



14 August 2019

Committee Inquiry – Competition and Consumer Amendment (Prevention of Exploitation of Indigenous Cultural Expressions) Bill 2019

Ku Arts (Ananguku Arts and Cultural Aboriginal Corporation) is the South Australian support organisation for Aboriginal art centres and artists. We have a twenty-year history of providing advocacy, support services, creative skills and professional development opportunities for artists and arts workers across all stages of their careers, in support of a strong and vibrant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual arts sector.

Ku Arts works with artists through Aboriginal owned and governed art centres in the APY Lands and Ceduna. Additionally, we are the only Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander visual arts peak body that works with independent artists in regional communities through our Statewide Indigenous Community Arts Development (SICAD) Project.

Our membership supports the Fake Art Harms Culture campaign and agree with the Indigenous Art Code submission to the Inquiry that the trade in inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art has a direct negative impact in at least four ways. It:

- misappropriates and exploits Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture;
- denies Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists economic and other opportunities;
- misleads and deceives consumers regarding the authenticity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art products they purchase; and
- disadvantages Australian businesses who take an ethical and culturally empathetic approach to their work.

Ku Arts supports the submission from the Indigenous Art Code regarding the Competition and Consumer Amendment (Prevention of Exploitation of Indigenous Cultural Expressions) Bill 2019, and the amendments to the Australian Consumer Law that prohibit the supply of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and craft product.

Yours sincerely,

Marie Falcinella
Chief Executive Officer
Ananguku Arts and Culture Aboriginal Corporation

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