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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

Western Cape Region



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PROPOSAL RE EMPLOYMENT OF PRESS OFFICER

The ANC Western Cape is concerned to address the problems of keeping in touch with and responding to daily issues in parliament. Currently, because we have no first-hand contact with parliament, we receive most of this information second hand.

We would therefore like to submit a proposal that the National office (via the Regional Office) employs the services of a suitable person to work as parliamentary publicity officer - supplying us with the necessary information on parliamentary proceedings and remaining in touch with the press gallery in parliament.

We see this as an interim measure designed to address the immediate problem at hand - i.e. a faster response time to contentious and controversial issues in parliament. As parliament has reconvened, this is a matter of some urgency.

The person
The person we employ should obviously be a member of the ANC with a serious interest in providing us with information about matters of concern.

She/he should ideally be somebody who has experience in journalism or press work as well as understanding how parliamentary press structures work.

He/she should be accountable to DIP National via the Publicity Secretary or Secretariat at the ANC Western Cape Regional Office.

The person concerned could be a journalist of good reputation and experience as the task will require interpretation, analysis and grading of information supplied.

The job description
The person concerned would be asked to attend parliamentary sittings, briefings, etc. with a view to drafting press statements on behalf of the national and regional offices and, inter alia, providing the following information:

- a programme of what's coming up in parliament
- 2 a regular daily report on what is happening in parliament
- interim reports on issues of importance to the ANC and requiring response by us
 The People Shall Govern!

- 4 whatever analysis/comment/interpretation possible.
- if possible, early drafts of Hansard transcriptions on key issues demanding urgent attention. It is noted that question time often yields some important material which can be used to inform press statements, articles, etc.

23 March 1992