped expendit	ure period means—
	the year in	nary election—the period starting on 1 January in which the ordinary election is to be held and ending day for the election; or
		aordinary election—the period starting on the day dinary election is called and ending on polling day tion.
9	Section 198, d	efinition of <i>disposition of property</i>
	relocate to section	on 198AA (2)

1	10	Section '	198, new definitions	
2		insert		
3		electoral expenditure, in relation to an election—		
4		(a) mean	ns expenditure incurred on—	
5		(i)	broadcasting an electoral advertisement; or	
6		(ii)	publishing an electoral advertisement; or	
7		(iii)	displaying an electoral advertisement at a theatre or other place of entertainment; or	
9 10		(iv)	producing an electoral advertisement mentioned in subparagraph (i), (ii) or (iii); or	
11 12 13		(v)	producing, broadcasting, publishing, displaying or distributing any electoral matter (other than material mentioned in subparagraph (i), (ii) or (iii))—	
14 15 16			(A) to which section 292 applies, or would apply but for section 294 (1) (a), (b), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), or (j); and	
17 18			(B) that is not paid for by the Legislative Assembly or the Territory; or	
19		(vi)	consultant's or advertising agent's fees in relation to—	
20 21			(A) services relating to electoral matter mentioned in subparagraph (i) to (v); or	
22 23			(B) material relating to electoral matter mentioned in subparagraph (i) to (v); or	
24 25 26		(vii)	carrying out an opinion poll or other research undertaken to support the production of electoral matter mentioned in subparagraph (i) to (vi); but	
27		(b) does	not include administrative expenditure.	

1		financial representative means—
2		(a) for a party grouping—the reporting agent of the party; or
3		(b) for a non-party MLA—the MLA; or
4		(c) for a non-party candidate grouping—the candidate; or
5 6		(d) for a non-party prospective candidate grouping—the prospective candidate; or
7		(e) for an associated entity—the entity's financial controller; or
8		(f) for a third-party campaigner—
9 10		(i) if the third-party campaigner is an individual—the third-party campaigner; or
11 12		(ii) in any other case—the managing director (however described) of the third-party campaigner.
13	11	Section 198, definition of <i>gift</i>
14		substitute
14 15		substitute gift—see section 198AA.
	12	
15	12	gift—see section 198AA.
15 16	12	gift—see section 198AA. Section 198, new definitions
15 16 17	12	gift—see section 198AA. Section 198, new definitions insert
15 16 17 18 19	12	gift—see section 198AA. Section 198, new definitions insert incurs electoral expenditure—see section 202A. index number, for a quarter, means the all groups consumer price index number, being the weighted average of the 8 capital cities,
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12	gift—see section 198AA. Section 198, new definitions insert incurs electoral expenditure—see section 202A. index number, for a quarter, means the all groups consumer price index number, being the weighted average of the 8 capital cities, published by the Australian statistician for that quarter.
115 116 117 118 119 120 221	12	gift—see section 198AA. Section 198, new definitions insert incurs electoral expenditure—see section 202A. index number, for a quarter, means the all groups consumer price index number, being the weighted average of the 8 capital cities, published by the Australian statistician for that quarter. non-party candidate grouping means—

1	non-party MLA means an MLA who is not a member of a party.		
2	n	on-party prospective candidate grouping means—	
3 4	(a) a prospective candidate for an election who is not a prospective candidate for a party; and	
5 6	(any other person who has incurred electoral expenditure to support the prospective candidate in contesting the election.	
7	p	arty grouping means—	
8	(a) a party; and	
9	(o) an MLA for the party; and	
10	(c) an associated entity of the party; and	
11	(d) an associated entity of an MLA for the party; and	
12	(e) a candidate for the party; and	
13	(f) a prospective candidate for the party; and	
14 15 16	(,	g) any other person who has incurred electoral expenditure to support a candidate or prospective candidate for the party in contesting an election.	
17	p	erson includes an unincorporated association.	
18	N	<i>Person</i> includes a corporation (see Legislation Act, s 160).	
19	13 S	ection 198, definition of <i>property</i>	
20	r	elocate to section 198AA (2)	

1	14	Section 198, new definitions
2		insert
3		<i>prospective candidate</i> —a person is a <i>prospective candidate</i> for an election if—
5		(a) the person has—
6 7		(i) won party preselection, or endorsement, to be a candidate for the party for the election; or
8 9		(ii) publicly announced that the person intends to be a candidate for the election; or
10 11 12		(iii) been nominated to be a candidate for the election under section 105 and the nomination has not been cancelled under section 107 or rejected under section 110; and
13 14		(b) the commissioner has not declared the candidates for the election under section 109.
15		third-party campaigner—
16 17 18		(a) means a person or entity that incurs more than \$1 000 in electoral expenditure in the disclosure period for an election; but
19		(b) does not include the following:
20 21 22		 (i) a party, MLA, candidate, prospective candidate, party grouping, non-party candidate grouping or non-party prospective candidate grouping;
23		(ii) a broadcaster;
24		(iii) a publisher of a news publication;
25		(iv) a government agency;
26		(v) the Legislative Assembly.

15	Nev	v sec	tion 198AA
	insert		
198AA	Meaning of gift—pt 14		
(1)	In th	nis pai	rt:
	gift-		
	(a)	perso	ns a disposition of property made by a person to another on without consideration in money or money's worth or inadequate consideration; and
	(b)	inclu	ides—
		(i)	the provision of a service (other than volunteer labour) for no consideration or inadequate consideration; and
		(ii)	if an annual subscription paid to a party by a person for the person's membership of the party is more than \$250—the amount of the subscription that is more than \$250; and
		(iii)	if a fundraising contribution is more than \$250—the amount of the contribution that is more than \$250; but
	(c)	does	not include—
		(i)	a disposition of property under a will; or
		(ii)	an annual subscription for membership of a party of \$250 or less; or
		(iii)	a fundraising contribution of \$250 or less; or
		(iv)	if a fundraising contribution is an amount of more than \$250—the first \$250 of the contribution; or
		(v)	a gift mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) if—
			(A) the gift is given to an individual in a private capacity for the individual's personal use; and

1 2		•
3	3 (vi) a payment under division 14.3	(Election funding) or
5 6		
7 8 9	a gift that consists of, or includes, a dispos	
10	10 (2) In this section:	
11	11 fundraising contribution—	
12 13 14 15	or other payment to entitle the perso participate in or otherwise obtain a ben	n or someone else to
16	16 (b) includes an amount paid for—	
17	(i) a ticket in a raffle; and	
18	18 (ii) an item at a fundraising auction; ar	nd
19	19 (iii) a meal or beverage; and	
20	20 (iv) attending a conference, seminar or	similar function.
21	fundraising event means an event, however	described, where any
22		
23	associated entity, a candidate, or a third-party	campaigner.
24	volunteer labour—	
25	25 (a) for a member of a party—a member	r of a party provides
26		
27		
28	28 or	

1 2 3 4 5		(b) in any other case—a person provides volunteer labour to someone else (the recipient) if the person provides a service to the recipient for no consideration or for inadequate consideration, other than a service for which the person usually charges a fee.
6	16	Section 200
7		substitute
8	200	Activities of candidates and prospective candidates
9 0 1 2 3		For this part, gifts received, expenditure incurred, and amounts received, paid or owed, by or on behalf of a party candidate or prospective candidate for a party in relation to the candidate's or prospective candidate's campaign, the party or an election, are taken to be received, incurred, paid or owed by the party.
4 5	17	Disclosure periods Section 201 (2) (c)
6		omit
7		for a person to whom, or body to which, section 220 or 221 applies
8		substitute

19

for a third-party campaigner to which section 220 applies

1	18	New section 202A
2		in division 14.1, insert
3	202A	When person or entity incurs electoral expenditure—pt 14
4 5 6		For this part, a person or entity <i>incurs</i> electoral expenditure when the service or product to which the expenditure relates is provided or delivered.
7		Examples
8 9		1 Electoral expenditure on an electoral advertisement is incurred when the advertisement is broadcast.
10 11		2 Electoral expenditure on electoral matter is incurred when the matter is distributed.
12 13		3 Electoral expenditure on an electoral matter published on a website is incurred when the matter is first published on the website.
14 15 16		Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).
17	19	New divisions 14.2A to 14.2C
17 18	19	New divisions 14.2A to 14.2C insert
	19 Division	insert
18		insert
18 19	Divisio	insert n 14.2A ACT election accounts
18 19 20	Division 205A	insert n 14.2A ACT election accounts Financial representatives to keep ACT election accounts
18 19 20 21	Division 205A	insert n 14.2A ACT election accounts Financial representatives to keep ACT election accounts This section applies to the following entities:
18 19 20 21 22	Division 205A	insert n 14.2A ACT election accounts Financial representatives to keep ACT election accounts This section applies to the following entities: (a) a party grouping;
18 19 20 21 22 23	Division 205A	insert n 14.2A ACT election accounts Financial representatives to keep ACT election accounts This section applies to the following entities: (a) a party grouping; (b) a non-party MLA;
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Division 205A	insert n 14.2A ACT election accounts Financial representatives to keep ACT election accounts This section applies to the following entities: (a) a party grouping; (b) a non-party MLA; (c) a non-party candidate grouping;

1	(2)	The financial representative of the entity must keep an account (an <i>ACT election account</i>) for the entity with a financial institution.
3		Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
4 5 6	(3)	The financial representative must as soon as practicable after establishing the ACT election account give the commissioner the following details about the account:
7		(a) the financial institution;
8		(b) the account number;
9		(c) the account name.
10		Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.
11 12		<i>Note</i> If a form is approved under s 340A for this provision, the form must be used.
13 14 15	(4)	The financial representative must give the commissioner any change to the details mentioned in subsection (3) as soon as practicable after the change happens.
16		Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.
17 18		<i>Note</i> If a form is approved under s 340A for this provision, the form must be used.
19	205B	Offence—loans to be repaid from ACT election accounts
20	(1)	A person commits an offence if—
21 22		(a) the person is the financial representative of 1 of the following entities:
23		(i) a party grouping;
24		(ii) a non-party MLA;
25		(iii) a non-party candidate grouping;
26		(iv) a non-party prospective candidate grouping;

1		(v) an associated entity;
2		(vi) a third-party campaigner; and
3		(b) the entity receives a loan of money; and
4 5		(c) the money is deposited in the ACT election account for the entity; and
6		(d) the loan is repaid other than from the ACT election account.
7		Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
8 9 10	(2)	It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against this section if the defendant proves that the defendant took reasonable steps to ensure that the loan was repaid from the ACT election account.
11 12		Note The defendant has a legal burden in relation to the matters mentioned in s (2) (see Criminal Code, s 59).
13 14	205C	Financial representative to ensure electoral expenditure paid from ACT election account
15	(1)	A person commits an offence if—
16 17		(a) the person is the financial representative of 1 of the following entities:
18		(i) a party grouping;
19		(ii) a non-party MLA;
20		(iii) a non-party candidate grouping;
21		(iv) a non-party prospective candidate grouping;
22		(v) an associated entity;
23		
		(vi) a third-party campaigner; and
24 25		(vi) a third-party campaigner; and(b) the entity pays an amount for electoral expenditure in relation to an election; and

1 2		(c) the amount is not paid from the ACT election account for the entity.
3		Maximum penalty—100 penalty units.
4	(2)	It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against this section if
5 6		the defendant proves that the defendant took reasonable steps to ensure that the amount was paid from the ACT election account.
7 8		Note The defendant has a legal burden in relation to the matters mentioned in s (2) (see Criminal Code, s 59).
9	Division	14.2B Limitations on electoral expenditure
10	205D	Meaning of expenditure cap—div 14.2B
11		For this division, the <i>expenditure cap</i> is—
12		(a) for an election held in 2012—\$60 000; or
13 14		(b) for an election held in a later year—the amount declared under section 205E for the year.
15	205E	Working out indexation for expenditure cap
16 17	(1)	The commissioner must, not later than 1 December in a year, declare an amount for section 205D for the following year.
18	(2)	The amount must be worked out as follows:
		EC + (EC × CPI percentage increase)
19		CPI percentage increase, for a year, means the annual percentage
20 21		increase in the CPI from the September quarter of the previous year to the September quarter of the year the calculation is made.
22		EC means the expenditure cap for the year the calculation is made.
23	(3)	If the calculation in subsection (2) results in a reduction of the
24		expenditure cap, the amount declared must be the same amount as the expenditure cap in the previous year.
25		the experience cap in the previous year.

1 2 3	(4)	If the calculation in subsection (2) results in an expenditure cap that is not a multiple of \$5, the amount declared must be rounded up to the next whole dollar amount that is a multiple of 5.
4	(5)	A declaration is a notifiable instrument.
5		<i>Note</i> A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act.
6	(6)	In this section:
		<i>CPI</i> means the all groups consumer price index number, being the weighted average of the 8 capital cities, published by the Australian statistician.
7	205F	Offence—exceeding expenditure cap
8 9	(1)	The financial representative of a party grouping commits an offence if—
10 11		(a) the party grouping incurs electoral expenditure in relation to an election in the capped expenditure period for the election; and
12 13		(b) the total amount of the expenditure is more than the expenditure cap for the election multiplied by the sum of—
14		(i) for each 5-member electorate—the lesser of—
15		(A) 5; and
16 17		(B) the number of candidates for the party for election in the electorate; and
18		(ii) for the 7-member electorate—the lesser of—
19		(A) 7; and
20 21		(B) the number of candidates for the party for election in the electorate.
22		Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
23 24		Note The fault element of recklessness can be satisfied by proof of intention, knowledge or recklessness (see Criminal Code, s 20 (4)).

1	(2)	A non-party MLA commits an offence if—
2 3 4		(a) the MLA or an associated entity of the MLA incurs electoral expenditure in relation to an election in the capped expenditure period for the election; and
5 6 7		(b) the total amount of the expenditure incurred by the MLA and the associated entity is more than the expenditure cap for the election.
8		Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
9	(3)	The financial representative of a non-party candidate grouping commits an offence if—
1 2 3		(a) the non-party candidate grouping incurs electoral expenditure in relation to an election in the capped expenditure period for the election; and
4		(b) the total amount of the expenditure is more than the expenditure cap for the election.
6		Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
8	(4)	The financial representative of a third-party campaigner commits an offence if—
9 20 21		(a) the third-party campaigner incurs electoral expenditure in relation to an election in the capped expenditure period for the election; and
22		(b) the total amount of the expenditure is more than the expenditure cap for the election.
24		Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
25 26 27		Note The Criminal Code, pt 2.4 (Extensions of criminal responsibility) extends criminal responsibility for offences to include situations where people act jointly, by proxy or with complicity and common purpose.

Division 14.2C Limitations on gifts and other payments

3	205G	Limit on gifts received
4 5	(1)	This section applies to gifts made to any of the following (a <i>receiver</i>):
6		(a) a party grouping;
7		(b) a non-party MLA and an associated entity of the MLA;
8		(c) a non-party candidate grouping;
9		(d) a non-party prospective candidate grouping;
0		(e) a third-party campaigner.
1	(2)	A receiver must not deposit in an ACT election account 1 or more gifts from a person in a financial year that total more than \$10 000.
3 4 5	(3)	If a receiver contravenes subsection (2), an amount equal to twice the amount by which the gift or gifts exceed \$10 000 is payable to the Territory.
6	(4)	However—
7 8 9		(a) if the receiver returns the amount by which the gift or gifts exceed \$10 000 within 30 days after the amount is received—no amount is payable to the Territory; or
20 21 22 23		(b) if the receiver takes all reasonable steps to return the amount by which the gift or gifts exceed \$10 000 but is unable to return the amount because the donor cannot be identified or found—the amount by which the gift or gifts exceed \$10 000 is payable to the Territory.
25 26	(5)	The commissioner may recover an amount payable under subsection (3) or subsection (4) (b) from—
27		(a) if the receiver is a party grouping—the party; or

2	(b) if the receiver is a non-party MLA or associated entity of the MLA—the non-party MLA; or
3 4	(c) if the receiver is a non-party candidate grouping—the non-party candidate; or
5 6	(d) if the receiver is a non-party prospective candidate grouping—the non-party prospective candidate; or
7 8	(e) if the receiver is a third-party campaigner—the third-party campaigner.
9 (6) 10 11	This section does not apply to a gift made to a prospective candidate for an election if the prospective candidate is not later declared as a candidate for the election under section 109.
12 (7) 13 14 15 16	However, if a non-party prospective candidate is declared as a non-party candidate for the election, any gift received by the non-party prospective candidate's non-party prospective candidate grouping in a financial year is taken to be received by the non-party candidate's non-party candidate grouping in the financial year.
17 205H	Offence—give indirect gift to avoid statutory limit
17 205H	
18 (1) 19	A person commits an offence if— (a) the person gives another person or entity (the <i>donor</i>) an
18 (1) 19 20 21 22	 A person commits an offence if— (a) the person gives another person or entity (the <i>donor</i>) an amount or thing (a <i>donation</i>); and (b) the person directs or requests the donor to give all or part of the donation to a party, MLA, candidate, or an associated entity of
18 (1) 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	 A person commits an offence if— (a) the person gives another person or entity (the <i>donor</i>) an amount or thing (a <i>donation</i>); and (b) the person directs or requests the donor to give all or part of the donation to a party, MLA, candidate, or an associated entity of a party or MLA, in the financial year as a gift; and (c) the gift, together with any gift given by the person to the party, MLA, candidate or associated entity in the financial year is

2	(1)	This section applies to a payment made to a party by a related political party.
4 5 6	(2)	The party must not pay into the ACT election account for the party 1 or more payments from 1 or more related political parties in a financial year that total more than \$10 000.
7 8 9	(3)	If the party contravenes subsection (2), an amount equal to twice the amount by which the payment or payments exceed \$10 000 is payable to the Territory.
10 11 12	(4)	However, if the party returns the amount by which the payment or payments exceed \$10 000 within 30 days after the amount is received, no amount is payable to the Territory.
13 14 15	(5)	This section does not apply to payments made to a party under this Act, or a corresponding Act of the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory.
	20	Caption 207
16	20	Section 207
16 17	20	substitute
	207	
17		substitute Entitlement to funds
17 18 19	207	substituteEntitlement to fundsThe prescribed amount is payable for each eligible vote cast for a candidate or party in an election.
17 18 19 20	207 (1)	substituteEntitlement to fundsThe prescribed amount is payable for each eligible vote cast for a candidate or party in an election.
17 18 19 20 21	207 (1)	 substitute Entitlement to funds The prescribed amount is payable for each eligible vote cast for a candidate or party in an election. The prescribed amount is— (a) for an election held in the 6-month period beginning on

Limit on payments within parties

205I

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- (4) The prescribed amount must be worked out as follows:
 - (a) for a 6-month period beginning on 1 January—

$$P \times \frac{INS}{INM}$$

(b) for a 6-month period beginning on 1 July—

$$P \times \frac{INM}{INS}$$

4 *INM* means the index number for the previous March quarter.

INS means the index number for the previous September quarter.

P means the prescribed amount for the previous 6-month period.

- (5) The prescribed amount, and each number used to work out the prescribed amount, must be worked out—
 - (a) if the amount or number, if worked out to 4 decimal places, would end with a number greater than 4—to 3 decimal places and increased by 0.001; and
 - (b) in any other case—to 3 decimal places.
- (6) If the Australian statistician publishes an index number for a quarter in substitution for an index number previously published for that quarter, the commissioner must disregard the publication of the later index number for this section.
- (7) However, if the Australian statistician changes the reference base for the consumer price index, then, in applying this section after the change, the commissioner must have regard only to index numbers published in terms of the new reference base.

21 New division 14.3A

insert

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3 Division 14.3A Administrative expenditure funding

4 215A Period between polling day and declaration of poll

For this division, a person is taken to have been an MLA between polling day for an election and the declaration of the poll for the election if the person—

- (a) was an MLA whose term ended on the polling day; and
- (b) was declared re-elected on the declaration of the poll.

215B Eligibility of party for payment for administrative expenditure

A party is eligible for payment for administrative expenditure for a quarter if, for all or part of the quarter, at least 1 MLA is a member of the party.

215C Payment to eligible parties for administrative expenditure

- (1) This section applies if a party is eligible for payment for administrative expenditure for a quarter.
- (2) The commissioner must pay the party the quarterly entitlement of each MLA who was a member of the party in the quarter.
- (3) The quarterly entitlement of an MLA who was a member of the party in the quarter is worked out as follows:

$$A \times \frac{D}{Q}$$

1		A means—
2		(a) for a quarter in 2012—\$5 000; or
3 4		(b) for a quarter in a later year—the quarterly amount for the year declared under section 215F.
5 6		\boldsymbol{D} means the number of days in the quarter that the MLA was a member of the party.
7		${\it Q}$ means the number of days in the quarter.
8 9	215D	Eligibility of non-party MLAs for payment for administrative expenditure
0 1 2		A non-party MLA is eligible for payment for administrative expenditure for a quarter if the MLA is an MLA for all or part of the quarter.
3	215E	Payment to non-party MLAs for administrative expenditure
5	(1)	This section applies if a non-party MLA is eligible for payment for administrative expenditure for a quarter.
8	(2)	The commissioner must pay the non-party MLA the MLA's quarterly entitlement worked out as follows:
		$A \times \frac{D}{Q}$
9		A means—
20		(a) for a quarter in 2012—\$5 000; or
21		(b) for a quarter in a later year—the quarterly amount for the year declared under section 215F.
23 24		D means the number of days in the quarter that the MLA is a non-party MLA.
25		Q means the number of days in the quarter.

1	215F	Working out indexation for administrative expenditure
2	(1)	The commissioner must declare a quarterly amount for a year for—
3		(a) section 215C (3), definition of A, paragraph (b); and
4		(b) section 215E (2), definition of A, paragraph (b).
5	(2)	The quarterly amount is worked out as follows:
		$P \times \frac{INS1}{INS2}$
6 7		<i>INS1</i> means the index number published for the September quarter in the preceding year.
8		<i>INS2</i> means the index number published for the September quarter in the year immediately before the preceding year.
10		P means—
11		(a) for 2013—\$5 000; and
12 13		(b) for a later year—the amount worked out under this subsection for the preceding year.
14 15	(3)	However, if for a particular year the amount under subsection (2) is less than P, the amount for the year is P.
16 17	(4)	The quarterly amount, and each number used to work out the quarterly amount under subsection (2), must be worked out—
18 19 20		(a) if the amount or number, if worked out to 3 decimal places, would end with a number greater than 4—to 2 decimal places and increased by 0.01; or
21		(b) in any other case—worked out to 2 decimal places.
22 23 24	(5)	If the Australian statistician publishes an index number for a quarter in substitution for an index number previously published for that quarter, the commissioner must disregard the publication of the later index number for this section
25		index number for this section.

2 3 4		for the consumer price index, then, in applying this section after the change, the commissioner must have regard only to index numbers published in terms of the new reference base.
5	(7)	A declaration is a notifiable instrument.
6		<i>Note</i> A notifiable instrument must be notified under the Legislation Act.
7	22	Division 14.4 heading
8		substitute
9 10	Division	n 14.4 Gifts and certain loans—records and disclosure
11	23	New section 215G
12		in division 14.4, insert
13	215G	Application—div 14.4
14 15	(1)	This division does not apply to a gift that is returned to the giver within 30 days after its receipt.
16 17 18 19	(2)	However, if the gift is returned to the giver within 30 days after its receipt, any return under this division that includes the amount or value of the gift must also include a statement that the gift was returned to the giver.
20	24	Section 216 heading
21		substitute
22	216	Definitions—div 14.4

(6) However, if the Australian statistician changes the reference base

1	25	Section 216, new definitions
2		insert
3 4		anonymously—a gift is made anonymously if the person receiving the gift does not know the defined details for the gift.
5 6		<i>small anonymous gift</i> means a gift made anonymously that is less than \$1 000.
7	26	New section 216A
8		insert
9	216A	Records and regular disclosure of gifts
0	(1)	This section applies if 1 of the following (a <i>receiver</i>) receives 1 or more gifts in the relevant period:
2		(a) a party grouping;
3		(b) a non-party MLA and an associated entity of a non-party MLA;
5		(c) a non-party candidate grouping;
6		(d) a non-party prospective candidate grouping;
7		(e) an associated entity.
8		Note A gift received by or on behalf of a party candidate is taken to be received by the party (see s 200).
20 21	(2)	The financial representative of the receiver must record the following information for each gift:
22		(a) the date the gift is received;
23		(b) the amount of the gift;
24 25		(c) for a gift other than a small anonymous gift—the defined details for the gift;

1 2		(d) for a small anonymous gift—that the gift is made anonymously.
3 4 5	(3)	The financial representative of the receiver must give the commissioner a return containing the information mentioned in subsection (2) for a gift or gifts—
6 7		(a) if the total amount of the gifts received from 1 person in the relevant period is \$1 000 or more; and
8 9 0 1 2		(b) if the financial representative has given the commissioner a return under paragraph (a) in relation to a person, and the person makes additional gifts in the relevant period—if the total amount of the additional gifts received from the person in the relevant period is \$1 000 or more.
3		Note I If a form is approved under s 340A for this provision, the form must be used.
5		Note 2 For how a return may be given, see the Legislation Act, pt 19.5.
6 7	(4)	The financial representative must give the return, in writing, to the commissioner not later than—
8 9 20 21		(a) if the total amount of the gifts received reaches \$1 000 in the capped expenditure period for an election—7 days after the day the total amount received from the person reaches \$1 000; or
22		(b) in any other case—30 days after the day the total amount received from the person reaches \$1 000.
24 25 26		Note The Electronic Transactions Act 2001, s 8 provides for the giving of information by means of an electronic communication in certain circumstances.

1 2 3 4 5	(5)	If the financial representative for a receiver is not required to give a return to the commissioner under subsection (3), the financial representative must give a return to the commissioner, not later than 60 days after the end of the relevant period, stating that the receiver did not receive a total amount of gifts from 1 person in the relevant period exceeding \$1 000.
7	(6)	In this section:
8		relevant period means—
9 10		(a) for a party grouping, non-party MLA or associated entity of a non-party MLA—a financial year; and
11		(b) for a non-party candidate grouping—the for the candidate; and
12		(c) for a non-party prospective candidate grouping—the period—
13 14 15 16 17		(i) if the non-party prospective candidate was a candidate at an election the polling day for which was within 5 years before polling day for the election at which the candidate proposes to be a candidate—starting on the 31st day after the polling day for the last election at which the candidate was a candidate; and
19 20 21 22 23		(ii) if the non-party prospective candidate was not a candidate at an election the polling day for which was within 5 years before polling day for the election at which the candidate proposes to be a candidate—starting on the earlier of—
24 25 26		(A) the day when the non-party prospective candidate publicly announced that he or she would be a candidate in an election; and
27 28 29		(B) the day when the non-party prospective candidate was nominated as a candidate for an election in accordance with section 105; and

1 2		(iii) ending at the end of the 30th day after polling day for the election.
3	27	Section 217 heading
4		substitute
5	217	Disclosure of gifts by non-party candidates
6	28	Section 217
7		omit
8		candidate
9		substitute
10		non-party candidate
11	29	Section 217 (1)
12		omit
13		15 weeks
14		substitute
15		60 days
16 17	30	Certain loans not to be received Section 218A (1)
18		after
19		candidate
20		insert
21		, third-party campaigner

page 28

1	31	Section 218A (1)
2		after
3		or more
4		insert
5		for electoral expenditure
6	32	Section 218A (3) and (4)
7		omit
8		relevant person
9		substitute
0		financial representative for the receiver
1	33	Section 218A (6), definition of financial institution
2		relocate to section 198
3	34	Section 218A (6), definition of <i>loan</i>
4		relocate to section 198
5	35	Section 218A (6), definition of relevant person
6		omit

36	Section 220
	substitute
220	Disclosure of gifts by third-party campaigners
(1)	This section applies if a third-party campaigner—
	(a) incurs electoral expenditure in the disclosure period for a election; and
	(b) receives from a person 1 or more gifts—
	(i) all or part of which is used by the third-party campaigne to—
	(A) enable the third-party campaigner to incur electors expenditure in the disclosure period; or
	(B) reimburse the third-party campaigner for incurring electoral expenditure in the disclosure period; and
	(ii) the total amount of which is \$1 000 or more.
(2)	Within 60 days after polling day for the election, the third-part campaigner must give the commissioner a return for the gift or gifts
	Note 1 If a form is approved under s 340A for this provision, the form must bused.
	<i>Note 2</i> For how a return may be given, see the Legislation Act, pt 19.5.
(3)	The return must state, for each gift—
	(a) the date the gift is received; and
	(b) the amount of the gift; and
	(c) for a gift other than a small anonymous gift—the define details for the gift; and
	(d) for a small anonymous gift—that the gift is made anonymously.

1	37	Sections 221 to 221B
2		omit
3	38	Anonymous gifts Section 222
5		omit
6		candidate
7		substitute
8		non-party candidate
9	39	Section 222 (1)
10		omit
11		the prescribed amount
12		substitute
13		\$1 000
14	40	New section 222 (2A) and (2B)
15		substitute
16 17 18 19 20	(2A)	A party, MLA or associated entity of a party or MLA must not accept a small anonymous gift in a financial year if acceptance of the gift means that the total of small anonymous gifts given to or for the benefit of the party, MLA or entity would be more than \$25 000 in the financial year.
21 22 23 24	(2B)	A candidate at an election must not accept a small anonymous gift during the disclosure period for the election if acceptance of the gift means that the total of small anonymous gifts given to or for the benefit of the candidate would be more than \$25 000 in the period.

1	41	Section 222 (4)
2		omit
3		relevant person
4		substitute
5		financial representative of the receiver
6	42	New section 222 (4A)
7		insert
8 9 10 11	(4A)	If the receiver contravenes subsection (2A) or (2B), the financial representative of the receiver must pay to the Territory an amount equal to the amount by which the small anonymous gifts exceed \$25 000.
12	43	Section 222 (5)
13		omit
14		relevant person
15		substitute
16		financial representative for the receiver
17	44	Section 222 (6)
18		omit
19 20	45	Definitions for div 14.5 Section 223, definition of <i>broadcaster</i>
21		omit
22	46	Section 223, definition of electoral advertisement
23		relocate to section 198

1 2	47		Section 223, definitions of <i>electoral expenditure</i> and <i>relates</i>
3			omit
4	48		Section 224
5			substitute
6	224		Returns of electoral expenditure
7 8 9 10		(1)	If electoral expenditure in relation to an election is incurred in the capped expenditure period by a party grouping, the reporting agent of the party must, within 60 days after polling day for the election, give the commissioner a return stating details of the expenditure.
11			Note 1 If a form is approved under s 340A for a return, the form must be used.
12			Note 2 For how a return may be given, see the Legislation Act, pt 19.5.
13 14 15 16 17		(2)	If electoral expenditure in relation to an election is incurred in the capped expenditure period by a non-party MLA or an associated entity of the MLA, the non-party MLA must, within 60 days after polling day for the election, give the commissioner a return stating details of the expenditure.
18 19 20 21		(3)	If electoral expenditure in relation to an election is incurred in the capped expenditure period by a non-party candidate grouping, the candidate must, within 60 days after polling day for the election, give the commissioner a return stating details of the expenditure.
22 23 24 25 26		(4)	If electoral expenditure in relation to an election is incurred in the capped expenditure period by a third-party campaigner, the third-party campaigner must, within 60 days after polling day for the election, give the commissioner a return stating details of the expenditure.

1 2	49	Annual returns by parties and MLAs Section 230 (1)
3		omit
4		within 16 weeks
5		substitute
6		not later than 31 July
7	50	Section 230 (6)
8		omit everything after
9		position as MLA on
10		substitute
11		electoral expenditure.
12	51	Section 231B heading
13		substitute
14 15	231B	Annual returns by associated entities of parties and MLAs
16	52	Section 231B (1)
17		omit
18		within 16 weeks
19		substitute
20		not later than 31 July

1 2	53	Amounts received New section 232 (1) (c)
3		insert
4		(c) for each amount received—
5		(i) the date it was received; and
6		(ii) the amount.
7	54	Section 232 (2)
8		omit
9	55	New section 232 (3) (c)
10		insert
11		(c) for each amount received—
12		(i) the date it was received; and
13		(ii) the amount.
14	56	Section 232 (4) (c)
15		substitute
16 17 18		(c) the total of all amounts received by an associated entity from a particular person or organisation in a financial year for membership of the entity, if the total is less than \$250;
19		(d) an amount prescribed by regulation.

57		Section 236
		substitute
236	;	Offences
	(1)	A person commits an offence if—
		(a) the person is required to give the commissioner a return under this part within a stated time; and
		(b) the person fails to give the commissioner the return within the time.
		Maximum penalty:
		(a) for a return required to be given by the reporting agent of a party—50 penalty units; and
		(b) for any other return—20 penalty units.
	(2)	Subsection (1) does not apply if the person has a reasonable excuse.
	(3)	An offence against subsection (1) is a strict liability offence.
	(4)	A person commits an offence if—
		(a) the person is required to give the commissioner a return under this part; and
		(b) the person gives a return to the commissioner containing particulars that are, to the person's knowledge, false or misleading in a material particular.
		Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.
	(5)	A person (the <i>informer</i>) commits an offence if—
		(a) another person is required to give the commissioner a return under this part; and

1 2 3			return that is, to the informer's knowledge, false or misleading in a material particular.
4 5			Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.
6 7		(6)	A prosecution in relation to an offence against this section may be started at any time within 4 years after the offence was committed.
8 9	58		Copies of returns to be available for public inspection Section 243 (1)
10			omit
11			Disclosure of donations
12			substitute
13			Gifts and certain loans—records and disclosure
14	59		Section 243 (2)
15			omit
16 17			(other than a return under section 221A (Annual returns of donations))
18	60		Section 243 (2)
19			omit
20			the 25th week after
21			substitute
22 23			February in the year after (or for an extraordinary election, 90 days after)

1	61	Section 243 (3)
2		omit
3		section 221A or
4	62	Section 243 (3)
5		omit
6		February in the next year
7		substitute
8		September in the year of the election to which the return relates
9	63	New section 243A
0		in division 14.8, insert
1	243A	Commissioner must publish information given under s 216A
3 4	(1)	This section applies if the commissioner is given information under section 216A (Records and regular disclosure of gifts).
5 6	(2)	The commissioner must as soon as practicable publish the information in the way the commissioner considers appropriate.
7 8 9		Examples—publishing information on the commission website in a newspaper
20 21 22		Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).

289 Discrimination on grounds of certain gifts 65 Section 289 (1) omit donation substitute gift 66 Section 289 (2), new definition of gift insert gift—see section 198AA. 67 Definitions for div 17.3 Section 291, definition of disseminate omit 68 Section 291, definition of publish omit 69 Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency relocate to the dictionary	64	Section 289 heading	
65 Section 289 (1) omit donation substitute gift 66 Section 289 (2), new definition of gift insert gift—see section 198AA. 67 Definitions for div 17.3 Section 291, definition of disseminate omit 68 Section 291, definition of publish omit 69 Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency		substitute	
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66 Section 289 (2), new definition of gift insert gift—see section 198AA. 67 Definitions for div 17.3 Section 291, definition of disseminate omit 68 Section 291, definition of publish omit 69 Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency		substitute	
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gift—see section 198AA. Definitions for div 17.3 Section 291, definition of disseminate omit Section 291, definition of publish omit Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency	66	Section 289 (2), new definition of gift	
67 Definitions for div 17.3 Section 291, definition of disseminate omit 68 Section 291, definition of publish omit 69 Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency		insert	
Section 291, definition of disseminate omit Section 291, definition of publish omit Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency		gift—see section 198AA.	
Section 291, definition of <i>publish</i> omit Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of <i>government agency</i>	67		
69 Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency		omit	
69 Exceptions for dissemination of electoral matter on certain items Section 294 (2), definition of government agency	68	Section 291, definition of <i>publish</i>	
certain items Section 294 (2), definition of <i>government agency</i>		omit	
relocate to the dictionary	69	certain items	
		relocate to the dictionary	

70		New part 31
		insert
Pa	rt 31	Transitional—Electoral Amendment Act 2012
505		ACT election account
	(1)	Section 205G (Limit on gifts received) does not apply in relation to gifts received before that section commenced.
	(2)	Section 205I (Limit on payments within parties) does not apply in relation to payments received before that section commenced.
506		Capped expenditure period
	(1)	This section applies to an ordinary election held in 2012.
	(2)	The <i>capped expenditure period</i> for the ordinary election is the period starting on 1 July 2012 and ending on polling day for the election.
507		Annual returns by parties and MLAs
	(1)	This section applies to a return given to the commissioner by the reporting agent of a party or MLA under section 230 (Annual returns by parties and MLAs) for the financial year ending on 30 June 2012.
	(2)	Division 14.6 (Annual returns) as in force immediately before the commencement of the <i>Electoral Amendment Act 2012</i> applies to the return.
	(3)	However, the return must be given to the commissioner not later than 31 July 2012.

2 3 4 5		(1)	This section applies to a return given to the commissioner by the financial controller of an associated entity under section 231B (Annual returns by associated entities of parties and MLAs) for the financial year ending on 30 June 2012.
6 7 8		(2)	Division 14.6 (Annual returns) as in force immediately before the commencement of the <i>Electoral Amendment Act 2012</i> applies to the return.
9 10		(3)	However, the return must be given to the commissioner not later than 31 July 2012.
11	509		Transitional regulations
12 13		(1)	A regulation may prescribe transitional matters necessary or convenient to be prescribed because of the enactment of this Act.
14 15 16 17		(2)	A regulation may modify this part (including in relation to another territory law) to make provision in relation to anything that, in the Executive's opinion, is not, or is not adequately or appropriately, dealt with in this part.
18 19		(3)	A regulation under subsection (2) has effect despite anything else in this Act or another territory law.
20	510		Expiry—pt 31
21			This part expires 1 year after the day it commences.
22 23 24			Note Transitional provisions are kept in the Act for a limited time. A transitional provision is repealed on its expiry but continues to have effect after its repeal (see Legislation Act, s 88).
25	71		Dictionary, note 2
26			insert
27			• person (see s 160)
28			• quarter

Annual returns by associated entities

508

1	72	Dictionary, new definitions
2		insert
3		ACT election account—see section 205A.
4		anonymously, for division 14.4 (Gifts and certain loans—records
5		and disclosure)—see section 216.
6	73	Dictionary, definition of broadcaster
7		substitute
8		broadcaster means—
9		(a) the Australian Broadcasting Corporation continued in existence
0		under the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983
1		(Cwlth), section 5; or
2		(b) the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation continued in
3 4		existence under the Special Broadcasting Service Act 1991 (Cwlth), section 5; or
5		(c) the holder of a licence under the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i> (Cwlth); or
7 8		(d) the provider of a broadcasting service under a class licence under that Act.
9	74	Dictionary, new definitions
20		insert
21 22		<i>called</i> , for an extraordinary election, for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
23 24		<i>capped expenditure period</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.

1	75	Dictionary, definition of defined details
2		omit
3		Disclosure of donations
4		substitute
5		Gifts and certain loans—records and disclosure
6	76	Dictionary, definition of disposition of property
7		omit
8	77	Dictionary, definition of disseminate
9		substitute
0 1 2		disseminate electoral matter (whether in printed or electronic form) means print, publish, distribute, produce or broadcast the electoral matter.
3	78	Dictionary, definitions of electoral advertisement and electoral expenditure
5		substitute
6 7		<i>electoral advertisement</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
18 19 20		<i>electoral expenditure</i> , in relation to an election, for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.

79	Dictionary, new definitions
	insert
	<i>expenditure cap</i> , for division 14.2B (Limitations on electoral expenditure)—see section 205D.
	<i>financial institution</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
	<i>financial representative</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
30	Dictionary, definition of <i>gift</i>
	substitute
	<i>gift</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198AA.
81	Dictionary, new definitions
	insert
	<i>incurs</i> , electoral expenditure, for part 14 (Election funding expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 202A.
	<i>index number</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
	<i>loan</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
32	Dictionary, definition of MLA
	substitute
	MLA—
	(a) means a member of the Assembly; and
	(b) in division 14.3A (Administrative expenditure funding)—see

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insert
<i>non-party candidate grouping</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
<i>non-party MLA</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
<i>non-party prospective candidate grouping</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
<i>party grouping</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
<i>person</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
Dictionary, definition of <i>property</i>
omit
Dictionary, new definition of prospective candidate
insert
<i>prospective candidate</i> , for an election, for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.
Dictionary, definition of <i>publish</i>

1	87	Dictionary, definition of <i>related</i>
2		substitute
3		<i>related</i> —2 political parties are taken to be <i>related</i> if—
4		(a) 1 is part of the other; or
5		(b) both are parts of the same political party.
6		Example
7 8		the ACT branch of a political party and the national secretariat of the same political party
9 0 1		Note An example is part of the Act, is not exhaustive and may extend, but does not limit, the meaning of the provision in which it appears (see Legislation Act, s 126 and s 132).
2	88	Dictionary, definition of <i>relates</i>
3		omit
4	89	Dictionary, new definitions
5		insert
6 7		small anonymous gift, for division 14.4 (Gifts and certain loans—records and disclosure)—see section 216.
8		<i>third-party campaigner</i> , for part 14 (Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure)—see section 198.

1 2	90	Further amendments, mentions of <i>Election funding and financial disclosure</i>
3		omit
4		Election funding and financial disclosure
5		substitute
6		Election funding, expenditure and financial disclosure
7		in
8		• dictionary, definition of <i>amount</i>
9		• dictionary, definition of associated entity
10		• dictionary, definition of disclosure period
11		• dictionary, definition of disposition of property
12		• dictionary, definition of <i>eligible vote</i>
13		• dictionary, definition of <i>entity</i>
14		• dictionary, definition of <i>financial controller</i>
15		• dictionary, definition of <i>gift</i>
16		• dictionary, definition of <i>party</i>
17		• dictionary, definition of <i>property</i>
18		• dictionary, definition of <i>register</i>
19		• dictionary, definition of registered industrial organisation
20		• dictionary, definition of <i>reporting agent</i>

1 2	Schedule 1 (see s 3) Part 1.1		1 Consequential amendments
3			Electoral Regulation 1993
4	[1.1]	Sec	ction 6
5		omi	t
6 7	Part 1	.2	Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act 1994
8	[1.2]	Nev	w section 15 (3) (aa)
9		inse	rt
10 11 12 13 14 15		(aa)	a reference in the Electoral Act, section 198, to the capped expenditure period for an election is to be taken to be a reference to the capped expenditure period, in relation to a referendum, commencing 37 days before the expiration of polling day for the referendum and ending on the expiration of 30 days after polling day for the referendum; and
16	[1.3]	Nev	w section 15 (3) (ba)
17		inse	rt
18 19		(ba)	a reference in the Electoral Act, section 220, to a third-party campaigner is to be taken to be a reference to a person; and

1	[1.4]	Schedule 1, part 1.3, heading
2		substitute
3	Part 1.	
4		election funding, expenditure
5		and financial disclosure
6	[1.5]	Schedule 1, modifications 1.13 to 1.15
7		omit
8	[1.6]	Schedule 1, modification 1.19
9	[1.0]	omit
10		15 weeks
11		substitute
12		60 days
13	[1.7]	Schedule 1, modification 1.32
14		omit
15		donation
16		substitute
17		gift

Endnotes

1 Presentation speech

Presentation speech made in the Legislative Assembly on 23 February 2012.

2 Notification

Notified under the Legislation Act on

2012.

3 Republications of amended laws

For the latest republication of amended laws, see www.legislation.act.gov.au. \\

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