

information. We believe that the information which we have recommended to be made public should be made public and its release should not be prevented by the application of these statutes.

Section 1 of the Charter of Rights and Freedom which deals with fundamental freedoms contains two subsections which we feel are important to address in the context of our recommendations. Section 1(b) states that everyone has the fundamental freedoms of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication. Section 1(d) gives everyone the fundamental freedom of association. We do not view our recommendations as limitations on these fundamental freedoms. Our recommendations simply require disclosure and we feel that even these requirements are not onerous. We believe that it is important for the public to know what influences are being brought to bear on the policy makers. Disclosure in this regard should increase public confidence in our system of government. We feel that disclosure by lobbyists through registration is a responsible response to the public's right to know and to judge whether public policy decisions are being made on their merits.