

2017 I received a request from Commissioner Mansfield for an extension of time to complete the inquiry in terms of the following letter. I will read that letter into *Hansard*:

Dear Chief Minister

I write to seek an extension of time to provide my report to the Administrator following the conclusion of my inquiry into options for the reform of political funding and donations in the Northern Territory.

The motion passed establishing the Inquiry was passed on 30 November 2016, stating that a report would be provided no later than 12 months from that date.

As you know my appointment under section 4A of the Inquiries Act was not made until 29 June 2017, nearly 7 months later. The 12 months completed for the Inquiry would therefore have extended to the end of June 2018. In addition, the active engagement of stakeholders and the public for the purposes of the Inquiry has only been able to commence as of this date, as a consequence of commitments managed by the NT Government IT staff and the establishment of a website for the Inquiry.

In those circumstances I cannot complete the Inquiry by 30 November 2017. I do not think it is safe to assume that I can complete the Inquiry in a shorter period than was originally contemplated. For those reasons I request an extension of time to complete my Inquiry and report until Friday 29 June 2018.

I indicate that my present hope and intention is to be able to complete the Inquiry and Report somewhat sooner than that date, and I will inform you in advance of my Report if that anticipation becomes firmly set.

I will be happy to expand on any aspect of the above.

I await your response.

Yours sincerely

*John Mansfield AM QC
Commissioner*

Motion agreed to.

**INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION (CONSEQUENTIAL AND RELATED
AMENDMENTS) BILL
(Serial 35)**

Ms FYLES (Attorney-General and Justice): I present a bill entitled the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (Consequential and Related Amendments) Bill 2017 (Serial 35) and table the explanatory statement and the statement on human rights compatibility.

Madam Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to amend a number of acts to enable the effective operation of our Independent Commission Against Corruption. The Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (ICAC) is being created through the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Bill 2017 that was introduced in the August 2017 sittings and is presently under consideration by the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee. I thank and acknowledge that committee for its work.

The present bill has three key aspects. Firstly, it gives the ICAC the remaining powers recommended by Commissioner Brian Martin AO, QC as a result of the Anti-Corruption Integrity and Misconduct Commission Inquiry, more commonly known as the Martin Report.

Secondly, the bill modernises offences relating to government corruption to make them more effective and reflect contemporary standards.

Thirdly, it contains a range of miscellaneous amendments to legislation to support the creation of the ICAC and repeal the *Public Disclosure Interest Act*.

The full range of powers recommended by Commissioner Brian Martin AO QC included powers to obtain warrants under the *Surveillance Devices Act*, the *Telecommunications (Interception) Northern Territory Act* and the *Police (Special Investigative and Other Powers) Act*. The bill will give the ICAC these powers.