

Our reference: GZC
Contact: Ms Gabrielle Canny
Telephone:
Your reference: Ms Toni Matulick
Date: 22 December 2015

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Ms Toni Matulick
Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on
Corporations and Financial Services
Parliament House Canberra
PO Box 6100
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Matulick,

Inquiry into Impairment of Customer Loans – Question on Notice

I refer to your letter of 18 December 2015. The Legal Services Commission of South Australia is the largest provider of legal assistance services in South Australia. Amongst other things, we provide a legal advisory service on consumer credit to individual members of the public. We do not provide grants of aid for representation to clients in this category. Unfortunately, due to funding and statutory restrictions, we do not provide advice or make grants of aid to businesses of any kind.

The Commission is acutely aware that many small businesses are not in a position to defend court action by large corporations and that many would benefit from access to legal representation, but at present, the Legal Services Commission is not able to provide that assistance.

Thank you for the invitation to comment. The Commission appreciates such opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

Gabrielle Z Canny
Director