



Committee Secretary  
Mark Fitt  
Senate Economics Legislation Committee  
Australian Parliament

15 August 2019

By email to: [economics.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:economics.sen@aph.gov.au)

Committee Secretary,

**RE: Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 2 and Other Measures) Bill 2019**

We thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee (the Committee) which is examining the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 2 and Other Measures) Bill 2019 (the Bill). We also refer to correspondence from Committee Secretary Mark Fitt who invited Aristocrat to provide a submission to the Committee.

We ask the Committee to refer to Aristocrat's previous submissions made in relation to the numerous inquiries into intellectual property reform in recent years. These submissions include:

- 1) The submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Intellectual Property Arrangements dated 18 December 2015.
- 2) The submission on the Productivity Commission's draft report into intellectual property arrangements dated 2 June 2016.
- 3) The submission to the Australian Government on its response to the Productivity Commission Report dated 14 February 2017.
- 4) The submission to the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 1 and Other Measures) Bill and Regulations 2017 dated 4 December 2017.
- 5) The submission to the consultation on Commercialisation of Business Ideas by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science dated 3 August 2018.
- 6) The submission on the Exposure Draft of the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 2 and Other Measures) Bill 2018.

With regards to the introduction of an objects clause proposed by Part 1 of the Bill, as stated in previous submissions, we ask the government to consider removing the word "technological" from before the term "innovation" as there may be an issue with the

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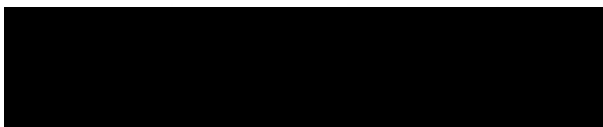
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former term restricting what is meant by innovation. Aristocrat's view is that anything which restricts the concept of innovation has the potential to hinder Australia's competitiveness in a global market.

We note that Part 2 of the Bill currently proposes to phase out the innovation patent system. With reference to the arguments put forward in previous submissions outlined above, we ask the government to amend the bill from its current form to provide some level of protection for incremental innovations that do not meet the robust criteria of the standard patent system.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the Bill to the Committee. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate in reaching out to me on the contact details outlined below.

Harry Ashton



Group General Manager Responsible Game Play  
Aristocrat Leisure Limited

