



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs

Inquiry into the Proliferation of Inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'Style' Art

Issue date: 11 August 2017

Proliferation of inauthentic Indigenous art

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs has announced that it will inquire into the growing presence of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and craft products and merchandise for sale across Australia.

The Chair of the Committee, Ms Melissa Price MP said "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and communities rely on revenue obtained through the sale of hand-made and culturally authentic products."

"The aims of the inquiry are to identify ways to prevent the exploitation and misuse of indigenous culture through the proliferation of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander products."

Terms of Reference

The Committee will inquire into and report on the growing presence of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'style' art and craft products and merchandise for sale across Australia, including:

- *the definition of authentic art and craft products and merchandise;*
- *current laws and licensing arrangements for the production, distribution, selling and reselling of authentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and craft products and merchandise;*
- *an examination of the prevalence of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'style' art and craft products and merchandise in the market;*
- *options to promote the authentic products for the benefit of artists and consumers; and*
- *options to restrict the prevalence of inauthentic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 'style' art and craft products and merchandise in the market.*

The Committee invites submissions to the inquiry by 6 October 2017. For advice on making submissions see the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs or contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4559.

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