



Australian Government
**Australian Customs and
Border Protection Service**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

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27 February 2013

Mr Stephen Palethorpe
Committee Secretary
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee
Parliament House
PO Box 6100
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Mr Palethorpe,

Inquiry into the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2013

1. The Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (Customs and Border Protection) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee regarding the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2013.

Background

2. Since 2009 Australia has seen a significant increase in the number of attempted illegal importations of PIEDs, including steroids and human growth hormones.
3. In 2011-12 Customs and Border Protection made a record 6,126 steroid detections and 2,595 hormones detections. The majority of these detections were made in the international mail stream. These trends reflect an increasing domestic demand and an increasing ability for individuals to obtain PEIDs via online forums from low cost source countries.

4. Organised criminal involvement in the PIEDs market is well established and when combined with a rising domestic demand this creates the potential for an increased threat at the border.

Specific Impacts of the Amendments

5. Under section 68 of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006 (the Act), the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) may share protected Customs information with sporting administration bodies for permitted anti-doping purposes, namely building the case to issue a sanction against an athlete or athlete support person for breaching anti-doping rules.
6. The proposed changes to Section 68 of the Act—as described in the explanatory memorandum—will have no impact on Customs and Border Protection’s current arrangements for sharing of information with ASADA.
7. Customs and Border Protection do not seek to appear as a witness should the Committee decide to hold a public hearing.
8. I thank you for this opportunity to provide comment on the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2013.

Yours sincerely

MARION GRANT

Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Border Management