

Establish a strong, properly resourced national integrity commission

I have long called for an effective national integrity commission. The Government's proposal is half-baked because the public sector integrity division can only investigate a specific set of criminal offences and can't make findings of corruption, MPs can only be referred by a particular agency and there's no method for public referrals, there are no public hearings, and no whistleblower protection. I support Transparency International Australia's call for a national integrity commission with strong powers including public hearings, wide jurisdiction and funding of at least \$100 million a year.

Control political donations and finance

Australia needs serious political donation reform. I support the lowering of the disclosure threshold to \$1,000 and indeed I voluntarily disclose all donations myself above this amount. Donations must also be disclosed in virtual real-time rather than the current situation where we don't find out who donated to a party for 12 to 18 months. I also support a cap on donations by individuals and corporations over a parliamentary term. In addition, I support Transparency International Australia's call for nationally consistent rules and enforcement developed through a process engaging experts and the public.

Strengthen rules on lobbying, 'revolving doors' and parliamentary conduct

I support tightening restrictions on lobbying activity, including increasing "quarantine" or "cooling off" periods for ex-ministers and senior staff, and stronger enforcement and disclosure of lobbyist registration. I also support the introduction of a code of conduct for Members of Parliament and have backed already such measures in the Parliament.

Protect whistleblowers

As someone who was thrust into the spotlight in 2003 after resigning from the Office of National Assessments in protest at the Howard Government's justification for joining the war in Iraq, I have a particular interest in protecting whistleblowers. My *Evidence Amendment (Journalists' Privilege) Bill 2010* was at that time only the 18th private Member's bill to pass both houses of Parliament since Federation. The current federal public interest disclosure framework is seriously flawed. It fails to encourage and facilitate in many material ways the disclosure of corruption and wrongdoing in the public service. Its definitions and provisions are ambiguous, obscure and restrictive, and it excludes or impedes several classes of potential whistleblowers including those employed as intelligence officers, parliamentarians and parliamentary staff.

Bolster international anti-corruption efforts

To be a good global citizen, Australia must fight against corruption not just at home but abroad. I support Transparency International Australia's calls to expedite Australia's membership of the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative, establish a public register of beneficial ownership of companies, fully implementing the Financial Action Task Force Tranche 2 recommendations, and reforming foreign bribery law.