
Committee Secretary
House Standing Committee on Health and Ageing
House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Committee Secretary,

My name is _____ and I am a store owner in BEACONSFIELD UPPER.

I am writing to you today to express my concerns about the plain packaging bills that the Health and Ageing Committee are currently examining.

I do not believe the Government's Bills reflects the concerns that I and retailers like me from all over Australia have about the impact that plain packaging is going to have on our businesses.

The government has provided no real evidence that plain packaging is going to help current smokers to quit or to prevent new people from taking up smoking.

Plain packaging will have serious, negative consequences for my businesses. It will mean lost time and productivity as my employees have to hunt for the correct pack among dozens of packages that all look essentially the same. It will make managing stock more difficult and time consuming which is lost time I cannot afford. It will inconvenience my customers by creating longer wait times and lead to mistakes that will mean lost business for me, driving my customers away to the large supermarket chains. I believe that plain packaging will further increase the trade in illicit tobacco and plain packets will be easier to counterfeit, thus increasing the risk of children and teenagers getting hold of cheap, illegal cigarettes.

The Federal Government has not addressed the concerns of Australian retailers who are worried about the impact of plain packaging. I urge that Members of the Committee to ensure that the concerns of retailers from all across Australia are taken seriously and reject these Bills.

Sincerely,