

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY**

Inquiry into Australia's food origin labelling

*Chair: Mr Rowan Ramsey MP
Deputy Chair: Ms Clare O'Neil MP*

Made in Australia? Unravelling country of origin food labelling

The House of Representatives Agriculture and Industry Committee will hold its first public hearing in Canberra tomorrow. The public hearing will begin with a roundtable discussion with five government departments, followed by representatives from the Australian Made Campaign, ACCC and the Australian Food and Grocery Council.

Chair of the Committee, Rowan Ramsey MP said "Up to 90 per cent of consumers misunderstand the term 'Made in Australia'. We want to make it easier for consumers to know where their food comes from. Other inquiries have looked into the issue, but now we want to explore why reform proposals have not been accepted."

"The Committee will explore claims of misconduct in the market as well as the circumvention of Australian law by the practice of 'staging' food imports in third countries" Mr Ramsey said.

The hearing will be held in Parliament House, Committee Room 1R1, commencing at 9.00am. The full program is as follows:

9.00 am	<i>Government departments roundtable:</i> Departments of Agriculture, Industry, Health, Foreign Affairs and Trade, Treasury
11.00 am	Food Standards Australia New Zealand
11.30 am	Australian Made Campaign
1.00 pm	Australian Food and Grocery Council
1.30 pm	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
2.00 pm	Australian Pork Limited

The public hearing will be webcast live at:

http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament

Further details about the inquiry, including submissions received and the terms of reference, can be obtained from the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/agind.

For media comment please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Rowan Ramsey, (08) 8633 1744.

For further information please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4500, email

agind.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at www.aph.gov.au/agind