



A U D I T O R - G E N E R A L  
S O U T H A F R I C A

Ad Hoc Committee on the Funding of Political Party Bill  
National Council of Provinces  
90 Plein Street  
Cape Town

By email: [egrunewald@parliament.gov.za](mailto:egrunewald@parliament.gov.za)

08 June 2018

Dear Honourable DM Stock

### **POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING BILL SUBMISSION**

1. We refer to the above bill and wish to point out from the onset that the office of the Auditor-General supports the bill.
2. We are making a submission on only one aspect of the bill which we are of the view that it is not in line with the underlying provisions of Section 188 of the Constitution. Section 12(5) of the bill provides that *"the Auditor-General may at any reasonable time audit any represented political party's books, records of account and financial statements relating to money allocated to the party from the Represented Political Party Fund"*.
3. Firstly, all the institutions which the Auditor-General must or may audit in terms of the Constitution and Public Audit Act receive the funds from the National Revenue Fund or Provincial Revenue Fund for a public purpose. It is unclear if the funding to the political parties by the Represented Political Party Fund is meant for a public purpose. Secondly we humbly believe that political parties should not be audited by the Auditor-General as they are not accountable to the Parliament for their running of operations and spending of their funds. Thirdly AGSA is in no position to take on more auditees. It is therefore our humble proposal that this provision be removed from the bill.
4. Your favourable consideration of the above proposal will be appreciated. The office of the AGSA will make officials available to make presentation should it be required.

Yours sincerely

  
Walter Bhengu  
Senior Manager: Corporate Legal Services  
Auditor-General of South Africa

Telephone: (012) 426 8414  
Email: [walterb@agsa.co.za](mailto:walterb@agsa.co.za)