



ANZ and BankWest to appear at public hearing in Melbourne to discuss competition in banking

The House Economics Committee will be holding a public hearing in Melbourne on Friday 8 August as part of a federal parliamentary inquiry into competition in the banking and non-banking sectors in Australia.

The ANZ, BankWest and the Rock Building Society will have the opportunity to discuss with the House of Representatives Economics Committee how they are managing the current environment and what steps they are taking to provide competitive services to their customers. The Consumer Action Law Centre and the Brotherhood of St Lawrence will give a perspective on how reduced competition is impacting on consumers.

Committee Chair, **Craig Thomson, (Member for Dobell, NSW)** said: "the Committee will investigate the extent to which competition in the financial sector has reduced and, in particular, examine proposals that could help to increase competition and reduce fees and charges for people struggling with their mortgages."

The public hearing commences at 9.15am.

VENUE	Legislative Council Committee Room Parliament of Victoria Spring Street MELBOURNE
DATE	Friday, 8 August 2008
TIME	9.15am to 3.00pm

The **program** for the hearing is:

9.15am	The Rock Building Society
10.15am	Consumer Action Law Centre
11.00am	Collins Securities
11.45am	ANZ
1.30pm	BankWest
2.15pm	Brotherhood of St Laurence

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Craig Thomson MP, on (02) 4351 1223 (Electorate Office) or (02) 6277 4460 Parliament House. **Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4209, email economics.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/economics>