

TO THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA:

Your Standing Committee on PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS presents the following as its Second Report.

Your Committee met on Tuesday, August 8, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 255 of the Legislative Building to consider Bills referred.

Your Committee has considered:

Bill (No. 4) - The Elections Finances Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le financement des campagnes électorales

and has agreed to report the same, on division, with the following amendments:

MOTION:

THAT the definition of "election communication" in the proposed section 55.1, as set out in section 25 of the Bill, be repealed and the following substituted:

"election communication" means a communication to the public by any means during an election period of a message that promotes or opposes a registered political party or the election of a candidate.

It includes the forms of advertising mentioned in the definition of "advertising expenses" in section 1, as well as posters, signs, leaflets and other promotional material.

It does not include the following:

- (a) a communication made for the purpose of gaining support on an issue of public policy, or for advancing the aims of a group that is not a partisan political group, if the communication does not promote or oppose a particular registered political party or the election of a particular candidate,
- (b) the transmission of a document directly by a person or a group to their members, employees or shareholders, as the case may be, or
- (c) an editorial, debate, speech, interview, column, letter, commentary or news normally published without charge.

MOTION:

THAT section 25 of the Bill be amended by adding the following after the proposed section 55.12:

Guidelines

Guidelines

55.13(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall — after consultation with the election communications advisory committee referred to in subsection (2) — issue guidelines to assist third parties and others in deciding whether communications are included within the definition of "election communication" in section 55.1.

Election communications advisory committee

55.13(2) The elections communications advisory committee shall be the advisory committee established in section 4, with the addition of members representing media associations in Manitoba.

Media representatives

55.13(3) For the purpose of subsection (2), the members of the advisory committee established in section 4 shall identify media associations in Manitoba, and each such association may appoint a representative to the election communications advisory committee.

MOTION:

THAT section 45 of the Bill be struck out and the following substituted:

Coming into force

45(1) This Act, except sections 25 and 40, comes into force on January 1, 2001.

Coming into force: sections 25 and 40

45(2) Sections 25 and 40 come into force on a day fixed by proclamation.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Mr. Conrad SANTOS, Chairperson