

I would like to express my absolute opposition to the so-called FTA with the USA.

First, I am opposed to the whole concept of "free trade," as tariffs and subsidies historically have been necessary to retain the standard of living which our ancestors have fought and worked for, as well as to retain a relatively egalitarian society, which is the backbone of a true democracy. As an example, I doubt that politicians would expose their jobs to free trade and GATS.

Second, I would ask if this taking of submissions is just showcasing, if the decision has already been made by the government. Even if it is designed to get some idea of the extent of opposition from the community, it will be inaccurate, as the public has not been effectively informed about the issue.

Sugar has been left out of the FTA, and some of us know why--George Bush's brother Jeb is the Governor of Florida, a sugar-producing state in the USA. There was no way George was going to burn Jeb, who effectively put him in the White House.

This FTA is a complete sell-out of the millions of people in Queensland and New South Wales who directly or indirectly rely on sugar cane for their income.

I could go on about the beef industry, which will also be hammered, but I doubt whether anybody will read this far. For anybody who does, this Liberal-Labor coalition has in the past and is continuing to destroy and sell out our industries, and will go down in history as traitors to our country. I hope you're proud.

Bob Morrison

Robert D Morrison