



**Australian Government**  
**Indigenous Business Australia**

31 May 2017

Committee Secretary  
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

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IBA reference: D17/ 61345

Dear Secretary

I provide Indigenous Business Australia's (IBA) submission in response to the Committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Legislation Amendment (2017 Measures No. 1) Bill 2017, specifically the two that relate to IBA's operations.

**Background to Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)**

IBA is a commercially-focused corporate Commonwealth entity under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). Under its enabling legislation, the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005*, its purposes are to:

- *assist and enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-management and economic self-sufficiency, and*
- *advance the commercial and economic interests of Aboriginal persons and Torres Strait Islanders by accumulating and using a substantial capital asset for the benefit of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.*

IBA's core functions relate to facilitating Indigenous home ownership, business success and investments.

**Schedule 1 - Indigenous Business Australia – removing the requirement for IBA's corporate plan to be tabled**

IBA has been consulted in relation to this clause and concurs that it reduces red tape and removes an unnecessary requirement that is additional to those set out for corporate plans in the PGPA Act.

**Schedule 2 – Consent to dispose of land acquired with ATSIC assistance or from ATSIC – enabling the appropriate consent authority to waive the exercise of its consent**

IBA is one of the consenting authorities referred to in the legislation, along with the Commonwealth and Indigenous Land Corporation. IBA has no concerns with this clause on the basis that the waiver of the consent requirement is at the discretion of the relevant consenting authority, its appropriateness in relation to particular circumstances can be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and that it enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to have greater control over assets and thus facilitates greater levels of economic independence.



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IBA notes that it is a member of a whole-of-government working group convened by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet that has been consulted in the formulation of a policy framework for managing the issue of removal of ex-ATSIC caveats over land assets, including this amendment and a considered approach to how it will be implemented.

Yours sincerely

  
**Wally Tallis**  
A/g Chief Executive Officer