

**SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE
REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**INQUIRY INTO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN
SERVICES AND AUSTRALIA/US FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

SUBMISSION

Submission No: 101

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Submission to Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Reference Committee

During the last 25 years we have seen many changes to our economic systems which have been greatly influenced by large corporate organisations. This has been motivated by the want of increased profit and on the whole has not been to foster a better community either locally or globally.

The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) is a global agreement designed largely to benefit these corporate entities. This is a very scary path to go down and is full of dangers. GATS would mean the end to any protective barriers that now exist to assist or protect local businesses countries or communities.

In Australia we should continue to protect our manufacturing industries that can not compete on the world stage but in essence are essential industries for employment. examples of these are the clothing, motor vehicle and footwear industries

These industries and others under GATS would suffer and probably close, also this would mean that our governments could be sued if they assisted these struggling local businesses in any way.

Australians are still suffering from the many changes that started in the 1980's and they will continue to suffer. GATS would be the last nail in the coffin for many Australian enterprises and therefore the road to increased unemployment and poverty for the Australian people.

I strongly oppose the signing of the GATS and ask this Inquiry to recommend to the government not to proceed with signing the agreement due to the pitfalls associated with it.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M J Gogler', written in a cursive style.