

The Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Economics
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Trade Practices Amendment (Material Lessening of Competition - Richmond Amendment) Bill 2009

Australian Community Children's Services (ACCS) as the national peak body advocating for the right of Australia's children to access quality, not for profit, community children's services welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Senate inquiry into the Trade Practices Amendment (Material Lessening of Competition-Richmond Amendment) Bill 2009.

ACCS supports the amendment which will modify the terminology in the *Trades Practises Act 1974* to prevent corporations from directly or indirectly merging or acquiring an asset which would result in 'material' lessening of competition in the relevant market.

ACCS welcomes the amendment in order to strengthen anti merger law and address the issue of creeping acquisitions after witnessing the damaging impact of uncontrolled growth of corporate child care chains in Australia.

Yours faithfully



Barbara Romeril
National Secretary