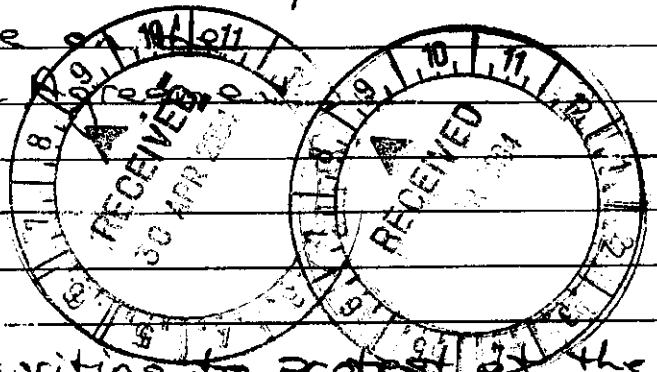


09-4-04

The Senate Select Committee
United States Free Trade
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



Dear Sirs / Madams,

I am writing to protest at the signing of the United States Free Trade Agreement (USFTA) as this agreement is very detrimental to Australia's interests. My reasons in saying this are:

1. The economic benefits are not clear
2. The PBS will be affected with higher costs for medicines
3. Extension of copyright means higher costs for libraries and education bodies, without clear benefits from the extension
4. Restrictions on regulation of investment & services with fewer rights to ~~reg~~ review foreign investment
5. Restrictions on rights to regulate essential services, with water services particularly at risk
6. The United States will have too much influence on quarantining & labelling
7. There will be restrictions on Australian content rules in new media
8. Job losses will result from tariff cuts and changes to government purchasing rules
9. The Free Trade Agreement (USFTA) dispute process limits our democracy. Also there are implications in points 1 to 8 that involve our sovereignty and democracy as well.

Please do not approve the USFTA

Yours sincerely
Diane O'Mara
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