



Chief Electoral Office  
180 Molesworth St, PO Box 3220, Wellington

## **RETURN OF ADVERTISING EXPENSES FOR THE 2009 POSTAL REFERENDUM**

If you undertook any advertising that was used or appears to have been used to promote one of the answers in a referendum question, the law requires you to complete a referendum advertising return and have it in the hands of the Chief Electoral Officer by the due date.

The law requires returns to be available for public inspection.

It is an offence not to file a return or to file a false return.

If you have any problems please contact the Chief Electoral Office.

**THE DEADLINE FOR FILING A REFERENDUM ADVERTISING RETURN IS FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2009.**

Reference: sections 41- 45 of the Citizens Initiated Referenda Act 1993.

## RETURN OF ADVERTISING EXPENSES FOR THE 2009 POSTAL REFERENDUM

Send to Chief Electoral Officer, Ministry of Justice, PO Box 3220, Wellington no later than Friday 25 September 2009.

### Declaration

I \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert name)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(insert address)

**make the following return of referendum advertising expenses incurred by me  
or on my behalf in respect of the 2009 Postal referendum on the question**

***'Should a smack as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in New Zealand?'***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advertiser's Signature / / 2009





## INFORMATION ON REFERENDUM ADVERTISING RULES

A postal referendum on the question '*Should a smack as part of good parental correction be a criminal offence in New Zealand*' will run from Friday 31 July to Friday 21 August 2009.

Any individual or group can undertake advertising to promote either a 'Yes' or 'No' vote on the referendum question.

Advertisers are subject to an expenditure limit of \$50,000 (including GST).

Advertisements must contain a statement setting out the name and residential or business address of the person at whose direction it is being published. A Post Office box or website address is insufficient.

The expenditure limit applies to advertising that is used or appears to be being used to promote one of the answers to the referendum question, and is published, or broadcast during the period from the 26 August 2008 until 21 August 2009<sup>1</sup>.

It is a serious offence for any person to, either alone or in combination with others, knowingly spend more than the \$50,000 expenditure limit. The offence is subject to a fine of up to \$20,000. Persons or organisations that formally or informally enter into an agreement or understanding about their referendum advertising should assume that they are subject to a single advertising expenditure limit.

Any person at whose direction an advertisement is published or broadcast must file a return of expenses with the Chief Electoral Office by Friday 25 September 2009 (being one month after the date that the result of the referendum is declared under section 49 of the Referenda (Postal Voting) Act 2000).

The return must list where every advertisement was published or broadcast and the cost of every advertisement.

Advertisers who fail to meet these requirements are committing offences and may be referred to the Police.

The returns are open to public inspection.

<sup>1</sup>The 26<sup>th</sup> of August is the date on which the Speaker of the House of Representatives presented the petition to the House after being certified as correct by the Clerk of the House under section 18(1)(a) of the Citizens Initiated Referenda Act. 21 August 2009 is the close of the voting period for the referendum.