

AUSTRALIAN RETAILERS FIGHT FOR A FAIR GO

We represent a range of retailers in Australia with 2,211 stores, together employing more than 76,000 Australians.

At the rate at which internet retailing is growing with mobile internet technology, the fact that offshore retailers aren't required to levy duty or GST on purchases under \$1000 creates an enormous competitive advantage for foreign businesses selling into Australia. These businesses don't pay our taxes, employ our people, train our young people or contribute to our economy.

We agree with our customers that online retailing is a wonderful convenience that is here to stay. We also agree that fair competition is good for our customers and we want to be able to offer them the same Australian tax exemptions that offshore retailers enjoy.

We currently offer our customers online services and we want to offer more, but we are disadvantaged by an Australian tax regime that offers overseas businesses a better deal to the detriment of Australian retailers and consumers who shop locally.

There is an urgent need to tackle the uneven playing field which has resulted in this "overseas retailers versus Australian retailers" debate.

Failing to support Australian retailers will see a reduction in hours and shifts for casual and part-time workers, and ultimately cost Australians jobs in retail, manufacturing, logistics and related services.

Our Government needs to give Australian retail businesses employing one in ten Australians a fair go.

We are not asking for special treatment. The answer is to create a level playing field where the same rules apply to everyone. That means everyone is exempt from GST and duty charges for purchases less than \$1000 - or everyone has to pay GST and duty.

Angus & Robertson

BORDERS

DAVID JONES

dotti

FRENCH CONNECTION

Harvey Norman

House

JACQUIE

JayJays

**Just
Jeans**

MIMCO

MYER
ismystore

NINE WEST

peteralexander

portmans

seed

Smiggle

**STEVE
MADDEN**

superChef
WAREHOUSE

Target.

WITCHERY