



THE SENATE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE

Inquiry into the provisions of the Customs Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006; and, the Customs Tariff Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006

On 14 September 2006, the Senate referred the provisions of the above bills to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade for inquiry and report by Monday, 9 October 2006.

The bills propose to enable the Executive Officer of Customs to revoke approximately 700 Tariff Concession Orders (TCOs) and replace them with about 1200 new TCOs. They also amend various classifications of goods. The committee is particularly interested in examining any unintended consequences of the proposed changes.

I write to invite your organisation to make a written submission on the bills. Information about the inquiry can be found on the committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/FADT_CTTE/index.htm. Because of the very short timeframe, the committee requests that the submission be lodged as soon as possible and preferably by 22 September addressed to:

The Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

The Committee is seeking to publicise its work as widely as possible and would appreciate you referring this letter of invitation to any person or organisation you think would be interested in contributing to the inquiry.

The Committee prefers submissions to be in electronic form on disc or e-mailed (fadt.sen@aph.gov.au). Alternatively, submissions may be faxed (02 6277 5818) or posted. For enquiries or information about making submissions, phone: 02 6277 3535. Submissions become committee documents and are only made public after a decision by the Committee. Persons making submissions should not release them without the approval of the Committee. Submissions are covered by parliamentary privilege but their unauthorised release is not.

The committee prefers to make submissions public and to publish them on the committee's website. If you would like the submission or parts of the submission kept confidential could you please clearly indicate your concerns. Some submitters may be invited to give evidence at public hearings.