Fashion Clubwear Pty Ltd





14th July 2004

The Secretary Senate Economics Legislation Committee Room SG.64 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir,

I am writing in reference to the TCF SIP Amendment Bill and the Customs Tariff Amendment Bill that are currently under Senate review.

In 1981 at the age of 22, I commenced working in the textile industry, establishing my own business. I now employ some 50 people in a variety of manufacturing companies, all of which are heavily involved in the textile industry.

It has always been my belief that it was necessary to reduce tariffs and quotas from their previously high unsustainable levels as this promoted extremely inefficient business practices.

However I am now of the belief that there has been sufficient tariff reduction. In my opinion companies manufacturing in the textile industry today are now extremely efficient and very productive. They have been forced to be so predominately due to overseas competition.

Nonetheless, there must be some government support for this industry as the social ramifications of there not being so will far outweigh any economic benefit gained from reduced tariffs and a decimated textile industry.

I believe the current levels of tariff support are appropriate. I fully support the TCFUA submission and urge you to give both Bills very careful consideration.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Faithfully

Andrew Minter Managing Director