

Sent: Friday, 22 July 2011 11:36 AM
To: Committee, HAA (REPS)
Subject: Sub 037: Plain packaging

Submission No. 37
(Plain Packaging Bill)
A.O.C. Date: 25/07/2011

I wish to lodge my views regarding the Plain Packaging Bill.

As a retail Tobacconist of 13 years I have witnessed many changes and accepted them.

The possible new legislation for plain packaging will not change the way existing smokers use tobacco products.

This new Bill will only help those who are trading in illegal tobacco and stop the Government getting the allocated tax that would be there if sold through the correct manner.

This is BILLIONS the government is throwing away unnecessarily. Why help the criminals.

This Government should be helping the small business people who offer employment and pay taxes. Many small businesses will be forced to reduce staff if it is made easier to make counterfeit cigarettes. Again this will flow back to Australian economy of more unemployment.

The plain packaging will also mean more time for staff to find the correct packet allowing for more theft in shops as our backs will be turned away giving them more access to do so.

Please don't hurt small business people any further. We are mostly family businesses trying to provide for our families. Don't send us broke allowing these criminals to make more money with their counterfeit cigarettes.

Remember this product is a legal product and the government makes billions in tax on cigarettes.