



Australian Retailers Association
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The Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee
Parliament House
Canberra ACT

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Submission on Workplace Relations Amendment Bills 2002

Australian Retailers Association

The Australian Retailers Association, and its component state associations, represents some 12,000 members across the nation operating 40,000 stores and employing around 640,000 Australians (or about 70% of employees in the retail work force).

The retail industry is the nation's largest employing industry with -

- one in every eight of the nation's work force,
- one in every five female employees and,
- one in every two employees aged between 15 and 20 years.

ARA members, which range from the smallest independent retail shop and the variety of specialty retailers - both chain and independent - to the major national supermarket and department store groups, transact around 70% of the nation's retail sales.

Approximately 95% of the Association's members are small businesses (i.e. employing less than 20 staff) operating in only one State.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 and Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002

The Australian Retailers Association (ARA) supports the submission made by the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). The ARA has provided input into the ACCI submission.

Other Workplace Relations Amendment Bills 2002

The ARA is supportive of the ACCI submission for additional legislative and administrative measures outlined in the ACCI submission.

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