

Submission to the Senate Committee Inquiry into the proposed Australia-US Free Trade Agreement.

The Secretary, Senate Select Committee on the US Free Trade Agreement,  
Parliament House, Canberra ACT. 2600. FTA@aph.gov.au

I wish to submit that the FreeTrade Treaty should not be endorsed for a number of reasons including the following+

1/ The treaty would enable the country with the worst public health system in the developed world to interfere with prices and policies of the Australian pharmaceutical benefits system, and endanger health and welfare of the Australian people on behalf of overseas drug countries;

2/ It would endanger Australian control of the content of our media, and again allow our policy decisions to be subverted by decisions made in USA;

3/ It would lead us to abandon regulation and control of foreign investment and therefore of the future directions of our economy;

4/ In general it would permit a US interference and a veto over Australia's sovereign decisions on social welfare, the economy, the environment, and freedom to legislate freely on matters of concern to the electorate.

5/ The benefits suggested are minimal, and a long way into the future; the immediate loss of jobs in many industries, and particularly the car components and assembly sectors, would be disastrous to many workers, their families, and their economic contacts;

6/ This is not "free trade" at all. It leads to highly controlled Australian trade, investment, social and environmental policies by foreign corporations and the government of USA.

Yrs,

(Dr) Brian T. Carey,