Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing as a member of the Media Entertainment & Arts Alliance and a
voter in your electorate to urge you to ensure that you vote against all
legislative changes required to give effect to the proposed Free Trade
Agreement negotiated between the Federal Government and the United States
administration.

The Australian entertainment industry only exists because of an intricate
web of support mechanisms provided by the Australian and State
Governments. These mechanisms have changed over time to respond to the
ever-changing
landscape in the entertainment industry.

The free trade agreement negotiated between the United States and Australia
puts strict limits on the ability of Government to respond to future
changes. These limits include:

1.   The Government may not impose local content requirements on most pay
television channels;
2.   Of those pay television channels where the Government may act to impose
local content rules the level of local content is set at very low levels, in
no way similar to the current free to air television rules;
3.   The Government will never be able to regulate existing media (unless
currently regulated) for local content. This means cinema (including
e-cinema) may never be regulated;
4.   The Government may not begin to act to introduce rules for interactive
media until the level of access for Australian audiences to local production
is already found to be at unacceptably low levels. There is no ability to
take pre-emptive action.

Any free trade agreement we enter into should ensure that Australia remains
free to respond to changes as and when it sees fit. Australia must be free
to introduce any new measures at any point in time and for all technologies
to meet Australia's cultural objectives as our Governments determine them.

The Federal Government did secure such an arrangement in the
Singapore/Australia Free Trade Agreement

Please vote against any and all legislative changes required to bring this
proposed agreement into effect.

Yours faithfully

Daina Reid