



Andrew Wilkie MP
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR DENISON

09 SEP 2016

The Hon Bill Shorten MP
Leader of the Opposition
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Shorten

Bill,

I write to ask for the Opposition's support for my Private Member's Bill that would ban foreign donations to political parties and candidates. A draft of the Bill is attached and I plan to give notice in the House of Representatives as soon as practicable.

The Bill would make it unlawful for political parties and candidates to receive a donation from a foreign person, as defined in the *Foreign Acquisitions and Takeovers Act 1975*. This includes any individual who is not ordinarily resident in Australia and any corporation in which a foreign person, corporation or government holds a substantial interest.

There appears to be support from right across the political spectrum for banning foreign donations and I believe that now is the perfect time for Australia to follow the lead of countries such as the USA, Canada and the United Kingdom. I ask for your support of this Bill.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP
Independent Member for Denison