

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House: a legislative issue concerning the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 and the right to freedom from and of religion.

Halal certification has been imposed on Australia's food production and supply industry. Companies pay thousands of dollars in fees, abattoirs pay up to \$27,000 per month. The money goes to promote Islam and costs are passed to consumers.

Big brands such as Vegemite, Kellogg's, Nestlé, Bulla and Cadbury are Halal certified or use Halal-certified ingredients. Almost all abattoirs now use less humane Halal slaughter methods.

Consumers struggle to find Halal-free food for purchase. This is a restrictive trade practice in the food supply chain. Many Halal products are not labelled which is misleading and deceptive conduct.

We demand freedom from forced religious donations and the right to make an informed choice.

We ask the House to adopt a user-pays principle. Amend the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 to:

Prevent any entity from collecting religious certification fees from the food industry in Australia. Certification services must be provided free by the religious entity.

Ensure separation of production for Halal and non-Halal products. Animal products offered for non-Halal consumption must be sourced from non-Halal slaughter and not contain any waste from Halal slaughter.

Ensure any extra costs associated with Halal production are segregated to the Halal product only.

Amend the Act to ensure all Halal-containing products for sale in Australia are clearly labelled