



Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Airports Amendment Bill 2006

Submission of the National Retail Association – January 8, 2007

Overview of the Organisation

The National Retail Association ('NRA') is a not-for-profit industry organisation that has been serving the retail industry for over 75 years. The NRA is an industry organisation that provides professional services to the retail and wider service industry throughout Australia.

It is the pre-eminent, Australia-wide voice of the retail sector, which employs more Australians than any other industry and accounts for almost 20% of the Australian workforce.

There are now over 3700 businesses serviced by NRA. Members range from sole operator enterprises to speciality, chain, franchise stores of all types and sizes, and franchisor organisations throughout Australia. NRA's members collectively employ over 300,000 Australians.

NRA's aim is to ensure that businesses within the service sector, whatever their size, have access to specialised knowledge and industry-specific expertise in order to grow and prosper. Our key activity is to provide industry-specific professional services that include employment law and industrial relations advice, workplace health and safety advice, government relations and issues management, staff development and training, job placement service, property and project services and events and networking.

NRA also seek to ensure that the views and concerns of the service sector are communicated to governments, the media and the wider community, as well as profiling and showcasing the achievements of the industry through a number of key events.

Submission

1. NRA supports a statutory regime which ensures the effective operation of consultation processes and facilitates input from state planning authorities, local governments and the community in the assessment by the Australian Government of planning and development applications
2. NRA does not oppose non-aeronautical developments on airport land where the development is consistent with the airport master plan and where the development does not prejudice the future development of the aviation uses of the airport
3. Subject to the foregoing, NRA does not oppose retail developments on airport land provided that the development is in the consumers interest. NRA believes that the promotion of choice to consumers is beneficial to the retail sector. Diversity in retail formats adds to the vitality and attractiveness of the retail sector as a whole, and contributes to growth and profitability in the sector.

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