



22 July 2020

House of Representatives  
via email: [trevor.mallard@parliament.org.nz](mailto:trevor.mallard@parliament.org.nz)

Dear Mr Speaker

## PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES ACT 2000

1. We wish to bring to your attention the finding of the Electoral Commission in relation to the appended billboard promoting Lawrence Yule MP (the "Billboard"). The Billboard features in prominent text "Your voice in Tukituki and Parliament" (the "Tagline") alongside a large photo of Lawrence Yule. In much smaller text is Mr Yule's office phone number. The Billboard states it is funded by the Parliamentary Services.
2. In the Electoral Commission's view, the Billboard constitutes a candidate advertisement from the point Lawrence Yule declared his candidacy. Accordingly the costs of preparing the Billboard during the regulated period will be a candidate election expense for Lawrence Yule and cannot be funded by the Parliamentary Services. We attach to this email the Electoral Commission's letter for your reference.
3. Section 3C of the Parliamentary Services Act provides the rules for apportioning funding for election advertisements published before and during the regulated period.
4. We would like to ask whether the Parliamentary Services (and therefore by default taxpayers) has paid for the Billboard and secondly whether the cost will be correctly apportioned with Lawrence Yule expensed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,  
**New Zealand Taxpayers' Union Inc.**

**Louis Houlbrooke**  
Campaign Manager  
[louis@taxpayers.org.nz](mailto:louis@taxpayers.org.nz)

**LOWER TAXES, LESS WASTE, MORE TRANSPARENCY**

**[WWW.TAXPAYERS.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.TAXPAYERS.ORG.NZ)**

cc Lawrence Yule; National Party Leader

## APPENDIX 1: Lawrence Yule MP Billboard



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