Overview of the Bill

The purpose of the Bill is to prevent the promotion of functions, gatherings or events to raise funds for a political party or purpose in a way that suggests that attendees will gain access to a Minister.

To this end, the Bill:

- Proposes the inclusion of a new provision in the *Electoral Act 1907 (WA)* that will make it an offence
  - for any person to promote a political fundraising event in a way that suggests that attendees will have access to a Minister at the event or in association with it; and
  - for any person to organise, hold or conduct a political fundraising event that is promoted in a way that suggests that attendees will have access to a Minister at the event.

- Makes a person found guilty of either offence liable for a fine not exceeding $10,000.

The Bill is to be limited in its operation. The Bill will not prohibit:

- party fundraisers that advertise access to a member of Parliament in their capacity as a member of Parliament; or
- charity fundraisers that promote access to Ministers.

Clause Notes

Clause 1

This clause contains the title of the Bill.

Clause 2

This clause sets out the commencement provisions.

Proposed sections 1 and 2 of the proposed Act will come into operation on the day on which the Act receives the Royal Assent.

The rest of the proposed Act will come into operation on the day after the Act receives the Royal Assent.
Sub section (4) creates an additional complementary offence. It will be an offence to organise, hold or conduct a political fundraising event that is promoted in a way that indicates that a Minister will be present and that attendees will have access to the Minister at or in association with the event.

A person who commits such an offence will again be liable to a fine of not exceeding $10,000.