

4 November 2021

Senate Economics Legislation Committee PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: <u>economics.sen@aph.gov.au</u>

Dear Chair,

The Australian Banking Association strongly supports the measures contained in the Corporations Amendment (Meetings and Documents) Bill 2021.

The bill makes permanent changes allowing companies and registered schemes to hold hybrid meetings (which give shareholders the option of either attending in person or remotely) and use technology to execute company documents, sign meetings-related documents and provide those documents to their members.

The ABA welcomes these reforms. While the extension of temporary relief has assisted banks and their customers, it is vital that this permanent legislation is passed before the temporary measures expire.

During lockdowns, companies and the financial services sector saw first hand the substantial benefits and convenience of the electronic execution of documents. There is strong support in the business community for these reforms to continue on a permanent basis, to lock in the digital pivot that has occurred during the pandemic and support the government's digital economy policy.

For further detail I refer the committee to the ABA's <u>previous submission</u> made as part of the Treasury consultation process.

For further information please don't hesitate to contact me at

Regards

Hayden Cooper

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