

2016

The Parliament of the  
Commonwealth of Australia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Presented and read a first time*

**Australian Postal Corporation  
(Unsolicited Political Communications)  
Bill 2016**

**No.     , 2016**

*(Mr Wilkie)*

***A Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989*, and for related purposes***



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# **A Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989*, and for related purposes**

The Parliament of Australia enacts:

## **1 Short title**

This Act is the *Australian Postal Corporation (Unsolicited Political Communications) Act 2016*.

## **2 Commencement**

- (1) Each provision of this Act specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

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<b>Commencement information</b>		
<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>	<b>Column 3</b>
<b>Provisions</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Date/Details</b>
1. Sections 1 to 3 and anything in this Act not elsewhere covered by this table	The day this Act receives the Royal Assent.	
2. Schedule 1	1 July 2017.	1 July 2017

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this Act as originally enacted. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this Act.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of this Act. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of this Act.

### **3 Schedules**

Legislation that is specified in a Schedule to this Act is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this Act has effect according to its terms.

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## **Schedule 1—Amendments**

### ***Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989***

#### **1 At the end of section 32A**

Add:

- (4) Australia Post must not, in supplying a bulk interconnection service, deliver a letter to premises within Australia if:
  - (a) there is a sticker or sign displayed at the premises that contains the words “addressed mail only”, “no unaddressed mail” or “no political material”; and
  - (b) the letter is from, or contains information about:
    - (i) a registered political party (within the meaning of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*); or
    - (ii) a candidate in a House of Representatives or a Senate election; or
    - (iii) a Member of the House of Representatives; or
    - (iv) a Senator for a State or Territory.

#### **2 Constitutional matters**

- (1) The amendment made by item 1 does not apply to the extent (if any) that it would infringe any constitutional doctrine of implied freedom of political communication.
- (2) The amendment made by item 1 does not apply to the extent (if any) that it would result in an acquisition of property (within the meaning of paragraph 51(xxxi) of the Constitution) from a person otherwise than on just terms (within the meaning of that paragraph of the Constitution).