



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE

15 September 2017

**Senate Standing Committees on Economics**

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Dear Committee Secretariat,

The Australian Steel Institute (ASI) has for some time voiced concerns over a significant gap in Australia's antidumping laws which have allowed some importers to recommence dumping of steel into the Australian market by gaming the current system.

Appropriately then, the ASI supports the current Bill before the Parliament (Customs Amendment (Anti-Dumping Measures) Bill 2017) as we believe this will close the gap and ensure the integrity of the Australian antidumping system.

The ASI supports the Bill as proposed with Option 3 as the chosen option. We believe that this more directly addresses the root cause of the problem which is that an appropriate export price cannot be determined without regard to additional relevant information. It is proportional in that it would only affect the relatively few instances and is only a small change to how reviews are currently undertaken.

The Australian steel industry is a trade-exposed industrial sector and we support legislation that facilitates free and fair trade.

We believe that when we have processes and legislation that underpin a free and fair global trade environment while also meeting our international trade obligations, then Australia and the steel industry can be competitive, ensuring the viability of a vibrant domestic industry.

This amendment brings Australia more closely into line with the antidumping rules of other comparable jurisdictions and will help ensure Australian manufacturers access timely and effective redress from injurious dumping in line with Australia's WTO rights and obligations, thereby helping to support local jobs and investment.

As such, we hope that the Australian Labor Party will continue to bolster a free and fair trade by supporting passage of this legislation through the Parliamentary process that we believe complements a steel industry-enhancing policy platform.

Yours sincerely,



**Tony Dixon**  
Chief Executive  
Australian Steel Institute