



MEDIA RELEASE

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Inquiry into IT Pricing

*Chair: Mr Nick Champion MP
Deputy Chair: Mr Paul Neville MP*

IT PRICE DISCRIMINATION

Do Australians pay more for IT software and hardware than consumers in overseas markets? If so, why?

These key questions are being asked in an investigation into IT pricing in Australia, now being conducted by the House Committee on Infrastructure and Communications. The Committee is holding its **first public hearing in Sydney on 30 July 2012**.

'The inquiry into IT price discrimination has generated a great deal of interest, judging by submissions, but also by comments on social media, including twitter. The Committee hopes to hear from consumer and industry groups in Sydney, including CHOICE,' said Committee Chair, Mr Nick Champion MP.

In Sydney, the Committee will also host a forum to discuss these issues, and encourages public engagement. 'The Committee wants to understand the extent of concerns of Australians about IT price discrimination. I encourage anyone who wants to be involved in this inquiry to register their interest via the Committee's website. That way we can let people know how they can be part of it', Mr Champion said.

'As part of the program in Sydney, the Committee wants to include a focus on the music industry – looking at the impact on retailers and consumers of music downloads, and about price disparities between here and overseas.'

If you want to be part of the public forum in Sydney on 30 July, or keep up to date with the progress of the inquiry, please visit the inquiry website:
www.apf.gov.au/itpricing

The public hearing will take place from **9.30 am, in the Macquarie Room, in Parliament House, Sydney**. More information will be posted to the website as it becomes available.

For inquiry information: including the terms of reference and submissions, go to:
www.apf.gov.au/itpricing, or contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 2352.

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Nick Champion, on
(08) 8284 2422 (electorate office)