<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Firstname</th>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judith</td>
<td>Fraser</td>
<td>Anything which reduces the price of books, suits me. Go for it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra</td>
<td>Robotis</td>
<td>I love reading books, but the current prices force me, to go to a book exchange.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milva</td>
<td>Salzano</td>
<td>Yes, I would welcome a reduction of the costs of imported &amp; local books. I would also like to see that books published (in either hard back or soft back) overseas be available immediately in Australia rather than up to 3 years delay ... I have yet to be convinced as to why there are always delays.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken</td>
<td>Bethell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Lambert</td>
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<td>Marianne</td>
<td>Starz</td>
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<td>Peter</td>
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<td>Lindy</td>
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<td>Lisa</td>
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<td>Tegan</td>
<td>Kinney</td>
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<td>Michelle</td>
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<td>Jennifer</td>
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<td>Ken</td>
<td>Manson</td>
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<td>Peter</td>
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<td>Katrina</td>
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<td>Caryn</td>
<td>Parker</td>
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<td>George</td>
<td>Troynar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robyn</td>
<td>Nowell</td>
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<td>Lucy</td>
<td>Bushell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell</td>
<td>Kippax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penny</td>
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<td>Doreen</td>
<td>Keiller</td>
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<td>Anita</td>
<td>Gilham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa</td>
<td>Evans</td>
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<td>Tasha</td>
<td>Lademann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim</td>
<td>Ferguson</td>
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<td>Mary</td>
<td>Blood</td>
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<td>Denise</td>
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<td>Casei</td>
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<td>Charmaine</td>
<td>Hopper</td>
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<td>Kirsten</td>
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<td>Razi</td>
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<td>Meredith</td>
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<td>Jasmine</td>
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<td>Gemma</td>
<td>Kay</td>
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<td>Janet</td>
<td>Condon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen</td>
<td>Lawson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keryin</td>
<td>Hutchison</td>
<td>Why should books be treated differently to other items?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda</td>
<td>Huang</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>Campbell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim</td>
<td>Eversden</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jasmin</td>
<td>Wass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bianca</td>
<td>Koksalsal</td>
<td>What's being done here is AMAZING... I so want cheaper books</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elaine Lam
Adam Hudson
Guy Manera
Iny Walker
Lyndel Sprigg
Elaine Hodgson
Sue Gauci

Australia needs to be a smart country, to lead the way, show the rest what we are made of, buying books should not be prohibitive. Encourage us to become more knowledgeable not hinder us, there are many places our dollars can go, dont let books become more expensive.

Ann Symons
Mary-anne Williams
Simon Inwards
Mary Lane
Sarah Atkinson
Barbara Cullen
Andrew Mason
Helen Cawood
Hannah Jones

i totally support the petition, i too would love to get more books imported from the US
God bless

Aleta Harper
Marie Norris
David Lilburne
Jennifer Godfrey
Kylie Woods

Any action that reduces the price of books is a positive move. New books on Ebay & Amazon ( to name just 2 examples ) are often 50% cheaper than the same book in Melbourne bookshops.

Garry Crosby
Hayley Peoples
Anna Bower
Michelle Ellis
Lilian Cartwright
Kathryn Warren
James Tini - Joseph
Kaye Alksne

Good on you Dymocks for campaigning to cheapen books- they are, after all, the very best way to escape the irritation of the recession!!!

In this day of electronic communication I think that it is even more important than ever that books remain as cheap as possible. Higher prices mean that some in the community lose their access to books. Books, the written word, English Grammar and Language, other Languages need to be enjoyed and appreciated by everyone. We all deserve to experience the joy of owning a beautiful book.

Leonie Annan
James Burke
Adrienne Angelo
Lindsay Caffin
Hien Dang
Leonie Kouvaras
Dean Pane

I love reading, and love owning the books myself, but it's too expensive to buy them all the time.

Justine Avenell
Jennifer Nguyen
Sharon Prinsen
Robyn Vincent
Les Harris
Charlotte Wallace
Savina Lee

Just lower the price!!
Barbara Wall
Charlotte Mitchell
R Tomaino
Maria Patrick
Madonna Mcmahon

I often order books from the UK and get family to bring them over or have them posted. I feel that Australian's pay far too much for books which are not a luxury item!

Kate White
Jaana Jarrad
Ian Bootland
Linda Lanyon
Kaylene O'Neill
Helen Che
Marek Prachar
Aphrodite Al Zaghal
Zidi Zhang
Philip Young
Caroline Murphy
Alicia Slade
Wendy Hoang
Jaskaran Singh
James Tobin
Andrew Osborne
Linda Shaw
Mark Podgorski
Nancy Mayberry
Leroy Smith
Sue Gardiner

will benefit book buyers

People need access to cheap, good quality books to improve our literacy levels!

Sue Gardiner
Deirdre Hefferman

Having arrived from Ireland (considered relatively expensive compared with the US and UK) a couple of years ago I was shocked at the cost of books in Australia. Books are not a product or a commodity- access to books should be a right for all-they should be affordable and not considered a luxury.

Gillian Napoli
Leonie Hancock
Sally McQuinn
Alexandra Wright
Esther Pozzebon

Books used to be great value for money. I am in a book club and am finding it difficult to purchase our monthly books, particularly when the normal size paperback edition is not available. I am then forced to pay even more money for a larger, hard covered in some cases, book which does not fit in my book shelf. Books are no longer value for money and readily available to all Australians. And there are not enough copies of books in local libraries to meet the demands of the public. There is now a vicious cycle, whereby people rely more on libraries for their reading material and have to wait extended periods of time due to the wait list on a book, because they can no longer afford to purchase a book.

Patricia Leary
Melvyn Jones
Matthew Huxley
Juliet Reynolds
Brian Moody
Nathan Charles
Alexander Coupe
Adriana Della Franca
Joan & Wal Costanzo

Books should definitely be more affordable. This would help middle to low income earners and pensioners benefit more from book reading.
Although I prefer to support local book stores, I am sometimes forced to purchase from Amazon online book store as the books can be MUCH cheaper. It is imperative that books are accessible to all and in the current times of recession, it is madness to keep the inflated book prices that often exist in Australia.

Deborrah Lee Henderson
educational books should be made cheaper to students

Warren Pointon
it would be great if books were at least half the price they currently are

Louise Lennox
I import books, and buy from Amazon anyway! I would much rather support Australian business!
Thank you for providing us the opportunity to get cheaper books in Australia

Reading a book is one of life's pleasures - anything to make the price of a book cheaper and allow more people access to books can only be a good thing. Good Luck.

While normally I feel protective of Australian industry and business, I think we should have access to a less expensive product in this case. Australia is not as deeply dependant on this area as it is others.

I think people will have problems buying expensive books due to economic crisis. Thus, reading habits may be discouraged further. What will happen to this country if people stop reading??
I haven’t bought a single book since in AU, opting instead for libraries due to the prohibitive cost of books. Whilst in Canada, I bought a book a week on average at $9.99, but I will NEVER pay $21 for a paperback. No matter how much I want to read it and this only on principle. If you makes book cheaper, I will buy them!

Reading is an integral part of learning and anything which improves our knowledge should be available to everyone. Therefore books must be affordable for everyone.

Books should be affordable for everyone, the only way this is possible is if books are cheaper than they are now!!!!
I support the unfettered importation of books into Australia, excepting those that would violate our censorship laws.

I am an age of increasing use of technology, anything that can help in the increased use of books can only be a good thing.

IT WOULD BE GREAT TO GET CHEAPER IMPORTED BOOKS IN AUSTRALIA

Failure to remove the restrictions on book importation will affect those members of society who can least afford to lose access to knowledge.

Restrictions prevent Australians from easier access to some very good books, particularly in non-fiction. Why should we have to spend our money overseas if we want to access these books?
Laura Minchella  |  Cheaper books for all!
---|---
Shanna Teng
Marilyn Tofler
Danielle Hodge
Jim MacDougall
Sandra Hails
Timothy Herlihy

I believe these restrictions are a restraint on trade as Australians are paying too much for books.

Books are the only window to the world for many, many people. Not everyone is computer literate and, in many cases it is not possible, either financially or through distance, to access the internet. Therefore inexpensive books are vital for mental wellbeing.

Fay Bradshaw
Alison Jospeh
Janet Burne
Emma Calgaro
Natasha Ellis
Jessie Song
Ann Penstone
Katharin Jenei-Pinter
Paul Baker
Jessica Skeen
Judyann Miles
Molly Hall
Brodie Evitts
Carolyn Hawley
Justine Blood-Scott

I am an avid reader and support the campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Elisabeth Adamson
Anie Greig
Sylvia Anne Clarke

Would love to see book prices come down. Would (hopefully) be able to buy two books instead of one at a time. E make book prices inline with other imported goods such as cds and dvds

Fiona Carroll
Maureen Laba Sarkis
Patricia Hammond
Dishanthi Jayathilleke
Cassandra Brew
Casey Fogarty

Having an artificially priced/maintained marked inside Australia makes no sense when purchasers can go on-line and order books from overseas sellers and have them delivered for cheaper than what Australian bookstores (with Australian staff) can sell them for. I cannot see how this "protects" Australian writers, and why we should be "protecting" overseas writers (who are subject to open markets at home) I am at a loss to explain.

Andrew Smolka
Linh Hong
Denise Bilby
Simarjot Kaur
David Jacobs
Amelia Yocelin
Fiona Pullen
Sarah Laurie
Madeleine Cronin
Adele Wardrop
Karen Rau
Peter Mcleod
Alicorn Luxton
Susan Slape

Cheaper books should encourage wider readership among younger population, especially students.

Elizabeth Adamson
Anie Greig
Sylvia Anne Clarke

Protectionism is bad.
Books are my pleasure and education. We have the right to read and if it helps us to support Australian businesses then so be it.

So long as the cheaper books are also available in hardcovers. Thank you.

This has been a long time coming and better late than never. Access to international standard literature and non-fiction for as many people as possible is part of the way we can not end up becoming the intellectual "poor relations" globally.

If books did become cheaper it would be fantastic it means that for some people that can normally not afford to purchase a book could then do so. Especially for our younger generation the more reading children are doing they are learning and becoming better readers. If the books are more reasonable priced to purchase I am positive that more people would buy books of all ages.
As the world wrests with the ebook revolution and the inability to teach our children to be PROPERLY literate through the education system, there has never been a more critical time to make books more available and affordable. Otherwise we will lose, not only the ability to read intelligently, but also the wherewithal. Gerry Brady

I would buy more books in Australia if the prices were more competitive with offshore suppliers.

Go Dymocks, It would make reading affordable for more Australians if books were cheaper.

People just get their books via the internet anyway if they can't find it at the right price here

how about removing tax from books to make them cheaper!
Deborah Miller

These restrictions seem ridiculous when individually we can purchase on the internet from overseas, have the books posted, and still be $10 - $15 better off per book.

Books are incredibly expensive, especially in this recession and many people view books as a luxury as their income is diverted by more pressing needs such as rent, mortgages, bills, etc. Books should be more affordable so that those on lower incomes can afford them.

I support this idea of cheaper books into Australia. Hopefully this won’t affect our printing industry in Australia. Lexie Aberline

Minh Tran

Lexie Aberline

Susan Lees

Michelle Hind

Chi Fai Tsang

Annie Shih

Catriona Ciszewski

Tom McGorm

Danielle Woolhead

Allison Storey

Feifei Huang

Amanda Watson

Anthony Laven

Delia Matthews

Vanessa Virgato

Katherine Archer

Narelle Sheezel

Clare Markwick

Kiat Cheng Soh

Mary Maund

John Yeo

Terry Clarke

Jeannine Goddard

Keith Parker

Anthony Madigan

Vicky Eglinton

Lenia Tapas

Gary Cohen

Clare Daly

Sally Gooch

Pam Ryan

Sandra Anne Cooling

Hannah Heidke

It should not become more expensive to learn, and expand the mind, please keep books cheaper.

I would love to buy more books but unfortunately the price does stop me indulging myself.

I regularly buy books from Amazon because they are much cheaper even with the exchange rate and postage

It is so important for people to have acces to cheaper books so that they can then afford to keep reading, especially for children and especially in this electronic age, being able to read and read well and enjoy reading is SO important!

Of course cheaper books is a fantastic idea! Families who have small children and a small income don’t have to let their kids miss out on bedtime stories! A child's imagination should be nurtured!

To move ahead Australia and help our people learn, we need to lower the price of books.

Imported text books have always been expensive.

Not everyone has access to the internet to explore the world of words. Nor is it enjoyable to spend hours in front of a computer compared to the hours of pleasure in 'breaking in' the spine of a new book. If books were cheaper I would definitely spend more money on buying an author's entire collection eg. J.D. Robb's detective series, instead of rationing myself to just one or two books by the same author in a particular genre. Everybody wins - the reader, the author, publisher, retailers etc. Being a booklover, I would spend more money to buy more books in all the genres that interest me instead of rationing myself.

It's always nice to save where we can. Thank you for making the said submission.

Sandra Cooling
I read so many books and like keeping the greats and adding to my library - I will be less inclined to buy several at a time if the price goes up and would probably only buy one - please reconsider.

Easy availability of books is an important part of Australia being a democracy with freedom of expression.

Yes, I have on occasion bought second hand books which have obviously originated in the US and note that the price they pay for books is considerably cheaper than we do, and that is after I have converted from USD to AUD. I don't see why we cannot have the same privilege - I know that were the price to come down, as a real book lover, I would buy more books - it would actually result in more profit for the author, the publisher, the printer(?) and that could only be a good thing!!!

No comment at this stage
Restricting the availability of books and all literature in Australia is taking a backward step in improving the literacy of the Australian Public. Literacy and reading skills need to be encouraged not discouraged. By delaying the availability of books by 12 months, many people are likely to purchase overseas via the internet and therefore take away from trade within Australia.

Books should be accessible to all and at their current price this is not the case specially in the case of children's books. They should be cheap enough for all to buy and encourage children to read.

Hopefully it will mean that Australia will also have access to greater range of titles as well as cheaper prices.

Remove restrictions to enable all Australians the opportunity to read and get pleasure from books. Cheaper books will provide more opportunities for people to remain employed and to employ others.

I'm only 14 years old and it's hard for me to find books that are cheap. I really enjoy reading books and some books I would like to buy are very expensive. Everytime I go to Dymocks, I can't buy anything there because I don't have enough money for it. If the government would please help me and all of the other booklovers who want to find cheaper books, that would be a great pleasure.

Reading is important and should be encouraged!! Currently to buy a novel it is about $32!! Crazy!! We need access to cheaper books!!!!
Cheaper books can turn into greater volume turnover which means more books are out in the community being read - potential for increased literacy. We also buy secondhand to increase our access to book titles at more competitive rates. A lot of people I know are purchasing books from Amazon.com to get the latest books sooner and cheaper than by buying books from local Australian retailers. It would be better to allow Australian businesses to compete rather than make them redundant. This is long overdue and has my full support.

Carol Burns

Janet Mengel

Peter Hopkins

Aline Bonifazzi

Karen Allan

Hayley Ford

Carolyn Reed

Alison Craig

Susan Hargreaves

Millagros Delgado

Dagmar Parsons

Valerie Roche

Barry Baker

Trevor Langlands

John Clinton

Tasoula Metaxas

Luke Baker

Natalie Bolton

Pam Baker

Christine Woods

Riley Schmidt

Rachelle Meuse

Would love the opportunity to purchase new books rather than rely on second hand stores.

John Manson

Simon Tarbett

Susan Turner

Tiu Knight

Kathryn Baker

Claire Hill

Karen Condon

Nerida King

Nasser Al-hHamimi

The availability of cheaper book can only aid in the literacy standards of the nation.

Books should be affordable for everyone. The price of books these days are unaffordable to a lot of people. The price of even a paperback novel these days is sometimes almost $40. Is it any wonder people are going online and buying from other countries. I would buy a lot more books if they were a reasonable price.

Annette Dunn

Tenelle Wilks

Brooke Gorman

Angela Henschke

Kylie Scott

Jason Hewlett

Michelle Prinsen

Meredith Robinson

Catherine Heyn

Warren Lee

Anne Chidgey

Marcel Berkhout

Surely literacy is still important. I have two teenage children who I would love to buy more books for, but often the cost is prohibitive.

Denise Manson
books are such a valuable resource that cheaper costs would allow home libraries to increase and the love of reading developed.

Reading is an essential skill and pastime for people. The best way to encourage people to read is to ensure that the price of books are at the lowest possible prices. There is no reason for the distribution of books to continue to imported only through Australian subsidiaries or agents of overseas publishers. By eliminating the middleman, the opportunity for cheaper books will arise. Let's take that opportunity.

My bank account can assure you it worked for the CD market, so why not books as well? Movies would be the next step on the path, to complete my entertainment triumvarate.

It's about time we had the monopoly removed! Hooray, Keep up the good work. In Australia our books are far too expensive and any method to make books cheaper and more accessible to readers would be welcome.

I think the restrictions should be in place for the 12 months. We all like cheaper goods but no need to swamp the market with imported goods as soon as released.

We need to be able to access books that are cheaper to encourage more parents to buy quality products for their children, hence encouraging children to read and learn more.
Having more reasonably priced books would reduce the purchasing of books from overseas internet sites and thus more people would support our local booksellers.

The current restrictions amount to a restraint on education and advancement of learning.

Currently, it's significantly cheaper for me to buy books online that it is to buy them in Australia. If it were only a little more expensive in Australia, I'd buy more books in Australia as the convenience of browsing through a book store cannot be replicated online. Till that happens though, I'll continue most of my book shopping online.

I am intrigued the Australian Govt will allow cheaper CDs into Australia but not books. I think the petition should be lifted as it is a discriminatory act against books. The price of books in Australia is unaffordable. I read for personal pleasure as well as for professional interest and currently rarely purchase from AUstralian booksellers because the prices are uncompetitive. I would prefer to buy from Australian businesses but at the moment Amazon wins!

It's a free market, let it be free.
UNLESS it means that Australian publishers and writers will be undercut and lose money.

Why do your book cosy soo much - when I cane get them 35% cheeper at Big W - Target or K Mart

Also would like to point out the riddiculousness of some books (language especially) not being able to be imported from America. If we can carry corpses of all things around the globe, we can transport books.

If we can make books cheaper without the publishers and authors suffering, then we need to do it.

It is about time that the price of books is reduced. Books are an important part of our childrens education and the considerably high cost prevents alot of parents from passing this wonderful gift to our children

Make reading accessable to all. We all benefit by the increased knowledge in others. I am a high school teacher and an issue that I face is encouraging students to read. If the prices were cheaper students would be able to afford to purchase books, rather than spending their money on other avenues of entertainment.
I read a book a week and buy books to support book shops, although going to a library would be much cheaper. Reading and books are important in shaping our conversation, community and imagination. Without books we wouldn't have the richness of life that we enjoy here in Melbourne and Australia. Please enable this to continue by bringing cheaper books to us all.

Please keep books for children affordable prices to facilitate the literacy accessibility, learning opportunities and reading pleasure for our young children.

I can purchase books from USA, so why not let Australia reap some of the profits as well.

I would have thought it more important to have cheaper books than cheaper music. Books are knowledge.

Cheaper books would encourage people to read, particularly children. When I first moved here from the UK 15 years ago, I was horrified by the price of books. Cheaper books would also encourage people to visit bookshops rather than buy online from overseas.

Books teach morals and knowledge for the future! Being a student, I don't have ridiculous amounts of money to spend on books (I really wish I did). Hopefully the result of this petition is me, and many others, being able to afford many more books to help further our studies and reap the rewards that reading has to offer.

Reading as a pastime that should be readily available to all - how can we possibly address the increase in illiteracy and decreased reading amongst children until we've addressed the issue of the prohibitively high cost of books.

Please note you had the wrong address please enter details as above, thank you

Boks are too expensive in Australia as compared to prices overseas

I am an avid reader and buy at least 3 books at the same time - average cost being $100 this is ridiculous and I support the cheaper books campaign.
No more over priced books! No-one will buy them, when they can purchase them somewhere else for less :(

With concerns that our population is becoming less literate, more inclined to sit in front of the television than to pick up a book, removing the restrictions on parallel importation would help to reduce the cost of books, and encourage more people to read. This is particularly true of new release books, where there may be much hype surrounding a particular book, and people are put off by the astronomical price tag (I recently bought a new release novel for almost $50, not many people who are not dedicated to an author or series would do this). The cost of books for children and young adults is very high, and reduced costs may also help them to get more into reading, as they may be in a better position to purchase with their own pocket money, rather than relying upon sometimes unencouraging

Cheaper books would urge more people to read than play xboxes etc

I would buy more books 1

if books are made available cheaper I would like to think that book lovers would then buy more, I certainly would!
At a time where every dollar counts for all households in Australia, it is unbelievable that an initiative like this is ignored. I am sure many people would be thrilled to be able to continue to purchase books at a reasonable price & help the companies who supply books to weather the storm.

I believe our restrictions do cause book prices in Australian bookshops to be unreasonably expensive. One only has to travel to appreciate that. And I think our publishers and authors can and will survive without outmoded protectionist policies. They have an understandable fear of losing what they perceive to be a "security blanket". I believe that they will come to realise that their fears were misplaced and that it will be demonstrated that they can meet competition in the 21st century world very well. That would be good in these times of financial crises - part of reboosting the economy...

Cheaper books are essential for the education revolution that the Rudd government supports.

How can we encourage young children to read really great books if we can't afford to buy them. Children's books are extremely expensive for what they are and I know that if they were cheaper to buy, I would be buying a lot more books for my children.

I am always disappointed that we are very limited in the selection of books available in Australia, there are so many authors unheard here but are available through web sites. Please start importing more authors.
My local Dymocks bookstore is closing due to difficult financial conditions in retail. The removal of restrictions will only result in ALL small bookstores losing out - big retailers will be the only winners. Save the local bookstores!!!

Why not make Dymocks part of the Coalition for Cheaper Books and note their submissions to the Productivity Commission which, we believe, THIS would reduce book prices for the public whilst at the same time protecting the copyright and income of authors and publishers, and particularly ensure that no further Australian companies ‘go under’ making their employees redundant.

Would definitely like to see cheaper books!!

Books open the world to people and enhance learning

Well done!
I use the Internet for many reasons BUT, for me, being able to take a book with me, on a plane, in a car or anywhere outdoors or even from room to room is a must and this I cannot do via the Internet. Make books more affordable so that the beauty of the written word can be experienced by all.

Books provide access to knowledge, and greater purchasing power would allow greater access to this knowledge for everyone.

As an avid reader it would be even better if the prices of books came down to a more realistic level, especially in today's financial climate. Cheaper books should be accessible to everyone, particularly young children and those in high school and university. This will give them access to a world of opportunities and allow for growth and development. High prices of books however will deprive and hinder this process otherwise.

We've been paying too much for books for too long, it's time for a change. Books are far too expensive. There is nothing like bonding over a good children's book with your child or giving a friend a book that says how much you appreciate them. Books to me are a life line.

I also have children that love books and every shopping expedition includes a book store visit. But, due to the high price of books I cannot always afford to purchase books.

Aside from pricing, it will improve availability of books published in the U.K. or U.S.A. and not imported by Australian agents etc. It is crazy you must go through a website like Amazon to buy, for example, a craft book published in the U.K. and which Australian importers have not taken up the opportunity to import.

Cheaper books means more readers and cleverer people!

I would think that in the economic times we are facing now, cheaper books would mean that people can actually afford to buy (ie spend) more on books i know i certainly would. It is crazy that we have to pay so much for books when you can buy a cd for less in most cases.
cheaper prices on children's books is essential to improving our literacy levels

The price on books is already excessive due to gst. Also the author's will get payment whether the book is published in Australia or elsewhere. What is there to argue about? Any legislation to stop books being cheaper and more readily available is stopping our children being more literate and making it more expensive for libraries to get the best literature and reference material. In a country where children's non fiction books are now over $40 each (i.e. 25 books per $1000) we are not giving our children enough of a chance to read!! Last year I promoted the ACT Chief Minister's Reading Challenge at the school I worked for and was able to get over 25% of students to complete it by sheer perseverance. Many school libraries cannot buy books at current prices and you are dooming those students

Given we currently have a shortage of skilled workers, would it make sense to make educational books more expensive for those of us who want to learn a skill?

Not everyone will choose to buy the cheaper books but I believe it's important to allow the freedom of choice for each individual, that is one of the wonderful features of being an Australian.

The books we read in this country should not be so expensive and out of reach to everyone.

we need cheaper books!!!

I already import books from overseas as they are substantially cheaper than the books retail here. If books were made cheaper here, I would buy in Australia.

Reading is so important for everyone and anything that can reduce the price of books to make them more accessible to everyone has to be a good thing.
Easing these import restrictions would enable profits from book sales to stay in Australia. I currently buy nearly all my books from overseas on the Internet as they are much cheaper. Please change this counter-productive law.

I believe in free trade

Cheaper books would benefit all people and increase the popularity of reading fiction.

I have lots of children and place a high importance on reading to them and encouraging books over TV. I would love to have access to cheaper books to add to their collections!!

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. We in Australia, pay far too much for books. We need the restrictions to be removed so that we could buy cheaper books.
C Ds have had restrictions on imports removed since 1998 why are books excluded from similar restrictions particularly as prices for CDs were reduced - can this be applied to books too.

Parallel importation restrictions currently benefit foreign publishers twice, at the expense of Australian consumers. Although foreign publishers appropriately profit from the sale of the book at international prices into the Australian market they further benefit from the unjustified mark-up their Australian subsidiaries make to this 'captive' market as well as from the positive impacts these profitable subsidiaries have on the overall profitability / share price / portfolio / cash flow of the parent companies. Allowing parallel importation should encourage these (currently parasitic) local subsidiaries to focus on competitive pricing and publishing high quality local authors currently struggling to gain notice in an increasingly closed market.

To make books more accessible is important, reading is an active process in comparison to passively sitting in front of the television. This therefore leads to more active assimilation of information, knowledge and understanding of the world and other perspectives. This helps dispel ignorance and develops tolerance and awareness.

Yes I agree completely with this petition. Books here are ridiculous over priced compared to that of overseas markets and I would buy more books if they were cheaper and so would many of my friends.

I believe it is important for the literacy of the general Australian community to have access to cheaper books of any nature.

Those who support the retention of expensive books claim that the Industry will fail if its funding is cut. On the contrary. In UK when 'Retail Price Maintenance' was killed the number books sold shot up and the number of new titles printed increased.
Yes - it is a disgrace. I have many friends who purchase through Amazon because US prices are so lower...we need to put our money back into the Australian economy.

I wholeheartedly support this course. Thank you kindly for this opportunity.

Regards, Katharine Gray

If the price of books are reduced then more people may be inclined to buy it rather than borrow from the library.

Please let cheaper books into Australia so that I don't have to buy them from overseas.

I can not believe it takes a petition for this to happen. Why is it Companies can't just get the cheapest product for the client, especially with the way the economy is at the moment. The government should be ashamed of themselves.

Books are too expensive to buy anymore

Access to affordable books in Australia is a matter of huge importance in ensuring that books remain part of people's lives in the electronic age.
please make reading affordable afor everyone. it is a right not a privilege

Books are way too expensive in Australia compared to the rest of the world. Books retailing for an average new book price of $25 in AUD are only AUD$12-15 in US. Freight is the killer for normal aussie person to bring the books over so retailers in Australia should be able to go back to pricing arrangements before GST - that was when huge jump in pricing occurred!

I am an Australian author and would wish my books to be available at reasonable cost to those overseas. Therefore it seems only fair that the same applies to the Australian public. Karen

Reducing cost to retail OTC purchase of books would be a boost for Australian retail when otherwise we can buy online from overseas at cost of local industry profitability - surely a bigger consideration now in recession with pressure on employment etc

Please, Please make books accessible to ALL by reducing their cost

Cheaper books will lead to a smarter country!

Cheaper books are surely a good thing for improving literacy rates in Australia.
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Compared to the United Kingdom & USA, our books are disgustingly expensive. I know a number of people who won't buy books in Australia, but buy them online. This saves them large amounts of money, even though they're paying for postage as well! The only reason I don't do the same is because I don't like buying online. This is a ridiculous situation & should be changed.

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Hi, Dymocks looks like there are two of us with the same hotmail address! I'm David Inglis at 6 Lipscomb Pl Macgregor ACT. That noted, I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign and wish you luck.

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Times are tough and we should encourage reading and learning for ALL ages. Why must we make this necessity and pleasure even more expensive? In the best interest of ALL Australians please remove the restrictions on parallel importation.

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We want to talk with people who know books not just buy one of the shelves. Keep the service up Dymocks you do a great job. Thank you!

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We need to ween people of television and have them control their input. Enough CSI wherever! Read something inspiring instead.

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If books were more affordable for parents to purchase more children would be reading and being educated rather than watching TV or playing Video games on TV or Internet.
I try to support Australian booksellers, but if the books they sell are too expensive, I will often try to source the books from international booksellers online i.e. eBay or Amazon.com. This means that my money is going overseas, instead of supporting Australian companies. This does not seem right to me. Please make books cheaper and help keep jobs here in Australia.

The world is in a crisis, many have their jobs, homes and families taken away from them. Must everything become restricted and taken away from people? I mean, they're books. Books have been around for millennia. It is ridiculous, what the world has become. To put a restriction on books for parallel importation is ludacris. The world is in enough crisis. Let the people have their books.
I support the coalition for cheaper books. As books are such a consolation and pleasure, availability needs to be as cheap as possible. Thanks.

I think this is an important initiative and will help towards making Australia a more competitive, informed and intelligent society.

It is upsetting that I cannot afford to buy more books for my children as even a thin children's paperback costs almost $15. This is hard to manage in tough economic times.

As a teacher, books are needs not wants - if we are to remain the 'smart country,' the price should be dropping. More books to more people will mean less ignorance and a better society - live and learn - read more books.

Do I have to keep going to Amazon if I want to buy reasonably priced books? Please make it worthwhile for me to shop at home.

I support the coalition for cheaper books.

To encourage people to purchase books is to keep the price down.

As a very keen reader all my life, now that I am retired and on a pension, I am finding it increasingly difficult to justify the expense of book buying.

This would promote sales of new books and help to keep jobs in classical stores rather than people buying the books from the internet or used books from overseas.

Let us encourage reading, not stifle it!!!!

Books are a very important part of life for all children in particular, so we need to be able to provide the best selection possible, so we need to remove restrictions where necessary.

Thank you.
Pauline Rasch
Margaret-an Shuttleworth
Lauren Pamenier
Anna Yelavich
Lyn Leach

I strongly support this as I know that books in the USA are much cheaper esp when the $ is strong

Peta McGinley
Roberta Roberts
Steve Hill
Ian Smith
Brian Edwards
Belinda Baker
Ellen Smee
Lindsay Mallet
Victoria Ryan

I’m a teacher, children need many and a huge variety of texts and my school is struggling to provide this resources because of soaring prices in the last 8 years. Anything for cheaper materials to build a more literate Australia.

Cherie Ashby
Jessie Lee Sauge
Rowena D’Souza
Alan Hermann
Ling Zheng
David Baldwin
Leanne Ross
Krystyna Rog
Jodi Hansen
Terry Cronin

To restrict is to impede, and to impede is to not to allow freedom. People should be allowed to have freedom.

Timothy Lawson-smith
Raelene Govett
John Ayrey
Jennifer McCoy
Nickola Pick
Rosemary Prior

I buy most of my books through Amazon because either books are not available in Australia or it is cheaper.

Kevin Golding
Karen Mallam
Matthew Young
John Loebenstein
Hilary Carpenter
Wendy Wickes
Debbie Pahlke
Janine Bean
Margaret Lawler
Michael Pyman
Susan Mary Moyle

Cheaper books would mean more children reading. Surely that is an advantage

Ann Garrett
Janet Power
Laurence Fisher-williams
Michael Barker
Deanna Van Velsen
Mary Forrest
Amanda Leeson

As I buy a book every two weeks for my granddaughter in New Zealand, I would benefit from the cheaper prices, also I feel people would look to books other than different forms of entertainment if they were cheaper.
I am in the fortunate position where I can purchase books overseas as I travel for my work. I don't buy books in Australia due to their cost; I buy in the UK, USA or Singapore. I also buy for my friends.

Reading expands the mind. Expensive books is a disincentive to reading. Australia needs cheaper books! Stop protective monopolies in the supply chain.

I live with and support two students, one of whom is majoring in English Literature so cheaper books would assist.

Books provide an essential service in education and recreation for all age groups in the community and should not have restricted access because of cost. Books are an important part of professional development as well as being important part of life in general I am a psychologist in probvate practice and large numbers of books are printed overseas and it is a great impost on Australina to not have a more even playing field

I travel to the US extensivley and find the same best seller books 50% or more less than the Australian price for the same book. The pricing commission is a self serving gravy train for so called wholesale importers. Book stores should be able to import directly. On line transactions make the exercise easy.

Why are the other book sellers not trying to do anything about the high cost of books, or is it by having the high prices it allows them to rip the public of for more. Good work Dymocks!

I am from the UK and could not believe how expensive books were in Australia. It is a tax on education that this country can ill afford.

taxation on books, shame!

I agree whole heartily
I have always been appalled at the cost of books in Australia. How can the government promote literacy on one hand and on the other hand make the enjoyment and pleasure derived from reading obtainable by only the wealthy?

Keeping books expensive in Australia just means that Australian book businesses lose out on business. People like me, who can buy books on-line or travel regularly overseas, would get or books elsewhere.

I travel quite frequently to Australia and have first hand experience of the markedly greater prices of books in Australia than in America. I would buy more books, and no doubt, spend more money overall, if the individual price per book were not so high.

If the restrictions are not removed, then I have no choice but to purchase my books via Amazon which would give me a great flexibility in purchasing costs - even allowing for shipping costs.

I can often purchase books here in the UK and send them to my relations in Australia which even adding the cost of delivery from the uk is cheaper than they can purchase them locally.

Cheaper books. Please?

The prices of books now are ridiculous

All books should be tax free as they are in most other countries that value education for their children and citizens.
Books should be available to all. Price should not be a burden to anyone who wishes to read. Allow books to be brought in and out of Australia in any manner legal that allows them to be sold at a reasonable price.

I only support this proposal if the booksellers pass on the savings. I am not in favour of this arrangement if booksellers pocket the difference. Books, expensive as they are, are commodities. I will order my books accordingly, even if they are cheaper from Amazon or as audio downloads.

If books were cheaper I would buy more. I buy a lot of children books and some of the more beautiful ones are up to $50.00 which is very unfair. looking forward to it.

Kind regards genoefa

I agree this is a worthy cause.

Strongly support the removal of restrictions. It's a nonsense not to remove restrictions for a year. (Please note MY address - it seems there is more than one Christopher Venning in Australia. And by the way, I didn't receive your earlier email on cheaper books).

Barbara Schneider
Scott Gleeson
Jennifer Edge
Sharne Lawson
Sherry Phillips
Susan Johnson
Jess Parker
Ayaan Omar
Robert Anderson
Sherrill Paton

Davidson Lloyd
Louka Parry
Carol Van Der Schaar
Michelle Viol Lee

Dan Tian
Michelle Taylor
Tanya De Souza-Meally
Tracy Ho
Gary Johnson
Tuckta Mahasay
Albert Koh
John Quetula
Melanie Kerrigan
Marilena Anastassiou

Genoefa Budas
Amanda B
Elisabeth Lynch
Nigel Gibson
Brian Richards
Michelle Ellston
Eva Lindbloom
Jason Arblaster
David Cane
Angelin Yeoh
Catherine Venn

Christopher Venning
Maree Findley
Shivon Veal
Sasha Mahboub
Karla White
Olivia Mou
Robyn Hodson
Jennifer Rillera
Claire Mcgerr
Karina Yuen
Tony Dobbs
Amirah Almas

Books are a key form of entertainment however a CD or DVD is sometimes half the price. I think its time things were more even.

Hilda Kasim

I am 73 yrs old. Books are an important part of a retirees lifestyle. I am on a pension. Problem is that I buy many books thru 'offshore' bookstores because they are much cheaper than OZ bookshops. It seems wrong that a brand new, hard-cover book can be bought and freighted from an o/seas market and delivered to me cheaper than in OZ, to the detriment of OZ bookshops.

Emma Jarvis

Everyone Australian should afford to read, much as having the opportunity and fairness of learning to read.

Merlin Amos

How did you get that address above which is so far out it is not really funny? You should have my correct address and no doubt you will now put it right but the answer to my question would still, I feel, make interesting reading. Thanks Merlin

Matthew Weston

I would like to think that by putting the voice of readers forward to be heard that some cheaper books will be the result.

Shelley Sewell

Everyone Australian should afford to read, much as having the opportunity and fairness of learning to read.

Johnny Von Einem

Whatever happened to freedom of literature, learning, etc. etc. which should be a world-wide freedom? Please do your utmost to amend this deplorable situation.

Diane Tennie
Removal of restrictions should increase the range of books available in Australia, as well as reduce the price. I am of this opinion because I used to live in Chicago, and know first-hand the huge range of wonderful books that are published in the US.

The gift of literature and education through books should be as cheap/free as possible, wherever possible.

Coming from overseas as my wife (Dutch) and I (formerly American) do, we are shocked at how expensive books are here, and note that shipping books individually from the US is still often cheaper than buying them here. This premium is annoying when applied to our reading, but tragic when it limits the amount of reading that our 9-year old daughter can afford to do. Exceeding even the draconian intellectual property treaties currently under discussion, this simple monopoly rent provides a premium to those who provide no value to any of us, and represents a pure impost on us, and on the Australian economy. There is no justification for continuing this, other than serving the vested interests of a few entrenched monopolists.

Regards,

Dr Paul D Hauck, Principal ICT Strategic Services

Paul Hauck
If books are cheaper more people will buy them & read, thus improving their own education as well as stimulating the economy.

I am a student, love reading and read prolifically, cheaper books would be great.

Encourage affordable literacy - sharpen up Australia.
In books we seek truth, in books we seek solace, in books we seek escape, in books we seek laughter. Books are our stories, our history, our right!

As a student, books are an essential part of my education and my life. Cheaper books will help everyone in the long run.

This practice smacks of restriction of trade which goes against the free trade policies of our government.

Books are already too expensive and should be available at reasonable prices for the erudition of all people, young and old!

Cheaper books please!

I'm a big reader, but the biggest source of books for me is the library, because I don't have a high income, and books can be so expensive.

Everything that can be done to encourage reading & the wider availability of books should be done.

I love books and if they were cheaper that would be awesome.
Given the ease of ordering books over the internet from anywhere in the world it seems ridiculous that restrictions apply to sale of the books in Australia. This simply guarantees money is spent outside the country and not within. If the Australian book industry needs this level of protection in the Draft Proposal it simply indicates we are supporting an inefficient industry. We don’t do that any longer in many areas and books should join textiles and the others in having to come to terms with this reality. Last year I spent over $2,000 on books ordered from the USA or UK. How many more like me are there?

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Reading is such an important part of life, particularly in these hard times. It educates and broadens one's horizons, take one to parts of the world they may never get the opportunity to visit otherwise. The removal of restrictions will enable more people access to more books at a cheaper price which must benefit our nation as a whole.

I do not live at the other address. I have corrected my address. I do not like what is happening with the content of USA Printed book media changing Australian authors' writers' words written to American vocab... It is bad enough to have to read and hear English spoken wrongly. Pauline
Books in Australia are far too expensive. If knowledge & education are important to be a clever country then the cost of books is ridiculous!

Students want cheaper books!

Revolve all restrictive practices and adhere to an open transparent market

I support the coalition for cheaper books!

any measure that puts more books in the hands of Australians is good for our cultural capital, our economic future and for businesses that are genuinely interested in selling books to the public.

Keeping books expensive is restricting potential to learn.
Latest releases are limited in hardcover because of cost cutting due to the current regulations.

I feel very strongly about this issue as there are too many people who can ill afford the cost of those books most urgently needed for special research and education. Fairness should be considered.

Please keep the price of books down - to keep them affordable for everyday people!

With the internet the world has changed. We need to change along with it. Some things are worth preserving. This isn't.
As an avid reader and parent of children who are avid readers I applaud this. I grew up in the US where books are significantly cheaper, and my kids did as well until about age 8. I have found a much lower number of 'avid readers' in Australia than in the US and I think this is a definite contributing factor.

I wish to protest against the high cost of books in Australia. Over many years I have been horrified at the price I have had to pay not only for text books but also for books of many other genres, and I think it is time that consumers were given a fair deal. We are very aware that books may be purchased more cheaply overseas and on the internet. Without parallel importation restrictions the Australian consumer will have greater choice and will pay less because it will be in the interests of Australian publishers to serve the consumer better. A competitive market means cheaper books, and cheaper books mean more book sales – a good thing for Australian authors. Also it is important that families are able to afford the books that their children need in order to ac

Good reading is essential to good thinking, we need to encourage the availability of reading material as economical as we can to assist the readers of our time. I'm 16 and I love books. They place the world at one's fingertips like nothing else does. I strongly support this action to make them cheaper to purchase as it's clear that the restrictions that make them expensive are not warranted.
I am an American presently living in Australia, and I find the price of books here to be shocking! I did not realize why they were so expensive.

I'm a book lover and because they are expensive I can not buy as many as I'd like to so bring on the Cheaper Books Campaign!

I would prefer to buy from an Australian company employing Australian workers paying Australian taxes, rather than 'paypal'-ing the US or UK book sites even after postage and the exchange rate. I would support Australian stores if they were competitive.

don't greedy, you make enough money already
I love to read but it cost to much to get the books that aren't in store yet.

Books are vital to the process of reading. Children may learn well with computers but there is nothing like curling up on a sunny day, under a tree with a book. Can you really take a computer to bed? Books should be available at the lowest possible price.

This is something I genuinely feel strongly about.

Yes I definately support your efforts to bring cheaper books onto the Australian market, thanks for this oppertunity. A R Barrie 16 April 2009

MORE BOOKS!!
Having lived in both Canada and the U.S it is extremely frustrating to come back to Australia and not be able to pay a similar price for the same paperback book.

I am English I think that books are much cheaper in the UK. I think books are too expensive in Australia and I support the campaign for cheaper books here.

We need to remove the restrictions or like myself, many will continue to use US markets to buy the same book at a lower cost even with the postage fees, it is cheaper to import many high profile books at lower prices.

There are not similar restrictions on other imports, eg clothing. This restriction for the purpose of orderly marketing is an unnecessary restraint on trade.

What happened to free trade??

Thanks to dymocks for taking the time and energy to make this happen

BOOKS ARE IMPORTANT AS KIDS ONLY PLAYS COMPUTER GAMES AND THEY SUCK AT READING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
I have lived for several years in the United States where books are less expensive and therefore more accessible to more people. I am appalled at the price of books in Australia. This is not the way to encourage people to read more. Books are becoming simply irrelevant to many people because there is so much available electronically on the internet. This is a very sad situation, and one wonders what the effect will be on future generations. Books need to be MORE accessible and less expensive to EVERYONE.

Not really, I just support what you are doing. Late reply due to illness.

Well done Dymocks for promoting this campaign which I imagine will not make you popular with many other interest groups in Australia. I would suggest we need to 'bring on the competition' and see what sort of imaginative solutions come in response. Protectionism never seems to work!

Books are such a necessary part of our lives. If the books were cheaper I would be able to buy more for my grand children. It is so important for children to read. I wholeheartedly support this petition.
It is often cheaper to buy books directly from the USA through Amazon than buying them from Australian booksellers. This is a situation that the Government should be remedying, not exacerbating.

I wholeheartedly support the Coalition for Cheaper Books Campaign and the prospect of purchasing literature at a much more affordable price.

Reading is an essential part of our education system, and a very important part is being able to access that reading at the most affordable cost. The removal of restrictions on parallel importation will provide a level playing field for all and increase the opportunities for learning and leisure.

*PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR RECORDS ARE UPDATED TO MY CURRENT ADDRESS - NO LONGER *PROSPECT. THANK YOU.

I am happy to support your petition however I have never lived in 249 Johnston Street, Fitzroy VIC. which was shown in the above Hope it goes well!

Let's aim for a more well read society.

I travel to the USA to visit family, about every 2 years, and come home with suitcases full of gorgeous books to read, they are so AFFORDABLE over there !!! I want to be able to buy so many more books HERE for my children to learn to read and love books. I don't understand why books are so EXPENSIVE in Australia. The cheaper they are, the MORE I buy. Please help reduce the price of books. thank you.
Lee Vereschildt
Natalie Mary Khong Yes I support this
Lili Beirne
Wendy Jones
Samantha Winter
June Harding
Jennifer Pagliasso People should be able to read and enjoy all books at the cheapest possible price!!
Alvine Mulligan
Ian Jones
Anna Beresford
Sara Matulovic
Louise Southwell
Anne Currenti
Ann Worcester
Ricardo Chang

Steven Barrett how about using ssl? I didnt appreciate after clicking your email link seeing my name and address all appearing in the url request parameters!
Glenda Solta I love reading and am the 'book aunty' to my great nieces and nephews. I think it is important that such an important item is kept at a reasonable price, to keep kids reading and not constantly playing computer games.
Jo-Anne Robinson In these difficult economic times people need the opportunity and encouragement to be able to pay less for their books as a means of cheaper entertainment and pursuit of knowledge.
Alison Hoffmann
Stuart Shinfield
Sabine Gratwick-Sarll
Rupal Patel
Bree Webb
Lisa Mcgarrigle
Robin Winton
Robin McMillan
Rachel O'Connell I buy them from Amazon USA anyway, bad for balance of trade & environment (transport & package).

John Rohde
Natasha Coen
Paul Ng
Dorothy Miller
Yerin Kang
Books are terribly overpriced, and have gone up in price disproportionately in the last 10 years. Anything that improves the publics access to a wide range of publications can only be a good thing for society. Why should hollywood trash be subsidised and quality writing remain so expensive?

Layla Layla
Van My Nguyen Dang
Simmone Waddell-gil
Neil Bill
Silvia Shin
Jann McLennan
Andrea Morello cheaper books means more readers and better literacy levels hopefully
I was recently on a flight with an American tourist next to me; he could not believe the price we were paying for a softcover book, it was over three times the price that he would pay for a book in the US. How about we stop limiting access to books by only those that can afford it and make it more affordable to the general public.

It is vital to the current and future generations of this country to be able to read more books. Access to cheaper books is one very important aspect of encouraging the enjoyment of reading. I support this petition.

When it can be cheaper to buy a book through an on-line dealership such as Amazon, one has to wonder what the future holds for Australian bookstores, like Dymocks? The removal of restrictions on parallel importation of books can only benefit all booklovers, both dealers and readers.

The restriction is unjust and ridiculous; importing books is almost always cheaper for Australian customers than buying locally. Here, books are often two or three times the price of a CD or DVD these days; it's no wonder people choose TV over literature! I also agree that making a '12 month limit' is a political nonsense that would not benefit consumers in any way.

YES I AGREE
I just bought 2 Daily Planet s from Dymocks today and was not expecting to pay 100 dollars so I am definately in favour of cheaper books. They're great to read and as a gift.

I feel there is nothing to say. The service is good but it is sometimes hard to get text books in the nearest stores because it is always running out!

We urge the government to be true to the principles of liberalism and help reduce the price of worthwhile, international publications for our children and future generations. Thank you

A good quality book doesn't need to be expensive.

Financial crisis. Rise in unemployment. Banks refusing to pass on interest rate cuts. Luxuries such as books will be the first to go from peoples' spending. Remove the restrictions or else there will be warehouses full of books unable to find homes - and book wholesalers will not be able to make as much $$$$. And if book distributors are unable to sell as much then they will have less profits - and if they have less profit then the GOVERNMENT GETS LESS TAX!!!

The gift of reading is something that every person should be able to enjoy. However, the high cost of books makes it prohibitive for many. Reducing the cost of books will make them more accessible to those who can't afford them easily.
It should be the right of ALL Australians to be able to afford to read good books whenever and wherever they want to and not be restricted due to the price.

I fully support the coalition for cheaper books

Until this is rectified I will continue to buy many of my books from overseas booksellers, which seems a huge loss of opportunity for Australian retailers.

Please reduce book prices to allow this country to become the clever country

Please consider cost of books - literacy is so important.

I believe that you are doing something very important to make things fairer to all book readers.
I cannot afford the current price of best seller books in this country. I generally have to wait until they end up in a second hand bookshop.

I buy few new books because I find many of them to be far too expensive. If they were cheaper I would definitely buy books more often.

We have been paying far too much for books, it is cheaper to buy them off the net from overseas, good luck with the campaign.

cheaper books with cheaper materials and will last long enough for a collection
A successful nation needs to be a literate nation. By discouraging people from reading, doing their own research or finding things out for themselves, the next generation are at the whim of whatever group wants to give them an opinion. To allow books to be too expensive for the casual reader we actively encourage them to stop reading, to stop learning and even to stop forming their own opinions. Cheaper books makes literature more accessible thereby combating the ignorance that allows people to be taken advantage of.

Go for it. I yearn for cheaper books. I would also like to see a wider selection of authors and titles available over here. Whenever I visit the UK I am surprised of exactly how many authors we do not get to enjoy.

Reading would be even more wonderful if books were more accessible to more people.

Cheaper books would allow the less fortunate to partake in reading which would assist the education of the majority.
For too many years I've been astounded by the high price of books in Australia.

This has to be the best thing since sliced bread!!

Why bother with hardbacks? If all publishers did away with this anachronism, the average cost and price of books would be lower.

Reading is one of the joys of my life, and my 88 year old mother still loves reading as well. It would be wonderful to be able to purchase books at a more reasonable price and I wish you good luck in your campaign.

It is important to allow cheaper books to be imported into Australia as most students studying at Tertiary level find the cost of Textbooks and reference books outside their budget.

In China they burnt books to stop people learning so they could control the people. In Germany they did the same thing by destroying and burning books to control the people throughout the war years. By having the restrictions of parallel importation it is doing the same thing just in another way. PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO BUY AND READ WHAT THEY WANT AT A FAIR AND REASONABLE PRICE ALONGSIDE OTHERS IN THE WORLD.

I would love to buy books more frequently both for myself and for my grandchildren and would do so if the books were a bit more affordable.
Many people may say "If you don't want to pay so much for books, go to a library". Well, our public libraries are so understocked that I'm forced to buy them, and I would much rather have cheaper books over an expensive book or a long library wait list. Thank you for the creation of this coalition.

We consumers have been ripped off for quite some time. It is time all these barriers are removed if we are to be the clever country.

As an avid reader, I would be happy to see the prices of books reduced, then I won't have to go to the library.

If it's cheaper to buy the DVD instead of the book, why would you read? Cheaper books please! Might encourage more people to pick one up who would otherwise walk on by.
I agree wholeheartedly that books should be made cheaper to make them more accessible to people. Who wants to spend $50+ on a book when they can get most of the info they need from the internet?

Anything that makes books easier to obtain, yes please.

People should pay for quality information. Don't let the internet kill the printed page.
Bill Humphries

It is important and essential that books should, where possible, be made available to everyone at more competitive prices. For this reason I support the Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Jocelyn Luong

Amy Clissold

Meridith Isbell

Choule Yoon Kum

Jan Braid

Susan Greening

Lingyun Ye

Tegan Newton

Celia Neophytou

Andrea Ballesteros

I believe in fair trade but I also believe in supporting and protecting Australian retailers

Pat Borgardt

Peter Kelly

Dean Capp

Brooke Cripps

Elly Earl

Andrea Cobb

Petah Martin

Robert Moyle

Deb Moran

Peter Langton

Gillian Clayton

Nicole Schemioneck

Victoria Richardson

Kate Marsden

Margaret Winter

Brenda Burr

Nicola Lee

Cheaper books!!

Wenwen Xie

Glynda Bernardo

Rowland Pearce

Kellie Kemp

Sophia Tan

Rosemary O’Sullivan

During my low-income, student days in Canada I bought considerably more books than I do now, chiefly because I am put off by the unreasonable prices here in Australia. If books became cheaper I believe I would end up spending more money in bookstores -- not less.
Dolores Andrews
I do agree with Dymocks' petition, because with lesser restrictions and lower books' prices, this petition will help all those, like myself, to continue to enjoy a large variety of books as well as our favorite ones. Yours sincerely Dolores Andrews.

Dolores Andrews
Lynley Billman
Anthony Schueller
Jessica F
Kimberly Chung
Susanne Fraser
Tracy Mcdonald
Veronica Wilkinson
Martin Garton
Sheren Hamed

Gillian Walters
Lauren Wood
Michael Ramsey
Sarah Calder

We currently buy books online and would prefer to purchase locally and thus avoid high international shipping charges.

Christina Daly
Pamela Yeatman
Stephen Hocking
Mike Bysouth
Sam Meyerson
Stephanie Brierley
Stephen Hocking
Phyllis Luu
Leonie Devries
Sue Margrave
Anne Martin
John Meyer
Terry Jin
Norelle Kasberger
Marcia Jolly
Darryl Jenkinson
Chuck Smeeton

Valda Muller

It seems ridiculous that it is possible to buy books so much more cheaply from USA than in Australia

Andrew Smith
The pricing stats on pages 7 and 8 of the Dymocks submission to the Productivity Commission seem compelling as are the claims that, with the internet, the competition playing field needs to be levelled. Price and service to consumers should be the guiding principles of an unfettered trade. Andrew Smith Publisher FremantleHerald/Perth Voice 41 Cliff Street, Fremantle WA 6160

Jennifer Mcbride

For those who travel overseas, it is clear that books in Australia are over priced. Please do something to fix this situation. Reading helps sustain the clever country.

Chris Miller
Toni Sorensen
Neil Waller
Kathy Horn
Jessica Calpak
Annemarie Laurence
Peter Newland
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Passion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna Conca</td>
<td>Why shouldn't we have the opportunity to have cheaper books made available?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ian Farley</td>
<td>I firmly believe that restrictions on parallel importation of books is an imposition on the booklovers of Australia.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hyo Jin Lee</td>
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<td>Marg Noonan</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Richardson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Mclean</td>
<td>If books were more affordable, maybe more people would buy and read them. You have my support.</td>
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<td>Catriona McPhee</td>
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<td>Julie Russo</td>
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<td>Catherine Beaven</td>
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<td>Kylie Fleming</td>
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<td>Narelle Giles</td>
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<td>Andrea Drummond</td>
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<td>Aaron Berry</td>
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<td>Kerrell Morris</td>
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<td>Lily Maras</td>
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<td>Asha Pomery</td>
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<td>Pene Gniel</td>
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<td>Stephanie Davidson</td>
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<td>Claire Kermond</td>
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<td>Wendy Chen</td>
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<td>Marion Egli</td>
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<td>Jaimee Maher</td>
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<td>Kerry Young</td>
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<td>Carol Alessio</td>
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<td>Avon O'Connor</td>
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<td>Tarryn Ryan</td>
<td>Books are Life</td>
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<td>Julie Dewis</td>
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<td>Hannah Pilypas</td>
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<td>Sarah Gow</td>
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<td>Judy Hamer</td>
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<td>Binh Khuu</td>
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<td>Ian Mcleod</td>
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<td>Nathan Lissiman</td>
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<td>Nicole Williams</td>
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<td>Don Montefiore</td>
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<td>Rachel Jean McMenamin</td>
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<td>Matthew Staker</td>
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<td>Maiko Angel</td>
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<td>Sentina</td>
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<td>Michael Maconachie</td>
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<td>Lynne Sanders</td>
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<td>Rachel Birkin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irene Montefiore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane MacIntyre</td>
<td>I can't believe paper backs are so expensive - as expensive as hard covers used to be - with such POOR quality</td>
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<td>Peter Vlacicky</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joanne Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela Luke</td>
<td>Bearing in mind the state of our economy, it makes sense for Australian booksellers to have the opportunity to compete fairly with other countries.</td>
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<td>Chantelle Westlake</td>
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keep books great for Australian people not just the rich and famous who probably can't read anyway.

Reading is so important for adults as well as children - if more people were encouraged to read and could afford to buy books our nation's literacy and numeracy would improve dramatically. Books should be as accessible and affordable, if not more so, as any other form of entertainment. Please help us to educate our children for a lower cost, help us to find relaxing downtime without resort to drugs and alcohol, help us to better our nation. Thank you.

Can we all try to promote reading that is affordable, this will assist literacy and people who can hold a conversation

Please do what ever is necessary to enable people like myself to still be able to afford to purchase good reading matter. 

I lived in the UK and bought so many more books over there due to the price. I ended up spending more than I do here, simply because the price was more appealing. I think if it was to be brought in in Australia we would have a huge increase in book sales and bring more money into our economy.
I feel that when books are expensive then the whole of society pays. Australia should be a community of readers. Libraries could buy more books if they were cheaper and so service disadvantaged areas more effectively. It is part of the education revolution (otherwise it is merely the education reversal).

Anything which can help reduce the price of books will make reading more attractive to younger readers. This could help improve the literacy of children in the fine country.

As a former UK resident, I am horrified by the relative expense of books in Australia compared to the UK and US. As a medium already under pressure from other media types, eroded country borders from online shopping and strong competition for every dollar, surely it is time to remove these restrictive practises in order to make Australian suppliers as competitive as possible.

Cheaper is the right thing for everyone. Everyone deserves to be able to afford a good book.
Something that can cut the price of getting/spreading knowledge has to be introduced.

i hope you can get this done as i had to order a from overseas and payed a lot to get them sent to me good luck and all the best regards tony stone

Books are the lifeblood of our learning, our spirit, our histories....without them, we would not have evolved in the way we have. I am an ex librarian, and have seen the wonderful ways that books can help people, and just instill in many a love of peace and quiet contemplation. Without books, the world would be an even busier more stressful place. Please continue to allow books to be purchased, and not put them out of the reach of the everyday person. Even I am now having to limit the books I buy, this shouldn't happen. Children especially need to be able to have access to books from an early age.

Let us keep some of the money in Australia instead of people having to order online from overseas.

Cheaper books provides for more affordable books for everyone which results in higher opportunities for literacy!!!
Just think how many more people would regularly buy books if they were more affordable! I know I would buy more...

Let's encourage people to read!!

Books should be affordable and available to all as they are the most common form of knowledge and entertainment; any reduction in price is welcome.

I am support about this..

It would be great to be able to buy books at a cheaper price, it certainly would encourage me to purchase more!

Disadvantaged children and families need access to cheaper books.

When I travel overseas I am appalled by the difference in price of books but feel guilty to bring books home and not support our local booksellers.

We should do everything in our power to encourage and support reading!!!
Patricia Fountain
Samantha Henshaw
Robin Newton
Deborah Lloyd
Karen Galloway
Lorena Rodriguez
Victoria Yu
Angela Burgett
Michelle Kendrick
Marie Brook
Lillith Blomley
Tam Truong
Gizelle Sonneman

Good luck!!!

Yes on cheaper books! Right now I have had to join the library, and buy second hand books since buying them outright is a bit out of my price range. I love shopping at Dymocks and would welcome cheaper books in the future!

Jennifer McKenzie
Olwyn Kelly
Tieu Thanh Pham
Debbie McGrath
Kim Simmons
Fahua Pan
Melissa Coomans
Paul Shannon
Andrew Friebel
Candy Yiu

Literacy and access to literature and all published information are a right of every individual, not a luxury. Let’s encourage all age groups to be able to buy books cheaply, regularly and locally. We should encourage competition, cheaper prices, better availability and better choices, with the removal of the restrictions on parallel importation of books.

Anne Evans

The drop in the Australian exchange rate is resulting in even higher prices for books. Pre GST paperbacks were about $10 now they seem to be over $25. The increases for specialist books are even higher.

Christine Forbes
Gayl Galbraith
Tessa Laing
Dwayne Bicknell
Susan Wakeham
Barbara Bos
Sonja Zele
Kerry Jane Simons
Eric Tunc

Booklovers will always buy books and cheaper books would bring back the accessibility of books to new generations and possibly even help avert illiteracy in this country. I was shocked to discover on my last trip the USA that new books cost less than half the price that we pay here for books that are more than 6 months old and still not reduced. It’s an appalling state of affairs, like Australia is on its own planet.

It’s time to bring Australia into this century.
I would like access to cheaper books as I like to buy and own my own books. Some of the books I would like to buy are just too expensive. This my reason for supporting this petition.

Dear brother and sisters it is good idea to provide the books for the people

This is a great initiative so people can buy affordable books. Thus it encourages children and adults to be able to indulge in books more and promotes children to learn more.

We must make sure that literature is available to all and NOT cost prohibitive

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Best Regards, Esteban Mendoza

I like to read but consider some books too expensive for my budget. Cheaper books, if it is not going to hurt Australian writers must be the way to go.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I’d also like to see GST/VAT removed from books as it is in UK thereby making books even more accessible to people, esp children
I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Change of address: Now at: 7 Blount Close, Winthrop

There are a lot of books I really love getting my hands on but every time I see the price tag it kinda puts me off. In the end I will end up buying from Amazon.com with lower price books, however the delivery and handling charges is just way too expensive. In the end, after I average down the cost of the book etc it’s still cheaper to buy from Amazon provided that I buy in bulk.

I love to read and there is nothing better than to have your own copy.

Reading is one of the greatest pleasures that this world offers, and everyone deserves a chance to lose herself/himself in a good book. Thanks to Dymocks, and everyone who has signed this petition for supporting reading and writing.

books should be cheaper it would be very handy xD
Removing import restrictions will result in cheaper books. There is likely to be broader choice for consumers. Specific titles and/or specialised publications will be easier and cheaper to obtain.

Reducing the cost of books and literature is long overdue!

Books should be cheap - we need to encourage knowledge and literacy in our community!
This must be a measured type of importation it must be controlled so that sleazy cheap thrill junk is not allowed to cross the shores of Australia.

Good on you Dymocks!

This petition has my full support. As a pensioner who loves to read, I have to budget carefully to buy my favourite books.

For the past 8 years, I've been buying books directly from Amazon US. Even with international delivery, the total cost usually comes out at least 20% cheaper than local retail prices. I've even bought Amazon hardcovers that were cheaper than their paperback edition from local booksellers! Kudos to Dymocks for supporting this petition.

As a seasoned international traveller having been overseas 112 times and travelled many countries I am always astounded at the cheaper prices for books from reputable non copyright infringing book sellers compared with the same books in Australia. I have always beleived that this is due to the smaller numbers of books sold within Australia through agents with similar cost structures as overseas resellers but with them having much bigger markets both domestically and without restrictions, internationally. The internet provides a great resource which has made huge inroads into book sales especially non fiction. The maintaining of any restrictions within this country is counter productive to the book industry which unless addressed by government will go the same way as clothing, footwear,

Good luck with the petition!

If book prices were cheaper I would buy 100's more a year. I am a stay at home mom who has the time and loves reading but they are just too expensive unless I can get them on sale! which isn't very often!!! Good luck Australia deserves to be on same playing field as every other country!!!

affordable books are important so all can enjoy reading and help maintain literacy especially in this modern digital world.

I really want to support Australian businesses but find myself more often than not reluctantly using Amazon etc and importing books myself: this is bad for the environment, Australian businesses and and bad for books.
The continued existence and availability of printed books is seriously compromised not only by lack of competitive pricing, but by the increasing availability of e-books. E-books will replace printed books if the costs of printed books becomes prohibitive and the market for them declines as a result. Ignoring the fact that most readers enjoy the physicality of printed books, e-books are for many people, difficult to read online and even with a laptop, difficult, if not impossible, to pop into your bag for reading whilst travelling. We need to ensure that printed books do not cease to exist for lack of buyers able to afford them. Cheaper books obviously means more will be sold and so the risk of for the death of printed books will obviously be reduced.

Dymocks have got it right, so I can only agree completely. Cheers Clyde Radford

To Have cheaper books would encourage more people to read particularly younger people which would be a good thing.

I am a librarian and buy many books. Cheaper books means more books for all.
I definitely support it! It would also increase the availability and quality of books we can get from O/S. Eg. Japanese learning books. These have to be ordered online and shipped in, paying the exchange rate and tax again on top of the cost of the book. One of my favourite authors is UK born and bred, and although we stock some of her books, her ‘new’ release (from 2007) had to be ordered in, took 6-8 weeks and cost a bucketload more than it should’ve.

Books are the font of knowledge and pleasure, make them cheaper for all!

It’s time for Aussie booklovers to stop being a captive market. With literacy rates a real problem, it is no longer appropriate to be preserving the profits of a few importers at the expense of the public and other entrepreneurs.

I just love to read and cheaper books, without the authors losing out would be great. My daughter and I buy a real lot of books in a year but it can be a huge expense but we won’t stop as we love to read! The expense can just make it limit your choice sometimes!

This needs to be sorted out otherwise I will use other means to get cheaper books.

Books are the backbone of learning whether they be fiction or non-fiction and whether for education or pleasure. As such cheaper books will enhance that experience and should be a right.

Access to affordable reading material is a basic human right & I am glad to support an initiative to achieve this goal.

There can be no justification in the long term for the greater benefit of society greater than ensuring the freest flow of good quality information to the people and especially to our students. The ‘tax on knowledge’ is indefensible in a modern democratic society.

Any measures that make books cheaper to buy must be supported by all book lovers.
Access to good, reasonably priced books should be available to everyone. If we want our future generations to be well read and literate than what better way than to make reading more affordable to all.

Books are essential to the education and enjoyment of all. To have restrictions on their prices is just ridiculous.

Thank you Dymocks for initiating this campaign - something like this is long overdue.

Literacy levels in this country need the support of books in the home for students to be immersed in the culture of reading. In this economic climate cheaper books would encourage people to have the material at home so kids can develop the love of reading at an earlier age. Having worked with kids who never see a book at an early age because they cannot afford them shuts them out of developing life long learning.

In Australia (known as the 'Lucky Country') we, the general public should be given the same opportunity to buy books from our local bookstore at the equivalent cheaper price that is available to the general public of other countries. I often look on the internet at books that are available to me through overseas booksellers, but I do not purchase these over the internet. If the restriction is removed, it will allow people who do not have access to the internet to purchase these books through their local bookstore. If the price of books is lowered, then the purchase of books will increase with the probability of bringing about an increase in literacy skills.

don't know where you got the address in Ryde from but it is not mine I live in WEST PENNANT HILLS

I support Australian companies selling cheaper books; otherwise I just have to buy them direct from Amazon, and who does that benefit?

stop ripping the readetrs off!
It is about time the government started to look after the people that put them there. Everyone is finding things tight, books help shape the minds of our children, our future leaders. With books being so costly many will miss out on the benefits that books provide.

As an educator of adults we need to ensure that books are accessible to all at as low a cost as is practicable.

I WANT CHEAPER BOOKS! DO NOT RAISE THE PRICE OF BOOKS!

Please make books cheaper!
“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.” Keep our books cheap and accessible to all. Decreasing the retail cost of books will directly increase the GDP of Australia, once the extra books have been read and create a smarter workforce.

There should be no restrictions on knowledge!

Because I like new books... Reading is an expensive hobby... To make it cheaper would be good :)

The current restriction on parallel importation has largely contributed to books becoming a luxury item that too few people have the means to indulge in with any degree of regularity. The government of this country should do everything in its power to alleviate such barriers, and encourage more and more Australian adults and children to expand their minds and imaginations through literature.
It would be a tragedy if people couldn’t afford to buy books for themselves, their friends and children. I would support any move to keep the price of books down, as long as it doesn’t affect the rights/royalties of authors. Thank you! Derrin

I will continue to purchase books as and when I can but I will almost always pursue the cheaper option (so I can buy as many as possible of course) Having spent thousands of dollars on my literary purchases, I feel justified in doing so. Sometimes this includes purchases from overseas, but I would much prefer to support my local stores if they were as cost effective.

Especially the older books, why doesn’t the price ever come down?!

Childrens books in particular should be much cheaper. They shouldn’t be a luxury item saved for birthdays and Christmas.

I believe books should be made easily available for ALL PEOPLE not just those who can afford them - there is nothing like having your own book to read.

Please address these anti-competitive practices forthwith

I’ve immigrated from the UK and am stunned and appalled at the price of literature in Australia. Books have suddenly become a priviledge or a luxury, not a ‘right’ as they should be in any cultured society. I was shocked to hear a mother have to refuse her child a book the other week because he’d ‘just had a birthday’. The current law means that Australians and Australian children are being deprived of the opportunity to enrich their lives and their minds through a wealth of literature that is a fraction of the cost in other countries.
Books open the door to an abundance of characters, people, interests, places and worlds. With the current price of books, many adults and children are left behind the door. In the darkness. This could all change...

I believe that cheaper books will benefit authors, publishers, book-sellers and readers through more books being sold.

I support this because I love books, I love being taken to another place by a good story, I love buying new books, but sometimes the prices are too expensive.

I'd much rather buy my books at Dymocks, but at the moment, it's cheaper for me to order them from Amazon, even with the exchange rate and shipping. That's just DAFT.

I am a Librarian and cheaper books would allow libraries to buy a greater range of titles.

Hello, I love reading books it keeps me relax and happy, I would love books to become cheaper at Dymocks and other book shops. I don't like buying dearer books, I like buying cheaper books. Please can you make this happen then me and everybody else in Australia would be happy! Thank you very much. From Lyndsi Stanford.
I already buy things online directly from Amazon if it takes too long to come out in SA book shops.

I have no idea where the Hillside, Vic. address came from. I have never lived in Victoria, and surely my Dymocks card is proof enough. I am sure there are many other people with my name around Australia.

We already have more expensive books compared with many other OECD countries. I lived in New York City for 3 years and in Europe for 2 years... as a teacher I know how important access to reasonably priced literature is for maintaining our high standard of literacy.

A good book entertains. A great book educates. Surely that we are now "Global" the market will regulate itself. I plead that books be freely available for the lowest cost possible. We were the lucky country - Please don't let the love of reading be exclusive.

The cheaper the better. The last few years, I have seen the prices of books going up. It is rare to find a recently released new book under $10!

I am a university student as well as an avid reader and it would be very helpful to me if I could obtain cheaper quality books.

books are there for education as well as recreation, why limit those opportunities to those who are wealthy? no more inequality

Reading is a passion that should come for free.
Please allow imports as it will allow more timely releases of new titles and not when aust distributors feel the need to. I regularly order from amazon us and uk and would like an easier alternative.

I agree that this should happen - it is basically a restriction on free trade.

Books should be affordable to all.

I support the coalition for cheaper books.

I buy at least a book a month and would love to buy more. They need to be cheaper.

Why should we pay more for good education from books? It's an outrage.

Cheaper books are good for consumers and education, rather than middlemen and big companies. Regards Peter Jensen
As a self-funded retiree and an avid book reader, I am finding it more difficult to purchase the books I would like to read and own. Cheaper books would be fantastic. Because of this current restriction, one of my favourite authors has released 8 books that I have not been able to get in Australia as they are not released through one of the Australian subsidiaries or agents of overseas publishers as most are UK based and the Authors publisher is US based.

I recently bought Zulu Hart by Saul David and Assegai by Wilbur Smith from Dymocks for AUD$45 (HARD COPY) and $34.95 respectively. The same books are available from Amazon.com for AUD$26.39 (US$18.74) and AUD$25.99 (US$18.45). The freight I pay from both Companies is very similar.

This country's readers should have access to world price books.

Keep literature alive! Bring the price of books down.

For one who likes to read, it would be great if books were a lot cheaper.
I believe it is important to be able to purchase books to ensure the literacy of the population is encouraged and being cheaper would assist this aim. All books are education and when the cost goes up, they become out of reach for a lot of people. I for one love to read and it saddens me when I find a book that is overly priced because I leave it on the shelf.

Yes, I am supportive also of the Coalition for cheaper book's Campaign. Internet cannot replace the joy of reading wonderful books.

Reading is an enjoyable, informative and relaxing pastime for most people! The current price of books can make them unaffordable for some, or - in my case, I buy books much less often because of the expense. If the price of books was reduced, I would say that more people would buy more books, and there would be a win-win situation for everybody! Thank you for the opportunity for me to participate in your petition.
i'm a student and it would be really helpful for me to buy cheap books as i need to buy many for the amount of units i'm doing at school at the moment( soon preparing for HSC) and also i don't have a job so the easy way is for cheaper books.

The distribution of books and all other learning materials should be made cheaper and more accessible to Australians.

I fail to see how the current rules benefit Australia and Australian authors.

I strongly support this campaign - appreciate Dymock's efforts on behalf of book loving customers.

The price of books needs to be brought down. It is shocking how much they cost here. It has stopped me from reading as much as i used to (when i used to live in the Uk i was on more than one book a month). Get everybody reading more.

When anyone can order online to get books from overseas how do these restrictions assist local industry? They are more likely to prevent local booksellers from making sales in addition to any problems which the restrictions are endeavouring to resolve. Why should Australians continue to pay such high prices for books? This just forces us to stock up when we are overseas, where the prices are more reasonable. Remove the restrictions now!

If we want a literate society access to cheaper books is vital.
Please, keep the prices low, I don't earn all that much money and I don't want to give up buying books just because I cannot afford them!

I am in favour of providing cheaper books to the wider community, and as such support Dymock's campaign.

The price of books and paperbacks is ridiculous and needs to be reduced to enable more people to purchase. Action now please

It works in New Zealand. Why not here?

In these tight economic times it would be beneficial to all if books were more affordable

Nothing other than I agree.
Th Productivity Commission's recommendation that import restrictions should apply for 12 months from the date that a book becomes available in Australia goes against the Australian literary industry! I want to keep a strong Australian book industry developing and supporting Australian authors, illustrators and editors, providing a wide range of books at competitive prices through a wide network of big and small booksellers. I strongly support retaining full Australian territorial copyright for books.

I recently went to the USA where I spent around 300 on books to bring back to Australia. I now buy a lot of my books through a friend in America as it is cheaper to purchase and get them sent from the USA than buy them in Australia.

The price we pay for books in this country is absolutely ridiculous when you consider that it is possible to buy books from an overseas website such as Amazon and have them imported for less than it costs to buy the same book here.

If we plan to be a nation of thinkers, those with a quest for knowledge, and not just reliant on the WWW for information, we need to reduce the price of books. Make quality literature and especially children's books an affordable option for parents to buy their children.

It would save us, my husband and me, the hassle of ordering books from overseas.

I don't want any import restrictions on books.

Remove the stranglehold on books once and for all. Everyone needs to have reasonable access to literature, especially children and students, to further their lifelong education. The inequities of protection provided, or no protection provided, for industries and products in this country are unbelievable! The Government needs to get it right and apply the same standards equitably everywhere for once.
Kimberley Carter

Yes, the price of books here in Australia is ridiculous. It makes it harder from poorer families to have access to books and that is a sad thing. Sure, there are libraries, but a good home should always have plenty of books in it!

Rowena Cooper

The prices of the books are not reasonable, nowadays we can buy the same books via internet and the final price with shipping is much lower than the price in the book stores.

Caroline Jape

There is greater value in encouraging a society that loves and owns books, than in protecting existing distribution businesses. A wider variety and cheaper prices would do that. I also think that we have to allow local retail businesses to compete better against internet groups like amazon, from whom I regularly buy books because they are cheaper (even after transport costs) and / or unavailable here.

Ian Betts

Ivan Spence

cheaper would be better, particularly for us pensioners and unemployed people

Sasha Lanyon

Sarah Norman - Brown

The internet has made the world a global market. Fighting it is futile and costly.

Rebecca Spence

Extraordinary that we're still allowing counterproductive subsidies to Australian industries to continue! The Productivity Commission should know better. Perhaps Alan Fels has brought his anachronistic ACCC perspective with him.

Clare Parkin

In hard times, it is more important than ever to spend our dollars ethically.
We really do need cheaper books, because of the recession we are suffering which will stop us from buying books which will lead to poor education. Now do you want that to happen?

Book prices in Australia are ridiculous. There have been many books in recent years that I’ve bought from overseas online stores - and even with postage cost factored in, THEY WERE CHEAPER than here! We’re constantly reminded to "buy Australian", well I’m sorry but if I can save money buying from overseas, I’ll always take the saving (especially in the current economic climate).

I am heartily sick of having to purchase direct from Amazon because they are unavailable through Australian book retailers or they have been priced out of competition. I strongly support the petition.

If books become any more expensive and harder to find in Australia then we’ll simply buy more and more offshore via the internet (Amazon and eBay).

Moves that make books cheaper for Australian readers of all ages - while protecting the potential earnings of original authors - should be supported as a means that backs other programs to promote learning and literacy. And great entertainment!

It's cheaper to order books directly from the USA than it is to purchase from our own suppliers. Help them to be competitive.
It's ridiculous that I can buy a book from Amazon for half the price and have it here in half the time of ordering it at my local bookstore. Given the economic climate we should be doing everything possible to keep Australian dollars in Australia. Common sense is from Mars and Government policy is from Venus.

Australia is supposed to be the "smart country". Making books prohibitively expensive is not smart: it's dumb. PJH

Seeing a democracy in books and their price, would help the economy also.

I fully support open and fair competition and for too long books have been grossly overpriced

No import tariffs on books

In the last 30 days I bought 7 books from Amazon.com, the average price was US$9, if I had of sourced from Australia (Dymocks) my preferred source, the average price would have been AUD$19.50 (US$13.84). A saving of AUD$44.74 and I order approximately 7 times a year.

I don't want any import restrictions on books

I am all for cheaper books if they are available as I have my self purchased books from overseas as they were even with shipping cheaper than in Australia. Example I purchases the twilight hardcover books 4 book collector set, special edition twilight hardcover and the Directors movie companion with shipping to Australia for only 139 Australian dollars were the 4 book hardcover set cost would have cost me 145 dollars in Australia. Times are tough and I love a good read and I am all for supporting Australian Businesses but at the right price.

why should I have to pay more for books, I thought this government was constructing, funding and investing in education and knowledge.
Helen Ryan
Trudie Lam
Dimitrios Dinas
Trudie Lam
Dinas Theone
Neil Hamilton
Christopher Bell
Sarah Fernando I fully support this.
Helen Banks
Alex Price
Judit Magos
Anita Gronow Congratulations and good luck!!
Louise Huang
Maria Mensinic
Kayleigh Murphy
Karen May
Annemarie Pugsley
Maria Carbone
Lydie Labarthe
Chrissie Counihan
Dean Wilson
Susan White
Kurt Lerps
Mary Pappas
Nhan Duc Do
Marie Bradford
Carrie Timic
Alana Colbert
Svetlana Datsina
Li-Lin Chu
David Farrar
Pei Chen Lu
Bronwyn Auld
Adam Clark
Anne Birt
Mignon Prider
Ksenija Lackner
Stephanie Dyhin
Jez Olivero
Noelle Walker
Renee Culley
Rose Hampel
Elizabeth Nguyen
Ian Lochlan
Anna Koorey
Shan Fawcett
James O'Connor
Abrar Alttahir
Verity Temple
Sharen Hamed
Jeannette Banks
Jillian Hands
Penny Fraser
Miranda Howard
Louisa Golding
Peter Bodnartschuk
Sandy Mason
Though I do support this and would love cheaper books, I must admit that I find that books I currently buy aren't that overly expensive.

In an increasingly electronic age, cheaper access to books will help ensure that the written word does not become irrelevant to future generations. I am constantly searching for cheaper books to purchase to ensure I nurture my children's love of reading. Cheaper books would mean I could do this in a more economically sustainable way!

This would be wonderful as I am an avid reader from a household of readers and we sure could use a break as far as cash is concerned these days. As a lover of literature, and also a university student (traditionally short of cash), I would love to be able to purchase more books for less money. As long as the rights of the authors and publishers are protected, I see no reason why parallel importation restrictions should not be removed.
cheaper books means more readers which means better education, how could you say no to that?

As a book lover (and purchaser) I would also urge the Productivity Commission to review its recommendation that import restrictions should apply for 12 months from the date that a book becomes available in Australia. As most books are purchased within 12 months of publication this is unlikely to result in cheaper books for the buying public.

As a 'very poor' student, I'm finding it increasingly hard to stay loyal to Dymocks when there are other stores charging less for their books.

I would buy more books but being retired cannot afford to pay the prices of new books.

I agree. I believe that there SHOULD be a competitive market on books within Australia. Importation of products like books should in no way be restricted, as it's unfair to the consumer.

Import restrictions should not apply to books. Surely anybody who disagrees with this principle must also disagree with the suggestion that we should aspire to be a clever country.

I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS. I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS. BUY AUSTRALIAN, BUY AUSTRALIAN, SUPPORT AUSTRALIA. ISN'T THIS WHAT WE ALL SHOULD BE DOING????????????????????????

I think the present system is outdated.
Howard Rice
Lainee Hooper
Bryce von Bonin
Gillian Simonson
Ralph Andreas
Leanne Smith
Ian Price
Clare Alexander
Ashleigh Standen

We want cheaper books

To the Govt: Remember when you were a child and enjoyed reading? Kids have so many other options today like the internet & ipods - let books compete!

Gillian Simonson
Ralph Andreas
Leanne Smith
Ian Price
Clare Alexander
Ashleigh Standen

As a retiree I am on a limited income. Purchasing a book is now a major investment decision for me and I tend to wait until the sales as buying a book when it has just been released is way too expensive - for the reasons outlined in Dymock's submission. Why does Australia have to prop up an international cartel.

Michael Harrison
Maria Findlay
Matthew Lee
Ross Tasker
Vongmala Chanphianamvong
Ruth Hayward
Robyn Smith
Ada Rollo
Mirvika Naidoo
Janelle Palmer
Lucy Street
Terry Horne
Aisha Ali

I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT THIS. I FEEL ENOUGH DAMAGE TO OUR ECONOMY HAS OCCURRED OVER THE YEARS SINCE A LOT OF THE TARIFFS HAVE BEEN REMOVED OR REDUCED BY FORMER GOVERNMENTS. SICK AND TIRED OF PURCHASING FROM THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. IF NOT CAREFUL, WE WILL BECOME A THIRD WORLD OURSELVES. I AM IN FAVOUR OF PROTECTING WHATEVER IS LEFT IN OUR COUNTRY AND I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS PETITION. BUY AUSTRALIAN - THOUGHT THIS IS WHAT WE SHOULD BE DOING.

Teresa Schulz
Janet Giblett
Rhondda Fahey
Warren Chappell
Natalie C
Ashleigh Lustica
Eleanor Starkey
Sherril Molloy
Stephanie Soh
Vanezha Djunaidi

I would like to make sure there is protection for authors and that they still get the amount that is due. However the cheaper the books the more that people will but so better for the authors overall. I also wish to support Australian owned booksellers as I believe they have a greater respect and interest in Australian authors and readers.

Suzanne Roux
Josephine Watson
Heather Valana
Kylie Stone

Books are an important medium that require the best support in order to make them widely available as well as affordable withing the framework of the law. I support this effort.

Phuong Ho
Sandra Macintyre Please note i changed capital I to lower case i in Macintyre
Literacy is a vital component in an educated, intelligent populace. Cheaper books will help encourage and maintain an interest in reading beyond what people are "forced" to do in daily life.

So long as the quality of alternative imported goods is not a fault...

WE Want Cheaper Books!

Books are an important part of our culture and need to be readily available to everyone.

I am a writer, and an avid reader. As a writer, I am broke; this affects me as a reader, as I cannot buy many of the books I would like to read. I have noticed, for instance, the initiative of Penguin to make their Classics collection affordable has increased the number of people buying-and therefore reading-these amazing works of literature. Making books cheaper means more access to education, information and entertainment for many more people. Of course, I do believe prices should stay at a certain limit, so as not to cut writer's and publisher's pay, which in most cases, is low enough as it is. I'm sure an compromise can be found, as everyone involved has the best interest of books at heart...right?
i would buy more books but it's difficult when they are so expensive. i can't see paying $20-30au for a book that i know is selling for $5-10 in the usa. also most of my fave authors aren't readily available here.

Honestly, I am just a teenager so my feelings are neutral, but I would love to see cheaper books :)

It is time for this long-awaited change to be made.

About time we had cheaper books in Australia - we must be the most expensive country in the world for them!

Restrictions on parallel importation should have been lifted years ago. The government must take the opportunity to do so now.

It is imperative that all Australians must have access to books at prices comparable to consumers in the US and the UK.

parallel importation rocks woooohoo!!
The price of books is ridiculous and if we want to encourage more literacy in Australia we need to make books more affordable.

It is ridiculous that books, especially digital audio books, are not released worldwide at the same time. I hear of books being released in the US all the time but have to wait months for them here in Australia. Are the publishers afraid of making too much money too quickly?

God! About ruddy time something like this was done! Cheaper books are the answer people just because we need books doesn't mean we want to fork out tons of our cash on them! Cheaper books means more sold helping the Australian Economy that's really awful at the moment. It's not that hard to get!

The exorbitant price of books is presently limiting education. This is an absolute travesty to us, our children and the nation!
Give us CHEAPER books!!! Rather than us having to buy them online overseas! The money would stay in our country that way.

I feel that Australians have been ripped off for long enough. The joy of reading should not be so expensive as to make it a luxury.

books are awesome........we all need them but they are often too expensive especially if you want lots

Having a toddler, its important for her to learn to read and to have access to as many books as I can give her. Being a one income family means that the cheaper the books the more I can buy for her.

As a book lover and teacher, I am always in favour of cheaper books - particularly for young people.

I feel Australia does need to support its Australian-owned businesses, but I also feel that if it can't make its own market cheaper then we do need to look at importation.
It would be lovely to be able to afford to buy books in Australia at competitive prices to overseas - they are so heavy to carry home from trips abroad and the profits stay abroad also.

Access to books is a vital and everyone should have the ability to access a variety of books. The current prices of books adversely affects people from lower-socio economic backgrounds. It also deters people from buying books and potentially gaining knowledge that is otherwise not available to them. Given the fact that local libraries often do not have a wide collection of books, having access to cheap books is important.

Our government keeps talking about "Free Trade", well here is an opportunity to stop talking and take positive some action.

I don't know what it is but it appears since the GST was introduced books have been very expensive. Help companies help me to buy cheaper books. I am under no illusion that it helps Dymocks but if it helps me I am in favour.

The Government should do everything possible to encourage reading: lowering the basic cost of importing books IS IMPORTANT

Very sad when it becomes cheaper to by from America, even when the postage is paid and it is all US$ I can still be ahead. Australia, what are you doing, killing the possibility of loving to read let alone sharing the joy the reading!!!!!
Now more than ever with money in short supply, we need access to cheaper literature.

we must be one of only a few countries that have to pay high fees for our books, it is about time that the government does something to fix the problem.

We are big users of public libraries, school libraries and book shops. We believe strongly that access to books is vital in encouraging imagination and learning. Cheaper books for all, whoever is buying them including the library system, is important in this aim. I was saddened to hear a friend say the other day at a birthday party “I was going to buy books as a present but they are too expensive”. Please give us cheaper books.

It is important to all ages and learning skills that books of all interest are made available easily, promptly without interference from a third or intermediate party to the shop in Australia... Most of all reducing the cost is of a major concern as lower cost attracts non buyers and there for broadens the education of a greater number of Australians. Removing restrictions will better Australians information.

Bring on the cheap books! We need them. Books should cost a fortune to buy.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Message</th>
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<tr>
<td>Laurence Scott</td>
<td>I have already replied to this petition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra Hill</td>
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<td>Jo Whitburn</td>
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<td>Geoff McKinrey</td>
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<td>Mary Williams</td>
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<td>Maria Martino</td>
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<td>Chris Bennett</td>
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<td>John Turnbull</td>
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<td>Kathrina Majcher</td>
<td>Book reading is a hobby which can be fascinating - learning, entertainment, life improvement etc. If only books were cheaper, I would buy many more for my own enjoyment.</td>
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<td>Ray Sketcher</td>
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<td>Jane Song</td>
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<td>Laura Morris</td>
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<td>Trina Sabine</td>
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<td>John Straford</td>
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<td>Philip Brentnall</td>
<td>I prefer viewing books before buying them and am uneasy with email transactions, so wish to be able to avoid buying through &quot;Amazon&quot; and so support this appeal. People who can do something look at what people want. But is so sad is the people who this effects usually do'nt get a fair say.</td>
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<td>Suzanne Phillips</td>
<td>I read lots of books and usually borrow them from the library due to their cost, but recent release copies are few and far between. When our children were young, we often bought them books, but would not be able to do that now. How can we improve literacy throughout our nation when books are so over-priced??</td>
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<td>Margaret Coakley</td>
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<td>Liz Dolling</td>
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<td>Peter Savage</td>
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<td>Wyn Barratt</td>
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<td>Carole Elliott</td>
<td>I try to shop at Dymocks all the time - however I have to check prices - on Wednesday Angus and Robinson had the latest Mary Higgins Clark book for $10.00 - yep $10.00 cheaper than Dymocks. When this happens you can but buy the cheaper model!!!! This has happened a lot</td>
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<td>Steven Hinckley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naomi Green</td>
<td>I would also like to have the same release dates in AUS that books have in USA and UK, the delay of months is honestly rediculous.</td>
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<td>Michael Thompson</td>
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<td>Diane Bertelsmeier</td>
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<td>Kathleen Chapman</td>
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<td>Bruce Flynn</td>
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<td>Naomi Costigan</td>
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<td>Susan Seymour</td>
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<td>Abbey Ellis</td>
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<td>Leonie Hobbs</td>
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<td>Trish Bavich</td>
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<td>Barbara Dalton</td>
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<td>Sue Price</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyrano Menezes</td>
<td>Please make it affordable to buy books once again!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Davidson</td>
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</table>
to those who can do something look at what people want. but is so sad is the people who this effects usually don't get a fair say.

Books are far too expensive in Australia and being British I really notice the price hike here.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

what is this, selective protectionism?

Reading is the gateway to knowledge - help to make this wonderful gift more accessible to each & everyone living in Australia.
Elizabeth Stenhouse
Cheaper books please so that I can support Australian businesses

Jessica Will
Elizabeth Oakley
Alison Maclean
Andrew Baldacchino
Bree Woodhouse
Alanna Nelson
Gareth Woodhouse
Jasmine Goh
Anthony Lowes
Paul Eccarius
Kathy Vongsanga
Christopher Mitchell
Ewelina Wojtaszek
Nerine Draper
Jodii Giannas
Carole Woodhouse
Patricia Greville
Emily Hart
Anthony Love
Miriam Bowman
Peter Woodhouse
Catherine Quin
Katie Barber
Jonathan Webster
Books in Australia are far too expensive compared to the UK!

Tamsyn Jameljanenko
Sherri Siem
Marjorie Mccann
Barbara Bray
Kim D'Ortona
Eva Kristiaman
Megan Goldston
Sheryll Kan
Alexandra Wasiewicz
Elaine Ogden
Jeffery John Palm
Cameron Bache
Gary Carroll

I definitely want cheaper manga. But I don't think Dymocks stock them. So definitely cheaper fantasy novels!!!

Simone Wong
Richard Grant
Dianne Boege
Michelle Swaab
Rochelle Bennett
Astrid Mullen
Christina Plaistowe
Andrew Kenner
Frances Birrell
Elizabeth Locke
Jillian Carroll

Contrary to all the fuss made by authors, publishers etc, the abolition of the net book agreement in the UK STIMULATED the book sales sector as buying books became more affordable so people bought more. Now libraries in the UK are in decline because people prefer to buy rather than borrow books. Books in Australia are ridiculously expensive and the price charged is way in excess of the exchange rate for the UK price often shown on th cover. Someone is making a profit and I doubt it is either the author or the bookseller!

Sarah Ashby
consider this my signing of the petition supporting the CFCBC for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation

I read a lot 4-5 books a week and cheaper books would be great
I feel strongly that we need to reduce the cost of reading materiala, as technology is depriving people of the joy of reading and stimulating the imagination. Our young people spend too much time playing with technology and allowing it to do their thinking and imagining for them. Their reading abilities and comprehension is becoming unacceptably.

I read a lot, both for relaxation and enjoyment and for knowledge. If books less expensive, I would probably be able to afford others that I buy as I can.

Cream always rises - if the local product is good enough, it will be published and purchased, as it is with local music. This protection does nothing but cause me to pay higher prices for books that are already well overpriced in this country. I definitely get tired of seeing books on the internet at such great prices only to find they are not readily available in Aus or that they are quite expensive even taking into consideration exchange rates.

Presently, the price of books in Australia seems unreasonably high compared with prices in countries overseas.
The ridiculous situation of restricting importation to exclusive distributors artificially increases costs to the Australian consumer. For example, a GBP3.99 English magazine here costs $16.50 almost double over the English exchange rate for 3.99 GBP.

Lower prices on books can only encourage more people to access the invaluable treasure of reading!

I would look forward not only to more competitive prices, but also to having a greater range of books available in Australia.
We have to make books easily accessible to our young. The cost of them will always be a huge issue especially in hard economic times and anything we can do to reduce this will benefit our future.

Books are not a luxury, they are a necessity.

I am a big fan of romance novels and subscribe to a lot of authors sites. I generally have to wait and extra 2-3 months for the books to be shipped into Australia. I usually spend $80+ each time I visit usually each fortnight. But this has tapered off due to lack of availability.

Protectionism, as in current policy, costs us all. Need to get rid of remnant cultural cringe still active in this area. Need to encourage anything which develops role model, esp for children and grandchildren, of adult males reading.

Our country needs to encourage its population to read more however when books are more expensive than other forms of entertainment this will not happen.

Don't make literacy a luxury. Everyone should be able to afford books.
My strong interest are bound to the issues regarding the limitation that the Australian sellers have within foreign markets, and that they should have this access to reduce cost which in turn would produce more consumption.

For too long we have been at the mercy of non-competitive trade practices. Why are we propping up the profits of non-Australian multi-nationals? It is time for change!

Who is this policy protecting, anyway? All it does is to guarantee a certain minimum inflated GST-revenue for the Government, or not?

Books are comparatively expensive at present and I would support any venture to make good reading material available at affordable prices.

GST on books also needs to be abolished. Especially on textbooks.

Couldn't agree more.

Australia needs to be more competitive in the book selling business. I hate having to pay excessive prices simply because I live in Australia and not in America or the UK. Please let the free market flourish. People are buying through Amazon etc. anyway, why not bring that expenditure INTO Australia?

Reading hard copy books is to be encouraged particularly for young people who do not have much money to spare. Current prices inflated by unnecessary regulations only serve to discourage.

Access to the world's best literature (and everything else) should not be a privilege based on your ability to pay the current exorbitant prices being asked for new books. Literacy and a love of reading is one of the most amazing gifts anyone can be given in life, we shouldn't do anything to make that more difficult to achieve

Books are important to every single level of culture and learning and as such should be as accessible as possible. It is very noticeable that books are unusually expensive in Australia.
Books are meant for anyone, not just rich people who has money to buy it.

I would much prefer to support the Australian economy and shop by purchasing from Australia, instead I often buy from Amazon USA and UK who are significantly cheaper. Recently bought Rachel Allen - Bake for $18, it's $40 here!!!!!!

Books are becoming ever-more important in our lives. Please do whatever you can do reduce the cost of books - we seem to pay very much more than other English speaking countries.

I have often imported books myself through American sellers through sites like amazon.com, because even taking into account exchange rates and shipping costs, I can still get books for up to a third of the price.

I fully support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. We buy a lot of books and order a lot through a company in the US. That company offers very competitive prices, even including the shipping cost to Australia. If the books could be offered at a better price here we would certainly buy more books from Dymocks. Kind regards Annette and Glen Wheatley

I wholeheartedly support this petition.

Books are so important.
As an author I was originally concerned by this proposal. However, I am convinced that Australian authors will not lose out. I am very keen to see books sold in Australia without trade restrictions.

I read extensively and pass my books onto the students I teach so they can access books that they cannot afford. The only way literacy will ever improve if books are made available to all different socio economic groups. The people that have poor literacy skills are the ones that cannot afford books. They should be as cheap as possible.

Books should be able to be affordable for those who have limited funds and appreciate the value of a good read. Has my father has always stated... Reading expands the capacity of the mind.

Encourage greater literacy by making books more affordable.

Make books cheaper. The Government encourages reading through the Premier's Reading Challenges held in schools. They should practice what you preach by making books cheaper and therefore more accessible to all. Also get rid of the GST on books of they want more children to read!

Restrictions on parallel importation are a tax on Australian consumers. Surely this should have been removed with the free trade agreement?

You cannot put a price on the value of the written word. However, if we have to (and, naturally, we do), let's be reasonable about it so that everyone can have the opportunity to benefit from those that seek to inspire us!

I think books should be a lot cheaper... I would buy a lot more instead of having to buy a lot of second hand books.

Freedom of choice, please!
All books are too expensive, more so in text & religion publications

One of life's great pleasures is being able to read good quality books but with the current economic crisis it is obvious that the prices of these books should be affordable to everyone. Keep the prices down.

Cheaper books will enable one to continue to enjoy this past-time.
I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I moved over from the UK in September 2008, and am still astounded by the extortionate costs of your books. Both my wife and I are avid readers. My wife more so than I. In the UK we thought nothing of picking up books and purchasing them. Sometimes buying three or four in one go. Yet due to the costs here, we have found that it is simply not possible and that any purchase has to be that much more considered. Why are many books that are sold in one of the most expensive cities in the world (to rent retail selling space) - London, more to buy here in Adelaide?!! Only this week whilst in a bookshop, I heard a mother tell her child who had picked up a kiddies book to put it down. She told her child that as she had just had her birthday, that she could not afford to buy it. How can that

It is possible to buy books from overseas via the internet at a much cheaper price than we can purchase them through Australian book outlets. This needs to be changed.

It's about time government regulations put Australians consumers at a disadvantage.

If we hope to remain competitive in a World Market, education the furthering of knowledge needs to remain accessible to all, not just to those who can afford to spend a fortune on books.

I have just been in the USA and loved buying lots of books because they were such a reasonable price especially kids books which were about $7.00 AUSD compared to about $14.00 AUSD I have to pay here

Competitive pricing is important to keep the market for books in this country viable. We need to keep more money within Australia instead of all the 'offshore' things going on with other companies leaving nothing here. It's annoying trying to find american books, and when i do find them, they're being sold at ridiculous prices or it's paperback vs hardcover

Book selling has not been a free market for years and years. Let's fix it
This must be one of the most expensive countries on earth to buy books so it needs to be changed, its your childrens future too

I buy most of my books overseas at the moment rather than locally since, even with current poor exchange rates and shipping costs, it works out much cheaper for me.

Books need to be cheaper to buy!!

Please remove restrictions in order to save quality australian booksellers.

Books mean knowledge and knowledge means power. I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books Campaign.

Way to go

If we'd like more people to read books instead of watch TV, movies, or play video games we need to have a wider variety available at decent prices.

With the state of the recession at the present time, being able to purchase cheaper books can only be a good thing.

Cheaper Books for a well read and educated country!
From experience I know that book prices are far cheaper in USA and Canada and it would be great if they dropped in price here as a result of this petition.

If we are genuine in our quest for 'clever country'. It ill behoves us to put the price of books out of the reach of the poorer people and youngsters who are trying to further their careers and future.

Why should we send our money overseas to purchase cheaper books. I'd prefer to pay that money to local traders especially in the current economic climate.

We import other products from countries where it is cheaper for us to buy from so why not books. There is going to be a time in the future when actual printed material will be a thing of the past due to the technology we have these days. Yes. I do read electronic books but I still enjoy picking up a book and reading while I'm having breakfast...or lunch.

I buy a lot of books from overseas because it often works out to be cheaper than buying them from a store in Australia, even with the cost of shipping! If books become cheaper in Australia, that would be so much better!
I have been running a bookclub for over 20 years in Perth and we are finding the cost of books, particularly new releases, has become prohibitive and is affecting both our choices, and the viability of the bookclub. Every year we debate whether it is worth continuing, and since it is groups such as ours which help support the publishing industry (yes it is mainly educated middle aged women who read regularly) this is a real issue. We are now considering older, cheaper titles, and out-of-copyright classics, so we can keep going, as most members object to paying nearly $30 for a new paperback they may or may not like. We have watched book prices steadily climb to beyond our comfort level in the past decade. Sadly, discretionary reading has become a luxury in Australia, and the government re

Cheaper books will result in more Australians reading and will also foster a love of literature in children. Good luck!
I think we need to allow Australian booksellers to be as internationally competitive as possible, given the existing competition posed by internet booksellers such as Amazon.

The other day I spoke with a colleague who has just returned from living in the United States for several years. He bemoaned the price of books in Australia - his exact words were "the prices are criminal compares to the US". Then just last night I was going through my CD collection and saw the price sticker of an album I bought over 15 years ago. The cost was $29- then. Now if you consider inflation then that same CD should now cost more than $70-. But no, it probably retails for $20- now. That's what competition and direct imports can achieve. Thankyou for your petition.

This is an imperative cause!

This is not only for me, but my children as well.

Restrictions on parallel importation is a very clear case of an anti-competitive policy which must be eliminated immediately. It obviously fosters a monopolistic environment for the book industry. It means that Australians are paying much higher prices for imported books compared to most countries in the world. That is why I frequently purchase my books via the internet whenever they are cheaper to do so compared to buying them in Australia.

Please resist the publisher's greed
I would purchase more new books (rather than second hand) if they were cheaper. I believe that reducing the price of books will increase sales, therefore have no negative impact on profits.

I am buying many books from overseas because they are usually much cheaper, even with postage, than buying the same book here. (For example, an art book purchased from overseas cost me, all up, $36.00AUD, the same book here, without postage, $185.00AUD... I know where I will be spending my money... and I do buy a lot of books!

Books are essential for education, information and pleasure and should be cheap and readily available to all.

The availability of books at cheaper prices is important in the education of the nation and the leisure of the adult population. The government should lift the restrictions on imports to allow people to enjoy literature and obtain knowledge.

We believe that books are educational and life enhancing and should be accessible by everyone, everywhere. Not subject to overbearing restrictions and taxes.

The Democrats sold us out and placed GST on books. As a Teacher I see an increasing amount of illiteracy as students struggle with reading. The Ipod has replaced the book on trains.
As a reader, mum and primary school library officer I would dearly love to see books become more affordable.

Please listen to us! Thanks.

How many more restrictions are we supposed to deal with in this country!

It is necessary to be able to get good books at cheap rate

Yes to cheaper books! Yes to imports!

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I sounds to me like a monoply to protect certain persons/companies. Why do booksellers have to purchase through set channels? Where is our freedom and democracy? I agree entirely that authors need to be able to protect their copyrights etc. but isn't there a better system.
I believe we should have cheaper books because of the economic crisis. If the books were cheaper we would be able to buy more and at the same time be educated and become a better reader. There are many great books overseas which I think we should be able to receive those great books in Australia as people may want to read them. Instead of going on a overseas book store which will end up costing us more by sending them to Australia. Or you could ask the book store to order books in from overseas which will cost the store heaps of money again. These are just a couple of arguments that I believe need fixing. Thankyou

Have previously indicated my support

Cheaper books to help upgrade child literacy
yeh i would just lyike to mention how friendly the staff are and the great books Dymocks sells.

I strongly believe Australians booksellers are disadvantaged by these restrictions particularly as I can buy on the internet from both USA & UK suppliers

Books are best!

Books need to be readily available at reasonable prices especially to enable young and old alike to keep reading in our current economic situation. The more young people read, the better their vocabulary, something which is growing smaller by the day in our society.

The price of books in general and then the additions of mailing to outback regions in Australia almost make the buying of books a no no, gone are the days of buying a decent hardcover book.. I now wait until it comes out in paperback so I can still have the enjoyment of reading a good book
I believe we should have cheaper books because of the economic crisis. If the books were cheaper we would be able to buy more and at the same time be educated and become a better reader. There are many great books overseas which I think we should be able to receive those great books in Australia as people may want to read them. Instead of going on a overseas book store which will end up costing us more by sending them to Australia. Or you could ask the book store to order books in from overseas which will cost the store heaps of money again. These are just a couple of arguments that I believe need fixing. Thankyou

Say no to books that are a rip off! We already pay too much.

I often buy my books online from overseas and even after I pay the postage they are still cheaper. Now I know why.

It wasn't until I had oversea's trips to Canada, USA and the UK that I realised the impost levied on books on sale in Australia. The same books available in the Northern Hemishere were some 35% 40% dearer in Australia after accounting for exchange rates.
If you want people to read books you need to make them cheaper. Books overseas are a fraction of the price and even buying books over the internet save $$. If a non-virtual bookshop is to survive they need to be able to compete pricewise. Please help them to do so.

with a reported drop in the literacy of our children, cheaper books would be extremely beneficial in enhancing their reading and writing skills.

you had the wrong address for me (a NSW address) so I changed it

Greater accessibility to affordable books would only improve the educational status of our communities and also give greater access to those cannot afford to buy books.

Greater competition and cheaper books for working families in Australia will help in these very difficult economic times. The cheaper it is to allow my 4 children to read a broad range of books, the more likely my children will become productive members of Australian society.

Reading is one of the joys of life, it is important that books are available at affordable prices for everyone.
Internet retailers from the US and UK have an unfair advantage over local retail outlets that should be addressed.

If we are unable to buy cheaper within Australia our money will go overseas Isn't the Government trying to make Aussie's buy in Australia to buy locally to Keep Aussie jobs??????

I fully support the interests of this petition.

I have no objections as long as the quality of paper and colour photographs are of high standards. Thanks.

books are vital to a nations education and should be seen as a strategic resource made available as widely as possible as cheaply as possible

Go for it with my blessing

Cheaper books sooner! I cant afford to keep ordering from Amazon. It will be better for the economy if I buy them from Australian book stores too

Here Here!!

Lets put the consumer before those with vested interests in keeping this cartel continuing
The price of books in Australia is scandalous! For a so called educated nation, we are certainly hampering the efforts of many Australians by making it financially tougher to access books....that is without resorting to ordering from overseas. And in this tough economic climate, shouldn't we be encouraged to support local businesses?

Why should Australians be barred from having cheaper books like our overseas cousins, come on give us a fair go.

Please all we want is a FAIR GO for booklovers - that is sellers AND readers
I currently buy most of my books (15 - 20 per year) from Amazon.com. It is much cheaper to have them mailed to my home from the US than to buy them from an Australian book store.

Books are still the primary source of education and enjoyment. This is a lot cheaper on the taxpayer than supplying computers to one and all. Please make purchasing books cheaper for the country consumer.

I believe that in these difficult financial times, anything that allows access to cheaper books should be welcomed. Books constitute a wonderful way of maintaining an active and healthy mind and as such can help in saving Medical expenses.

Books are precious and should be available to all at a price that does not break the budget.

It's not just a question of cheaper prices but the diversity of choice and currency.

As a school librarian I believe this is important.

I have travelled extensively and have always found the price of books in Australia is far greater than other countries. This is unfortunate as it deters people from purchasing books.

I would urge the removal of this restriction. I buy hundreds of dollars of books on an annual basis and I must tell you, I buy the majority from Amazon.com (i.e. overseas). Why? Price! Case in point: I wanted to buy "The Audacity of Hope". Even after paying the Amazon.com retail price AND the shipping, it was still CHEAPER than buying at my local Dymocks which is not more than 100 meters from my office.

I agree absolutely with this petition.
Why should we be penalised?

It would be wonderful to get cheaper books!

I buy all my books via Amazon.com. There is just no comparison to local pricing.

If books can be cheaper, I'm 100% in favour of the importation of cheaper books. Maybe then we can get something like Amazon.com here too!

I purchase books online from overseas because of the cheaper prices available. It would be in the national interest for local suppliers to be able to match these prices.

CHEAPER BOOKS FOR AUSSIES!!!
I currently purchase about 80% of my books online from international sources - I'd be happy to buy books from local sources if the prices were comparable.

I would support my local bookstores, but when you can buy them cheaper in places such as Kmart and Big W the need to save money over rides supporting local businesses.

I am an avid reader - and have been since a small child. This was something instilled by my parents and the love of which has remained with each of my siblings today. I believe books are important in everyone's life - one never gets the same feelings or senses from movies, TV as they do from a book and where a child is concerned it allows the use of imagination to no end - books should be affordable to everyone!!

Why should we have to wait 12 months before buying a cheaper book? I would suggest that the average book reader is always pleased to read their favourite author/s as soon as each book released and we should be able to get each book as cheaply as we can.

As a former teacher, Mother & now Grandmother I cannot stress to much the importance of reading to children. It is a bonding & learning time that can give some of the greatest pleasures in life. When my eldest granddaughter was 3 I gave her an egg & her brother of 1 a book. All that Sophia wanted was a book & to sit on my lap to hear it read. A chocolate lasts but a minute or so but a book can be shared & enjoyed for years to come not just with the recipient but with innumerable people.

A society cannot prosper if it penalises the acquisition of knowledge through restrictive laws on access to information.

We need to promote reading in this country and finding ways to lower the retail prices must be a crucial element of that process.
I regularly purchase books via Amazon for this very reason, as it is often cheaper to buy several texts AND pay the shipping than to purchase the same books in Australia. Arbitrary barriers to trade should not be acceptable.

How are we supposed to educate our children and community in literacy if books are too pricey? Books are already too expensive here compared to the UK for example. Reading is such a crucial skill for people to learn and develop - people of all ages. I support this 100%. Regards

As a teacher I feel the need for cheaper books is very important. I can buy books overseas and get them shipped here cheaper than purchasing them in Australia.

I love to read! Bring on the cheaper books!

Cheaper books = accessible books and learning
Having lived in the UK and Asia, I was surprised to find books so much more expensive in Australia. I'm fortunate enough to have voracious young readers in my daughters, but I wonder what they would do if they had to fund their own reading habits! Don't make cost a disincentive to reading.

These laws need to be changed to allow local booksellers to compete with the likes of Amazon.

Coming from the UK I am shocked to find the high cost of books here in Australia, both of my children are avid book readers, the high cost of books is curtailing this vital part of their learning development.

Books aren't just for entertainment - every student, teacher and academic will be affected, as will the schools, universities, and other learning institutions they are part of. Surely it should be cheaper to educate, not dearer?!?!

Books are knowledge.

The situation with books should be brought into line with the situation for cds, as long as the copyright for authors does stay in place.

Books should be as inexpensive as possible. I applaud the Coalition for Cheaper Books Campaign.

I have found that books here are generally well above the UK price.

The U.K. and the U.S. are supposed to be our trading partners - so why stop us sourcing cheaper books from these countries?
Cheaper books = easier access to information & resources = smarter country

We must make books accessible to all.
I am an avid reader and have a young child who I am encouraging to read. Part of my strategy is to make visiting a bookshop and buying a book a fun and enjoyable experience. However the current cost of books, including children's books, is prohibitive. The average paper back picture book is around $15, with many considerably more. Anything that can be done to increase competition and lower the retail price of books would be a good thing.

Any project to aid people to obtain reading matter must be supported, for their education as well as for recreational advantage. Go for it. A great project.

This has been an unfair monopoly for some time. Good luck in getting the system changed.
Nicola Armitt
I moved here from UK less than 2 years ago and find the prices of books here ridiculous - sometimes 3 times as much as some shops/online stores in UK!

Joanna King
Peter Jeffers
Juliana Archbold
Dianne Jones
Kerry Durie
Matthew Healey
Anthony Powell
Julie Wallace
Rachel Mines
Vera Sadikin
Lindi Vickery
James Vreeling
David Gravina
Ewa Malinowska
Dorn Moss
Chantal Young
Jessica Finnegan
Rabin Poudel
Cathy Verga
Maria Savas
Andrew Brown
Tom Ferris
Genevieve Lehman
Sue Cronin
Roslyn Prasad

Duncan Bainbridge
Sue Griffin
Philip Ng
Gemma Roberts
Amy Kerr
Janos Dabasy
Amanda Baker
Karen Abeson
Deidre Timms

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Judi Digregorio
Jacquelyn Cullen
Christina Illing
Vicki Groat
Shaun Dinsdale
Victoria Alice Sainsbury
Karen Hoffensetz
Lorna Rutherford
Angela Fichera
Maree Mayer
Glenys Fawcett
Ben Shaw
Susan Dawson
Leanne Graham
Lesley Woodhouse
Hugh Proctor

I would welcome this change. If the product is good enough I would read it. I read a lot of Australian fiction and will continue to do so. I see this as still supporting local writers and the local publishing industry. If the cost is cheaper so much the better.

Smart Australia is cheaper books.
I purchase lots of books off betterworld books and amazon because books are just too expensive here.

I love Books & Audio books & would love to see more people reading more than just magazines. Making books cheaper would give people more choice in their reading matter. Books can take you to new worlds with exciting adventures.

I fully support this petition, books are so important to myself, and my three children, as you know they bring so much value to our lives in many different ways, also having 3 children I am always on a tight budget and hope that this petition helps us all. :)

High tariffs on books is a back door attempt at censorship even if not draconian in its intent. If books are cheaper more people will buy; a greater market will encourage authors to seek to publish - good for the Australian writing and reading communities.

While supporting the coalition I would like to point out that even for second-hand books it is often cheaper to purchase overseas and pay the (somewhat excessive) postal charges than to purchase from an Australian supplier. Booksellers are by no means always competitive in an International market.

Books are essential for developing the mind, relaxation, learning and bettering oneself. The cheaper they are the more available they become.

Currently Australians are financially under greater pressure. Cheaper books would help! The Government wants people to spend money to increase the economy. If it is cheaper to buy books then people are more likely to spend. It is a contradiction of the Government's policies and goals to not help the book suppliers buy cheaper books and inhibit consumers to spend money. Plus, books educate people including our youth and in turn make Australia a stronger nation.

I find it sad that I can import at least 2 books from the USA for less than the price of one of them from a retailer here. I would much prefer to buy my non-fiction books from an Australian retailer, but this is why I get them from overseas.
This is ridiculous, this petition should be called 'how not to kill the book industry in Australia'. I can buy a book off Amazon.com and have it shipped to Australia in 3 days cheaper than I can walk up the street and buy it. Ridiculous.

I'm all for having cheaper books, across the whole range of topics, and to cover all authors.

The removal of the anti-competitive industry restrictions on importing of books and software will increase the competitiveness of Australia, reduce our balance of trade deficit and stop the exploitation of Australian consumers by major international corporations. This is an obvious benefit to all Australians.

there is a need for more cheaper books. If the books are cheaper than more can be bought by the public which will then cover the costs of the expensive. This include both overseas and home books.

Good work Dymocks

I am very much in favor of getting cheaper books elsewhere in the world. We love our books and if it is possible to get them cheaper from other countries then I am all in favor of it.

thanks for thinking of your readers.

Cheaper books would bring the literary world to more families in Australia and enhance children's education.

I fully agree with the petition and hope notice is taken of its content.
This petition is a most reasonable proposal protecting copyright as well as authors and publishers income, while providing a means of making books cheaper for the general public.

For Australia to be a clever country, books must be affordable for all.

Books can be the core of learning for both children and adults. Anything that can foster MORE reading at more reasonable costs should have the full support of our government and communities. It may even help our bookstores from becoming as non-existent as newspapers in the very near future! The cost of books in Australia is extremely high (compared to say, America) and people may look for other avenues for printed books (i.e. the internet) if this government is not more proactive in making a change.

Open the market. It becomes more competitive and better for buyers. Plus it will support our local bookstores!

I wholeheartedly support this initiative and would buy a lot more books if this restriction was removed !!!!
Why is the government trying to help Australian subsidiaries or agents of overseas publishers to monopolize the book industry? This not only helps to raise the price of literature, it may even discourage public reading and younger generations will sway more and more to potentially unproductive activities. In this context, reading Internet articles are not as good as reading proper literature. People may also read inappropriate materials through the Internet, or even read ‘pirated books’ in digitalized form, hence less sales for Australian book distributors. No, we don’t want to be able to purchase cheaper books AFTER a year it has been published elsewhere around the world. With the current economy, people may even tend to wait to buy cheaper after a year, then what would happen to the sales?

High pricing for books injures the country in so many ways - books are fundamental to education, an informed populace, and are a fundamental pleasure to boot. Banning parallel importing is simply trade protectionism - something we claim to be against - indeed we are actively negotiating free trade agreements all over the world right now - why not for books too?

I strongly support the submission of the Coalition for cheaper books to remove the restrictions on parallel importation.

Who is this legislation going to benefit? Certainly not Australian's. It will only harm retailers. Look how many people go to Amazon to buy books from the US. Why? because it's cheaper. We are only hurting Australian's and Aussie retailers.
If books were cheaper more young adults and people would be able to buy and read more books!

This seems pretty obvious to me, really.
I would by more books from shops and Australian sellers if they were cheaper - more often than not they are cheaper from online bookshops from overseas even after the delivery charge.

Cheaper books will keep more people reading. Reading is a very essential tool for education and it aids communication in society. I support the removal of restrictions on imported books.

Please make reading and knowledge more accessible by making books cheaper

The knowledge and enjoyment derived from reading books should be made available to as many people as possible, and can be achieved by reducing the price of books.

There is clearly something wrong with the pricing of Australian books when I find that I can personally import a book from the US and pay expensive shipping costs yet still save money over an equivalent Australian purchase.

I currently order books from the US on a monthly basis due to the large book market there and would love to be able to shop locally to get them. Plus the postage on buying two or three books is ridiculous.

Books are so important to provide empowerment, education, awareness and experience to people of all ages and in all walks of life. Let’s make it easier for people to grow into better citizens / mentors / guides / employees / employers / parents / students / educators and all have better lives!

Why are readers discriminated against? CD’s were reduced in price....now it’s our turn!
Books are fantastic things that should be affordable by all.

Bring on the cheap books!!

Profit from restrictive arrangements of distributorships etc is criminal in nature. With copyright fully protected there is absolutely no reason for these types of arrangements to continue.
Since the GST books have gone up in price a huge amount, we all want cheaper access to books.

Keep prices down we need to learn to read

when i travel overseas i always notice that books are cheaper in other countries.
cheaper books would assist in more sales and more people reading, it's a win win solution.

I think it's about time things changed.

This would also open up for fair competition between all the retailers. In the end it would be consumers who are the winners.

yes, I believe reducing prices is a fantastic idea, it means people can finally afford to buy a book to enjoy reading, most people these days are on budgets due to the economic crisis. Libraries are annoying, I'd prefer to own my own books, which I can read anytime anywhere :)

This is a great initiative, I support Dymocks and Don's view on this. Kind Regards, Glen.

the reduction in price will assist people becoming well read and knowledgeable. Let strive to be a more learned country.

This would keep Australian money from going off-shore via on-line bookstores (which I have only used due to the significantly cheaper price), thus saving jobs here.

I might actually buy more new books if they weren't so ridiculously expensive.
Rachel Macri

Computers, tv’s and electronic games may all be good and fun for children, but books are what have shaped our country and world and progressed it to what it is today. Everyone has a right to be able to have access to them at a better price, without a government restricting everything all the time!

The price of books is prohibitive to people with limited incomes, making it hard for families to purchase books especially for children. If we are concerned with improving the literacy level of the community it is important that books are available at a price that the more vulnerable families are able to afford. Children especially need to have books in their homes and to see their parents read as well as themselves. Not all people have access to libraries and it is good for families to have books in the home to reread, which is not possible when books need to be returned to libraries.

Dianne Beck

I read a lot and prefer to buy books rather than get them from the Library as I often reread them many years later. When I retire in a few years I will not be able to afford to buy new release books and lose one of my chief sources of entertainment. If the petition is successful it will enable me to continue to buying and reading these wonderful tomes. I also believe younger people would read more if books were more affordable.

Rachel Macri

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Rachel Macri
I find it ridiculous that it is cheaper for me to buy books on Amazon.com and have them shipped to Australia than it is for me to go to my local bookstore to buy current releases. Restrictions MUST be removed!!! I would prefer for my hard earned to be spent in Australia and not overseas!! Would love to see cheaper books available.

Kristy Mays
Valerie Johnsen
Richard Platt
Angelina Hapsari
Kate Bruck
Jacqueline Doherty
Nenita Urmeneta
Robert Kennelly
Jenna Paterson
Theo Bekkers
Noni Ahluwalia
Wendy Ollivier
Naomi Bicheno
Kirsty Unsworth
Kylie Walters
Ann Legzde
Lauretta Davies
Rebecca Instance
Hugh Hyde-Page
Mellita Cheah
Jennie Ritzrow
Stephen Tieck
John Scarafioti

Reading is a right not a privilage. The UK does not load the price of books with unneccesary tolls and taxes and neither should Australia. I support this drive wholeheartedly.

Suzanne Rouse
Jan Flew
Michael Meloni
Karen Mcnair
Melanie Braggs
Louise Mcsporran

I would love the opportunity to purchase books cheaper in a store - it would stop me shopping online though ebay etc to find them at the cheapest price

Suzanne Rouse
Jan Flew
Michael Meloni
Karen Mcnair
Melanie Braggs
Louise Mcsporran

Natalie Kerr Vanlook
Catherine Campbell
Scott Mildren
Shaun Coggins
Jill Slattery
Judith Savage
Janet Oscar
Graeme Collis
Anna Richter
Amanda McIntosh

I would love cheaper books please.

Suzanne Rouse
Jan Flew
Michael Meloni
Karen Mcnair
Melanie Braggs
Louise Mcsporran

Serena Mathew
Tihana Berak

Books are far too expensive in Australia!!! Why should we pay more than in US?

Ingrid Weiss
Julie Wilson
Dan Greensill
Trudy Shearer
Sara Sugden
Barbara Grant
Jan French
Jessica Harrison
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Keating</td>
<td></td>
<td>This would be awesome as books are so expensive here that me and my friends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Edgar</td>
<td></td>
<td>usually just buy from Amazon. even with the exchange rates and postage, it works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Tuckwell</td>
<td></td>
<td>out soo much cheaper!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Pfeiffer</td>
<td></td>
<td>I make most of my book purchases overseas because books are so exorbitantly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Bevilacqua</td>
<td></td>
<td>priced in Australia. I even buy books PUBLISHED IN AUSTRALIA overseas! I’d love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Weber</td>
<td></td>
<td>to be able to buy more books in Australia at cheaper prices and support the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Jones</td>
<td></td>
<td>Australian publishing industries and local bookstores!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joy Northover</td>
<td></td>
<td>We should have cheaper books.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Levine</td>
<td></td>
<td>While I like to buy books locally, some are so much cheaper at Amazon, etc that I do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Gardam</td>
<td></td>
<td>often order there. While not your main concern for Dymocks, the same is true for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Richardson</td>
<td></td>
<td>most overseas magazines. It is often cheaper to subscribe to a US magazine for a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Parkington</td>
<td></td>
<td>year then buy two single copies locally. I am told that this is due to the excessive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Baldwin</td>
<td></td>
<td>margins charged by a local wholesaler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigel Bevilacqua</td>
<td></td>
<td>The authors will still get their dues so allow parrellel imports to ensure more people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauline Harley</td>
<td></td>
<td>can afford the books!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Ryan</td>
<td></td>
<td>Access to books is a critical part of a civilised society. Anything that makes books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Haufe</td>
<td></td>
<td>more accessible must be pursued with vigour.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Swift</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Alicia Kennedy</td>
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<td>Jill Thomas</td>
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<td>Kathleen McLeod</td>
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<td>Catherine Lam</td>
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<td>Fran Grimwood</td>
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<td>Megan Claverdon-jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Faulds</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>John Clatworthy</td>
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<td>Jackson Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marc Nash</td>
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<td>Terry Lampard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Govender Gonaseelan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamela Bennetts</td>
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<td>Russell Charles</td>
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<td>Evelyn Tran</td>
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<td>Peter Dempster</td>
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<td>Jean Forrest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Watson</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rohan Hawthorne</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Hughes</td>
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<td>Patricia Andersen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Thornton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Caldwell - Shaw</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Glenn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debi Smith</td>
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<td>Deane Rohrlach</td>
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<tr>
<td>John McIntosh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Leesa Bevan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Access to books is a critical part of a civilised society. Anything that makes books more accessible must be pursued with vigour.
I find that Australian books are really expensive compared to other countries if this happens I will be able to afford better books and range. I am at the moment unable to buy most of the books I would like to read or own a copy of because it is out of my budget.

I'm only for cheaper books if we, the customers will see the savings. It would suck for Dymocks to be able to buy them cheaper and still gouge the customer!!!!

Cheaper books will encourage more purchases of books, increasing the love of reading.

Having cheaper books available would be a boost for retailers (particularly given the current financial climate) as that would encourage more people to buy. Any help the government can give to our beleaguered retail market should be explored and it would be remiss of them to not to take this on board.

Support education and literacy!

Restrictions on parallel importation are no different than region coding on DVDs. They exist only to perpetuate the marketing strategies of international corporations and provide no benefit to consumers. In a world of increasingly global commerce and new free trade agreements, parallel importation restrictions serve only to protract inefficiencies in economic markets.

This current practise is clearly a restraint of trade and a restraint of free markets. There can be no good reason for this - it certainly is not protecting Australian jobs as it is undoubtedly harming the Aussie book retailers and consumers. A raw deal for all Australians.

every body else are getting a lift up what about book readers
Cheaper books will encourage more people to read. I do expect the price reduction in the cost of the books to be passed on, at least in part, to consumers. Our alternative, and I know many who are doing this, is to purchase the books online from overseas at a cheaper cost, to the detriment of Australian business. If we want to maintain a book selling profile in this country, the stores need to be competitive.

In these harder economic times, it's difficult for people who enjoy a good read to actually enjoy a good read. Cheaper books will not only allow readers to continue reading, but it will add to the economy via stimulating sales to Australian booksellers. This is a good thing for small business and our economy.

Reading is an essential life skill. If people can't afford books, then how will their children learn to read?????? Books are not an item for the rich privileged few they should be accessible to everyone and therefore be affordable.

Books are a vital way of passing on not only the information they contain, but also the finer points of language and communication, which cannot be found in any of the other sources of information available to us. For many families struggling in these economic times, books are easy to relegate to the optional list when the budget is tight, thus removing an important source of development.

It's ridiculous that you can buy brand new books from overseas retailers, and have them shipped to Australia for a significant amount less than what the book costs in Australian stores.

While I support protecting Australian industry, this is trumped by my belief in the critical need for extensive reading, which supports higher learning and conceptual development and in the end is a better support for Australian industry.

More books to read!
It seems that the Australian public is always slugged unfairly when it comes to imported goods. Electronic Equipment, Software, Music, White Goods can always be purchased cheaper in the US and Europe. I understand that the "Economies of Scale" are at work here but some of the price differentials are "price gouging" pure and simple.

I think it's appalling that books are so expensive in W.A. I was stunned when I first moved over here at the prices charged, hopefully this movement will be passed.

cheaper books - better education! there are two whole generations out there who have been brought up reliant on computers and they are nearly all verging on illiterate so what does that ell you?! I know - I used to be married to one and if it was not in computer-speak he had no idea what it meant... how damaging is that to real life?????

I lived in New York and bought books all the time. I rarely buy books in Australia as they are just too expensive.

I wholeheartedly agree that cheaper books should be available to every Australian.
Indeed, all book shops should in this global economy have the restrictions of parallel importation of books relaxed.

A further example of the price difference is that I attended college in NYC for some 4 years and my text books - compared with what I pay annually for my son’s school text books here - was on average 70% less pa than the Australian cost of similar text books.

This was supposed to have been all tidied up over ten years ago. There is just no excuse for allowing these crooks to keep ripping off the public.

I STRONGLY support this campaign

I read alot of Debbie Macomber books, she is an American author. Most of the time I can only buy her books from another bookshop and pay a hefty price for them. After they are released in the USA, I have to wait months before they are here, if they ever turn up. I would love to see cheaper books here and more freedom for books to be sold here. I am an avid reader. Thanks :)

Book prices in Australia are too high and any taxes or import taxes should be removed. Knowledge should not be taxed.
I currently buy all my books from overseas because they are cheaper (even with freight added) than they are to buy in Australia.

Reading serves an important role in society, so the removal of restrictions on parallel importation will make books more accessible to those who were previously denied access to reading resources due to cost.

There is no greater way to educate and to entertain the public than through the written word.

MY work Colleague has recently moved to Australia from England and said she refuses to purchase books in Australia as the cost is 3 times the price in the UK. Most new releases in the UK are around $6.00 each.... I would love to see prices similar to that.

Cheaper books, would allow us to buy more books, reading is good for the brain and the way the current global economy is going and financial crisis this would be a great help to each indiviuual who can't afford to pay alot for a good book.
This is really important for me. I am a prolific reader and am increasingly finding the costs of books prohibitive.

I support in every possible way the petition content to be presented on 17th April 2009. As an avid reader, and student still in my 70’s, books of all content are a great importance to me, and I am a member of the Friends of the Shrathalbyn Library a group I started some 20 years ago. I also started the uni of the Third age here and it is constantly borrowing books for its reading club, and I for research for the History groups I lead. Most of our members are pensioners, books cost the earth!!!!!!!and those for our children and grandchildren also... Bravo Dymocks for your submission on this issue.... Fau Walker

Books not bucks!!

Deregulate the market to bringe prices down. The cheaper overseas sources are available on the net any way. Books are cheaper on Amazon.com

Have voted in the name of Cunningham previously - you apparently have two memberships for me one in the name of Townsend and one in the name of Cunningham, please amalgamate them together, Many thanks

I strongly support the Coalition for CHEAPER Books!
Books are our most important import - more secure than any electronic versions - and they should be as cheap as possible so that everyone can access them to help understand the present and influence the future.

I'm loyal to Dymocks 'til the end!
Why can I buy books from Amazon cheaper than I can buy them from Dymocks?
Doesn't make sense.

Books are our most important import - more secure than any electronic versions - and they should be as cheap as possible so that everyone can access them to help understand the present and influence the future.

Reduce the price of books = increase readership of books by all Australians. How can that be a bad thing?
Ian Peters
Helen Daly
Ros Jaffe
Peta Bailey
Catherine Latham
Rachel Carter

I think it is an abysmal disgrace that you could even think about doing this. If this
continues, I will be buying my books from eBay when someone else has finished with
them and will never buy a book in store again.

Melinda Connor
Amelia Hickman
Stephanie Andrews
Alison Slodki
Chelsey Schroeter
Linda Tran
Ken Friedman
Natalie Cadiz
David Carter
Alexandra Apse
Gail Vann
Lee Battye

Please reduce the price of books in Australia to make them more affordable for
booklovers like myself.

Kelly Goodman
Peter Simpson
Natalie Mauger
Tim Devine
Tian Cai
Paul Korona
Susan Osland

I often buy books from the USA at sometime less than 2/3rds of the price in australia.

Patricia Crowe
Patricia Dixon
Michelle Cuff
Mary Shaw
Monique Dever
Rachel Bills
Narelle Fasulo
Gary Ashton
Alexis Rollins
David Kilsby

books are education, don't dumb australia down any more than it is already.

Jenyne Benington
Luke Beard
Katherine Claxton
Sue walker
Louise Darcy Evans
David Apse
Susan Karam
Cathy Vieraitis
Lim Say Beng

The pleasure of reading and owning a book should made accessible to all

I strongly support this Campaign! The should never be any restrictions on import of
books. Books encourage people of all ages to read and thereby improve their
faculties, education, etc. Signed Patricia Dickens

Patricia Dickens
Susanne Thompson
Jeanette Graham
Michelle Wirthensohn
Sandra Mitchell
Because of the relatively high cost of books in Australia, my husband and I mostly buy our books from overseas through agents such as Amazon. We would both much rather buy locally, and would do so if the prices were more competitive. I strongly support the cheaper books campaign. Cheaper books would benefit both intellectual development and Australian businesses.

Please do not disadvantage Australians who need literature for their writing and intellectual pursuits.

books are rediculously priced in this country. anything to lower the cost will increase the number of people reading which can only benefit australia
cheaper books=more books

 lets make books more readily available at competitive prices!

reading is one of life's supreme pleasures.

any move to increase access to books across the population should be encouraged and supported as it goes directly to the literacy, education and upskilling of the Australian people. This can only have an economic benefit for the country as a whole.

parents of children may be encouraged to buy their children books if they are cheaper! Books are better than television and pc games!

how can you allow this impost on education?

refusing to allow cheaper books is ignorant!
Go cheaper books!!

remove the restrictions, I love reading and I love owning my own books!

Cheaper books for a brighter future for Australia. Please. Paul

we need incentive for people to buy in these current times, high prices is not one.

These restrictions don’t benefit anyone in the long run, and are a real limitation not just on price but on availability. Cheaper books, means the literacy rate will improve. We will be able to afford to buy more books to keep at home.

In Australia books are way too expensive. $30 for a small soft-cover non-fiction book is ridiculous. Please remove these importation restrictions.
It is unrealistic to expect Australian readers to keep paying through the nose for books which are much cheaper in countries like the USA and the UK. Any quick visit to Amazon or other internet book distributors will show the disadvantage that our Australian book sellers face.

This decision also threatens Australian culture. We do not want to see our books "Americanised" in their language, spelling or vast passages rewritten for the overseas audience. Keep Australian books AUSTRALIAN!!
Reform is long overdue, there should be removal of restriction on parallel importation.

As an avid reader and supporter of hard eading material (ie books) i support the application and submission by Dymocks for a relaxation of the 12 month period and the access to cheaper books for the Australian public; this submission does not take away from the Australian Industry, but may enhance it, by making the industry produce cheaper books if people publish in Australia.

As an avid reader it is important to make books available to customers at the cheapest price possible lest we end up with a business model that does nothing to discourage copyright infringement. The repercussions of not acting are a) Customers purchasing direct from OS - I've purchased books from Amazon due to price or b) Illegal digital distribution. If Australian readers have a choice I know they'd want a beautiful hard cover sitting on their bookshelves, with the wonderful smell of fresh print and not some badly scanned copy that is barely legible. But there are limits to the Australian readers ability to keep up with the current book prices. In short $45 for a new release is just too much to ask.

As I like to own books, I believe the removal of restrictions will enable me to purchase rather than borrow.

WE NEED THIS TO HAPPEN
Yvonne Grisaffe
Jane Bleby
Melanie L Smith
Linda Wong
Jennifer Lane
Rose Preston
Melanie Murray
Lisa Burton
Camilla Barlow
Isha Byrnes
Lyn Smyth
Gayle Napier
Martine Pekarsky
Simon Malessa
Christopher Groves
Chris Howe
Cindy Ting
Yunsi Feng
Samantha Peet

Janet Surma
Melinda O'Brien
Helen Robertson
Kellie-jane Pritchard
Iman Couttas
Monique Shears
Tania King
John Low-shang
Lesley Jones
Zelina Thomson
Robin Way
christine king
Alesandra Chenier
Don Byron

Justin Gum
Sarah Niblock
John Boundy
Tim Yarham
Adele Wiggins
Amanda Wadge
Tina Cavicchiolo
Geoffrey Squire
Tania Weiser

Christen Bell
Roy Varley

Kylie Wingrave
Cathy Kim
Chrissy Madigan
Cecile Menard
Brett Gabel
Terry Sinton

I am a librarian and believe that information should be made as accessible as possible. Reducing the price will enable this to happen.

It is important that books are kept affordable for everyone.

The sooner we have cheaper books the better. The only people who benefit from higher prices are the secondhand book sellers.

I have found in recent years the cost of new books to be prohibitive in encouraging me to purchase them when compared to other entertainment options such as DVDs or CDs.

To be a 'smart country' we must have easy and cheap access to resources of all types and especially books. How can we learn without them. Other countries do it, why not us?
Books and printed information are still an essential and integral part of the
development and transmission of Western Culture and their use should be supported
by a Government not wanting Australia to fall further behind in the education,

Carol    Cooper-Shawcros knowledge   and future potential of its citizens.
Robyn    Clasohm
Kathryn  James
Paul     Blainey
Donald   Hatcher
Andrew   Mcquillan
Elizabeth Cucurullo
Barbara  Jarvie
Cloudia  Newland
George   Birdsal
Katherine Hagan
Russell  Pearse
Lawrence Chan
Jocelyn  Chay
Pamela   Trotter
Rosemary Abbott

In an age of globalised markets and ever-growing importance of information, this
kind of restriction is anachronistic and foolish - particularly as it involves the
dissemination of knowledge. If this sort of restriction could be lifted a decade ago for
CDs, then why not now on books?

Michael  Taylor
Tracey   Miller
Rachael  Warner
Peter    Candotti
James    Travis
Lynette  Moss
Shannyn  Siemens
Queenie  Chan
Wendi    Mcpoyle
Taryn    Fryer
David    van Keimpema
Kenneth  Covington
Nathan   Wong
Benedict Noel
Kathryn  Pennington
Frances  Brown
Bonnie   Lear
Ros      Hanlon
Julie    De Jong
Audrey   Uren
Cain     Maddern
Ruth     Owen
Claire   Zylstra
Madeline Ashdown
Richard  Birac
Amelita  Menceslao
Simone   Cotton
Annabelle Large
Lynn     Webber

As an avid reader I am finding it harder and harder to purchase good quality books
as the prices are getting beyond what I am able to afford.
If you want people to buy local in these web enabled times the prices have to be
comparable. Book prices in Australia are certainly not.

Mary    Batty
Amanda  Hinton
Elisa    Butcher

In comparison with other countries such as the UK and US book costs in Australia
are outrageous.
Donna Falzon
If we want to encourage our kids to read & buy books instead of junk food - making books cheaper is a good way to start - particularly with regards to recent release ones that have been in the media. I'm sure the booksellers will make a tidy profit too even though the books are cheaper, as they will sell so many more & will probably have a wider range of books for sale & may even capture a new market.

Theodora Gerakiteys
Kirsty Smith
Sue Tucker
Leslie Parkinson
Noel Harvey

I CERTAINLY THINK THIS VITALY IMPORTANT. IT VERY HARD FOR RESELLERS LIKE DYMOCKS TO SUPPLY BOOKS INEXPENSIVELY WHEN COMPETING WITH THE LIKES OF AMAZON AND BORDERS.

Joanna Pond
Marisa Martin
Jeff Phillips
Judith Clark
Mark Oliver
Inez George
Nicola Hilyard
Marlene Gunn
Rebecca Beames
Renee Power
Jessica Kath Vogler
Kelly-marie Benham

You guys are great.. Keep on doing the good work you do.

Kelly Parkin
Parisa Vidafar
Kylie Mchugh
Teresa Cinanni
Kathryn Mackenzie
Ilse Dittes
Sonia Spiropoulos
Mark Humphery
Liz Reed
Joseph Narai
Jan Rice
Kerryn Pratchett
Simone Smith
Sharon Tan
Ko Kang Wang
Rosie Briscoe
Yvonne Greig
Sandra Robinson
Elizabeth Clynk
Lauren Gully
Lauren Gully
Lauren Gully
Tess Butler
Steven Bleistein
LYDIA PALMER
Michelle Ha
Garry O'Brien

Miranda Kapetanos
Diane Moloney
Sharon Gardner
David Teh

Anything that can be done to reduce the price of books is definitely a good thing!!!
How is society meant to further their education when the supposed public and easy access to books is to become financially out of reach?

Enough is enough I understand Australia has only 22M people but highway robbery is not the answer!!!

Cheaper books spread the word!

It is cheaper to buy titles over the internet from the US than in an Australian bookshop, which is ridiculous.

At the moment the local sellers are at a disadvantage because it is far cheaper to buy books direct from the US. At least keep some of the money in Australia!

Everything is needed to ensure a love of books is maintained and if books become excessively expensive we will lose future generations of readers and book lovers.

Being from the UK, I find books a crazy price in Australia.. a paperback should not be not be more than an hourly wage for anyone.

We should be encourging people to read and by having overly expensive books it will do everything but encourge this.
It's about time that book prices come down, what a wonderful relief this would be!

cheaper books ftw!

I didn't get the first email about this?

I support this 100%.

I am a lifelong reader and find that I have to budget to purchase the books I want to read because of the excessive cost.
Books in WA are so expensive compared to the rest of the world. Bring them down please. No need to charge a fortune, more people will read new books then.

i'm using the library more and more rather than buying books
Cheap books makes more goodness at literacy and stuff. Make cheapness happen! :D

Outcome of cheaper books will be an increasing and expanding readership. More units are sold when each unit is at a very competitive price = greater quantity sold and moved, minus the obstacles and unwanted barriers. Does the Federal Government's National Competition Policy review apply to the restrictions? What is the better scenario for Australia - raise the bar for knowledge gained through self-development readership and resultant exponential growth of consumption in reading, or the throttled pace of sales to lesser number of consumers who can afford the higher prices?

As I'm not in a financial position to attend tertiary institutions, to further educate myself ... I self educate ... borrowing books from the library, that are often out-dated. Thus, I do purchase a great deal of my own and it's not an economically efficient exercise. Education improves the collective state of the community on so many levels and we all arrive at it in different ways. Please consider the benefit to the greater, progressive, evolutionary good.

I agree totally with cheaper books. If you want to promote literacy then reading books to children and getting them to read to you is vital. A love of books is to be treasured and nurtured.

As an avid reader and a pensioner, I do find it hard to afford the books I would like, so anything that can be done to improve this situation would be greatly appreciated.

Deanna Mari Burge
As an avid reader and a pensioner, I do find it hard to afford the books I like. I am an avid reader and love having books around me. I consider them essential items! However, because they are quite expensive, I do not buy as many as I would like. I currently have a long and ever-increasing list of books to buy - when the prices drop! If Dymocks and co are successful, it will be a great day for Australian book lovers. Good luck!
Go for it! I wish you luck and hope you succeed—for all of us.

Books are an integral part of our education, along with their enjoyment value. I wholeheartedly support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation, so that books can become more available to all Australian people.

I fully support this initiative to remove restrictions on parallel importation and allow everyone to purchase books at cheaper prices.

A fair price would be nice.

I have read the submission being made by the Coalition for Cheaper Books to the Productivity Commission. As a consumer I concur that my online purchase of books is dictated by availability and price - both these considerations mean I usually purchase online from overseas booksellers such as Amazon.
Lisa Lenehan
Leanne Brouwers
Rosanna Camilleri
Jess Shepherd
Dorothy Piper
Rachel Barter
Benazir Anwar
Joseph Foong
Susan Hunt
Annette Fullarton
Elise Millington
Therese Gibson
Shane Bergl
Valerie Granat
Anita McCracken
Krystal Manson
Michael Horman
Gary Celebioglu
Connie Salsone
John Turnbull
Deborah Ferraro
Bob Jones
Renae Lappin
Miek Boers
Kristie Prideaux
Joanne Stinson
Elaine Wallace
Chris Openshaw
Caroline Yun
David Annesley
Julie Macmath
Erica Browne
Cristina Ciraudo
Tim Costello
Allison Hendricks
Rosemary Robinson
Jennifer Burger
Tammie Howarth
Stephen Cahill
Cheryl Olley
Alexandra Pinkham
John Forsyth
Ann Verschuer
Roslyn Prior
Fiona Lim
Lemin Hua

I am a frequent book buyer. I have two daughters, that like myself, love to read. We have just returned from two weeks holidays and during that time I purchased ten books for them to read. I would never deny them a book but do feel that they are getting more and more expensive. My husband has also recently decided to join us all reading and he also brought himself a book over the holiday.

Books are written for everyone to enjoy but making the prices higher isn't helping anyone really.

This is a very important move. The ability to buy books should not be prohibitive financially.

I have travelled quite a lot and it now astounds me how much dearer it is to buy a book in Australia, I currently wait until they are in secondhand bookshops.

I sometimes buy books on amazon.com for half the price (even including postage) than what it costs for the same book here in a bookstore. Seems pretty ridiculous to me.

Australian Book retailers should be able to source books at the same cost as Internet Booksellers such as Amazon.
Books are already enough expensive.

Despite access to the internet, students still need to acquire texts and this is one of the most expensive factors of education, especially for tertiary students.

I am supporting this petition not just because I've been asked to, but because I have believed for years that restrictions on parallel importation ought to be removed.

As a big believer in making Australia a knowledge nation and the skills intellect of our children, we should have easy cost effective access to books in the US & Europe.

Yes, I'm agree that books should be cheaper and the restriction should be removed.

Sincerely Luisa

As an avid reader I think this petition is a great idea. I am happy to add my name to the list of petitioners.

It can release a whole generation to books all types. Rather than goig 4 te remote 1s all the time

Let's make a move to make owning a book an opportunity for all at an affordable price!!

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I'm from the UK and it's cheaper for me to order books via Amazon and have them shipped over to Australia than to buy them here. Book prices here are OUTRAGEOUS!!!
My family specially my children read a lot of books and being able to purchase cheaper books will be of great benefit for us, and I am sure also for families who love to read.

Reasonable price books are very important for book lovers!

be fair there's a recession on we should be able to buy cheaper books

There should be no restrictions on the importation of any reading materials. If we want to stay competitive educationally, academically, internationally and socially we should have no impediments to information.
About time, it is too easy to be tempted to buy books online where they are much cheaper! I would rather spend my Aussie dollars in Australia, in Australian bookstores!

I believe it is imperative to encourage wherever possible competitive pricing in an open market particularly within literature. In my mind nothing could replace the thrill of the mere smell of a book. I love and collect books even though I rarely have the time to read them..... one day I will languish in book heaven. Keep my dream alive and affordable!

As a purchaser of many peculiar/particular titles it will be wonderful to purchase at a reasonable price from an Australian seller, as opposed to having to bypass all Australian sellers and purchase from the UK or US online. These restrictions neither support Australian business, or Australian jobs.

The current regulations seem to be an unnecessary restriction on free trade

Books are important for maintaining and improving Australia's literacy levels but these restrictions result in books becoming more and more out of reach of the average person. I see the removal of these restrictions as very important. Books are very precious and I think more people would read them if they were more affordable, Well done Dymocks

what better way to support our australian companies than to be able to afford to purchase their products!
The price we in Australia pay for books is ridiculous. It is time the government did something about it.

I'm the Author of "Mirror of Life" a book I wrote & had published by Merlin Books in the UK about 20 years ago. I was unable to get my book published here in Australia, so like others here, I sent my Synopsis to the UK and Merlin Books agreed to publish my "Mirror of Life". Brisbane Finneys store wanted to retail my book but was unable to get "Mirror of Life" into Australia due to our Laws. "Mirror of Life" is now out of print, but I still own the Copyright.

I moved from the UK 12 months ago with my family on a sponsorship from my husband's company. I have 3 children and we are all prolific readers but have been horrified by the shocking prices of books here. We now get relatives to send them over from the UK. We have been told that English read a lot more than you Auzzies. I would suggest that the reason for this is that the Brits can actually afford to pay for the books. I would welcome a reduction in prices so that we can all start reading when we see a book we are interested in. Kind Regards Gail Esau

I fully support Dymocks in this endeavour. More people should be encouraged to read not put off by the current price of imported books. Reading is life and knowledge...
I am a primary school teacher, books are an absolute necessity and it's difficult to keep spending and asking parents to keep spending unnecessarily, include schools and libraries........

I very much so support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign, being a uni student, an avid reader and a musician, a reduction in the cost of books would save me a huge amount of money.. Money I could use to pay off hecs fees for example.

Affordable books are essential to any civil society and to an educated public. So many overseas customers comment as to how expensive our books are and refuse to buy them here in Australia even if permanent citizens!

Books are a very important Educational Tool for Childrens Education, and should be available to all at a fair price

It's about time! When living in the UK it was relatively less expensive to buy books. Here, you really have to think twice before buying which is a real shame, especially when we're wanting our children to read more & spend less time in front of the tv and computer.

Having spent time in the UK and America it is very distressing to see how much more we have to pay for books here in Australia. Knowing this it often stops me buying and I order from the library instead! I would work in a much better place, be a much a better resourced teacher and parent if books were made cheaper! Get rid of these ridiculous laws and let the government send a strong message to the community that books are accessible and important...perhaps teenagers would spend their money on a book as well as a cd!
Ella Gilbert

Books are absolutely necessary for a fair and equal society. Rulers and the Church used to keep people under control by not allowing them to learn to read.

Guy Liplyn

Right on, it's outrageous that we pay so much more than the British and Americans.

Catherine Chong

Deanna Rokich

Carlos Remedios

Catherine Girardi

Julie Florescu

Deanna Clark

Steve Foy

Kevin Chan

Marco Pellegatti

Barry Pitfield

Guy Liplyn

i'm using a library more and more because of the cost of books

Rohan Sadler

Books contain knowledge, knowledge is the path to better education and better living conditions. If more people can afford books, the Australian public will be more educated. It's a win/win scenario.

Deanna Rokich

Books are FAR TOO expensive here in Australia compared to the UK & USA!

Carlos Remedios

In making books more affordable we need to remember the following: The more that you read, the more you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. Dr. Seuss

Vladimir Pejovic

If books become cheaper then, as a retiree, I will certainly be able to buy more and keep my brain active. Also, as an ex-teacher I agree that access to books improves literacy.

Timothea Pratt

Juliette Charles-jay

Peter Neeson

Karen Wasson

Megan Denholder

Marion Hern

Sara Whanslaw

Dianne Gosper

Victoria Fencker

Lee McKay

Lynn Walsh

Martha Langford

Jackie Travia

Vladimir Pejovic

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Helen Rose Abood

Why do Australians have to be charged SO much more than overseas countries for books? Anything that could reduce this price discrepancy would be greatly appreciated.

Jenny Causer

Alex Quinn

Matthew Wall

Karen Muir

Dave Demmocks

John Passlow

Marelyn Sunderland

Peter Mackie

Tina Ly

Maree Hilton

Melissa Tetley

Julia Cassar

Angela Nelson
Similar laws on CDs were removed in 1998 lets do the same for books and make the latest published books more affordable so we can buy three books instead of just one.

Cheaper books would make access to education and intellectual enrichment more equitable, allowing everyone to benefit more fully from the world of literature! Our government has a commitment to education and equity - show it by lowering the cost of books!

Books inform, instruct, inspire, drive the imagination, motivate, entertain, encourage and educate. Books bring disparate peoples together and reading enhances understanding despite our differences. Reading skills are only improved with practice, hence schools and governments in this country encourage reading as a major part of educating the public. Education is an integral part of creating the clever country that Bob Hawke so wanted us to become. Mark Twain once said "the man who doesn’t read good books has no advantage over the man who can’t read them". Every effort should be made to bring affordable books within reach of the public. Expensive books encourage mediocrity, not a clever country. Recently, I spend two years in full time University studies upgrading to a postgradua

As an avid reader, cheaper books would mean I wouldn’t feel so guilty about buying them and would support the industry more! Bring it on!!!

I had no idea such restrictions were in place and have always been amazed that books can be so expensive - books should be readily available to all and not a luxury item. I support your petition absolutely!

The price of books in Australia is significantly higher than in North America. I hope that the import restrictions are removed NOW!!! Cheaper books will be a major benefit to all Australians.

This would have multiple benefits for the nation - parents on low incomes would be able to afford more books for their children - schools would be able to purchase more books - and community libraries would also be able to spend more on books. All round, the overall benefits to the nation are quite obvious.
Computers will never replace books.

make books cheaper

I most strongly support this petition because I regularly buy new books from the U.K. for my collection and find that I can get them at a cheaper price (including air mail costs and packaging) than I can purchase them here. As a collector I also find it difficult to find Hard Back 1st Editions in many instances because only Trade Paperbacks are initially imported which I suspect is driven by what the retail price will be and what the distributors feel the market will be prepared to pay. If these restrictions are removed then Australian Dealers would be able to offer both of the above book types at a competitive price and thereby make books more accessible to the public, especially in these tight financial times. Given their bulk buying power Aus. Dealers would be able to supply the boo

I fully support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ campaign

Prices of books in Australia are already too high - information should not be hampered by excessive prices. Copyright tends to be a millstone - it is legally effective and promotes illegal activities which most people are willing to take regardless of the consequences. Law in Australia although well intentioned basically is ignored by a significant proportion of the population including High Court judges.

it is so hard to even find the same books sold in the states and the UK in australia that the fact that the goverment wants us to pay more for the right that anyone who lives in the states o the UK is just disgusting. the goverment should be spending our tax dollars making our country a better place to live not making us spend more money on books.

I love to read and to be able to buy books at cheaper prices would be absolutely brilliant.
Reading is such an important activity for everyone... imagination, creativity, knowledge and much more is the gift! Don't make it harder for whatever ridiculous reason the government wants to! There can be no reasonable condition that any government would want to change such laws. Didn't Hitler's government decide to destroy books that they thought were unfit for the German people to read... now this might not be exactly the same but it does correlate.

Cheaper books will enable everyone to experience the joy of reading.

I support any proposal for removal of barriers to trade and free competition.

We must ensure that people with lower incomes have ready access to books.

As an avid reader and a person who would love to own more books, I fully support this petition. I do not understand, or accept, that Australian readers have to pay so much more than those in the USA and Europe!

I agree that cheaper books will encourage people to read more, and therefore improve literacy.
i would certaonly buy more books if the price came down- it's the only thing that holds me back.

I purchase a lot of books from an online company in UK and they vary from marginally cheaper to quite a lot. I would much prefer to support my local Australian business by being able to purchase them from such stores at a more reasonable price.

I fail to see why there is such a lead time to allow the local subsidiaries - mostly faceles organisations of the conglomerates - and their agents take the cream of the sales. We should stick up for the the rights of Australians to be able to pay the RIGHT price, without filling the coffers of those overseas.

Please dont take away our books, it is such a shame these days as so many australians dont read and when they do, its what they can afford. Making it more costly will no doubt see "book worms" become a dying breed.

It is very rare in this modern era, where the internet and tv are the main recreational activities of people, that there remains those who love to read. The government should encourage people to read more books to improve grammar and creativity, preventing people from becoming iliterate. In this economy where there is a financial crisis, it is really difficult for booklovers to purchase something they love to fill in idle time. Therefore, I give my full support for the 'Cheaper Books' Campaign'.

Any change which brings about lower prices comparable to the price paid overseas is welcomed. I have always believed Australian prices to be well above those charged in the UK and US and at such a level as to make the purchase of a newbook something that for many is prohibitive. If prices were reduced it would make such more available to a wider proportion of the public and therefore encourage greater literacy.
It is a shame that in Australia we have to write such petitions in order to pay less for books. The price of books in Australia is one of the highest amongst the English speaking countries. The wealth of a nation is in the brains of its people not in its natural resources.

If we want to the the smart country, the price of books needs to come down!

I would much prefer to buy books from Booksellers within Australia promptly, rather than the current situation of being forced to buy from Amazon and others.

Reading is a passtime that suits all ages and the price of books today is a deterrent to a section of our community (aged pensioners, lower income families) that if reduced would make available a source of entertainment and knowledge to these people. It is important that children have exposure to books to encourage their development, again the high cost of books is a deterrent to this.
We are already taxed at higher rates than most other countries - why should we pay more for books too?

As a student and parent I would love to be able to afford more books. Allowing cheaper books would be a great step forward!
Susan Connell
Sandi Foley
Dianne Jackson
Alexandra Grant
Jessica Soury
Jane Steinberg
Leah Vandervliet
Beatrice Morrone
Alicia Gray
Laila Davis
Barbara Garrett
David Earls
Marie Hogan
Rebecca O'Dwyer
Tina Kelleher
Samantha Burns
Katherine Sherrie
Coan Harvey
Tzer-Han Lim
Tina Green
Mollie Mudd
Paul Collins
Keith Alexander
Wendy Atkinson
My Lan Vu
Carmel Divola
Helen Yuen

Currently the restrictions only harm the consumer.

I fully support this petition. I had thought that Meg Lees (former Democrat leader) had a promise from the previous Government to eliminate the importation laws. I'm abhored to think it hasn't happened. If it can be done for CD's - why not books??

Willi (Ms) Carney
John Sheridan
Cyron Lee
Anthony Bennett
Arlene Reid
Philippa Rowlands
Bronwyn Rossi

I have English and American friends that come and visit me in Australia and they've all commented on how expensive books are here compared to the UK and US.
I often use Amazon to reduce the cost of books in Australia. I believe that information should be cheaper. The cost of books at present is prohibitive in Australia - I buy them second hand and overseas. Wouldn't it be better if I bought them in new and in Australia?

I believe the government should allow people who enjoy reading the same benefits as music lovers, by enabling availability of cheaper books. As a pensioner this would be of enormous benefit to me, as well as the numerous other Australian pensioners.

Books are vital resources and should not be so expensive that ordinary people cannot afford them.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Book's Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation because we need more book that do not cost at least $20.00. I agree that this may help improve literacy levels, and help encourage reading to all ages through the economy crisis.

I fully believe that books should be cheaper, everyone would buy more if they didn't cost such a large amount, so I support your campaign. Books are much too expensive in Australia!!!!

If the rights of the Authors are protected, then why shouldn't we have a system that can benefit all, instead of robbing those who cannot afford it the pleasure and knowledge reading can bring. This action will reduce literacy rates in Australia and result in declines in education achievement levels - is this the future we want for Australia?
Margaret Greer

As an author and a reader I feel book prices should reflect the true price of production and distribution without hidden or unnecessary interference or cost. The internet has altered the availability of written information and book prices should reflect this. Books are friends, computers are machines.

Jean Hamey
Zeenat Aziz-Singh
Zainab Alttahir
Pamela James
Lorraine Greenwood
Ben Andersen
Meafelle Kat Tejada
Carol-anne Bradley
Megan Gayler
Elizabeth Davies
Wendy Burridge

As a teacher I would so love to see books more accessible to everyone.

Patricia Palm

As a pensioner I agree with this, I would prefer new books but lately I have been forced to browse second hand bookshops. I feel that for children in particular the current pricing structure is restrictive and especially prohibitive to families on low incomes. How are our children to learn if they cannot afford books?

Kirsty Lewis
Jody Crooks
Jennifer Retford
Barbara Gardiner
Jaala Beaugamp
Chris Koppl
Merindah Turner
Anne Garrity

Books should be cheaper as this may help encourage kids and young adults to rediscover the joy of reading and owning their own books.

Georgina Helm
Leigh Cusumano
Tiasha Dean
Greg Hall
Natascha Goth
Georgia Georgiou
Sally Anne Gault
Jade Grimes
Bernadette Stephenson
Karyn Foxton
Colin Mckenzie
Sylvie Huigen
Brian Tran
Maxine Reczek

After living in the UK I am shocked at the price of books in Australia. I love reading and would buy many more books if they were not as expensive. Come on Australia, let’s get our children reading again.

Totally agree which the approach being proposed - good luck

Paula Toe
Grace Loader
Joanne Colwell
Cheryl Adams
Jennifer Boothby
Caryl Moore

I totally agree and support this petition

Mike Baker
Anthony Davis

Removing trade restrictions such as this one is fundamentally better for the Australian population as a whole. Distorting the market to advantage the few (the local distributors) is always bad for the many (the vast majority -- the rest of the Australian population)...
Even in this age of electronic communication, internet and wireless communications - books and other paper-based communications are still needed. Just look at how Parliament and all the public and private sectors work. More importantly this how we study and learn effectively.

I totally support Dymocks in this petition. Books have gotten more and more expensive and if this occurs, they will probably be out of the reach of we avid readers.

It will be great if this can be achieved because when you are a big family and everyone loves to read it gets very expensive to purchase too many books for all.

i do believe that books should be cheaper. Perhaps people will start read more and watch less TV

The Cost of Books has been excessively high for way too long. If the government want to help families improve the reading capabilities of the children then they should make it easier for families to purchase books for all ages in the household. Growing up with other members of the family happily reading books creates an environment where the young children will start reading voluntarily as it is part of the family culture. Education starts at home long before they get to school age. It shouldn't require families to resort to libraries if there are any in their vicinity to get access to books. Cheaper books will assist with improving literacy.

I used to buy a book most weeks when in England but will go a few weeks between buying books here. I also do not buy as many books for my children as I used to due to the expense

Also, Sig Munninger. I am a TAFE trades lecturer who has tried to get technical books directly from the USA because the Australian distributor was uninterested in providing a timely service. His offer was three to six months. I got the books in a week but only because a friend in California bought them from Michigan and then posted them to me in Australia. The distributor had no competition and so no motivation.
Please make books cheaper!!! xx
I strongly endorse everything that can be done to reduce the cost of books which are essential for the cultural, artistic and intellectual life of the nation. If this will assist with greater affordability of books for all then I am all for it! Let's do our bit to boost literacy levels and provide the enjoyment of books to young and old alike.

Free trade should extend to books.

The plan can only result in increased sales and comensurate increases in copyright revenues. As an avid reader I heartily support this initiative.

For some up to date technical information I also obtain copied of some magazines. The prices charged for these frequently bears little relationship to any conversion of the cover price.

Books should be cheaper and the restrictions should be removed =)

My grandchildren are learning to read, and cheaper books will of great assistance in developing their reading skills by them reading different authors. The link in your email does not point to this site, so it is misleading to suggest that it does. I was not prepared to follow it as it stood, tho' I expect it was intended to auto-fill this form.

I certainly would buy more books if they were cheaper than they are now. Often I use them for various forms of education.
Children and adults alike should be encouraged to read more, especially with the declining literacy and numeracy rates. Also, by removing these ridiculous restrictions, buying books will be more affordable, which, in a time where the economy is unstable, and people are having to cut back on "luxuries", is nothing but a good thing.

Books in Australia are far too expensive. I belong to a book group; we read both classic and modern authors but we usually cannot afford to buy the latest best sellers. We have to wait until they come out in paper back, wait on a long list to eventually get them from the library or obtain them from overseas. We would much prefer to support local booksellers and the authors by buying some of them. What a joy for us the latest cheap editions of Penguin Classics have been ($9.95); we have even chosen books because we know we can buy them - annotate and keep them, pass them on to friends, pass them on to charity shops. Reading is a joy and owning a book you love is an added delight.

I'm a bit of a bookworm, and will always buy books - indeed, one of my lifelong dreams is to have a multi-level personal library at home! So, cheaper books would definitely help. It would also allow us to get books the conventional way, instead of having to go through ebay or such when the book we want is not available otherwise - which can be a problem when one doesn't have (or want) a credit card. Thanks for thinking of us booklovers. :)

Over priced books are not conducive to movement of stock and encouraging the younger generation to read more.

Books should be accessible for all and reduction in prices so that Australia has similar pricing to overseas will encourage a 'smart Australia'.
You could also add that due to this restrictive laws, a lot of customers like me are opting to buy books directly from the UK, Amazon and other internet book dealers which offer books at a lower price than Australian bookstore retailers. I would like to support Dymocks and my local bookstore, but obviously I’d rather get books at a cheaper price. If the Aussie government wants to really save local small businesses and encourage more book reading then they should really remove this very restrictive laws which seem in the end seem to only benefit a few than the multitude of Aussie book lovers.

Cheaper books would be a boon to people like me who read a lot and don't always have access to the books we want unless we source them ourselves from overseas markets at quite inflated prices when you have to pay inflated postage prices.

Books are a fundamental for any society, language, or culture. They are educational in every aspect of life, death, & afterlife; from how to tie your shoelaces to the intricacies of how the brain works- to become a brain surgeon. They invigorate the minds, imaginations and aspirations of all who experience them. They have no age limit; enable understanding; & break down the barriers of communication. For some, they save lives. The substance that books provide to any individual and community is priceless. They are as vital as the fresh water we drink and should be readily available to all- not confined by cost. I don't know if this coalition would help with the financial economy or not, but wouldn't the government want its country and its people to be wealthy -not just in pocket (which for

As a teacher I fully support any move that will make books more accessible to readers. Current prices make books a luxury which in this time of economic downturn means people will be less likely to spend on them. I am especially concerned that children and teenagers will be affected. We don't need any further "dumbing down" in our country.

You have my support. Cheers!
Books are a necessity, not a luxury, they should be affordable to everyone!

I love to read but am finding the cost of books extremely high compared to overseas countries. I tend to wait until I visit an overseas destination or when family visit us 5-8 times a year I ask them to buy me the books I want and bring them to me as it is soooo much cheaper. Please remove restrictions on parallel imports for books

Hi, I consider myself an avid reader and my great hope for my children is they discover the pleasures of literature also. I strongly urge the Productivity Commission to reconsider its recommendation - the dangers facing the printed book are many. It would be unfortunate if people turn to online copies instead because the price differential will only get larger. Of course, the fabulous irony here is the entities this restriction seeks to protect will not benefit in any way from online purchases. It saddens me the library and bookstore are being rendered obsolete in Australia. The restriction on parallel importation appears to be protecting a few to the detriment of a great many. Not very good public policy is it?

How can you justify inflating book prices and expect improved literacy among the young? If their parents can’t afford the books, the children miss out on a world of learning. Cut the price, improve the grades!!!!

With the literacy levels of our children dropping, why are we making it harder for them to access books?

Live, Love and Learn! We need cheaper books to learn.
they say reading is important for the growth of every person (young & old). how can a person do this if we can't afford it. books should be cheaper.

Anything which will reduce the price of books is a good thing; reading (both fiction and non-fiction) exercises the mind-it appears to me that quite a few journalists did not read enough when at school/university - their spelling and grammatical skills are abominable

As a teacher I feel books are expensive enough and we have a responsibility to ensure that they will always be affordable for all.

People are just using the internet to get their books cheaper, it is often cheaper to purchase from Amazon even with exchange rates and postage. This effects Australian businesses as none of this money stays within Australia.
As a teacher and reader I urge the government to do whatever is necessary to reduce the price of books in Australia. If royalties are still paid where they are due our book buyers should have the same opportunities to bring about reduction in costs to consumers. Isn’t this what the “free market economy” is all about? We need the brightest minds like never before in this country to confront the enormous challenges ahead of us re: climate change and global economic collapse of the “old market systems”. Affordable books are a part of this nation wide education process. If you are truly about an education revolution and investing in the future of all young and not so young Australians, then reducing the price of this vitally important resource is essential. Do it or be damned!

We dont want to be sanctioned from the world! To introduce higher rates on our books would be to disable the minds of youths, such as myself, to subside to other things, and at the moment i think the youth of today does not require any encouragement in that area! Plus many great authors are internationally recognised!! NO RAISE IN PRICES!!

I think the government should support selling cheaper books to encourage people to start teaching children to read at and develop literacy skills. Books are important as they are a great recreation and learning tool and should be easily affordable to everyone. The cheaper we have books the more likely more people will return to reading rather than DVD’s or video games etc!
To who it may concern, By removing the import restrictions it will open the book market to international competition. This will stop local subsidiaries and agents of overseas publishers charging inflated wholesale prices. Similar importation laws on CDs were removed in 1998 and you might remember how the prices of CDs fell dramatically - the same can happen for books. I urge the powers to be to support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Yours Sincerely, R. Moignard

Anything to make books more affordable, especially in these tougher economic times. Books are such an important part of life particularly children and families.

I used to buy a book a week in the UK. Cant afford to do so here, my mum sends me books over from the Uk so would be great to have cheaper books here

May encourage parents to buy more books for their children, encouraging them to read more.

I would just like to ensure that the benefits to readers is not adversely impacted by short sighted or ill considered considerations regarding the importation of books to Australia.

I agree books should be cheaper like the y are in the US and Canada

I WOULD BUY MORE BOOKS IF THEY WERE NOT SO OUTRAGEOUSLY EXPENSIVE IN AUSTRALIA
Cheaper books means that I can purchase more

Books are a vital part of the learning process for kids, an escapism for teenagers and adults. Books I believe are important for a person to not only develop their minds but also for their enjoyment.

I wholeheartedly support this action. If we were able to obtain cheaper books we would not be hunting through second hand bookshops and markets for our reading material. This is such an overdue reform. I love buying books in America because the prices are so reasonable.

Cheaper books will mean a more educated society and encourage more people to read and improve literacy levels.

I Buy a large number of book on various topics, I would appreciate if we could reduce the cost of these books, which will allow me to pass on more books to children I know and allow them to read. Families can not afford high prices when then have many children, please support families to support their children and their childrens future!

I support the coalition for cheaper books

CHEAPER BOOKS!
children need to read all, the emphasis is on computers lets make reading affordable for all.

We need to be able to reasonably access books that enrich the mind and teach us so much despite the global economic downturn! Bring on the cheaper books for a smarter Australia!

I think if these restrictions were removed and cheaper book prices were brought in, I would be able to buy books that I need for school etc. at more regular intervals.

We have been paying way too much for Books in this country for far too long. Enough is Enough Australia.

I see books as an important part of the education of peoples, and they have a right to received that education at an affordable price, so that more people than less are able to receive that education. The government is supposed to be ‘for’ the people, like a wise parent doing what is best for their children, in this case the people of Australia

Make The Twilight Series cheaper less than $20!

Anything that makes books accessible to a greater number of people, has to be a good move!!
Good luck with your campaign. I wondered why books were so expensive here and now I know why. Surely this restriction goes against the Government’s targets for literacy?

The price of books in Australia is scandalous and anything that can be done to reduce these prices should be done without hesitation.

It would be ridiculous to increase the pricing of books when instead they should be kept at their price, or lower, to encourage all people to read more. It’s educative and stimulates the mind so much more than television or any other visual aid.

The Australian Government, through the Productivity Commission, must create laws that benefit Australian Book Readers and not Australian subsidiaries or agents of overseas publishers. If free trade is the basis of a global market then Australian laws should not create an imbalance by benefiting the larger overseas markets. It is enough that we have to pay higher transport costs for books from overseas.

This is great to see, I’m in the US currently and books by the Australian illustrator Shaun Tan are a fraction of the price that they are in his home country! I am an avid buyer of books. I travel a lot. I buy books at airports because they are cheaper. I buy books using Amazon, because they are cheaper. The current system is stupid and assumes that nanny can control everything. The only thing she’s going to do is drive retailers out of business.

Any thing that can place cheaper books into more peoples’ hands has to be supported.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restriction on parallel importation.

As well as being a book lover I am also an ABC Shop Manager & this would have a positive effect on my business.
I love books thats all. I'm still keep my good membership. Thank you..........

The markup on imported books seems to be increasing even taking into account the weaker Australian dollar eg. Studs Terkel Interviews : Films & Theatre imported before our dollar plunge in 2008 sold for $16.95 in the US yet in Australia it was selling for $34.95. Books are so important they should be readily available and affordable to young and old. The GST on books was a disgrace.

Rethinasamy Kuppusamy
Richard Lauder
Roxanne Tunkin
Jennifer Reynolds
Desmond White
Meghan Loader
Christopher Ford
Cameron Botsford
Rob Boyd
Monica Majumder
Amy Sparnon
Joely Langmaid

Agree with submission. Cheaper book prices will encourage more people to read and therefore improve literacy levels amongst the population.

It seems ludicrous to me that I can order books from the UK via the internet and have them delivered to my door cheaper than I can buy them in Australia. Books need to be easily affordable and accessible to all Australian families as they are such an important part of education. Literature has been one of the measures used throughout the ages to identify developed nations and civilisations. All Australians should be doing whatever they can to help reduce the cost of putting books in front of our children.

Martin Lambert
Fiona Pitchford
Simone Smith
Melinda Vernon
Chui Chan
Jane Gu
Vicki Hinds
Leanne Bodilly
Jeanie Misko
Helen Tanuwidjaja
Michael Simpson
Lauren Boyle
Michelle Cox
Glenn Forbes
Margaret Millar
Jacqueline Davis
For too long we have had to suffer over pricing!

Children who are introduced to books early in life have an enormous advantage over their peers. Reading books should not be an elitist activity.

I feel the same consideration should be given to booklovers as to music lovers. If one group can obtain a less expensive product then the same should apply for other groups, especially in these strained financial times.

Books should be much cheaper. Books for children should be reasonably priced. What a joy it is to get lost in a book.

As a high school and college English teacher in the ACT I notice an increase in students moving away from reading - which therefore inhibits their literacy skills. Reasons for students lack of interest when questioned are generally; there aren't many novels that are about topics that are of real interest to me or; they're becoming very expensive to purchase. With a growing number of students accross Australia showing depleted skills in spelling and syntax we need to be making reading much more appealing to our youth. From statistics of year sevens coming in to our schools this year alone there was a steep drop in particularly their spelling skills. What better way to improve and develop young Australian's skills through making reading more appealing? Additionally it is not just novels
I much prefer to buy from a book shop, but when books at the hypermart are up to 20% cheaper it's a no brainer. We must preserve our bookstores for the future culture of everyone who reads books.

This would be a great thing, I buy online because it is cheaper to buy from overseas with extra shipping costs rather than buying locally.

As a Booklover and someone who buys thousands of dollars worth of books every year for my family, I think this legislation is un-Australian. How are we supposed to encourage reading for fun to our children when books are too expensive for them to buy?

The need to increase the affordability of reading is imperative. We have so many children and young adults who can use a computer but are unable to easily read a book (I am aware of the irony of submitting this via computer). The government needs to look bigger picture with relation to literacy and not bigger profits.

I can order books on Amazon.com cheaper then I can buy them here and that includes international postage as well. And I got also obtain books that I can't buy in the shops here. Why is that?

I support the removal of import restrictions leading to cheaper books being available as it will encourage more people to take up the habit of buying and reading books. As an avid reader and ex-primary school teacher I appreciate the value of books to pupils and the general public.

Having access to cheaper books is much more important to Australia than cheaper CD's. It seems ridiculous that the Australian public be penalized by such ridiculous legislation. I am sick of ordering my books overseas, as even with postage they are cheaper than buying here. I want to support Australian businesses including Dymocks, but until the price of books in Australia drops, I will continue to purchase in the US.

Our younger generation needs to have the freedom of easy access to written literature or they will all be lost to cyberspace.
Cheaper books are still favoured over high speed broadband schemes in my home. My money at work - not our Tax money. DWHeath

I find our books here extremely expensive!! Even with the current exchange rates and the cost of shipping it's still cheaper to buy the books through amazon.com which we do on a monthly basis. books need to be accessible to everyone.

Registered and practicing teachers should be also be subsidised by the government through the productivity commission. I spend a lot on books simply because the school will not supply me with reference material because of funding. Especially Computer material which changes rapidly. We need to be in the fore front of technology.

Reading is my lifesaver with 6 children from 15 to 24 it is my peace from the everyday stuff pls make them cheaper

Books should be more affordable to encourage literacy across all demographics.

Books are the life blood of an educated and reading public.

Books can already be bought cheaper from overseas online stores, help our local retailers by giving them the ability to compete with the power of the internet!

As a librarian with a highly restricted budget, Dymocks proposal makes complete sense to me and my colleagues and could mean the difference in us staying afloat or sinking. In these tough times, we should be supporting Australian industries, not allowing a massive leak of purchasing offshore.
The price of books in this country and the totalitarian publishing regime that it has propped it up for half a century or more is OBSCENE. How can the same book cost THREE TIME AS MUCH in Australia as in America??? Answer: because the rest of the money is going into the back pockets of people who ADD NOTHING of value to the process of importing books into this county. How could the Trade Practices legislation of this country have allowed this to occur for so long??? STOP IT NOW!!!! Any protectionism on books is a hurdle to improving the rate and quality of education in Australia.

It is absolutely vital that the price of books be reduced as much as possible to encourage young people to READ, instead of playing electronic games all the time. PLEASE allow the removal of restrictions on parallel importation of books.
One of my most precious self indulgences is reading. I love to read and since having children have continued to do so involving them. Books should be made available at affordable prices as due to the cost I must limit what I buy.

I love books. They are a source of pure knowledge that CANNOT and will NOT be replaced - by any means - by the internet, or any other 'modern' sources of knowledge and learning. They have been part of human culture and society for centuries and millenia; surely, they deserve better treatment that this... thus, I willingly SUPPORT the coalition for the Cheaper Books Campaign.

If the government is serious about literacy then should get rid of this and the GST.

Books today are already expensive as it is! Why take that away with further price hikes? I'd probably just give up reading altogether.

Educational sources such as books should be made as cheap as possible. Surely we want to encourage our society and children towards reading for enjoyment and learning by encouraging lower prices?

Keep Australia reading!
The price of books should be reduced so that everyone can afford to buy them regularly, not just as a special 'treat'. As a ‘Granny’ i buy books for my grandchildren but have to save to be able to do so. I’d love to send books much more often!!

Cheaper books means greater accessibility to lower income families, which in turn may help literacy rates in our children. There can be no disbenefits to reducing the price of books, provided that author rights are protected.

Why not print locally? Import the content, not the physical book.

In days of yore books were a luxury. My income is limited with the consequent on-flow that books are a luxury for me and thousands of others in the same position. I’d buy a lot more books if they were cheaper.
Jasmin Briggs
Keith Yee
Christina Sutiono
Jessica Huang
Barbara Lawrence
Gemma Roddan
Nick Sharp
Penny Howard-Voutos
Donna Cooper

As an avid reader I have stopped purchasing as many "new books" due to the fact I cannot afford to spend $40.00 a week on a book. Second hand and eBay have become an unavoidable preference for me. Please take this petition seriously as reading books bound in paper is becoming a lost artform due to more readily available and easier options. Please make reading paperbacks not just a more affordable option, but the preferred option for all.

Barbra Perry
Alexandra Wright
Nikki Austin
Janet Ninio
Daniel Abrusci
Cathy Crowe
Jennifer Greig

I Think this is a great idea and will give Australians a wide range of books at better prices

Winnie Chow
Lesley Graham

Please allow cheaper books be available for those who don't have a great deal of options by being able to shop somewhere there is cheap books available could make there day, so please allow this to continue.

Maria Gillies
Cynthia Tat
Suzanne Harris
Gabrielle Castelluccio
Lia Egan
Paul Thomas
Sarah Iemma
Lina Laezzza
Amy Martin
Abeer Khan
Jennifer Venus
Gael Powell
Helen Wildsmith
Andrea Foster
Dinko Hristov
Nicole Grace
Laura Ellenberger

I would like access to a wide range of more affordable books in a more timely manner. Restrictig access through high prices and other impositions does not further our literacy levels nor does it provide for economic business, study or recreational literary pursuits.

Stephen Parry
Sherona Murugan
Amanda Fawcett
Sandra Murray
Jenelle Hovey
Jill Dunsmore
Silvia Zanello
Jade Brown
Mark Kelly
Brian Sheldon
Patrick Edwards
Ria Taylor
Micah Ferrer
Mark Connell
Tiffany Gabriel
Gillian Noulton
Mickey Biezen
Georgina David
Anthony Cantley
Anne White
Taya Solodin
Peter Trott
Patricia Bellamy
Lee Sadler
Chere Decaux
Rosemary Kellett
Lisa Meehan
Julia Parkes
Kelly Beer
Diane McMaster
Thomas Urban
Margaret Hayes
Ian Wilson
Marilyn Sneddon
Ana Ni Mhanachain
Lauren Savolainen
Ryan Thompson
Jordan Jia Y Ang
Ivana Garner
Murray Verso
Peter Arthur
Kelvin Shih
Joanne Chan
Angela Wighton
Madeline Belobraydich
Elaine Finch
Elizabeth Sloane
Lisa Rudd
Katherine McDonagh

I have found that in most cases, it is cheaper for me to pay international shipping and buy books from America via the Internet. It is ridiculous that buying books internationally and paying shipping charges is still cheaper than buying the same books in local, Australian bookstores. I would prefer to buy from Australian bookstores but, to be honest, it really does come down to the bottom line.

I adore reading and although I belong to a library to sustain my habit, I still love buying books to support authors - do the right thing - help me buy more books and support more authors.

We often purchase books on-line from both the US and the UK and have them shipped here to Australia, because we believe the quality of printing is far better, and because many times the hardcover edition is not available in Australia. By removing the restrictions I would hope to purchase more books locally and give our own Australian businesses my custom.

Can the federal government provide some leadership? Be proactive with improving literacy in Australia by providing the public with cheaper books when they initially published, rather than a year later.

I have almost stopped buying books due to the prohibitive prices. So long as there is a guarantee that authors will continue to receive appropriate royalties, the deregulation should occur.

Every thing in Australia is stupidly dearer than overseas. Let's make it right this time!
If we are in fact serious about being world competitive then the utterly useless forcing of added intermediaries for bookselling is unnecessary and the regionalization restrictions on DVD's to add profit is similarly of no help. I think the productivity commission is too easy on believing marketing strategic marketers who artificially keep up prices.

If this is something that will help our economy and businesses at this time, then the restrictions should be lifted, for booksellers, printing and publishing industries. The government should stop forcing consumers purchasing overseas books, and get local working cheaper.

It is amazing how much higher book prices seem to be in Australia than anywhere else in the world. You can buy cheaper English books in countries where English is not the main language.
I am a pensioner and enjoy reading and creating my own small library but with the high cost of books I can buy only a few ... also cheaper priced books will enable our rural libraries who are on a limited budget to purchase more books.

It is high time that the principle of competition should be allowed free rein in relation to the marketing of books. The protectionism inherent in the current position and the proposal should be recognised for what it is - anti-competitive and anti-consumer, and protecting a few at the expense of many.

Being a teacher I have spent large sums of money, over the years, on books. I also am an avid reader. It is time something was done to lower the price. Well done.

Books should be accessible to all - not just hose with a bigger better budget

A compelling reason to reduce the price of books is piracy. There is nothing better than having a book in your hand to read through at leisure, but the price of books increases gravitation towards online solutions for sourcing the same material. I personally use O'Reilly's Safari online website, which is legitimate, but I have heard of many people resorting to downloading copies of printed material simply because they cannot afford to pay outrageous prices. IMHO, make them cheaper, and you'll bring those people who prefer legitimate use of resources back to the fold.

As I belong to a book group who meets once a month it would mean a lot to us to be able to buy cheaper books.

I would far rather buy books from an Australian retails outlet, thereby supporting Australian jobs, however, currently it is far cheaper for me as an individual to buy books from online retailers outside of Australia - even when you factor in postage charges. Enable us to buy books from our own country at a reasonable price. I have lived in 4 different countries now and no-where has reading been so expensive.

Books in Australia have always been more expensive than in Europe, UK and USA - are we trying to put people off reading? Not the Clever Country sadly.
The excessive cost of books is contributing to the loss of interest in reading. Instead, mind-numbingly stupid computer games and the like result in a dumbing down of our future generations.

I believe the Australian buying public deserve a better deal. The price of books have been too high for too long. I strongly support this petition.

I love reading and would appreciate the removal of import restrictions so that I can afford to buy more books.

Books are the best thing in the world. Why wouldn't we want to be able to afford to buy more of them?!

Cost of books is a hindrance to those who have smaller incomes in the effort to better themselves. This will help them to help themselves.

Books are a part of learning and development for people. Its a mode of knowledge building and intelligence. Reduced prices of books, means more people buying books and indirectly increasing the development of Australia. Therefore, I urge you to reduce the rates of the books.
It is important for books to remain at reasonable prices. Knowledge shouldn't be hindered by financial factors.

Cheaper books would encourage reading across the board in all age groups. Apart from the enjoyment of reading a good book, it keeps the mind alert and expands readers' knowledge generally. It also improves everyone's vocabulary which is no doubt beneficial.

Over the years there have been too many excuses & vested interests to tackle this inequity! Now's the time to do so!

As a person who loves reading books, I support the petition to remove the import restrictions so that we can save & pay for cheaper books. I urge the Australian Government to remove the restrictions.

The cost of scholarly books has become impossible for the average person to buy on a regular basis ($145 to $795). The literacy level of the next generation is our responsibility. If prices keep going up, they like me will be unable to buy upto date books. We can only hope that 5-10yrs after publication they are of a price that is affordable. This situation is detrimental to keeping us Australians' at the cutting edge of knowledge!

I would like to be able to buy if we can do it for CDs why not books, as long as all current rights are maintained.

I am happy to put my name to this petition as I love reading and like to give books as gifts for family and friends, so cheaper books would be good. Thanks.

As a teacher and academic, I wholeheartedly support any measure that would ensure more Australian were able to access and purchase books cheaply.
Living here, books often save me from slow insanity! Please don't make them more difficult to buy for myself, my students and school library

I'm a uni student and I love reading but just can't afford to buy many books! If the prices were lowered I would read a lot more!

Every time I travel overseas I realise how we pay too much in Australia

Great initiative, keep it up!!

I am a compulsive book collector and reader, lol. My collection grows every day! I would be devastated if books rose in price any further!!!!

As an author this will directly affect my business.

I love to read, and I wish I could buy more books. Unfortunately, I can't afford to buy every book I would like to read. I love the idea of libraries, but you unfortunately have to give the books back. It's ridiculous that Australians have to pay such inflated prices for books, and people try anything to get round it, even resorting to sites like amazon.com, tortuous as they are. Cheaper books would have massive benefits, both in terms of increasing accessibility to reading material, which can't be bad, and by stimulating the flailing economy. I love books, and I want to be able to buy them for a reasonable price. That isn't unreasonable.

I'm a Scot living in Australia and when I moved here 5 years ago I couldn't believe how prohibitively expensive books are here, particularly children's books. I'm an avid reader of all types of books and love to own books rather than borrow from a library but my book buying has, sadly, become a rare occasion rather than a frequent one.

I didn't know that the current laws restrict the import of certain book titles into Australia - I am very keen on diversity, and the government should be too.
After shopping on the Internet, I usually order my books from amazon.com because the local suppliers' prices are too high even when the books are warehoused locally. I prefer shopping with local suppliers but sometimes the price difference is just too great.

I support any effort that will result in books being cheaper. I am an avid reader and have shelves of books and would love it if it was less expensive to feed by addiction to books.

Any action that brings down the price of good quality reading should be applauded. Some books cost ridiculous prices and I’ve frequently wondered why the differences between costings when presentation looks quite similar. That the author continues to receive their copyright fee is as it should be. I believe the idea of restricting any change for 12 months is unnecessary and an unnecessary financial burden on the reader. In these days of instant gratification of the senses, reading should be encouraged by making participation in its treasures as cheap as possible while still respecting the authors rights. Thank you for the opportunity to air my comments.

I think that at the moment most books are over priced and that they could easily be cheaper than what they currently are.

Cheaper books PLEASE!!! Let's keep reading.
I didn’t realise that the importation of books were restricted. I whole heartily support Dymocks and any other seller of books who wish to have this restriction removed. It does not help lovers of books and in this age, we struggle with getting people to appreciate the beauty of books and having inflated prices does not help!! I am more than happy for my name to be used as an example of need be. I realise that giving the human touch in a submission can sometimes help. I can be contacted on 0407 454 404 or (07) 4982 0554. Cheers Rach

I would rather spend my money knowing that some of it goes to employing Australians, than buying from Amazon.com where it all goes overseas!

There are many titles not available here in Australia, simply because our importers are not able to source them. If more books are available, at cheaper prices, people will read more (as mentioned in the email from Don Grover). Also, people will buy MORE books because they are more affordable and people are less hesitant about purchases if the costs are more reasonable. I love books, but unfortunately most of the time I have to wait until they go on sale (if ever) before buying them because the prices are so high!

Its about time we got a fair go with book prices!!!

I would welcome cheaper books!

People want to broaden their mind by reading, or just to "get away from it all" for a little while by reading. Please reduce the cost of books to make this luxury easier to afford.
I support the coalition for cheaper books campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

With the advent of internet technology, the availability of reading without buying or owning books will be too attractive if books are not at a reasonable and accessible price for the learner and avid reader. The price should be as low as possible in the bookstores. Also they are easier to read in bed than the computer.

The Australian Govt needs to get a clue. I purchase books from OSeas & have them couriered to my door for a cheaper price than I can buy them locally.

I regularly travel to USA and buy many books as they are so much more affordable. It is time we had that luxury here

I will gladly give any further support that may be required to assist this important campaign.

I read/buy a lot of books from US - the reason I buys from Dymocks is because you are competitive on price and have a good range, if this changes Amazon would become my main source out of the US.

no more protectionism

I would love to buy cheaper books locally and stop having to use Amazon to buy reasonably priced books from the UK & USA.

I have first-hand experience of how much cheaper books are in the UK, US and Canada and support changes that will result in cheaper books in Australia.
I agree with Dymocks Coalition for Cheaper books, why shouldn't the Australian market be more competitive?

Quite often it is cheaper to buy books overseas via the internet including postage costs. This was particularly so when the A$ was in the US90 cents range.

Books are an important part of learning and should not be costed out of the reach of those who wish to extend their knowledge.

If paralleled importation is not permitted then I shall continue to import books from the UK and US thereby taking money and possibly jobs from the Australian economy.

I feel we are missing out on many titles which are freely available overseas and so my reading is very restricted unless I send overseas for books I see online. There are all those American and European authors whose books are never on the shelves. Reading is my passion but buying books is also getting out of my reach as I am on a restricted income now.

Terrific idea and a great way to get people reading even more!

I am a teacher and I see how and know how vital books are for educational development. Reduce the price of books!
Cherilyn Cas-Lledo
Hugh Rose
Kim Smith
Michelle Collet
Maria Dimolianis
Ed Schalchlin
Robyn Madden
Michael Freame
Margaret Fooks
Shereen Lim
Robert Milroy
William Robertson
Cheyne Wright
Margaret Aherne

Dymocks should extend discounts to holders of Seniors Cards.

Go for it but PLEASE do not support the use of cheap crappy paper.

Interesting submission report - I agree - restrictions should be removed to allow a more open and fair 'global' market. I admit I have been guilty of purchasing books via Amazon at times simply because the price is much better than I can get in Australia (even with transport costs added onto purchase price) and the availability is high via this medium. If costs etc were lower in my own country which would appear would happen if restrictions were removed I'd spend my money more times in my own country and not someone elses

Wayne McCullough
Chloe Yuen
Peta McPherson
Catherine Hart
Megan Neal
Tony Newman
Cauvery Shambu K
Elsbeth Bapton
Kristine Hertel
Penelope Utley
Laura G
Lynn Blom
Danielle Cerin
Tamara Doulgeris
Adranne Teh
Margaret Pham
Nancy Kha
Anke Snyman
Ken Warr
Tessa Urlwin

Remove import restrictions - this IS the 21st Century after all - Get with the program!!!!!!!!!!

It's more important for us as a Nation to be reading rather than watching DVDs or listening to CDs, especially for our children. Let's make reading more affordable!!!!

The Victorian Premier has "reading challenge" for kids through schools. Even though they can borrow books from the library, wouldn't it be great to buy them and keep the economy going at the same time! Good Luck.
I support both Australian and overseas authors but find that my purchases are often limited because of the cost of books. I am a great reader and believe that if books were cheaper it would open the market up for those who have less disposable income than others. When overseas I am often surprised at how much cheaper books are.

If you want to stimulate the economy, encourage children to read and develop a 'smart' nation, remove these kinds of restrictions to make books cheaper. People will buy them, read them and everyone will feel the improvements in time.

I strongly support this campaign for cheaper books.

I want cheaper books at competitive prices!!!

Bookshops are wonderful. Keep bookshops in Australia thriving. Keep our bookshops competitive by removing the import restrictions otherwise people will order books online from overseas outlets as they are cheaper even with the postage added.
Books are far too expensive under the present system. It means, for instance, that to buy required texts for my university course I have had to buy online from overseas suppliers. One text listed costs $140.00 from the local supplier. I bought the same text online for $30 including postage.

Anything to make books more accessible for everyone. Reading is important, and though libraries have their place, it doesn't compare to having your own books.

We need to have cheaper books in this country. As often as not I will buy books from Amazon because they are cheaper. When it comes to books, that just isn't right.

Books are for everybody, they are our education.

I totally agree books should be cheaper, as a teacher I try to encourage my children to read but parents tell me they can't afford to buy books for their children and going to a library is not always convenient. More and more I am finding my children turned off reading simply because they should be. I was in London recently and was amazed at the price of new releases. Needless to say I brought books, packaged them up and posted them back home and this was still cheaper than buying them here. The price of books here is shameful.

We pay far too much for books - making one of the primary resources for learning, and one of Australia's favourite past times far more expensive than it needs to be. Making books less expensive in this country would stem the tide of people buying from overseas and help to retain Australian jobs.
At last!
It does not make sense we get out books from the UK, what ever happened to our printing industry in Australia, oh I mean Singapore?

Very difficult to obtain US published books as our market is flooded with UK publications

Many book sellers miss out on my business as I purchase them far more cheaply from Amazon or BOL.

Books contain information. Information leads to knowledge. Knowledge is the basis for understanding. Understanding is fundamental to peaceful co-existence. Books are where the whole process begins. A government who insists on keeping books too expensive for the many is guilty of a far greater crime than greed.

I am increasingly buying books online from the USA. In fact the other day I bought an Australian author in hardback from the US cheaper than I could buy the paperback here, even taking into account shipping charges.

The sooner books are more affordable for the ordinary people, the sooner this country's literacy levels will improve. There's got to be something good about that. Good for you.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS
I commend you for this. It is essential that books be available at reasonable, un-inflated prices if we wish our population to remain at least basically literate. Books have to be able to compete with the appalling English usage on the Internet - which comes at no cost to the reader, and is therefore at present far more attractive to youthful readers than any expensive book could be. Please help to make our new books cheaper!
As a person on a pension I have to save for any books I want as they are too expensive to just buy when I see them. A system that drops the price of books without adversely affecting the authors would be very helpful to many book lovers.

Saelim Taylor
Trevor Morrison
Christina Patra
Isobel Williams
Salma El Rakhawy
Louise Thompson
Sonya Chisari
Jade Paget
Mike Gaze
Kathryn Cameron
Dorothy Gawlik
Kara Ho
Pauline Tonkin
Renee Metaxas

Buy booking in Ireland from relatives, and with special book postage, still cheaper in most cases than buying books here in WA

Brenda Woollard
Sherilline Visitacion
Julie Robinson
Alastair Frith
Stephen Rokich
Stephanie Tea
Adeline Este Kintono

Stop illiteracy, Don’t end up like the USA

Kevin Nash
Warwick Mcfadden
Carol Jenkins
Carol Jenkins
Carol Perriam
Olga Gordon
Lisa Lawler
Patrick Hughes
Victoria Whitten
Kate Ambrose
Mervyn Piesse

I love reading books and would really appreciate a cheaper price. Higher prices often prevent me from purchasing books.

Sally MacKay
Gayle Waldron
Yenny Tang
Shorna Pichugin
Silvia Aconi
Riam Nasir
Eleanor Lind
Bronwyn Thymesen
Kathryn Mcguiness
Andrew Clarke

Books are an important part of life and is especially important in the development in children, I don’t know where I would be without them, so with today’s economic climate they should be as cheap as possible so people have easy access and they won’t put food or other things before buying their children books. Books help children grow.

Lyndal Morgan
Corrie Au
Gilly Guss
Tony Whysall
Joy Whysall
Warren Bracken
Katrina Hepworth
I would like to say not only as a boolover but as an employee of a Dymocks store I get a lot of complaints about our books prices compared to other stores. I understand that we are restricted and I think that a company like Dymocks (Aussie) should have every advantage possible.

Deidre Southam
Gene Guarin
Kevin Mullins
Natalie Willis
Pui Yee
Pamela Goodman
Rocelle Ago
Lucy Dharmawan
Sharon Wei

please dont let the price raise again..its already high enough for us to buy
If I can at the moment get a book cheaper and quicker buy ordering it over the net and usually from the states I will, but I would much rather buy it here in aus and supporting my country than sending my money over seas.

Tiphaine Wade
Julie Christmas
Joshua Pickham
Anthony Duffield

Inflate prices of books, then see who buys them! no one will buy books, therefore no one will get any education...

Tony Petkovski

Books should be at a reasonable price, so as to enable all member of the public, no matter what their circumstances, be able to afford them. Being able to read, and read well, is the key to the doorway to becoming a smarter more intelligent person. How are we supposed to enable young people to open that door of their own accord when the books they might like to pick up and develop their ability with are priced so as to make the very notion of buying books unappealing and unattractive.

There is no place in a modern global world for protectionism. If Australian publishers are uncompetitive then they should become competitive, move their inefficient activities overseas or be innovative and re-engineer their Australian activities so they are competitive. It is one thing to protect against dumping from 3rd world countries with cheap labor rate but a completely different matter to protect against first world countries like USA and UK. If Australian publishers can't compete with USA or UK publishers then they should not exist and certainly should not be protected by legislation. All the best. I wish you all the best.

Doug Hall
Vivian Ta
Kim Mcminn
Helen Kayser
Salahudeen Hezbollah
Carmel Colborne
Angela Sumners
Kirsten Smith
Pia Manivong
Rosie Bates
Sabrina Mew
Michael Galbraith

We want our kids to have a good rounded education and that involves quite a bit of reading of books of many types. These should always be available to all and sundry and not priced out of reach of the poorer in our communities. I know I love my books and it would hurt very much if I cannot afford to keep buying them once I retire due to the fact that I have lost my income and they are too costly due to whatever reason.

PLEASE keep our books at an affordable cost for ALL.

Valmai Joyce
Maree Lau
Chris Bowman
Karen Moorman

The removal of this restrictive trade practice is long overdue.
I think it’s ridiculous that we are unnecessarily being forced to buy books at inflated prices on the pretext of supporting Australian authors and the publishing industry. As a book lover and regular book buyer (including on Amazon), I fully support this initiative of the Coalition.

Ramdas Marar

Being a student, I can only buy cheaper books. This means that I spend more time flicking through books in the store rather than a straight purchase.

Janet Hong

Barbara Simpson

Taikan Fujii

Sondha Chatterji

Kimberly Bridge

Robyn Gardiner

Laura Mannino

Patricia Suters

Let’s remove the discrimination against self-publishers as well. Can’t wait for an iBook store.

Reading should be about fun not about cost. I spent $300 on my kids’ best choices at Dymocks. It (the expense) lasted 3 weeks. Why do we need to tax an essential part of learning? The more you read the more you learn. My son in Year 1 is reading level 18 which is what is expected by the END of YR 1. How? We encourage reading. HOW? Pick a book you think you would like to read... Why would you like to read this book?? Do you think you could understand this book? How do you think you understand this book?? Okay... You may now buy this book. I think so many parents forget the fundamentals of teaching reading. Step 1 is learn the words. Step 2 is ask what the word is. Step 3. ASKING if the CHILD has UNDERSTOOD WHAT THEY HAVE READ. If they say YES you then need to ask them about the s

I am fully in support of a more competitive book industry in Australia.

Nicole Birt

Kerry Davies

Eun Young Ha

Paul Martin

Alec Hlustov

James Edwa Price

Karl Byrom

Kim Coates

Judi Heffernan

Alan Slater

Sue Fritchley

Vivienne Hayle

Nhanou Sirois

Janthy Budiono

Christine Parkes

Suzanne Hansford

Krystyna Pirnke

Karem Castro

Judy Goodson

I would love for books to be cheaper and old stock books should be priced from $3.00 to $5.00 because then you would get more customers and the books will sell fast.

The current restrictions on importation for booksellers encourage consumers to buy directly from overseas.

To all at Dymocks, you have my whole-hearted support. Good luck with your campaign.

Paul Martin

YES I TOTALLY AGREE WITH THIS CAMPAIGN AND I HOPE THAT OTHERS WILL FOLLOW US. THANKYOU

Sue Fritchley

Vivienne Hayle

Nhanou Sirois

Janthy Budiono

Christine Parkes

Suzanne Hansford

Krystyna Pirnke

Karem Castro

Judy Goodson

I support the move as we should encourage people to read more, reduce costs of over inflated text books needed for tertiary education and make books in Australia cheaper but ensuring writers receive their rightful royalties.
I think that the inflated price of books due to government restrictions is totally unreasonable. The government wants to encourage literacy, especially amongst children, but makes it difficult for lower and middle income families to afford books. Although you can access books at libraries, it has been shown the families with little or no books at home have children with lower literacy rates.

Books are a lifeline for many people, in all different walks of life, for many different reasons. They are a link and in there own way help us understand this very complicated world around us. Knowledge is understanding (hopefully) and a way of seeing/understanding things around us.

When prices are higher, it is cheaper to buy books directly from overseas via internet orders. If the books were available here for cheaper, it would profit local bookstores.

I couldn't agree more, we need to encourage adults to read more.

What's wrong with the Government? In these "GFC" times, you'd think they'd be trying to keep prices down not artificially inflate them through archaic distribution/importation laws!!!
As a parent, if books were made more affordable then we would be more able to help in such an important part of learning, and, when sharing the reading experience from an early age, it is a totally invaluable asset for the rest of life. Let's get our priorities right. Books mean knowledge, learning and an enjoyment for life.

Books should be cheaper enabling more to be bought and kept in homes for repeated reading.

Everyone has the right to read what they want but that's not always possible unless books are affordable and are readily available to all.

Anything that encourages young Australians to read should not only be encouraged, but should be MANDATORY. COST is one such factor

I often buy books online from Amazon.com and even after paying shipping fees, other duties AND the exchange rate differences, I can import those books cheaper than if I was to buy them locally here in Canberra. If the Federal Government REALLY want us to spend our $$$'s here in Australia, they should start looking at pricing issues.

I work in a school library and some prices are out of this world compared with prices from overseas even allowing for the exchange rate....

Books need to be cheaper!!!!!!
Even without the current global markets, I'm not willing to pay over $30 for a paperback! That's a luxury and it's a shame that the public are getting priced out of reading and learning.

about time! This will save me from having to order cheaper books online from Amazon.com

Thank goodness for someone with common sense, maybe some of the books I purchase online from overseas might soon be purchased locally instead.

Life is hard enough to survive in & to be denied the opportunity to buy cheap books is a cruel act.

The price we pay for books & CD's compared with the USA (our daughter lives there and we are frequent travellers) does nothing to encourage keen readers & listeners buy new, past, interesting and unusual topic books, CD's & videos. This really is the backward country when NOT encouraging wide-ranging access to all forms of literature & music due to affordability.

In the interests of furthering my child's education and extending his personal library I urge you to do all you can to bring us cheaper books. Thank you

It is cheaper for me to buy books from Amazon in America and pay postage than to buy books in Australia.
I like to buy MANY books, but find them too expensive these days to be able to buy them direct from retail stores (Dymocks in particular). I'd like to see the prices drop a little, to be able to afford more :)

Why not have cheaper books? We are helping young children's education. As a High Schooler myself I love to read and it increases my vocabulary but sometimes books are TOO dear. Basic readers for children learning to read should not cost over $9 for as little as 16 pages. How can we hope to assist our children when even schools have to pay these inflated prices.

Books should be cheaper to encourage and maintain a reading habit. Prices for books will be affected as more people move to online reading.

I am a pensioner are with the shortness of money, things like book which can occupy some of our slack time, needs to be kept at the lowest price possible. Pensioners are missing out on so much; are we to lose the opportunity to read books also? Roger Wall
So many people would be happier if the cost of buying books was reduced. Our family reads so many books but we have certainly cut back on our buying and browsing through our favourite book shops over the past few months. It is specially important that our grandchildren continue to have access to a variety of publications.

Thank you, Wendy Gourlay

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why shouldnt we have cheaper books?

Books must be made more affordable so that all generations can continue to read or indeed start to read

Well overdue. Overseas visitors to Australia are shocked at the prices of books here.

As a book lover I must insist that books stay at a reasonable price!

I’m very delighted that this petition has been made. I’m 18 years old and have loved books ever since I was a kid. I’m an Aussie who grew up in Lebanon and lived there for 14 years. There, the books (both international and national) were so cheap. When I came to Australia, I was shocked by the prices. What even let me down is that there weren’t a lot of American and international books (and if existed, very expensive. I have the Harry Potter American Edition set and when I came I needed Deathly Hallows but didn’t find the American version so I had to buy it from Lebanon...) So what your doing is much appreciated and will certainly make a difference for us all. Good luck Dymocks!!!!!!! Thanks!

I would buy twice as many books as I do now if they were cheaper. I can purchase books cheaper overseas than in Australia. Why should thy profit from this.

I have lived for a number of years in Poland, Germany and Australia and I am proud of my own selection of books in all three languages - but most of my books bought in Australia, were bought in second hand shops or on big SALES, as the prices for new books here are very high.
Due to the high cost of books in Australia, I often find that I can purchase books overseas much cheaper than I can here. I would much rather support Australian book sellers than send my money overseas, but the cost difference is often quite substantial (between 20%-50% less), even once freight has been added. All the restrictive laws do is send $AU overseas. I know many people who purchase books overseas who would much rather support Australian businesses - the choice is buy overseas, or don't buy at all! Best Regards.

I live on an old age pension and would be grateful if books were cheaper so that I could buy some.
As a serious book lover, I would certainly appreciate any action that would reduce the cost of books while still maintaining the copyrights for the author.

Book prices here are crazy. I have recently moved back from living in the UK for 5 years and was absolutely shocked at the high prices in comparison to what I could buy books for in London. I buy less books now simply because I can’t afford them. Well done Dymocks for trying to do something about it.

Anything that makes books more readily available will help increase literacy standards

The price of books is preventing access to them by a large proportion of the population. The budgets of school libraries in state schools are limited as are those of community libraries - access to a wide range of books should be encouraged by all governments for the betterment of all members of the community. Educational textbooks also can’t be bought by all students as many are just too expensive.

i frequently buy books from overseas bookstores to get a better price. Books should be as affordable as possible for the general public as knowledge is necessary to keep this country progressing.

The prices of many books makes them restrictive for people such as us who are on limited incomes (pensions) So long as Royalties etc are honoured then to remove such restrictions you describe can only be good for both reader and author. good luck Judi F.

Dude, seriously, cheaper books is the first step in having a more educated society - and hopefully as a result a more informed and tolerant one. Such an important step in the evolution of attitudes in this country, so please step up!

Although a lot of Australians have access to books through their local libraries there are a great many Australians who do not live with this access the cost of books today severely restricts their ability to enjoy this past time.
We need to encourage people from all walks of life to read, reading is the best source of information and enjoyment for both adults and children. It is also a basic educational skill which improves advancement in life. It would enable lower income families to be able to afford books for their children and themselves.

As a regular book buyer I support this campaign whole-heartedly!

Less expensive books are a must to keep the population reading and children being read to.

My wife and I read many books, and try to purchase a lot of new books but find this enjoyable experience becoming too expensive. Further more because of the Internet we see the same books overseas cheaper and not available in Australia. We now have to use the services of the second hand book stores which doesn't please us because of health issues my wife has gone though the breast cancer journey and is very sensitive on health issues. Jacob

Cheaper books would be awesome. I usually buy dvd's instead of books because they are so much cheaper and I would love to be able to buy books at more affordable prices.

As a reader and buyer of books, I really hope you are successful with this.
I have a child who is a bookworm, tough economic times means less books. Cheaper books will be very welcome.

I think that this is well overdue and I know that some companies currently bring in remainders from other countries which means authors don't get their due. This would help to remedy the situation for authors. Thanks.

Kevin Rudd is not to be trusted. He is a two faced, sneaky, lying, egotistical megalomaniac, and the truth will be outed about him sooner or later.

I bought a book this week. If they were cheaper I'd definitely buy more!
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Come on people.....the best books come from overseas!!

Yes I and my family do fully support the "Coalition for Cheaper Books" and congratulate you for giving us, the public, the opportunity to support your initiative. Thankyou DYMOCOCKS!!!

I did not realise there were any such restrictions on the importing of books to this country; thankyou Dymocks, for letting me and others know. Thankyou also for campaigning to get rid of such an outrageous situation. Books are a very important part of our continual education as adults both professionally and from a personal development.

Reading should be a right, not a privilege!

I'm reluctant to buy books because of the expense. While writers shouldn't be disadvantaged, books should be cheaper and certainly I would buy more if this was so.

I rarely now purchase books since the cost is prohibitive. It has been proven that removing price controls on books leads to larger sales volumes. Why can't we have freedom of choice here?
Sophie Macdonald
Tina Ravenwood
Lynne Ellery
Sue McLeod
Amy Bowman
melanie Whittle
Karen Swindail
Jolan Boganyi
Marianne Nicholson
Sissy Ji
Margaret Luck

Good luck with your endeavour....I can't wait for books to be cheaper....

I want books to be a staple of my diet, not an occasional luxury!

Greg Shanley
Jacky Brogan
David Staples
Miriam Goode
Darryl Fitzgerald
Denise Salkeld
Alison Cox
Melissa Tran

This initiative is long overdue.

Support literacy, and creativity - don't provide more reason for the general public to reduce any chance they have to explore such worlds

We struggle to purchase good books for our three children (aged 12, 14 and 16 yrs). The cost is prohibitive. If we buy a book for one child then, fairly, we should buy one for all but this is so difficult that often we decide not to purchase any!! If the books were cheaper we would be purchasing them all the time as the children love to read and reading is a skill we should always encourage. It expands their minds and vocabularies. It promotes discussion and encourages imagination.

Books if an avid reader are expensive enough so of course I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books

Kim Mika
Elena Chepournikh
Dianne Sebo
Amber Forrester
Maureen Steele
Daniel Rubic
Donald Davis
Peter Mackerracher
Gwen Warren

Books in Australia cost far too much as it is today. I support this petition to at least maintain the status quo.

I back you all the way

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.
I cannot believe the price of books here in WA. So expensive. Please remove all restrictions on importing books and make it affordable for all Australians. I find it cheaper to have a book sent to me from a friend in the UK than to buy it here.

Yay for cheaper books!

I would love to buy cheaper books. I would probably buy more if they were cheaper. I often order books from overseas as they are cheaper even with postage therefore I support the Coalition for cheaper books campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.
I support the coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Free market principles must apply!!

This is a great idea so many unprivileged people need books for education and the rest of the community need books too. Books are my life and everyone should get a fair opportunity to read and expand their knowledge. Brilliant idea.

What a great idea!

We are a family of readers. Books should not be priced as luxuries. Then people can’t afford to know about the myriad wonders in books and the world.

Books have long been overpriced and overinflated within Australia and it is about time we had a fairer system in place. I support this campaign as it not only looks out for the best interests of buyers, but it also protects the rights of authors and those who hold copyright. I tend to buy most of my books from overseas lately due to high domestic prices.

Books should be available to everyone at the lowest possible price.
For example, we have the Premier's Reading Challenge in NSW to encourage children to read but often the books are too expensive for children in disadvantaged areas to purchase. The children may like a specific author they have read and want to buy his/her book but can’t because of the price. I, as an adult will not buy a book because of the price. I will either wait for it to be discounted or be purchased by my local library.

First thing: Get my name right...is that so difficult. Second thing: No! I do not agree that Dymocks should be able to bypass the local wholesalers of books in Australia...these are Australian jobs you are attempting to destroy and Australian workers you are attempting to put out on the streets. I know a couple of Dymocks employees and they think that the proposers of this idea are unAustralian and should be run out of the country. If you succeed in getting all products imported and Australians replaced by poorly-paid overseas workers then who will pay your (probably) inflated wages.....Terry O'Toole

Yes, I agree to your Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. I hope that ultimately we can purchase really cheaper books as these are available in other countries. We, as the Australian consumers/readers have been deprived for decades!!!

The same expectations should hold for books or cd

I would not expect my demand for Australian books, ie books by Australian authors, to be affected by a reduction in the price of imported books. My overall consumption of books would increase. Books have become more expensive in recent years, and any decrease in price would be very welcome.

Currently, the only way to buy books at internationally-competitive prices is from overseas sellers - generally over the Internet. None of the money generated by this means is benefiting any person or organisation in Australia. Cheaper books from Australian retailers will generate profits for Australian companies, boost jobs in book retailing and give an incentive to younger Australians to read more - thereby helping to improve literacy. I wholeheartedly support and endorse the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign. Colin Webb
I want cheaper books!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Anything that will make books cheaper must contribute to the enhancement of knowledge in the national noggin. And socially, it beats people staring at walls of screens in their media rooms.

I feel very strongly about this.

Pensioners find it hard to purchase books due to the prohibitive costs. Pensioners that I know would like to have a small bookstand of their favourite authors; so that the can reread them again, but alas, the price of the book seem to be increasing

Having moved here recently, can't believe the price of books! Can't really be very encouraging to people!

I believe that import trade restrictions in relation to copyright protected books should be lifted and should not include a 12 month restriction period.

cheaper books means more readers and smarter Australians

It's about time people got encouraged to read again, instead of wasting their lives on the internet or playing video games. My kids are certainly going to have books.

To encourage young people to read, in this current economical climate, we need to be sourcing more financially viable resources. Thus I support this campaign.

The current price regime for books in Australia is utterly ridiculous, including fiction and textbooks. I routinely buy ebooks now, because I pay US list price (or below). Even with our weak dollar this is typically a 40% saving. I also remember with textbooks when I was at University. It was cheaper *and* faster to get that single textbook FedEx'd to me (3 days delivery) from Amazon rather than get it through the local distributor! There's something seriously wrong with that scenario.
Please make books cheaper :)

I agree that books should be cheaper also cd and dvds as well

I’m Thankful that Dymocks has taken the initiative. I support this proposal.

Books are a means to education and enjoyment. This should be available at a reasonable cost to everyone.

I totally agree with you, I love reading but the price does tend to stop me quite a bit, which is a shame as I use to buy a lot of books as gifts as well.

I would read more books if they didn’t cost so much. As it is, I trade my books with neighbours and friends so that none of us has to spend as much. Also, on occasions when I visit the US, I always buy books there as they are so much cheaper. I would prefer to spend my dollars here and support Australian shops.

I totally agree....I’ve purchased many books over the years including academic books and feel that the prices have been inflated a great deal. It is time for a reduction....

books are about literacy, learning, thinking and leading from these is growth and development- things this government should want from the electorate! keep the prices down, and you keep us all reading please.

My grandchildren love reading books and they are given books as presents every year. I feel that they will be disadvantaged if the Australian Government goes through with what they are proposing. They are the next Generation and we do not want illiteracy.

cheap books are awesome!! =)

It appears that the change you seek is past due.  AH
I will buy books online to get cheaper prices and that is taking the money out of Australia. Wouldn’t it be better to buy here and spend our money in Australia than overseas Karen

Bleeding obvious!

Cheaper Books Campaign.....it's about time!

If books were set at a cheaper price I might find myself in book stores more often than occasionally once a month or two.

I would love to see us getting cheaper books in Australia. I would also hope that opening the market will mean that we’ll get books that are published in the UK and US available here - several of the authors I like are not available in Australia or if they are available the books are published up to 9 months after they available overseas.

I can be contacted on 03 - 96551312 for verification - if needed

25% of my books i order online from the USA to get them 6 months early...

Cheaper books will lead to greater readership and literacy - very important in these days of computer games etc.

Like in many other civilized countries, our books should be priced affordably, i.e cheaper than our current prices.
Books are dear enough as it is. We want people to read and be "educated". how about we make it easier?

This move would help keep our dollars in Australia. I know of many people who get books from Amazon instead of buying locally if a book is either unavailable here or even cheaper.

Cheaper books means wider reading. Sometimes I am restricted to certain genres or older release books purely because they are cheaper. Bring on cheaper books!

As long as authors will still get royalties (which they will) then the import restrictions should be removed, thus allowing us, the public, to purchase books at a lower price, particularly in these bad economic times. As a pensioner, it is hard to find money for books and removing these restrictions will help the pensioners.

Parallel importing is definitely required to keep the prices of books down. It is time that the publishers price segmented the market. Books in India are much cheaper than in Australia for this reason. Secondly inflation re book prices has been much higher than for other goods. For computers, for example, prices have fallen. Much more transparency is required.

As an ardent reader and researcher of information biographical and historical nature, I lend my support to the Coalition for Cheaper Books Campaign.
Books are the frontline weapons in the battle against mind-numbing violence as shown in video games and television shows. We are deliberately stunting the growth of our children today by keeping the price of a good book higher than that of the average child's pocket money. And when they look to the libraries for borrowing them, they find that they have to wait longer for the latest book release due to the library's limited budget being stretched by an unfairly inflated cost and that other people have reserved the book before them. Most books stocked are from overseas anyway - why should the Australian distributors have all the bargaining chips? The Australian government claims that they want a more open market, more 'free trade' and suchlike - so here's a good place to start - let's m

When I first moved to Australia I was shocked by the price of books. Consequently I buy most of my books from Amazon in the US or when I'm overseas. In this global world having inflated prices encourages people to buy overseas instead of in Australia.

I support any initiative that will open up the current book market and result in cheaper prices for consumers. Those of us involved in business have had to compete in increasingly free and competitive markets why should publishers agents and importers be exempt from what are accepted market conditions.

I am a poor elderly disabled pensioner and being able to afford a book on a pension is very hard. Anything that would make them more accessible would be a god-send
I support the Coalition for cheaper books campaign. Thank you for your email

As a pensioner I find I am now unable to allocate any funds for the purchase of a book - which was my only pleasure. Food and bills take all of my income and I can only now afford to borrow books from a library or friend. Please remove the restrictions on parallel importation so that once a year I may purchase a present for myself on my birthday or Xmas.

It is so important for me and my family to encourage each other to read. I am fortunate that both of my children love to read. But it is so true that because of the cost of books I often have to refrain from purchasing the books we all want to read which is disheartening. Dymocks is my favourite book store, great range, layout & very helpful, caring staff. If books were less expensive I am sure we would see more minds expanding & a more enlightened future for our children. I am grateful for the knowledge of what is happening & the opportunity to respond & participate in such a worthwhile cause. Thankyou!

The government tells us an educated population is one of the drivers of a productive economy, yet the price of many books, particularly non fiction, technically oriented publications, is out of reach of most book purchasers.

If it's not adding value, it shouldn't add to our cost structure. I support this petition.

Being a constant traveller throughout the world I am always amazed at how inexpensive books are compared to what I pay in Australia - therefore I quite often buy books when overseas and therefore deny an Australian bookseller the benefit!

I totally agree with the proposal!

I belong to a Book Club and we buy about a hundred books between the lot of us each year. It is beginning to be a struggle to continue to do this at a price we can all afford - yet we are continually amazed at how much cheaper books are overseas.

Books are not a luxury item and the steeper prices in Australia must be tough on writers as well as readers.

Support cheaper books so that more children may be encouraged to pursue a life-long passion for reading.
I DO NOT support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign. I want the Parallel Importation rules to stay the same. The suggestion that prices for Australian books will fall if importation restrictions are changed is false -- what you'll be doing is tearing out the heart of a local industry and damaging the livelihoods of Australian writers. Shame on you, Dymocks. I'll be spending my AUSTRALIAN dollars with a bookshop that supports AUSTRALIAN publishers and writers.

Cheaper books please!!

Any thing to improve literacy and make books more affordable should be supported 100% by the Australian Government. Books are a truely incredible investment and should be enjoyed by all.

The current restricted import system supports a monopoly of sorts and encourages "price fixing" - other businesses aren't allowed to engage in such practices.

My husband and I love books, and have a small library in our home. But with rising costs of living, books are getting a backseat. We do support the Coalition for Cheaper Books. Thank you.
Please make books cheaper! I would buy so many, instead of buying a book as a treat!

Existing restrictions discriminate against Australian readers and booksellers and are, regretfully, in favor of offshore book distributors. This is unacceptable and has been for far too long.

I regularly buy books from overseas because even with shipping they work out cheaper than we're able to purchase them here.

It's very frustrating when you know the books are retailing for only 5 or 6 US dollars, and we are paying 24 for a paperback.

I am from the UK and have lived in Australia for nearly 6 years now. However I rarely buy books in Australia as I have always found them outrageously expensive compared to in the UK. I always stock up when I go home, generally buying the 3 for 2 deals at the airport bookshops and then lugging them back with me on the plane. It would be great not to have to do that in the future, or to be able to buy a book here and not begrudge the amount I am paying for it!

Unlike a lot of young people, older people like to read but with the cost of books in recent years our only options are to either go to a library or a 2nd hand book store.

In Japan and Hong Kong the books are unbelievably cheap - it isn't hard to find a bookshop with thousands of brand new books that cost only 700 yen, which is about $12. I would really like to own more books that are more affordable, rather than borrow from the library as I'd like to pass these to other family members. E-Books don't work because we all love the touch and convenience of reading without using technology. I hope this campaign succeeds in helping my book purchasing power.
The price of books definitely does affect people's ability to afford information. Help people to access books to learn more and also to be entertained by lowering the cost of books.

It's unfair to local book sellers that they must pay more for books that the consumer can purchase online. How is Australian business supposed to succeed when there is no way they can match online pricing?

To compete for our attention, especially for young people and children, cheaper books will assist in keeping curiosity alive and intellect evolving progressively forward in stead of the instant gratification of the internet pushing parts of our brains further into atrophy.

I am an avid book reader, only 19 years old. But I can't afford to buy new books anymore.

The Productivity Commission and the Australian Government should strongly consider the benefits to Australian book consumers and booksellers of the removal of restrictions on parallel importation, including for the first 12 months of release. Under current arrangements in Australia it is nearly always cheaper to buy books online from overseas providers such as Book Depository (free worldwide delivery), Amazon, eBay and other sellers. This means I buy a lot of my books from overseas, which does not help Australian bookstores who are hamstrung by an overly expensive product. Books in Britain and the USA are far cheaper than their Australian counterparts. This situation may not be hurting domestic sellers too much yet, but very soon it will begin to bite in a significant way as consumers...
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Silvia Pino</td>
<td></td>
<td>If books were cheaper more people would buy them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynwen Pierotti</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Government should be ENCOURAGING people to read books, after all, we're sorely in danger of becoming a totally illiterate society ('thanks' to text messaging, spell check etc). Please allow creativity to flourish and let people know the joy of books for a price that's reasonable and tax other items that don't feed the soul!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Louise Eastaugh</td>
<td></td>
<td>Natasha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise Eastaugh</td>
<td></td>
<td>I support Dymocks submission to remove the parallel import Copyright laws that prevent importing books from overseas distributors. Books in Australia are overpriced by world standards and until the drop in the Australian $ late last year it had often been cheaper to buy books online from overseas suppliers and buy pass Australian book sellers who have been hamstrung by these laws</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheryl Isles</td>
<td></td>
<td>As an active member of a book club, who chooses to buy books rather than borrow from libraries, I endorse any proposal to be able to buy books at competitive prices. Although the larger supermarket affiliated stores popular titles at reduced prices, their range is not as extensive as dedicated booksellers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonja Matthews</td>
<td></td>
<td>I totally support Dymocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Milce</td>
<td></td>
<td>If we're able to buy cheaper books through Ebay or Amazon for example, then why can't Book Stores?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natasha Kupresak</td>
<td></td>
<td>Exchange rates make books expensive enough as it is without having our own government adding to the cost. Cheaper books equal more sales! having worked in the library field for over thirty years i believe that books should be available for every one to purchase. If there are way to make them cheaper then this is what should be done. Reading is important for our future for each child and for our culture and for our economy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheryl Isles</td>
<td></td>
<td>The government made the same move for music, there is no reason why they can not do the same for books.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Waldock</td>
<td></td>
<td>I fully support this campaign!</td>
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Keep the prices low, books are our escape from our problems of reality, they inspire and release our imaginations, making books too expensive will result in all of this disappearing from our world and I don't think anyone wants that on their mind!

I fully support the removal of this restriction on parallel importation.

All Australian's should have access to cheaper books and we should not be penalised or categorised by government authorities. When we moved to GST we were told we would not pay more than the previous Sales Tax, which was utter rubbish. I now pay more for books post GST. I read 2-3 books per week costing $40 - $60 which over 1 month totals in excess of $200 per month!

We are desperate to enable book sellers in Australia to bring lower cost books to this country. It's frustrating to see the books in New Zealand are cheaper than here. Lower cost books will also encourage people to read more and push Australia along to become an “Intelligent Country” as well as a “Lucky Country”.

I certainly think in these uncertain times, that paying full price for books is alittle much to ask of the buying public. When I now consider that books are a luxury item now for me, a more competitive price is a must.
I rarely buy books from Dymocks/Angus & Robertson etc now unless they are on special, or I have a special request because they are too expensive. I can buy the exact same book from a discount department store for nearly 1/2 the price. It further frustrates me that I am not supporting small business.

In the present economic climate I think everything should be done to make the purchase of books easier on the wallets of readers.

the Australian literacy levels will improve dramatically as more people will be able to read due to the lower prices of books.

As Australians we deserve to be well read. Reducing the cost of books will allow a greater part of the country to have the chance to do the same. Thank-you for taking a stand to better our literacy levels.

Many people don't bother reading because books are too expensive. True, that's what the library is for, but in this busy city, most people don't have time to go to the library and find that book they've waiting to read for ages. Books in the library are not always that updated, and it's more likely than not that the book you want has already been lent out. This way, we can work towards a more educated and literate society.

It is a ridiculous situation where you can go online to a large US bookseller, buy a new book and pay shipping to Australia for less than the price of the same book in Australian bookstores.

Inflating the prices of much needed books is ridiculous. Those willing to learn are going to find it harder as resources reach further and further away from our fingers. With a supposed emphasis on education it seems a contrary situation not to be able to ensure lowest cost possible for books in our community.

I think this is a great idea - i am a student and so buying books for both uni and personal is very expensive. I think this is fantastic and i hope it works!
I know that a lot of the products we purchase from "dollar shops" are imported from those more competitive markets, so the prices are a bit cheaper than the prices at the supermarkets like Coles or Woolworth. Why can't this apply to books? Yes, I always find the books too expensive to buy for just reading once or twice.

The price of books in this country compared to their cover price in Sterling of Dollars is absolutely shocking. The fact that there is a remit in place to continually overcharge for books, is completely unfathomable. Sort yourselves out!

My house loves books and would buy heaps more if they were cheaper.

I believe that any restrictive practice which inflates the price of books in Australia is untenable. It forces people to order books on line from overseas rather than purchase locally if they are a large reader/researcher like myself, this is not in the interests of the Australian economy, especially at this time.

As an avid reader it would be of great benefit to me in these tough economical times to have cheaper reading material.

If we are to improve the general level of literacy in Australia we must, amongst other initiatives, make books in general more affordable.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Edmond</td>
<td>Fisher</td>
<td>My purchase of books is much less since the price rise. The cost of papers backs are almost out of my budget these days, and as for a hard back...forget it. One of my favourite past times is reading, which has been seriously curtailed since the price increase on books.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirstie</td>
<td>Halliday</td>
<td>The availability of books should be available to everyone, not just the rich. Please lift these levies.</td>
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</table>
| Jane         | Rushton       | For years we have had limited access to books from overseas, and paid more for books in Australia. I support the campaign that allows us access to new writers. I would buy far more books were they affordable. Particularly for my children - if we are to foster reading at home then surely making books more affordable for parents is helpful? Libraries are great, but there's nothing better than having an old favourite lying about that they can always pick up and read. Online purchases are more affordable but that's hardly supportive of local (Australian) businesses and jobs. Can we not fix this soon???
| Vanessa      | Ho            |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Rebecca      | Davies        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Mark         | Fallon        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Clare        | Rolfe         | Books are a great educational tool for all ages and backgrounds as well as adding to the cultural tapestry of Australian society, it is therefore in the interest of all to make books as accessible and affordable as possible. I support Dymocks advocacy for cheaper books whole heartedly. Clare |
| Adrienne     | McNaughton    |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Stephen      | Tulett        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Liam         | Chan          |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Maria        | Funk          |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Kimberley    | Dowe          |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Marion       | Bom           |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Natalie      | Huynh         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Cara         | Grimlinger    |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Sabrina      | Houssami      |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| John         | Phillips      |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Andrea       | Dahlin        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Arety        | Giaveris      |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Frances      | Lockie        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Vwendla      | Templeton     |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Doreen       | Sloan         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Monika       | Obirek        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Alisom       | brown         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Aaron        | Murphy        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Lorraine     | Brown         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Anne         | Bentley       |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Trinity      | Townsend      |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Gordon       | Carter        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Brendan      | Oates         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Peter        | Drury         |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Virginia     | Fookes        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Janis        | Haswell       |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Jason        | Chua          |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Charlotte    | Elliott       |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Marion       | Francis       | I like to read books when they first come on market but the price is very restrictive.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Dale         | Tieman        |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Susan        | Wilkins       |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| david        | campbell      |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
I cannot understand why successive Australian Governments of various persuasions have continued any support at all for such anti-competitive agreements among foreign cartels.

Diana Mccarty

I agree that the price we pay for books here are way too expensive; more than other countries, and should be reduced immediately!

Lynn Rattray

If cheaper books can be available in Australia this will result in fewer people buying books from overseas, eg at book depository or amazon etc.

Mrinali Mehta

We should be able to get copyright protected books - books are for everyone to read and enjoy. And, ofcourse - the prices need to be lowered!

yes i noticed when on holiday in UK that there seemed a greater range of books and titles and they were cheaper. there were titles that i had not heard of before but by authors that i recognised.

Lisa Panicciari

If books were cheeper I would buy and read more.

Lisa Panicciari

I VOTE FOR CHEAPER BOOKS AND I AM GLAD SOMEONE IS DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT ON MY BEHALF. THANK YOU.

jaideep chandrasekharan

Books should be cheaper! It will encourage younger people such as myself and other teenagers to spend their money on something educational and worthy.

Ayisha Elrayes

Great idea! After living in the UK for several years I was shocked at the price of books when I returned to Australia!

Lynne Mccarty
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<tr>
<td>Kathy</td>
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<td>Catherine</td>
<td>Thambiratnam</td>
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<td>Sylvia</td>
<td>Rogers</td>
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<td>Samantha</td>
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Particularly relevant for purchasing books for children! We want them to read as much as possible - the more affordable kids books are the greater the volume AND variety parents will buy and kids will enjoy - fundamental to improving literacy - particularly for those at most risk - those that can least afford inflated prices. And this argument extends to libraries, and schools book purchasing ability - not just individuals. Make books more accessible, support our kids to read - and build a better Australia!

As a mother and a teacher, I enjoy buying and reading quality books to children. If the restrictions cause the cost of books to be expensive, I believe this will have a negative consequence on our children's literacy skills. Parents and family should be encouraged to buy books for children and themselves, as they need to show the enjoyment of reading in order to encourage children to read. If books were expensive, parents and other adults are more likely to buy other items for children instead of books.

Reading should be encouraged, especially at a young age, seeing how they are our future. An increase in the price of books at a time when many families are experiencing economic hardships is appalling. Encourage education, encourage reading, and make it affordable to everyone.

lowering the prices of books will also encourage younger readers to spend their money on books rather than silly things such as candy. or they could even have the money to do both!

I absolutely love to read books, but it is so hard as a full time university student with no job and relying on a Centrelink youth allowance. I can very rarely afford to buy myself the books that provide me with entertainment, mental stimulation, and a break from the daily grind of study. I would absolutely love it if books were to become cheaper under this campaign. You have my support all the way!

I respect the need to protect the royalties of artists and the future of Australian talent but believe the same regime associated with other media forms i.e. music CD’s, can also be applied to books without jeopardising royalties or artist’s futures in the print medium.

with the option of electronic books becoming more widely used, it is imperative that "hardcopy" books remain at a competitive price. Alternatively, customers will look to download or search alternative means to obtain books via the internet etc
Belinda Kirkles
Emily Delarue
Julia Tan
Tracy Meyn
Kate Tanner
Leonore Fenwick
Elizabeth Smith
Lois Coaker
Kathy Robertson

Celeste Davis
Chitwan Singhal
catherine scobie
James Spittle

Clare Watts
Amanda Richards
Brian Sutherland
Gary Bonderski
Jo-anne Lewis
Emma Deans
Katrina Howison
Sue Cavill
Danielle Keen
Vickie Mallard
Athanasia Tsambas
Lewis Collins
Milena Barizon
Melanie McMillan

Patrick Maher
Darelle Sinclair
Alyson Bee
Vicki Platt
Amanda Crofts

Lyn Norton
Franka Sekul
Evelin Edwards

Rebecca Smith
Lyn Norton
Judy Irving
Janette Ward
Sandra Hagarty
Doreen Jenkins
Sue Axten

When the exchange rate was stronger I was ordering books through US sites as even with postage it was cheaper. I would have preferred to use Dymocks however the price kept me from doing so. I would love to see cheaper books available here in Australia and as I have an ever growing collection and many more on lists to buy I would welcome the chance to buy from Australian book sites, therefore helping our economy and the job market.

anything that makes the joy of reading more accessible needs to happen as soon as possible. I currently still buy some books direct from overseas as even with postage it's still cheaper...

I will buy more if cheaper

I buy most of my books directly from overseas because of very long delivery times and high prices here in Australia. This 12 month constraint recommendation must be changed to allow me to purchase my books at a reasonable cost in Australia.

Surely it is in the best interests of our children that the price of books not be beyond their reach. All kids should have the right to read at an affordable price..

I wholeheartedly support this petition because myself and my children are avid bookreaders. Books should be more affordable because children should be encouraged to take up the valuable pasttime of reading, which can become a lifelong joy.

Surely it is in the best interests of our children that the price of books not be beyond their reach. All kids should have the right to read at an affordable price.
To improve literacy children's and adolescent's books need to be affordable.

I have always wondered why, when I lived in the UK, books were so much cheaper than in Australia (even after considering the unfavourable exchange rate). The benefits of books are significant, and I can not see a reason why we should be paying more than absolutely necessary.

I often will buy books from Amazon as it is often cheaper to import books through them (even after the shipping costs!) than to buy them here in an Australian bookshop staffed by Australian workers. If books prices were more competitive on a global market I would buy more books domestically.

Why raise the price of books when we have other things that are expensive already i.e. petrol, groceries, insurance etc.

The price of books are very expensive - more people would buy them and not go to second hand shops and libraries - this is the best option in this economic climate! We need to be able to provide books for all at a reasonable cost. Reading is an essential tool in today's world. " For it is to light our world"

If books are accepted as a stimulus for building intelligence, then surely the government should support all efforts to keep the price of books as low as possible. I fully support this petition.

We need to make books more affordable - especially in this times of financial problems.
Everybody should have the easiest and cheapest access to books and reading
to make a good and critical human
being, otherwise will grow as a single monkey.

Please, for the sake of literacy. If books are cheaper, we can buy more!

We should be doing all we can to make books accessible and affordable to everyone
especially to encourage young readers.

I firmly believe lower book prices will help improve literacy rates for both children and
adults. Anything the government can do to improve literacy rates should be done.

I read a lot it is part of my everyday enjoyment but I am not a millionaire
As a school librarian working with a limited budget, the ever increasing cost of books
is a huge issue when choosing quality books. It would be wonderful to be able to buy
more books than we are currently funded for.

I am an avid reader, so would support this Campaign if it means cheaper books.

Yes, this should have been done long ago! There is no reason why Australians have
to pay so much more for books than other developed countries. Are the authorities
wanting us to grow ignorant of reading? Perhaps they think all of us are interested in
turning to sport or something? Let there be reduced prices!
We should encourage reading, more than using the internet

This restrictive practice has provided protection only to a select group of publishers and disadvantages the Australian reading public. The arrangements are from an age when globalisation and free trade were unknown expressions.

I definitely believe that the literacy rate will improve dramatically with the availability of cheaper books and reading material.

If government policy is that for Australia is to be internationally competitive the removal of import imposts must be a priority. The ban on import of books directly is a privately imposed duty (albeit with Government support), and therefore must be removed under the same policy.

It can only be a good thing to improve the affordability of books. Currently it is far cheaper to buy books from the US or UK plus postage than to walk to the local bookstore and buy the same book over the counter. That is a ridiculous situation. I would far rather buy my books in Australia.

The cost of books in the USA are considerably cheaper than in Australia. I believe the same competitive aspects should apply to books as does with CDs and DVDs.
Im a single mum to a 5yo boy who loves books!! It gobbsmacks me everytime we go into a books store & when I look at a book for me which is like 700pgs & is $22 then go have a look at books for him & for something with maybe 20pgs in it is the same price!! Everyone is kicking up a fuss at the drop in literary skills of our children today, but how can you expect them to improve when the price of books is too high!!

The Coalition for Cheaper Books has my wholehearted support.

As a mother, grandmother, & teacher, the need for Australians of all ages to be free to access books at the most competitive price is I believe a fundamental and necessary right. Parents are faced with the decision, a book, or a new DVD? The DVD is cheaper, so why not? DVD's are not books, they will not quicken the imagination as a book will. Children don't receive the wonder of listening to a story from their parent at night from a DVD. I urge you to remember how illuminating and wonderful it was as a child or even now as an adult to receive a new BOOK.

If this can be achieved it will save a lot of people having to buy over the Internet.

Good Luck

I support this as long as you pass on the savings that arise from the price reduction. It took the start up of independent import/sale stores of CD's to start to influence the larger music stores proces.

We want cheaper books-----PLEASE!
I for one would definitely buy more books if the prices were cheaper. As we live remotely the television is not so good and books are something I spend a lot of time with, whether I am reading on my own or reading to my youngest child who can’t seem to get enough of books.

As family of avid readers, our four children have benefited so much from books. We buy as often as we can, despite the availability of online sources. Children and adults will never be alone with a book, it opens a world beyond imagination and it is necessary that books remain affordable and available to all members of Australian society.

I support the import restrictions being removed on books to enable books to be cheaper.

Hope you achieve your goals with this petition. Kind regards,
By helping make books cheaper, especially in this economic crisis, it enables parents to buy more books for their children. Reading for children is becoming way too understated in relation to video games for learning, bring back good old reading!

Open mind to all varieties of literature.

We want cheaper books in Australia so that we don't have to order from amazon or the Book depository in the UK. Please.

BOOKS ARE EDUCATIONAL WETHER THEY ARE FACT OR FICTION. ALLOWING BOOKS TO BE MARKETED AT A LOWER PRICE IS TO BE ENCOURAGED ALWAYS

Provided that Dymocks passes on the savings to the readers.
Books should be cheaper. BTW what about the GST? Initially books were exempt. Media is clearly changing with digital technology and the Australian government is on the wrong back foot. Eg. censorship and other efforts to restrict internet. They do well in China. That is scary. What about the redundant copyright warnings on DVDs? Hey, we all don’t watch commercial TV. In other words, we’re not all stupid. But the govt. would like us to be.

if books were cheaper and more affordable, more people will purchase them - it makes sense for the whole industry

The high price of books in Australia is a significant inhibitor to the Government’s stated desire to make us a better-educated and higher-skilled nation.

In a country where literacy levels are getting worse every year, surely cheaper books should be considered much more important that cheaper C.D's?!?

As a member of 2 book clubs, this would be most appreciated.

A very good idea. It could possibly increase the sales from local booksellers rather than having to access Amazon etc. for hard to get books.

I think everyone would buy more books if they were cheaper. My husband and I love reading and we like to buy books for our grandchildren but are restricted by the high cost of all books. I am sure if books were cheaper everyone would benefit and in particular children.
Cheaper books for everyone

The availability of cheaper books in this market will promote healthy competition and help protect local business during the global economic downturn!

The fact that books are more expensive in Australia compared to the U.S.A. and the U.K. places many Australians at a disadvantage especially with regard to required text books, and also with regard to information generally. I strongly support the removal of restrictions on parallel importation of books to Australia.

I never understood why books were so expensive in Australia compared to the rest of the world. Thank you, Dymocks, for this information! Hopefully this will result in me no longer having to get my daughter, who lives in the UK, to send me books for a lot less money, including airmail postage.

Australians being able to purchase more books for their money will surely create a nation of readers who can look and think "outside the square". Better for Australia's future.
books should be available to all income groups

Books are the most important part of human development, currently at risk of obsoletion due to technology. Give Australia a fighting chance to provide books to us all without all of the import restrictions. The world is much more connected due to technology- import laws should keep up to date and allow us all access to trade globally! Good luck Dymocks!

The3 sooner the better.

I do support the coalition for cheaper books campaign.

Please allow books to become more affordable, reading is the key to learning & development, with two young sons, this is so important for everyone in my family.

Give us a break please. Let some things in life still be available without having to pay a kings ransom to enjoy them.

One wonders by continuing the current system for a further 12 months who is being protected and why.

I agree that books should be as cheap as possible to encourage everyone to read, especially our young people and, as we are all aware, prices on everything keep going up, it would be a change if some prices could go down.

Being a teacher of Early Childhood Education I also believe that cheaper books would assist more parents buying children's books as I think it is extremely important for very young chn. and chn. of any age to be read to, or read to themselves. There needs to be encouragement to get chn. away from large amounts of time at computers and electronic games.
As an Australian author (out of print) I have grave concerns about the practices of the publishing industry that result in little or no payments to the authors without whose hard work their businesses would not exist. As a book-buyer, particularly of special-subject titles, I would like to be able to obtain the books I need without having to source them from overseas on the internet because local shops are unable to stock them as a result of these trade restrictions.

As an avid book reader and frequent purchaser of books for my own use and for gifts for family members and friends, as well as being a member of a book club which strives to keep the cost of purchasing books to an absolute minimum (as most of our members are retired and on fixed incomes) I support and heartily reinforce the views expressed in the petition by Dymocks that Australians be able to have access to unrestricted imports of cheaper books. Your positive consideration and action on implementing changes in support of this campaign would be a bonus to all Australians.

I would respond to the price of books dropping by buying a heck of a lot more books! I hope this would effect ebook prices also.

I did not know there was any possibility of cheaper books, what a boon that would be.

I very much support this. I at times order books from the UK and USA because they are cheaper and many available that are not available here. Also when in the UK I buy my books there and bring them home with me because they are 1/2 the price. This cannot be good for Australian business. I think it terrible that there should be such restrictions on books when these are the very lifeblood of learning. Fancy having cheap CD’s and a high tax on books. That just shows where the priorities of the Government are. What hypocrits, they say that our schools and society is declining in literacy, but they put restrictions on books.

I often find it cheaper to import books I want than to buy them at the inflated prices forced on consumers in Australian bookstores. A bundled order, even with the exchange rate & postage/handling is generally much cheaper than buying the same books in Australia. Give the Australian bookstores the opportunity to be truly competitive in booksales.

I do not support unfair, illegal and immoral labour laws common in impoverished countries. If this amendment should permit such countries from entering the market then I revoke my support; leave the prices of the books as high as they must be in order to protect human rights.
Given the plethora of ebooks and audio books no-one wants to buy paper based books anymore, pricing out consumers is a bad move.

Technology is taking over so we need our books to stay human.

It's about time this draconian protectionism was removed if only for the benefit of the literacy levels of young Australians who "can't afford" to be literate. These laws only support the greedy self interests of what are basically offshore corporations. Why strangle the goose when more reading interest will be generated and therefore sales.

Sincerely hope we can get cheaper books. Also would like to see a return to smaller books. Much easier to handle especially for travelling.

Books are in integral part of our lives and our learning, why should we pay more when it is possible not to? Everybody is still paid fair royalties so who would it really be harming? CHEAPER BOOKS! CHEAPER BOOKS! CHEAPER BOOKS!

Currently I tend to buy my texts over the internet overseas because I can have a hard copy text delivered to my door for less, or equal to, the cost of the paperback equivalent in Australia. Local book purchases tend to only be impulse buys or discounted surplus books.
I would buy many more books if I could afford them, so to be able to buy cheaper means a lot to me.

bout time! I have had to resort to getting whatever kmart has on sale and not the range or choice I want. Glad something is being done! :D

I would like to support Australian booksellers more; currently I order books on the internet from overseas. They are cheaper and there is a greater variety of titles. On average I spend approx $1000 per year on overseas book purchases. Surely this money would be better spent in Australia.

We have enough barriers to getting hold of books in AU, namely distance (therefore cost of shipping), smallness of market, etc., surely the reading public need all the help they can get in obtaining books at a reasonable price. If Kevin Rudd is serious about free trade, shouldn’t his government stop blocking it at home?

If we want an educated population, then reading is a requirement - why put it out of reach of the very audience we want to target!

Reading is a vital part of many peoples lives, be it informational, educational, recreational or for cultural purposes. Should readers wish to purchase these items access to the required resources must be equitable for all.

I would certainly buy more books if they were cheaper. I read a lot but it is not easy to get to my local library as I have to rely on a neighbour for transport, there being no direct public transport. Also, as a pensioner I simply cannot afford to buy more than one book a month, but I would love to buy and keep many more books if I could.
This is something that should have never been allowed in the first place. We try and encourage our young to read books, but in most cases it is too expensive. It is even harder to afford books on a limited income.

The cheaper books become the more we can buy for our children!

I buy a huge amount of books, many I have to source from the UK as they are unavailable here or more expensive here. I would prefer to keep the money in Australia especially during this financial crisis.

This petition is supported wholeheartedly if it means a reduction in the price of books. I currently have started to order books from the UK as it is just too expensive to buy them in Australia. If the prices could even be comparable (at the moment it would cost me double to buy something at Dymocks) I would be more than happy to just buy it here.

My husband and I try to avoid purchasing books in Australia because they are so very expensive. We buy overseas and/or order them from Amazon, even with shipping it still is much less expensive. There should be no duty or levy imposed on this kind of thing, much less GST!!

As a person who is a very keen reader who loves to also collect books, due to the price of books I find myself unable to purchase books I would love to own, therefore I am submitting the Coalition for Cheaper Books and the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Yours sincerely, Anne Bates.

Price is the single barrier against literature being exploited by the electronic media.
I believe that books should be at world competitive prices. On this issue I agree with the Coalition. I am hopeful common sense will prevail and the impost removed.

I believe the restriction should be lifted on the importation of books. The saving should be passed on to the consumers and book reader rather than the Australian subsidiaries of overseas companies. They are the ones making all the money at the moment and inflating prices for the consumers. If you restrict books in the first 12 months of publishing, this still won't work, the savings will not be passed on to the consumers and people who love to read and buy books.

I would rather buy books here from retailers like Dymocks than by going online & ordering direct from the States, just to get them cheaper. This restriction should be removed as it is against fair trade.

Books need to be accessible for all, lowering the cost to purchasers will enable greater access to valuable resources that will benefit society as a whole.

With the current economic problems, this is more important than ever.

Books need to be cheaper to encourage people to buy them. Most young people i know don't have a lot of money and will prefer to get their info from the internet. Waiting list for books at libraries are long (months). If we want to encourage people to be literate, educated and to use their imagination then books need to be cheaper!

Would be wonderful if books were to become more affordable. We need to keep reading.
Having lived oversea's and as an avid reader it is frustrating that books are so expensive here. I have started buy e-books, because they are so much cheaper...

I support this Campaign wholeheartedly - I have always wondered why books are so expensive in Australia ...

Everyone should be able to buy books.

Providing the situation TRULY is as described by DYMOCKS , as an avid reader , I think the partition is a sound idea . Edward Duckett

I love reading books and would definately buy more if they were cheaper.

Books are a vital part of life, why stop people from being able to afford them?

Current arrangements are anti-competitive and anti-consumer. Publishers and authors have continued to profit in comparable countries that do not have this protectionism. Consumers in Australia lose out and will continue to lose out under the Productivity Commission's proposed lame compromise, the 12 months rule. Most books are bought within a year of release!!

I support this petition 110%. Fingers crossed!!

I hope many thousands of people respond to this great incentive to help reduce costs to book lovers. I personally would buy more books if they were cheaper.

Unfortunately the other costs of living erode my finances enough at times so that extra cash for books is not always available.

Thank you, no.

As a teacher, it is hard enough to promote reading within families without even higher prices!!

Reading is a skill that needs to be nurtured. I believe everyone needs books in their lives, right from birth. When books are to expensive, they won't be considered as gifts as people can't afford it.

Please help support literacy in Australia by making books for affordable for all.
I am from Canada and as soon as I moved here I noticed the higher price in books. It has resulted in me buying less books than I would have otherwise. It is a shame because I am an avid reader & belong to 2 book clubs.

I currently live in Thailand and can buy most books for half the price I pay in Australia! bring the prices down asap

Books are good. Make them cheaper.

More affordable books will mean more children can learn to read

One of the strongest characteristics of successful people is that they are well read. As someone said "knowledge is power". With the explosive growth in the electronic and digital media, we need to ensure that the future generations do not think of books as being antique. Hence we need to make them more affordable. The current protectionist policy goes totally against the vein of an open market philosophy, something that all leaders, including Kevin Rudd, endorsed at the recent G20. Comeon Kevin, put your money where your mouth is ! Rather than give people stimulus packages to spend, make books more affordable so that they can buy more. Ever thought of that as an economic solution ? Let market prices prevail. Thanks Dymocks for taking this up. Good on ya !

Please see reason. Reading is the core of of knowledge. We invest in so much into technology Broadband networks etc but books are what we read to our childrenen at night not letting them fall asleep infront of a screen.

I strongly support the removal of restrictions on parallel importation; fair competition is possible only when there is provision for the sourcing of books wherever resellers finds it most advantageous both for themselves and for the reading public.
I am always appalled at the disparity of prices of books between the USA and Australia. Having lived in the USA for 17 years and being an avid book buyer during that time, I find I am very sparing of my purchases in Australia. I still travel to USA once or twice a year and a large proportion of my luggage on my return to Australia is books. I would very much welcome the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

I support this petition wholeheartedly because I for one have bought books directly from Amazon and other international suppliers effectively bypassing the Australian Distributor and retail seller. This primarily has been because I could buy the books cheaper (inclusive of the costs of the exchange rate and shipping). Therefore, to support local business and jobs for this and other industries government needs to change legislation/regulations that protect monopolistic / Oligopolistic practises!!!! Please remove these impediments to a more informed society with such Draconian legislation. Capt. Richard Guay

I often wondered why books are so expensive in Australia. This explained why the Library is scarced of books. Parents are urged to encourage their Children to read but how is that possible when books are so expensive. No wonder children spends a lot of time on computers... not enough interesting books available to them... This is just unacceptable!

aren't we trying to encourage reading, don't make it even harder by making books more expensive.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Jan Wightman

Putting reading materials out of the range of people with less income is unforgivable in these economic times

Books in Australia are far too expensive when compared with purchasing overseas. This was especially noticeable to me when I was in the UK over Christmas 2008. I was amazed at the difference in prices. I limit my purchase of books here because of the cost - only buying the reference books I need for my course and no longer buying novels - can't afford it!
Anthony Hill
Bring knowledge to more people.

Emilee South

Marina Lenzo

Michelle Morrow

Karnia Zambrans

Alison Oliver

I buy 99.99% of all my books from Amazon.com, because prices are ridiculous in Australia. This needs to change, and hence I support this action.

I believe books should be easily affordable to all.

A more competitive price will encourage the purchase of books from local booksellers. At present it is often cheaper to buy books online from the US with the postage than from the local bookshop!

Unlike myself, who likes to browse through bookshops willing to contribute to the rent, wages & expenses required to maintain such a place, so many people I know will BUY BOOKS ONLINE BECAUSE OF PRICE. Therefore, a change is imperative to Save the Bookstores and our ability to browse!

Wendy Banks

I would like to see more books on display at bookstores

I currently buy my books from overseas, importing them from Amazon.co.uk. Thus the Australian economy & Australian businesses are losing revenue... Surely this is crazy, especially in today's market?

Yes i do think books should be cheaper, to encourage more people to read, and also have one unit price across all stores

Matthew Warner

Dominika Malinowski

Sharolynn Mcconnell

Natalie Taylor

Anne Simington

Jacquelyn Mann

Luke Leeson

Chris Harris

David Ramage
The disparity between the price of books in the US and UK compared to the price of books in Australia is criminal. People are inclined to buy from Australian stores, but the savings to be had overseas are far too great to be ignored, so Amazon US, Amazon UK, and Barnes & Noble are reaping the profits of our ridiculous pricing system.

As an avid reader, I spend a lot of my spare funds on purchasing books. I have found that some books I try to get aren't readily available in the Australian market as they are in the US or UK and if they are, I pay more because it costs more to import them in smaller quantities from overseas. I would think that, especially in the case of Dymocks, that this submission would also benefit the Australian economy by buying from Australian companies (eg Dymocks) who import direct from the publisher overseas. It's not as if the writers are missing out as their works are still copyright protected.

Let's encourage people everywhere to enjoy the wealth of experience and mind broadening advantage of access to good books at a fair price.

Surely we should be encouraging people (especially children) to read and not making it more difficult for people to purchase books!

Free trade is a good thing

How can we encourage education to our children... knowledge through reading... when the cost of books are so high.

Does even the simple pleasure of reading a book now have to burn a hole in my pocket?

Times are tough. We need books at a cheaper price. If you want to encourage people to read and learn through books, then make them more easily available financially for that to happen. Thanks
I would do anything to bring reading to the masses. If cheaper books mean that more people get the opportunity to read - then that is a wonderful thing for everyone.

I'm an author. My publisher has published my books in Ebook, audio & POD paperback print. the printed books are via Booksurge through Amazon.com. the printed versions are expensive for potential readers, with the prices geared for import to other countries ex USA. My website is wendylaing.com

If Australia is serious about wanting to raise the standards of education and life skills in this country, then it clearly needs to make reading materials available at the lowest possible price.

Why should only favoured agents be allowed to inflate the costs? Australia purports to be a free market company!
If books were less expensive, people-including me- could buy more of them. Please remove the restrictive laws that at present make buying a book a luxury that many cannot afford.

I fully support the petition.

I would like to support the reforms to enable cheaper books to be available in Australia, and in particular ebooks as an emerging technology.
About time this rort was quashed!! Outrageous that it has continued for so long.
I would like to support the reforms to enable cheaper books to be available in Australia, and in particular ebooks as an emerging technology.

most of the times we would like to buy more books but they are expensive so if we have the opportunity to have books a more competitive prices we would buy more as we love to read all the times.
The price of books has gone up considerably; often ridiculously expensive. Having to budget for a lot of things in the current economic climate, I'm afraid I've had to put my love of books at the very bottom of the list a lot of times. So, yes, it's about time we looked at ways to get those prices down.

It would be nice for Australians to enjoy reading books at competitive prices.

If we are to encourage literacy and a love of life-long yearning then books should affordable for everyone in the community. Restrictions of any sort, particularly with price create sub-cultures of those who can afford to read and those who cannot.

The high price of books has forced me to borrow many more from the library rather than purchasing a copy myself.

The cheaper books are the more we will buy and the better educated (spelling, grammar etc) our children will be.

If I can't buy cheaper books in Australia, I will purchase them from online, international book sellers like Amazon. Please protect our Australian retailers and let us buy cheap books here in Australia. Thank you.
The government should take whatever action is needed to ensure that Australians, young and old, have access to the world’s books at the most economic prices. Widespread reading at every age and at every level of society is a key part of the PM’s "Education Revolution".

Silly protectionist policies like this have no place in the 21st Century. It’s as outmoded as cabotage.

As a worker in a not for profit school age care centre, we find it hard enough trying to interest children in reading without book prices going up and up and up. If everyone that deserves to be paid for each book is still going to get their money and book prices aren’t going to continue to go up, I’m all for this!

Books need to made accessible to all, regardless of situation, if the promotion of reading is to be carried out and embraced.

I’m an avid reader but the current price structure of books is making it prohibitive to buy, particularly being a senior on a fixed income.

I’ll happily continue to purchase my books oversees using amazon etc. Wouldn’t you rather I purchased in Australia?
I LOVE TO READ AND ANY REDUCTION ON READING ITEMS WOULD BENEFIT ALL AUSTRALIANS ANYWHERE, READING IS SO VITAL TO KNOWLEDGE. THANK YOU.

If the Government's agenda calls for a smarter nation, surely the ability to provide cheaper books must be an incentive. I agree that books should be cheaper & restrictions removed. Judy Newsome

I'm all in favour of reducing the prices of books and would purchase more books if they were more affordable. It would also stop me from 'stocking up' on favourite author's books when I travel overseas.

Today I don't buy many books, but those I do buy are costly so I do shop around. My most recent purchase was "C Programming Language" edition 2 by Kernaghan and Ritchie.  Dymock's retail price $117. Instead I imported the book from the UK and landed it on my door step within 5 days for USD $46... that includes USD $12 freight! If the book industry can't find the balls to give the appearance of competition it can close it's retail stores now. Thanks, and good luck.

I've never been able to understand why books (and music!) in Australia are SOO! expensive compared to most other western countries. Please do all you can to rectify this backward situation.

I love books and cheaper books will hopefully mean more voracious readers - which surely can't be a bad thing?

I fully support this campaign and believe that Australia is in need of greater exposure to the world of books and Literature from around the world.

yeah for cheaper books...keep the population reading.
I love books but can only afford them if they're on special or second hand which saddens me. If this limits me accessing books as a book lover, it disheartens me to think how this would prevent people starting to read in the first place.

I believe we need access to education through reading at competitive prices with overseas organisations. The cost of book is becoming expensive.

Books are the eyes of the world and should be available to all regardless of their income or nationality. Australia must embrace the knowledge of other cultures instead of waiting until the book becomes a best-seller when it is deemed worthy of purchase. This is unacceptable in this technological age and our bookshops will suffer the consequences with more downloads from the internet. Please consider the written word as a medium which must never go out of fashion. Jean chester

I love to read but am restricted by a dwindling retirement income

Books are the eyes of the world and should be available to all regardless of their income or nationality. Australia must embrace the knowledge of other cultures instead of waiting until the book becomes a best-seller when it is deemed worthy of purchase. This is unacceptable in this technological age and our bookshops will suffer the consequences with more downloads from the internet. Please consider the written word as a medium which must never go out of fashion. Jean chester

With the declining literacy rates in our young people and the seduction of electronic devices, it is imperative that we remove any restrictions to the purchase of books by parents of young families.

To become the "clever country" we need reasonably priced books. Every Australian deserves the chance to continue their education through the love of reading.
I recently listened to a talk back radio show that held a spelling bee for those aged 23 and under. The reason for this was they were unable to spell. The gift of spelling comes from books and having the good fortune of a son who reads avidly from grade one to now being thirteen the only problem I have is the expense of the books. Thankyou for trying to do something about this.

With everything going up in price anyway, why is it necessary to over inflate the cost of having an innocent, non violent, legal past time????

We pay way too much for books in Australia.

I would buy a lot more books locally if they were as cheap as if I had bought them online, so Australia is already missing out directly. My kids would also benefit, I could by more with the savings! Then we need to do the same about Technical books that come with Software, This is probably another market issue. (We pay double for the same software compared to USA)

making books affordable does 2 things supports authors in their chosen profession and encourages people to read which is a passtime for thousands of people

Books should not be priced for the wealthier among us. If we want our children to grow up literate and with a healthy desire for reading and learning, Australia needs to ensure books are financially competitive with cds, computer games, etc. Why are we as a nation held hostage to the profits of a few instead of the good of the whole? Are we simply a third world country after all?

After living in Canada for some years I was amazes at the price of books when I returned to Australia

If we want to have the Education Revolution book should be as cheap as possible

Lets encourage reading!
I've always thought that books are outrageously priced. Particularly paperbacks, which appear to be more cheaply produced these days and often fall apart, i.e. pages come away from the binding. Slicker looking covers on these books are a blind for cheaper paper and binding quality.

I believe books are fundamental to people's appreciation of the language of communication and thinking and affect wisdom, thought process, introspection, analysis and value setting. Books are not just things. They are not just any commodity. However, if they are too expensive - unnecessarily - they are limited to the wealthy. Limitation of books due to cost contributes to the dumbing down of our society.

This proposal will hopefully give the Australian reader more material at cheaper prices. It should also reduce the number of Australians buying books direct from the internet from overseas distributors.

I often buy books from the USA in order to get them sooner than they are released in Australia (and their prices are generally cheaper, even with high shipping charges) I would LOVE to be able to buy more books from Australian stores!

I live here, but because books are so expensive here I wait until I go overseas to purchase or borrow from the library. If the government want our economy to be productive then they should do all they can to bring the cost of books down, in the UK you can buy a bestseller for under $10!!! her they are $20-$30!!

I support this plan. Access to more affordable reading materials will hopefully encourage people to read more and especially encourage parents to buy books for their children and read to them.
It is amazing how expensive books are here in Australia as opposed to the UK (where I lived for 10 years). I am always reluctant to buy books at “full” price as I think shops should be able to source books from all areas and not be limited and obviously still keeping copyright, etc. intact.

I am an avid reader and would be most appreciative if books were cheaper as you can buy them cheaper over the internet which takes longer and you have to pay delivery. If they were cheaper in bookstores I would buy more books.

As I can purchase cheaper books from both the UK and US via the internet - even with the current exchange rates I strongly support this campaign as I would rather my money support Australian industry where possible. This is especially relevant with the economic stimulus package designed to boost retail expenditure in Australia.

I have purchased books online from USA as sometimes they are cheaper, even with the postage cost. I support fully the Coalition for Cheaper Books in Australia!!!

In spades!

I support the need to ensure books remain affordable, they are essential for education and in these difficult economic times it is critical that consumers have choice and value for money.

Whole-heartedly supported!!! Books must be affordable. Good luck!
I believe that books are a nurturing tool for any age and it reflects adversely on a country and society that because of any reason makes the joy of buying a book of choice (and the delightful feeling of taking it home with the promise of many enriching hours) prohibitive. I feel very strongly that even two income families with quite high disposable income and a family would question the cost of buying every time they wish to purchase a book for themselves or their family because of the prohibitive cost. I do not think the cost of buying a book should ever have to be justified but because of the exorbitant prices make it a decision to be justified. Thank you - I am pleased to be able to take part in this submission.

I would much prefer to buy books from a local book store (Dymocks, in fact) than order overseas from Amazon (which I regularly do). But the fact is that I can get a book for around $10 or $15 AU delivered from Amazon that would otherwise cost me over $25 or $30 from any source in Australia! How does this make sense? Convenience is worth something but not that much! Best regards and good luck, Ann Thresher

As a prolific reader and buyer of books, I fully support the Dymocks submission.

If the art of storytelling through books is lost, then what a sad, sad world it will become.

the books i love to read are not available in my local librarys so i have to buy them from my local bookstros. if books were cheaper then i would be able to read more of the book that i love and so would many other Australians

As a parent of 5 children I have experienced the excessive cost of text books over the years and I feel that the removal of restrictions on parellel importation would be a very good move in this regard. As an avid purchaser of books for reading and enjoyment, I also support this move.
As an avid reader, I am also concerned that the rights of authors be protected. This can, however, be achieved at the same time as measures are taken to reduce the cost of books to the consumer. I support the call from the Coalition for Cheaper Books to enable them to purchase within a fully competitive world-wide market.

I often buy books from Amazon .com and its even cheaper than buying from Australian bookshop despite the additional postal costs. This is stupid....because the current laws do not allow me to HELP Asuusie bookshops ...the laws force me to deal with US sources.

It is a great idea, especially for few years old books. Cheers, Diana Velkova

We have to improve Australian literacy level. As a migrant I notice that Australians have now gained more knowledge about other cultures and this was achieved by reading books which available at cheaper prices (for example lonely planet's books are now much cheaper than what they were few years ago).

I love Dymocks! :)

The price of books in Australia is ridiculous high, surely it makes sense to reduce the price and encourage more people to read.

By keeping the pricing of books inflated the government is effectively reducing the chance of children and young adults reading a book - this in turn is causing a serious problem with todays youth, ie with spelling, articulation, grammer - all things that you will learn by reading.

How else is our youth of today, supposed to enjoy the classics and proper english, when currently texting and live web chats, have demolished the beautiful english language.
Why is it cheaper for my children to buy a DVD than the actual book the DVD is copied from? You can't encourage reading in this economic climate when prices are so high.

As a librarian I whoeheartedly support this petition. sharman Lugton

The overseas publishers have somehow convinced local authors that they they use the excessive profits they gouge to help the local authors. To believe that, they must be delusional.

I'm all for cheaper books! People should be able to gain knowledge at the cheapest available price so as to help society move forward!

Books help everyone from child to adults learn. Make them cheaper for everyone sake.

Bring the prices down so more people will buy books and read more.

I am all for getting cheaper books. It will mean that people will more likely buy from stores here and support our retail industry instead of online at places like Amazon.

I wholly support Dymock's proposal. The industry should be structured in the best interests of the public and not the publishers. Thank you Dymocks.

Please remove the restriction on importing books so that we have access to a greater variety that is also reasonably priced.

We deserve cheaper books especially due to financial crisis. The competitive books market is good for us to enjoy the benefit and read more books.
I urge the Productivity Commission to look carefully at the removal of restrictions of parallel importation and the positive impact it would have on pricing. Book buying has become a very special occasion and less accessible because of price. Having a well-read Australian population of all ages would be enhanced by having cheaper books.

As a parent I would support cheaper books so that our children can have a wider range of reading opportunities, allowing for a defined family budget.

As a librarian at a public school with a restricted budget I find it ludicrous that in this global market there are still archaic restrictions on the importation of books. Bookshops just cannot compete with the large chain stores who buy in bulk and offer up to 33% discount.

In the current and ongoing economic climate one of the first things to be sacrificed is book buying by the general public. This Australia can ill afford if we are to remain an informed and competitive nation. Think of our country’s future and not just of today’s profit margin and remove restrictions on parallel importation.

As an avid book reader I have found that the cost of books has restricted my purchasing of them. I have become very selective on the books purchased. Working in a school library I have also found that we are spending less on FICTION books due to their costs.

Books are the basis of education and need to be available to all, regardless of income level. The cheaper the book, the more likely people will buy them.

Interesting how books in Australia are 3 times, or more, the price of books in the UK.

I read a lot of books but don’t often buy new ones as they are too expensive. When I do buy new I mostly look overseas where they are much cheaper.

Everyone should be able to afford books! We should be encouraging everyone in Australia to read more, but putting the prices up will deter them from this.
Just take a look on the internet and you can see how much cheaper the same book is overseas - even with our crappy exchange rate! I support cheaper books!

I agree that all restraints on book buying and selling should be removed.

As a University Student as a mature aged student, an avid reader with two children currently completing Years 11 and 12, the removal of restrictions on parallel importation would be a godsend. The majority of the text requirements for myself as a social sciences/humanities students are written and sourced from overseas, I feel I am able to access information due to affordability. Thank You

Anything that can help make reading more affordable to the average person should be supported by the Australia Government.

Cheaper books means better access to quality literature for all Australians, not just those that can afford it.

I think the import restrictions should have been removed years ago, to allow Australian companies such as Dymocks to be able to lower retail prices of books.

I strongly support the Coalition for cheaper books campaign. It is grossly unfair that we have to pay "over the odds" for what is a very basic human right - to be allowed to read at a competitive price.

We have had to cut costs due to the economic climate and by doing so, some families are finding other ways to pass the time rather than going to the movies, outings and other costly pass times. When you read a book it can widen your imagination, educate you, bring romance or give you things to do such as craft ideas and recipes. Whatever you like and then you can pass the book onto someone else. So you have passed some quality time in an inexpensive way.
I do find some of the prices ridiculous especially compared to the prices in the UK and the US.

If books were made cheaper more families would be able to afford them and subsequently children would be able to experience the magnificent world of language through books.

It is absurd that I can order online from Amazon, pay postage, and still get the book cheaper than going to my local bookseller. The prices in-store are artificially inflated by gimmicks of this nature. It is a disservice to the consumer and it short changes Australian businesses. Australian politics need to consider more than a single bottom line! I support Dymocks and their stand.

Thanks for sending this message. Unless we are informed of these restrictions then nothing can be done. Go forth and conquer!

I am assuming these savings would then be passed on to consumers?

I am previously from the UK and have always wondered why Australians were being ripped off with the price of books. I am fully supportive of this campaign.

Bring it on
book sellers need to be able to buy competitively in spite of publishers international cartels and collusion. remember book buyers in australia through the internet can buy anywhere and will ignore the publishers cartels! i know. les

the current law is anachronistic. the current model militates against encouraging wide reading and just doesn't make sense.

i come from the uk and read on average a book every 2 weeks, more when i have the time. since moving here i have been shocked by the price of new books, please make all books more accessible for everyone by reducing the prices!!!

the state government is all for literacy at a children's level giving a free book to all 2 year olds - what happens later????

our son has disabilities & is in a special school & we see many children from his school who would dearly benefit from cheaper books, particularly for their educational purposes. the school too would greatly benefit, as they could source a wider range of reading materials

those that choose to restrict books, will one day resort to "burning them"!

i read between 2-5 books a week and regularly buy children's books for my grandson. as the stock at the local libraries is limited i often buy books and with a diminishing income am finding it more and more difficult, if books can be less costly by removing the restrictions on parallel importation i fully support it. if fact i can't understand why such a restriction was ever put in place.
The act of restricting (book) imports is ancient non-economics and mocks the idea of a ‘clever country’.

Given the availability of books through the internet from sellers such as Amazon.Com purchasers are able to import direct to the cost of local retailers, hence maintaining the barrier is arguably flawed. Secondly as a form of protectionism which costs the consumer in financially constrained times when discretionary expenditures are reduced it can only have an adverse impact on sales in the long term.

Literacy will only improve with affordability.

Good luck, great for everybody if this goes ahead.

If this is the reason Australian booksellers are forced to sell books at a higher price then my support is even stronger. I prefer to buy from Dymocks, rather than stores such as Borders, but sometimes I just can’t justify buying the same book for a more expensive price. I hope I am understanding this correctly.

We have been paying far too much for our books, for too long. It is time to remove the restrictions on parallel importation.

I strongly support the Coalition for Cheaper Books.

Good Idea! Books are often less than half price in the US.
I want this ruling to go ahead so that we (the Australian Public) have the right to purchase any book printed anywhere in the world, thus allowing to learn more about the nature and culture of other countries, even to learn other languages we seem to be lacking books of at the moment.

I believe that the removal of restrictions on parallel importation of books will have a beneficial effective not only on the price of books but on increasing the number of younger readers in Australia society, and thus will be inline with the Australian Government's current education policy. For this reason this archaic restriction needs to be removed.

Local distributors getting such a big profit just for being agents is an old fashioned idea. Let's have real competition and let's speed up the delivery time for overseas books!

These laws have long been a significant obstruction in the path of all book buyers, including, most importantly, schools.

Books should be available as freely as possible to ensure that everyone has the best chance of life long learning.

the world is now a global economy and people buy book via the internet and even including postage it is cheaper then in australia. how is that fair to australian booksellers!

Cheaper books will encourage more parents to buy for children to improve literacy and love of learning. Cheaper books is a must for all lovers of reading and self improvement

Cheaper books will stimulate the market hence more readers. Book Prices need to bring down to an affordable level such that poor people/students can pay and shares. This is also the ultimate intention for all the authors

This will encourage people to buy more books, read more, and their kids to read more.

Books and CDs are very different in what they offer the community and should not be treated the same. Books allow the human race to grow in numerous ways and if they were cheaper maybe the next generation would read rather than use the internet or texting each other in improper English. I am 33 and could not imagine my children being without books but at the current costs they will be a limited number in our house.
Heidi Kohne
Karen Edwards Do the right thing. Greed is killing this industry.
Debbie Auton Books form an integral part of learning, development, culture and stimulation within our society. The accessibility of these wonderful resources should be improved with price reduction to ensure that there is no discrimination for individuals within our communities.
Joanna Merton As a Booklover I believe strongly in the cheaper books’ campaign for removal of restrictions on parallel importation and support the Coalition in this issue.
Duane Shore
Christine Scott Books are essential to life. An informed, literate and creative society can only come about if people have access to books. To own your own books is one of the joys of life. Everyone should have an opportunity to own a book.

Chrystine Meader
Catherine Pol Bodetto
Janice Sauls
Gaille Walton
Carolyn Little
Kieth van Dongen
Voula Kiriakidis
Adam Murray
Jennifer Delandro
Minnie Cai
Krystal Woods
Cathrine Mcinerney

In the ‘good old days’ my public library would buy any new book that I requested - not only that, I was the first borrower of the book when it came in. That service no longer exists and I now have to purchase all my own books. As a reading addict, I find the cost of new books prohibitive - with paperbacks now costing around $32.95. Anything that can be done to reduce the costs would be most welcome. Thanks.

HN Sani
Jade Lowe I've had to resort to buy books from overseas at times due to the pricing in Australia.

Josephine Velte
Rhonda Galvin
Judy Aitkin
Peta Marie Brown
Bernadine Nazerth
Rosemary Nyul
Kylie Cork
Sally Barnard
Nina Hooker
Claudine O’Halloran
Annie Lloyd
Elizabeth Grey
Glenyce Meert

How can local booksellers compete when it is cheaper to buy books directly from the USA over the internet even with the hefty postage costs? Books are important if we want Australia to remain the clever country. If the removal of these restrictions will make books more affordable, especially at this time when many people have much less disposable income to spend on non-essentials such as books, then they should be lifted. Your draft report which includes the recommendation that import restrictions should continue to apply for 12 months from the date a book becomes available in Australia is ludicrous. If someone wants a book, they want it now, not in 12 months time, when some non-fiction books may even be out of date. If we want to keep up with the world we need to be current and up-to-date.
The cheaper the books the more books people will buy. Surely this is good for the
global economy.

It is currently cheaper for a consumer to buy multiple books from Amazon (US) and
pay the delivery charges than to buy the same books in Australia without the delivery.
It makes no sense - the parallel importation restrictions should be removed.

I moved to Australia from the US in 2005 and do not buy as many books as I used to
do the price so I 100% support this petition.

Great idea! While you're at it, remove the GST from books!

Need to make books more accessible, especially to younger people, who do not
seem to be reading as much, tending to get information via computers.

This will support the Australian Government's ambition that by 2020, 20 per cent of
higher education enrolments at undergraduate level should be of people from low
socio-economic backgrounds. This campaign will also support the Federal
Government's aims for social inclusion.

I rarely buy books from Australian stores unless I need them quickly. I usually buy
straight from Amazon. Many of the books are computer text books - price difference
US$16.19 + US$7.00 delivery or AU$55.00 plus AU$7.00 delivery

It is absolutely unfair that books in Australia are most expensive that in the UK and
US.
The restriction on the importation of books unnecessarily inflates the price of the books, making them expensive, unaffordable and out-of-range in an ordinary person's budget. Many times, I have experienced visiting bookshops only to find books that I like so expensive and unaffordable that I left the shops frustrated and empty-handed.

We need to get off the computer and back into books - the laws of supply and demand will ensure cheaper books more readers.

Books should be a joy to buy and read, not a hassle. If/when books become cheaper more Aussie would read for pleasure.

I lived in the UK for many years and was able to buy books regularly, and whenever I visit there now I stock up! The price of books in Australia and NZ is extremely prohibitive and I believe it stops young people reading!

I often order books from the US and UK because they are cheaper to buy even with P&H. I would much rather spend my money in Australia but not if the prices are too expensive.
The book reading public should have the right to purchase their books from whichever country they are published in.

Everyone should be able to afford to read, reading is not something that should be out of reach to those who may come from hardship.

Having lived in the US, I have always wondered why books were so expensive in Australia. I agree that reducing the cost of books will make them more available and more attractive and could improve self-education and literacy.

I support the fight against anti-competitive behaviour in the Australian book market.

My daughter reads a novel in about 3 -4 hours. It is expensive enough without sourcing product from international sources at our expense.

I read books all the time and I prefer to buy them new, it seems though that the average price for a good novel is now up to $30 - $40. I can not continue to pay these prices, not when I can get books cheaper on ebay or at 2nd hand book shops.

If books are cheaper we would be able to buy more of them. We love books!

How will our kids learn to enjoy the life of books, and imagination. I was brought up on books and when i have kids i will be able to show them the simple things in life because i can afford them, or will TV be cheaper and easier still!! this is ridiculous!
Cheaper books, means I will buy more of them

Make books cheaper in Oz and it will stop people buying through international websites i.e. Amazon.

The price of books discourages buying in Australia. My children love to read but I can't afford to buy them new books all the time and they have devoured books of interest in the local library.

Surely if books are available at cheaper prices, more people will continue to buy them as our economy worsens. This may mean the difference between maintaining an Australian owned and based seller and having American multinationals taking over this niche of our market (as well as every other).

I could never understand why you could buy books cheaper in America than you can here, now that I know the reason why I think its totally unfair. It slows a lot of people like me from indulging in our passion for reading as we cannot afford to buy as many books as we would love to. As long as the writer is protected I cannot see any good reason to stop bookshops from purchasing the books from where ever they can get the best deal, it means that we can buy more books and the shops make more money.

Not only do I read voraciously, I ahve always encouraged my children to do so; now, I encourage my grand children to do so. Cheaper books would make it easier to have a society which values knowledge and literacy

If we want to be the 'Smart country' cheaper books have to be a means to that end.
Books should be accessible to all and unnecessary costs abolished. The current system only encourages the purchase of books from overseas through online options instead of supporting local bookstores.

The increasing and inflated price of books has a detrimental effect on today’s society. People no longer consider that buying books is an affordable option and hence the literacy levels of our youth is declining. When I was a child reading as a past time was common however today’s youth tend to spend more time on the streets than reading. If book prices were more affordable for lower income level families we may see a decline in youth crime.

We sell our rural produce, on the world market, at world parity prices. Our currency is valued by the world market. Tariffs have been removed or substantially reduced. Our banks have been deregulated. I consider that our books should be available at the best price available, on the world market. RC Weston 8 April 2009

Make books cheaper especially in today economic climate. This will also assist Australian writers.

I would purchase more books if they were cheaper.

Very happy to see more competitive prices on books - however one thing that currently frustrates me is having to read books written in American English (I am happy to accept text books with this deficiency - but not novels). I recently read a beautiful book by Paulo Boelho, The Alchemist, however I was constantly affronted by US English spelling!! - and to make matter worse this book was printed in Australia!! - no happy Jan - Isn't reading supposed to assist literacy? Whilst my staff are quite literate, I see way too much American spelling - so in this instance I would much rather see cheaper books sourced from the UK with correct English spelling - I would be happy to a little more so as not to have my senses insulted with US English spelling. Regards, Stephen Le Bas
Having access to cheaper books means having access to more books and therefore more ideas and that leads to a more informed personal life and the enrichment of social and civil discourse. If you live in Brisbane where you can see 3 operas a year you are not as informed about opera as a Sydneysider who can see 11. It is no different with books and ideas.

George Shaw
Kaaren Tong
Anne Colla

After travelling to America and Canada and seeing how cheap the books are over there it made me wonder why Australians have to pay so much now I know and we should be doing something about this so good on ya Dymocks

Nicole Hodgson
Ingrid Kacir

Claudia Clamer
Greta Cunningham

if making books more affordable encourages more reading - is this not a good thing?

we are trying to encourage our children to read widely but the price of providing adequate reading material in the homes or in the schools is preventing many students from sampling the different genres out there.

Jacquie Precious
Sue Cotterell
Susan Abbott

I live in a remote NT town with no bookshop. With the costs of postage already quite dear, cheaper books would mean I would be able to buy more and more frequently. Once I have finished a book that I do not wish to keep, I donate it to my local library which then benefits the rest of the town. We would all win from cheaper books!

Sarah Hanks
David Nguyen
Karen Reading
Jane Dempster-smith
Kelli MacDonald
Ling Wong
Sarah Dillon
Pedro Mihailou
Jeanette Stiens
Tania Wilson
Laura Jarvis
Simone Larmer
Christine Tyler

As a full time student who recently developed a passion for reading, it is difficult to set aside money for novels when my current textbooks alone cost over $100 each. Other factors such as the use of public transport also affect my weekly budget. Increasing the price of books would account in the demise of this recently found hobby.

Aileen On
Sharon Coutman
Stephanie Limoges
Julie Stevens

Reading is food for the soul! Make it cheaper

Reading is the one thing that many people who are housebound or for other reasons are unable to utilise social situations. Let's give everyone of these people and the rest of the reading population the opportunity to have access to cheaper books.

Ruth Imer
Christos Schoinas
Royden Hole
Bill Anastasopoulos
Cindy Lazenby
Yvette Simunic
Tracey Abreu
Erika Robinson
Peter Whelan
Bernadette Frieling
Lily Baum
Amanda Wain
Katrina Kapeleris
Melissa Fishburn

Anything we can do in this country to make education more accessible, especially to those who need these tools the most, who are already struggling to pay essentials, HAS to be done.

As long as we don't hurt the authors - then I support you.

I would prefer Australians buy their books locally rather than see my friends and colleagues go around the current laws and buy directly from overseas suppliers such as Amazon. We need books to be as cheap as possible if we want the current electronic generation to have more than an sms type vocabulary

Jennifer Wager
David Murray
Robyn Watts
Anita Mitchelhill
Scott Lawler
Scott Norton
maddison Chapman
Linda Claudi McMaster
Nisha Ryan
Danielle Cox

An industry that needs support!

I think the submission would be a great advantage to readers all over the country and it should be upheld.

Books have been over-priced in this country for years.
To the Productivity Commission, I fully support this petition. Having spent some time working and holidaying overseas I have personally seen the difference in pricing of the same product across various markets. In today's more global environment the Australian public should not have to endure restrictive trade practices that result in having to pay more than a reasonable market price for a product. We should be doing everything possible to encourage people to read more. Lower prices may well provide that extra incentive. You have the opportunity (and power) to rectify this situation.

Les Spindler
Christie Gee
Sasha Joura
Debbie Betts
Karl Micek
Letitia Kelly
Helen Boyd

less and less people do reading now as books are too expensive. I support removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

This is long overdue!

I can purchase books and get them posted cheaper from America even with our dollar the way it is. Its a joke. I would rather spend my money IN Australia

Yes I agree that books should be cheaper so that everyone can afford to read.
As a dedicated book lover I support Dymocks Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign. We need to keep everyone reading!

I've always wondered why books were more expensive in Australia and recently have been talking with friends about this. We are all avid book lovers however always felt books were too expensive. So it is timely that Dymocks is leading this initiative. Being from the UK I know that books are much cheaper there and how much cheaper it is to order books online. This is not good for the Australian book industry so I fully support the 'Coalition'.

The price of books, which is obviously unnecessarily expensive, stops a lot of people buying. I'm one of those people, despite the fact I love books! What the Coalition for Cheaper Books is doing makes sense. At a time when the Government wants us to do our bit for the economy and spend, this will help encourage people to do just that. Let's hope good sense prevails? Liliana Marinucci

I agree the books i like i have to order from the UK and it gets quite expensive and it would definatly help if they were cheaper
I would love to purchase more books and read more, but at present with price increases I have put myself on a budget and books have now become a luxury. I have just found out I am pregnant, therefore there is less more for luxuries now. I would love to be able to afford more books not only for myself but for my new addition as I believe it is important to share your love of books with the next generation.

Absolutely - I’m sick and tired of paying over inflated prices for books when I know they are cheaper abroad. I deliberately do not buy books online because I like to help keep the Australian economy flowing..........
I would love to be able to buy more books for my children to read and increase their enjoyment of reading, knowledge and mastery of the English Language. I’m restricted in the amount of books I can purchase due to prices of books being higher than what they could be.

I buy a lot of books online from other countries because we can’t get some of the authors or titles in this country. I wholehearted support this proposal.

I have enough always carrying loads of books back from overseas because they are cheaper abroad!!!

Unless one has a good income buying books has become out of reach. I cannot buy books for my grandchildren or books for myself. I have given up reading literary reviews because it takes ages before such books are available at the library and I can’t afford to buy them. Books are my great love, solace and education.

I read lots of books, although the price of them is now making them a distinct luxury. If the price were cheaper, I’d probably buy lots more!

As a pensioner and avid reader of books any reduction in cost of books by removing the restrictions on parallel importation would be welcome.

Thank you for the opportunity to support your efforts on our behalf.
I am buying more and more books online through internet sites based overseas. Even with postage taken into account it is still a lot cheaper than buying from your local bookstore which is a shame. I would rather support a local bookstore than an overseas provider but at the end of the day it's what is cheapest especially in this economic climate.

As my grandchildren become booklovers, I support anything to help make books more accessible to them - and to me.

The price of books in Australia is scandalous when compared with Europe and the US. The current arrangement simply supports price fixing, a practice which is illegal in most advanced countries, but not Australia it would appear. Import restrictions which apply for 12 months from the date a book becomes available in Australia are an impediment to free trade. How can the Federal Government be taken seriously in the Doha rounds if they are basically saying "Do as I say." not Do as I do."

Any price rises inflated by benefits to overseas publishers will further erode Australian kids' time away from TV sets & computer games.

I support this petition. Make books cheaper.

I will sometimes buy books from Amazon simply because it is cheaper to do so than buying in Australia. This is unfair and I shouldn't have to wait if the book is available.

I think people will read more, especially new release books, if they can get them at a more reasonable price.

I love reading new books and it's ridiculous that we pay more in Australia. Good luck with the petition!

If parents cannot afford to buy books for their children then the next generation will never know the joy of reading. I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

knowledge should not cost any more than it does now
I think that we should be allowed to purchase cheaper books as we would be able to buy more for the same money spent at present. Moiya

Love to read and would buy more if they were cheaper

Great Work Dymocks keep it up.

I support this proposal inso far that it passes on reduced book prices to Australian consumers and does not simple increase the bottom line of the retail book shops.

The publishers have, over many years decided that Australians can be exploited on the pricing of books. Stop them having these extortion powers and open up the book market so that people can enjoy books without fattening the wallets of these unscrupulous publishers.

Surely it's better for people to buy books in Australia than buying them from Amazon and overseas where the money goes out of the country?

Why can I buy a book for $8.00 USA and on my return home find the same book for $22.50 AU

Cheaper books will ensure that my book money stays in the country rather than leaving via Amazon.

I believe that competition will drive down the price of books for Australians. I love reading and believe that we should make reading more affordable so young people can develop the pleasure.

Why are readers being in effect PUNISHED when our government is trying to encourage the literacy of our population???????
Books should be accessible to purchase for all Australians so that people are able to keep their own personal interest books at home and pass them onto the next generation.

You need to provide cheaper books with the economic crisis the way it is. People will stop buying books if they continue to be too expensive and this could lead to a decline in interest in reading and further education.

I love reading and would certainly appreciate cheaper books. My children love books but the price is often prohibitive of being able to buy them more.

We recently travelled to the US and could not get over how much cheaper books were. We found ourselves buying many more books for ourselves and our daughter. Books that were around $10 there are over $30 here! A short novel for my 9 year old would be $5.99 in the US and can be over $20 here. As a result we spend much less on books in Australia and tend to borrow them instead or buy second hand.

As a UK citizen who has lived in Sydney for 9 years, I have always wondered why books here were so much more expensive than the UK. Almost double the price in fact, even taking into account exchange rates. Now I know. I love reading but the prices do make me stop and think before buying a book, especially new releases. Come on Australia (and the Productivity Commission) - give everyone the incentive to buy books!

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.
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<td>Geoff</td>
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Please stop this crazy pricing scheme. I would rather buy books from Australian booksellers, but I currently buy the cheapest I can - online through international mail order companies. This is not how a world-class country should be encouraging business!

Reduce our beloved books please!!!!!

I very rarely buy books in Australia - I go to Amazon instead!!! Much cheaper even after the exchange & delivery costs!!!

Let us not put knowledge further out of the financial reach of the most disadvantaged. At the moment you need to be in full employment with a well paying job to enjoy the luxury of buying books, especially new editions. I have four children and a husband who was out of work so I know all about it. All parents want their children educated and the best education is self education for life. This comes primarily through books. Information through the internet is limited and sometimes of questionable authenticity.

If books were cheaper, more people would buy them.

As our political leaders have reminded us, protectionism of any kind is dangerous, especially in the midst of a global recession. The current laws preventing the importation of books other than through Australian subsidiaries or agents of overseas publishers is outdated and unfair to consumers. Books, like other products, should be available to Australians from the most competitive market.

Good luck with the petition.

Paying $32 for a paperback is ridiculous. It puts people off reading because they can't afford to buy the books.

This sounds like a great idea considering Kevin Rudd gave us all this stimulus money perhaps now its time to make it easier for our suppliers to bring in cheaper books.

Reading is one of the few enjoyments I have. It is wrong to have extra costs on books. We should be paying on an equal footing as the rest of the western world. But no. If there's a way to introduce a tax, politicians are for it. Shame on them.

We need to encourage people to read. We can do this by making books a necessity rather than a luxury. Everyone needs to be able to have NEW books.
The prices of books these days are ridiculous. I am spending 60 dollars for 1 hardcover. Absolute rubbish.

Books should be cheap so that we can buy lots and not have to really worry if we're spending our bill money.:P

Surely the growth in Australians' accessing overseas online book suppliers indicates the need for change?

Books are the only thing that will never be replaced by technology. I am glad that someone is fighting for easy access to more books. I don't know what I would do without the written word. Thank you!

I believe books are more expensive than they need to be.

I love books but the price is far too expensive in Aust compared to other countries.

Cheaper books are better for everyone. Don't keep Australia in the Dark Ages. John Howard spent too many years doing that.
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The cost of books prohibits me from buying many books I would like to acquire.

As a teacher we should be looking for all the ways to get books into families and if this helps then I'm absolutely for it. Too often our young students don't read because they don't have access to reading material in the home.

Dianne            | Reed          |
| Mike              | Porra         |
| John              | Alvey         |
| Ann-Marie         | Phillips      |
| Jenny             | Giroud        |
| Sharon            | Moneypenny    |
| Wendy             | Thomas        |
| Phillip           | Brownscombe   |
| Kerryn            | Miler         |
| Marta             | Kozera        |
| Lynette           | Willet        |
| Christine         | Higgisson     |
| Pat               | Gabrielides   |
| Sarah             | Plater        |
| Barbora           | Muzikant      |
| Louise            | Parker        |
| Douglas           | Purdie        |
| Janette           | Banford       |

Books should be as inexpensive as possible to encourage reading in people of all ages. It is the backbone of education and enlightenment.
I love books and I find the price of them in Australia prohibitive now. I certainly do not want them to be inflated any more. It will definitely stop me buying as many as I do at the moment.

Eileen Ferguson
The price of books at present stops people from buying them, they go to their local library instead, or one person buys a book and shares it with others. If they were cheaper people would buy and keep books.

This might encourage younger/impoverished people to read more and improve their lives. Besides in the current economic times, it's nice to read a good book and escape reality for a few hundred pages.

Tracey Berger
The current prices are too high compared to overseas and the proposal that import restrictions should continue to apply for 12 months from the date a book becomes available in Australia will not result in cheaper books given that most books are purchased within 12 months of publication. Certainly I would almost always purchase a book in the first 12 months.

For far too long Australians have had to pay a premium for books which can be bought much cheaper from overseas. The rise in purchasing via the internet (ebay, etc.) is a direct result of our much higher prices locally. I fully support any move to allow these books to be bought in local businesses at reasonable prices.

It's about time the market started to become more competitive, and as long as copyright is still protected, why should we have to pay more for our books?
It is time for a parallel playing field and at the moment people who prefer to read and/or collect the written word are disadvantaged when compared to other forms of electronic. It is only fair and reasonable to make books as cheap as possible.

I agree it is time we had a better deal with books, as consumers. I import most of mine directly, as an individual.

Australians should not be financially disadvantaged for wanting good books to read.

I find the price of books here very expensive, as a british expat I rely on relatives to send books to my children to keep up with their demand!
We are regular readers, Margaret is an avid reader and has at times "balked" at the prices. Anything that can be done to reduce the cost without diminishing the authors benefits would be welcome.

Currently I buy many of my books directly via Amazon so Australian retailers are missing out entirely. Freeing up the import laws will allow me to spend more money in Australia.

If books were made cheaper, it would encourage more books to be sold and hopefully result in more people reading. If Literacy is such a problem in this country, perhaps have a think about making it more affordable for people.

It is completely unreasonable to increase the cost of knowledge by supporting monopolies. Look at the the internet firm Amazon which can ship book to Australia cheaper than we can buy them here -- it is long overdue that this law is scrapped.

I work at a high school and the high price of books restricts the number and quality of books available to our students.

Reading books keep people literate and mentally healthy - a major part of being a smart and healthy nation.
Kim Louise Turner
Darren Woolley It's about time there was equality in book purchasing rights!
Magdalena Nachef

Jean Beha
Simone Wheeler Books should be cheaper to encourage people (especially young people) to read instead of spending all their time in front of a computer screen. Also, if more books are sold authors will be able to continue writing as they will not need to get other employment to feed themselves and their families.

Roxalanne Wisbey
Amanda Hunt It is very important that Australia should be able to sell books here for competitive prices. The situation has existed whereby books could be purchased from overseas and even when airmail postage was included in the price it was still cheaper than purchasing the same book over the counter in Australia. This is ridiculous and results in a huge disadvantage to our Australian booksellers. Please take steps to remedy this situation by removing restrictions on parallel importation.
Want people to read more? Here's how.

Ann Marie Lee
Gillian Baggett
Jeffrey Pringle
Senya Westbury
Amanda Villani
Christina West
Anne George
Nicole Lewis
Cecile Wudicke

As an immigrant from the UK I was very shocked at book prices in Australia, I now only buy 3 or 4 books a year compared to about 24 a year in the UK.

Thank you for your efforts.
Books are an essential part of self-education, in my humble opinion, removing barriers of price will stimulate higher purchase by a larger number of potential readers who will benefit from increased awareness and education.

Pedro Oliveira
John Broerse
Marea Allen
Philippa Bell
Hayley Mason
Kylie Morgan
Peter Whitfield
Kerry Wilson

As an avid book buyer, I totally support this proposal. Is it not better to support our local booksellers than purchasing cheaper at a myriad of on-line bookstores overseas.

Shavanthi Wickramasuriya
Christopher Burg
Carmel Zanella
Faith Austin
Annalisa Nyers
Jamie Dalziel
Dolores Langdon

The way the system is now must meet the Competition policy that Australia's has??

Beverley Lee
Anne Marie Grahl
Jeanette Graham
Andy Roberts
Books should be for everyone and not everyone can afford them as they are priced these days... if the prices are brought down, more people will buy books locally (rather than from overseas on the net) and local bookshops will remain viable and employing Australians. Bring on better pricing for books.

Reading is important. Australian educational standards are already on a downward slide. Help reverse the trend and allow books to be a necessity, not a luxury.

There are many Australian pensioners love reading that would be able to buy more books if the import restrictions were removed. Good Luck.

I agree that books should be cheaper. I am on a reasonable income, but do not see the need to pay upwards of $30 for a new release book. I also think the cost can be prohibitive to lower income families, and I would hope that reducing the cost would assist them.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

This should also apply to ebooks.
All people should be able to buy books at cheaper prices for the education and enjoyment of Australian booklovers.

It is hypocritical for the government to say it is encouraging reading and yet doing nothing to make access to new books at competitive prices as compared to most other English speaking countries.

Remove import restrictions on books. Cheap books must be a good thing!

Books aren't just a form of entertainment, but a form of knowledge and education, reading skills, and even therapy. If they are cheaper it helps bring this information to more people, giving our community a more 'level playing field' (by not just limiting books to the rich), in a similar way that public education does. Yes, we have libraries for this, but they can't always afford the latest books.

Reading is something that everyone should be able to afford, not just those that have the money.

Books should be cheap there good for the mind and shouldn't cost heeps of money

Reading is a important part of life, however when books are so expensive it limits the amount of books you may want to purchase.
I absolutely agree with cheaper books being made available in Australia. With increasing levels of illiteracy, removing any obstacles to education and knowledge can only be a good thing.

As an avid reader I agree that something needs to be done about curtailing the continual rise in the cost of books. In order to ensure the long term viability of this important cultural asset (literature) we need to remove all restrictions on parallel importation.

I now have imported a sony ereader (not available to buy in Australia) as the cost of books was so high, and often a lengthy delay in waiting for publication here. I now buy most of my books online from international sellers as they are more than half the price even with a poor exchange rate! I was saddened to see that even ebooks in Dymocks were substantially higher in price than abroad. If the prices were comparable I would buy books here, when there is such a huge difference it is not common sense to buy books here when I can get them faster, and cheaper from an international book store.

I have lived in other countries and books were so much more affordable. I used to buy a lot of books (a book would cost me for example a fourth of my hourly wage), but since coming home to Australia this has reduced to almost zero (as the cost of a book is now the cost of my hourly wage - four times more). I used to read a lot and now I don't. It is unnecessary for Australians to be charged so much more.

Although I live in Vanuatu, I regularly visit Australia and buy books from Dymocks. Anything that removes restrictive practices would be very welcome, especially as most books I buy are from overseas.
I am not a fiction reader. My interest is with text and reference books that relate to my work and as a hobby, books that relate to history. These types of books tend to be even more expensive.

Prices are high for so much already. We don't need the price of our entertainment and relaxation going up too. If there's any way to reduce the price of books, do it. As a former student and an avid reader I believe we need to encourage people to read. Reading is dying out but if books were less expensive more people would access them.

To move our country forward, we need an educated public. Lowering the cost of books is an important part of this.

I wholeheartedly support cheaper books. I encourage my son and daughter to read and am lucky that my daughter is obsessed with it. I try and buy her a book at least once a fortnight if not more should finances allow. I think reading is one of the most important tools for our children to learn from.

Don't we run the risk of putting local bookstores out of business if we don't adopt this strategy? I can order my books online and in some cases I am happy to wait, but people are tightening budgets and books bought locally might be the first thing to go with diminished disposable cash.

The magic and joy of books should be available to everyone, without having to break the bank!

I believe this will help further encourage people to enjoy reading more - education comes with books, that's what I have been taught.
I totally agree with the elimination of unnecessary tariffs or other costs. I travel frequently and notice how cheap books are overseas, especially in the US. I collect many books for my personal library and might spend $5,000+ a year on books - most is going over the internet as I can buy much more at better prices that here in Australia. I'd much prefer to be spending my money here than overseas....so Mr. Rudd, think again on the tariffs and more people might buy local~!

When the exchange rate was particularly favourable I purchased all my books from Amazon - which disadvantages Australian businesses. If the purchase price in Australia was lower, I would not bother to purchase overseas.

The current restrictions have the effect of making access to many non-fiction books more expensive for Australians than for readers in other countries. This disadvantages Australians when it comes to remaining up to date with ideas and strategies detailed in the latest books to which overseas potential competitors have cheaper access. The one year restriction would do nothing to address this problem and Australian students, researchers and business people would continue to be at a financial disadvantage when it comes to remaining abreast with the latest published books in their fields.

I think the cost of books in Australia is most unfair.

I think the quality of bookshops in Australia is extremely high. However, the prices are not competitive with those in the UK (I don't know about the US). Therefore, when I want a book I frequently wait until I visit the UK or have a visitor from there to purchase books. This is fine for me, but not fair on those Australians who don't have that option or on Dymocks and the Australian book market who are losing out.

The ridiculously high prices we pay for books in Australia is outrageous.

uncommon books are hard enough to find in australia, please make this easier and cheaper
with the state of the world’s economic downturn, people trying to survive, lives change in all aspects, life can turn for the best though the written word. books can take you away from troubled times, some books give you a smile and others take you into another world, how many people will fall into despair, this will also increase suicide, but a cheap book could give them hope. have a life through the pages, please find it in your heart to keep the books at a price that people can afford, you may change a life.

kind regards Sue Brooker

we need cheaper books for your children’s future.

I am shocked at the disparity in prices between Australia and the UK and see it as an unnecessary restriction that inhibits people from buying books and could result in a lower level of literacy than in a more competitive marketplace.

I support you 100%, it is time the restrictions were removed. I wish you good luck and I hope you succeed.

This is a very worthwhile cause which has a major impact on my purchasing books in Australia or sourcing the direct from overseas.
I am a teacher and most of my students have below than their level reading ages. It is important that books be available to all people of varying socio-economic backgrounds. I buy loads of books for my students to read this costs me a great deal of money as many of my students don’t have books or any print in their homes. This is "long" overdue!

Please lower the cost of books! You seriously hinder the chances for families to make books a regular part of their lives and leave book lovers no choice but to order books from overseas!

Books are essential for our education - the education of our children and the continuing education as we grow. It is an essential part of our development, both technologically and in the social context. It is therefore logical and socially responsible to make books cheaper as soon as they are available. To hold this back for 12 months is equivalent to slow down the development of our children, ourselves, the Australian Society for 12 months!!!

buy books from Amazon all the time. If you want to stimulate the economy, let retailers be competitive here.

Being on a disability pension sometimes prices the books i want out of my reach and anything that helps me enjoy my favorite hobby more can only be a good thing.

As a recent migrant "Pom" I have been shocked at the price of new books in Australia. As a result, I buy most of my books from the UK online through Amazon or Abebooks. Despite the postage, I save money! I would buy more here IF prices were competitive.

The government should also remove GST from books to encourage a 'Knowledge Nation' & support enhanced literacy. Singapore is a good benchmark in this instance. The GST on books is a tax on lifelong learning.

Cheaper books would be wonderful as I am only a student and so if prices fell, I’d be more inclined to go out and buy the books I really want.
Anand Shukla

I will often buy my books overseas at stores and airports as they are much cheaper...I would much prefer to spend my money at home.

Marielle Sloss

I have 3 children who are avid readers. I believe the government should support literacy by permitting access to books at a more reasonable cost.

Simona Tankov

Heather Wright

Janis Laing

All the best for the petition. I hope a successful outcome will encourage more people to buy books and hence lift literary standards throughout the entire community. One of the flow-ons delivered by the IT revolution, during the last 30 years has been the proliferation of books by Mrs, Miss Master or Mister average as a bookwriter. Also the old masters and classics have been more readily available in a greater variety of forms. I have been trying to assemble a reasonable library of both types of literature for my son - 15. The good stuff old and new is expensive. I most definitely support this petition by the petitioners - me among them - in the interest of avid and ongoing book buyers and readers. GMK

Grantley Kemble

Ria Swertz

Janet Wood

Russell Clarke

Lisa Wai

Phyllis Ho

Adriana Di Benedetto

Ryan Jones

Su-Fen Chung

Christina Cooper

Monica Green

Lesley Kelleher

Karen Clark

Darren Gore

Jacqueline Baloh

Cheaper books?! YES YES YES PLEASE!

Books are so expensive these days, it's a disgrace. I agree, if books were cheaper Australians would buy and read more books.

Atahan Tugcu

Sarah-jade Neville

Sebastian Wood

Nirad Weeramanthri

Kitty Porter

Georgina Boutros

Suhasini Sampath

Kim Nguyen

Emily Rainey

Ancella Jusuf

Peter Klung

this will sure make my fiance happy. and i could get more sport books or biographies.

Anna Turner

Andrew Garrett

anything that could bring the price of books down sounds like a fabulous idea!!!my husband and i are avid readers and encourage the same of our 4 boys.i fully support this petition

Lynette Page

Tegan Ashley

Dinah Jopson
Let's get cheaper books!!!!!

In the present financial climate cheaper books would be a boon especially for University students and pensioners.

I always enjoy visiting Dymocks stores and am all in favour of cheaper books!

australian books are sooo much more expensive compare to other countries!!

If Support the local economy! Locals get cheaper books. Locals buy more books at locally owned Dymocks stores.

they are so much dearer here than the UK

Books are our heritage and our future and should be available to all at the cheapest price possible.

Cheaper books are even more relevant now because of the economic crisis essential things need to be affordable for the general public.

Cheaper books would be great. Otherwise we'll just spend our money on sites like Amazon and get our books through there even after postage it is cheaper than buying at a local bookshop -especially if you buy a few. Make people want to read and buy books at affordable prices again! And again we'll be boosting our economy by buying from local retailers and not giving inflated protected profits overseas.
As much as I like to buy and support local bookstores, when I get a chance to travel I would rather wait it out because the price of books in Western Australia is much higher than that of bookstores in Asia, I end up buying books from overseas. With more competitive prices offered in WA I would certainly opt to buy locally rather than fill my suitcases with books!

It has been a matter of ongoing concern that in Australia we are forced to pay a much higher amount for a book that can be purchased overseas at a fraction of the cost.

I love books and this would be very beneficial to me.

We need to encourage all ages, and abilities to read books, so putting books into everybody's hands, can only be a great thing to do, at a cost that is realistic to the average man, woman and child.

Books have such value, they should not be expensive.

This is a very big issue. I'm glad it was brought to our (booklovers') attention!

Thankyou

I am an avid reader and the cost of books makes it hard for me to budget in these tough times.
Catherine Driussi
David Antonini

Book prices are hideously expensive here! So much cheaper overseas.
The price of books was a surprise to me when I emigrated to Australia as books are freely available at much lower prices in the UK than here. The high prices also do not encourage reading as children's books are far too expensive and I don't think Public Libraries provide well enough to cover the disparity.

Christine Curran
Ana Subotic
Vanessa Lee
Russell Watt
Jonathan Marr
Maryann Wright
Maria Tua
Tara Kelly

Cost efficiency is the best policy. Why rip people off unnecessarily?

Andrew Bleach
Glenn Hibbert
Susan Yates
Robin Morritt
Rachel Negron
Pamela Lei
Aadil Lakdawalla
Jo - Ann Cryer
Joseph Emmanuel
Danielle Gelmi
Hayley Crawford
Sara Percsy
Robert Trevena
Mireille Tewfik
Yumna Kassab
Elizabeth Baxter

Print media is in competition with online media, costs need to be reduced for print media to remain a viable option.

As a potentially smart nation, we would be wise to radically reduce the cost of books.
Right now, I almost always get my books cheaper overseas.

Edward Brown
Dara Haddow
Helen Isaac
Tina Woodcraft
Semra Lee
Rose Weldt
Elisa Chong
Brian Hooper
Kylie Platt
Ambia Scott
Darryl Jones
Trish Dicks
Eric D'Souza
Barbara Misino
Angeline Yip
Petra Simpson
Brian Dirou
Hendrikus Den Brinker

bring on the cheaper books!!!

Yo!

Remove restrictions, make books more affordable and help us build cultured habits for the younger generation.

Cheap books mean hopefully people will read more!
I think more people would read if books were cheaper.

I see this initiative as an important quality of life issue. Throughout the US, Europe and Asia I have observed vastly superior pricing for printed material and welcome any initiative to allow competition into the Australian market. Given the vastly improved performance of the music industry, both in pricing and improved variety of product, I am surprised that this action was not undertaken many years ago.

If it’s good enough to reduce the restrictive importation laws on music, why not on books as well?

If it can be done for CD’s it should also be done for books.

Good initiative

If you want a more informed and educated community - make books cheaper!

Actually I am one that books when they first come out, so it would be great to not pay the top price then we can afford to buy another one as well.
Ben Merrick
Frank Mcmahon
Sarah Genuis
John Curtis

As a TAFE lecturer in Management and Marketing studies, I feel that removal of restrictions on parallel importations is imperative. I purchase and use many imported texts for reference material to enhance my delivery and also to provide current materials and case studies for my students to enhance their learning.

John Curtis
Graham Sylvester
Troy Johnston
Joyce Mcmahon
G La Macchia
Kylie Haines
Prue Griffin
Monique Pasilow
Wendy Cox
Judith Anderson
June Whitham
Marie Odendaal
Elizabeth Hegarty
Shireen Daft

Definitely support the Coalition for Cheaper Books. and campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Derek Boardman
Narda Campbell
Josh Collard
Tammy Websdane
Serena Pearce
Louisa Saunders
Shinead Love

I'm an avid reader of books and I believe in a free market so book shops like Dymocks should be able to buy books from the cheapest source to educe the prices of books to Australians.

My family and are big readers - it has to be a great way to encourage families who don't read because buying books is too expensive. Please make them cheaper for Australian children.

Gillian Daniels
Lukas Opacic
Dickson Hong
Deborah Courtenay
Anthony Wan
Gillian Gardiner
Aksel Dadswell
Susan Bannister
Erehwin Ureta
Anne Darragh
Marisa Khan
Jacob French
Michael Fischer
Thaer Abusenenh
Hope Ohman

It makes sense, the cheaper the books, the more we will buy, the more we will read, the more the authors will receive and our literacy rate will increase, everyone wins.

Christine Foster
Monika Domaracki
Margaret Selden
Heather Hodgson
Katrina Furlong

Taking some of the cost off books would encourage more people to buy them and READ!!!
I love to read, but cannot always justify the price of the books I want to read........do something to help the average Australian have better access to the books they deserve......as long as the authors still receive the royalties they also deserve.

Ros Hayter

Books are way too expensive in Australia.

Helen Stokes

Sok Koh

Kathryn Dalziel

I sometimes purchase books from overseas because they are cheaper to buy online than at Australian stores. Also, living away from the city means it's convenient, but I still want to support local industry & business if possible. Ultimately, the cost is the primary consideration in purchasing, and if it means looking overseas at sites like thebookdepository.com, then so be it. Cheap books in Australia - PLEASE!

Christopher Lowe

Anna Tran

Byron Mulgrove

Philip Peluso

Christine Cavanagh

Jake Salter

Tanya soutar

Trish Lane

Andrea Khayat

Books are very expensive in Australia, especially children's books. Cheaper prices would greatly benefit children and improve literacy standards.

I absolutely believe that these restrictions should be removed, especially in these current tough economic times to allow increased access to reading material for more people.

Elisabeth Smyth

This is something I feel very deeply about. Not only should books be better priced for the general public it is also absolutely vital they are more affordable for our children. So many families can't afford books. Children who are read to and then grow to love reading have so many advantages over those who do not read. Reading grows imagination, instills thought, develops wisdom, increases knowledge - all things our future generation deserves and that Australia needs.

We have stopped buying books as regularly as we did when we lived in the UK because they are just too expensive, they are now a luxury rather than an every day item. We used to buy them on a weekly basis for a quick read on the way to work, now that we live in Australia it's purely for extra special gifts and we often wait for the paper back to come out or buy from second hand book shops! We have been shocked by the price of books here in Australia compared to elsewhere we have lived around the world including South Africa, the UK, Europe and the US.

Fiona Crockett

Tristen Muller

Carrie Hatzel

Jennifer Marshall

Lynne Armitstead

Paul Ryan

Gillian Watts

Dorothy Farrell

i totally agree with you that we definitely need cheaper books in this country as without them how would most people afford them and to learn and educate ourselves books are esp to me an incredibly important tool for educating not only our youth but also older generations etc.

The USA and the UK are where most of the good books are!

Kathy Spring

Alan Matthews

Sheila Wyldbore

Anjuli Donlan

Joanne Holloway

Louise Hayes

Natalie De Souza

Carmen Holloway

Books are more important than internet, spend $40 billion on them instead. Plus they're already very expensive.
I agree, very often books bought overseas with delivery cost are less expensive than the same in Australia.

I definately support the campaign - bring on the cheaper books so I can buy more of them!

Cheaper books means we can buy then more often and more of them!!!

I would like to be able to get books the same day they are released, rather than months later regardless of where they are released.

It may even help stimulate the economy...

Cheaper books can only be of benefit to us all - we need to encourage more reading among our younger generations and being able to afford a decent story is a great step towards this. Reading standards have dropped so much in Australia and I am in no doubt that the cost of books today has attributed in some way to this. i want my daughter to be able to get lost in another world but it is so expensive. If this will help bring prices down I am all for it. Isn't it worth it???
I fully support this campaign. These days I rarely, or never, buy books at full price because they are too expensive. I wait for vouchers or discounts when the books are no longer current, and stock has to be sold off. I am a patient person. More recently I have stopped buying books altogether because of the tight economic situation.

I look forward to being able to afford more books for my grandchildren. The current pricing of quality books for pre school aged children is prohibitive. Reading should be encouraged for all ages.

The potential ban on imports from foreign markets is ridiculous. Australians have been paying excess for entertainment for far too long due to greedy local distributors. In the past I have been forced to purchase special interest books in myself from places such as Amazon and eBay due to the excessive prices found here. Even with the current rate of the AUD and shipping costs, I can still purchase some books at almost 50% of what I find in stores here. The publishers on the other hand argue that the additional costs is for editing, assuring spelling corrections (i.e. US to standardised English), etc. However, I have at least a handful of children's books here that have mis-spellings, such as 'color' instead of 'colour'. Consumers should not be paying excessive prices for excuses.

Why make things harder for book lovers/collectors?!?!?
I think it is ridiculous that book sellers can not import copyright protected books that are the most competitively priced for their consumers. Who side is the government on? The consumers or big business?

The cost of books in Australia is exceedingly high. I travel internationally 2-3 times a year (to India via Singapore) and I usually hold out buying any books until I travel. I can find some books down to a third the prices in Australia. If prices are lower, I will probably not wait for my trips but buy domestically instead.

I have always preferred to buy from local retailers and always endeavour to do so. Unfortunately, however, buying books in australia has become an almost illogical choice when there are so many other means of purchasing books from international markets that offer far more competitive prices. An extreme example is that I can buy an Australian published book from Amazon in the United States and have it posted to me directly cheaper than I can from a local bookshop. I fully support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ campaign.

I often find it cheaper to buy a book in the UK and have it sent to Australia, than to buy the book here in Australia. This means that our shops are not getting my money! I would much prefer to be able to buy in Australia.

I would like a free market

It is past time for books to be more affordable especially for students as well as those of us who are bibliophiles.

The affordability of books is paramount to continue with the present encouragement to school children, young adults and general public to enjoy reading books and so expanding their enjoyment of life.

Indeed, I would expect the government to encourage the trend of reading books amongst all segments of the society. I do believe that books in Australia are far more expensive when compared to the other markets such as US, UK and India. Reading should not be the right of only the financially capable.
On the provision that local booksellers pass on the savings they will make to their customers.

We are in a global village now people. lets get with the program

as an avid booklover, an increase in book prices would make me less inclined to purchase books as frequently as i do already, but if they were to decrease i would easily purchase more. Please reduce the price and not increase! Increasing prices only hurts the wallet and keeps my bookshelves bare!

I believe lower taxes on books will help encourage more people to read. It is very important to encourage.

Reading is still the basis of our education and needs to be further encouraged, which cheaper books will facilitate.

The quicker the better. I feel the current practice is unfair and is a restrictive trade practice.

Books should be cheaper, so everyone can afford.

Yes, I do support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign.

The Australian book market is already suffering form cheap internet marketing. It doesn't need restrictive Australian legislation to handicap it further.
If a free market on ideas is important we should also reduce the restrictions in trade on books. Many of my friends and colleagues order books from overseas via Amazon and that helps nobody: it just means that the money goes offshore instead of staying with a competitive Australian supplier.

A move that will encourage the sale of and make more affordable books is to be encouraged. Reading ensures the literacy and human intelligence of the next generations.

I was faced with the completely ridiculous price of a text book for a Masters unit at uni which cost me a whopping $131. I don’t know about you but I think that is completely out of order given the unit alone is costing me $1450. Australia: The clever country? Only if you can afford it!!!
Cheaper books will mean it will be financially available to everyone and not only who can come up with the price, I have to save up to be able to buy a wanted book.

If books are cheaper people are more likely to buy them.

I strongly support this petition. Existing arrangements can only be described as restrictive and financially limiting for many people, particularly including book purchases for children.

Literature should not have a high price. Why pay for the sharing of information?

I would definitely buy more books if they were cheaper, as I know many other people would as well.

I absolutely agree with removing these restrictions. It is unconscionable to charge so much for books in Australia. I've just returned to Australia after living in the UK for 3 years and cannot bring myself to buy a book here unless absolutely necessary as it is so much more expensive!! Buying books should not be a luxury and should be encouraged. Books, more than CDs, are essential to a country's improvement in education, knowledge and literacy!

This is a good idea.

Although I am a booklover, the price of books in Australia really does restrict the number of books I read. When friends are travelling from other countries, or when I do, I order books because they are cheaper. Removing the restrictions could improve literacy, and who knows where that might lead, and even business.

This proposal will allow Australian retailers to make at least some money. Without it we shall just have to continue buying our books from overseas on Amazon.com.
The Productivity Commission draft report which includes the draft recommendation that import restrictions should continue to apply for 12 months from the date a book becomes available in Australia does not help the general public and will keep book prices higher than they should be, as most books are purchased within 12 months of publication. I urge the Productivity Commission to remove this draft recommendation and open up the book market in Australia.

This is long overdue!

Didn't notice the price of CDs reduced at all but why ARE we Aussies paying so much?

Surely anything that helps our society become more literate is good!

Fully support this !!!

I purchase a lot of books when I travel overseas or buy second hand due to the exorbitant prices of books.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT PEOPLE CAN GET CHEAPER BOOKS!!!!!!!
The long term economic benefits of efficiency can be derived from free trade. By imposing restrictions, money is being shifted away from consumers to inefficient businesses. **EVEN A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LIKE ME KNOWS THAT!**

Current price of books physically prevents me from reading what I wish and when I wish.

The price of books should be 50% cheaper.

I feel strongly that books should be available at the lowest possible price - restrictions on importation should be removed asap

I totally agree with the destruction of monopoly trading.

Removing restrictions on book sellers means Australians will have better access to learning material and the whole nation will benefit from the extra knowledge.

Well done Don. **Anything that encourages people to read more has my support.**

And here's a thought.. for two years I travelled by public transport to and from the city each day. That equated to 2 hrs reading time, sometimes more, in a very busy schedule. I didn't read reports or emails - I read books because I treated it as my personal time. And of all the books I read, those not borrowed were purchased at Dymocks on George Street. Recently I started driving to and from work and my personal time has dropped to just about zip. So while you are at, could you fix Sydney's public transport problems...I reckon you would solve my problem and it wouldn't be all that bad for your business either!! Not too big of an ask is it? cheers Rich

Cheaper books = better literacy amongst the population = smarter Australia
In our home we all love reading, and will welcome the access to cheaper books as most new releases are too expensive to be bought on a regular basis and often we have to wait until they are available at public libraries or in second-hand stores, if they were cheaper we would be able to buy them at book stores more often. Ana McGhie

Literacy rates are not amazing in Australia. I work with lots of kids with significant literacy and learning difficulties, and I'm never amazed at how few parents buy books for their children, and even read books themselves. Decreasing the price is a good step to remove barriers for parents to provide their children with enriching literacy opportunities within the home.

Agree - if Australian writers want to compete in the marketplace then they have to produce the quality that the market demands (and in a global market there will always be sufficient demand for quality).

It is ridiculous how expensive books-especially textbooks—are when attending university. The government should encourage reading by removing the restrictions, before the paper novel is lost to electronics, which ultimately will be purchased from international websites.

We routinely buy books over the internet because they are not either available or more expensive in Australia. We would prefer to be able to buy books at Australian outlets, supporting Australian companies. The current laws stop us from achieving this.

I believe this will promote more books being bought and read, particularly for children. LR

Books in the UK are much cheaper than here in Australia. It's not fair
Cheaper books encourages reading.

Books must be brought down if the current economic crisis is to be overcome! People will buy books, but if they are at $50+ they will think again on where to spend it.

In times of sadness, joy and, indeed, economic downturns of massive proportions books can provide an escape. The escape can be to another world, or by learning, out of the world you got retrenched from and into another one with the new skills you’ve learned. Books shouldn’t be more expensive than they need to be and I fully support any campaign that would seek to stop the imposition of restrictions such as these. Thank you for the opportunity to put this view forward.

Specialy when a lot of books you can read on the computer we need to have them cheaper in the shops. There is nothing like to hold good book in the hand. It is real. It is like have a “fantom” friends, etc in the cyberik world. Without that a libery will sees to existe in the future. let some where stop regards kashina sorry for my english, but my heart is there.

It would make a big difference to the number of books I purchased. At present it’s a matter of waiting until they become discounted in time. It is ridiculous that I can buy books from the internet, UK and USA and pay less than I would if I purchased the book in Australia.

Please take this petition seriously. THANK YOU

Make them cheaper!
I think this is a vital initiative! We need to make books more affordable and accessible to all, particularly lower socio-economic groups to ensure the cycles of illiteracy and poverty are not perpetuated. On a more selfish note, I LOVE books and would love to be able to afford to buy many more!

A crazy restraint of trade with its roots in our colonial past just needs to be dismantled. The people who will suffer have been making a killing for years -- the internet, Amazon.com etc make a mockery of the law anyway -- remove the restraint of trade ASAP please.

I am fed up with the inflated price of books in Australia compared with prices in the UK and the USA. If restrictions on parallel importation are what is keeping the price of books in Australia so high then I say it's time for them to go. Why should consumers get ripped off just to ensure a good profit margin for the publishers?

books have been too expensive in this country for way too long, we should be encouraging people to read books - not making them less accessible!

The price of books is ridiculous you read it then you give it away its money not really all that well spent even for a good read.

Thank you for doing this. I first learned of this situation in a law subject at uni and couldn't understand why books were unfairly targetted and CDs were not.

I am all for cheaper books through competitive spending of booksellers. Competition is very healthy for the economy and I think making books cheaper, and more accessible would have innumerable benefits within the community and their wallets. It would also encourage local publishers to increase the number of their products, and the quality of their products, to bring even better resources to the world market.

As a bookseller in a small newsagency in regional Australia, it is hard to get small quantities of books at reasonable prices through distribution agents. We support Dymocks stand.
Books give so much pleasure, regardless of genre, and should be priced at a more affordable level.

Please remove the restrictive laws that unnecessarily inflate the price of books in Australia and make overseas suppliers more commercially attractive. This, surely, is counter to the current official exhortation to keep Australian money in Australia? Times are hard, so, more common sense and less bureaucratic protectionism please. Thank you.

I am frequently buying books less due to the rising cost. I am a big reader and am saddened my decision on buying a new authors book is based on price. These days if I purchase books it is when I am over seas on holidays.

The import restrictions ought to be removed, in a similar way to the removal of the import restrictions on CDs some ten years ago. The current import restrictions are a form of trade restriction, which is not appropriate in the current climate of globalisation.

In our technology-dominated world, we are already finding it extremely difficult to encourage our children to read. The currently inflated price of books is not helping us win the battle.

The high price of books actively restricts me from reading. I use libraries regularly but would like to buy books as well - this is impossible at current prices.

Books should be affordable to everyone. You can educate yourself through books.
Jennifer Blake
Brian Kebby i hope common sense will prevail! good luck
Nicole Kelly
Saska Taylor
Lisa Van Zelst

If the new legislation is going to inflate the current book price which is already high enough! Then there would be not much book to be digested! We will be intelectually starve, besides if the price goes up, the local library will spend more money to buy new books, which in turn cost the government's money as well. So, in the long term, this won't work and if the government is really keen on improving every state's secondery students' literature level, then please give them a chance to choose a favourt and affordable book to enjoy.

Luo Wei Kun

When Literacy is an issue and the government maintains they are supporting schools and universities how can the tax on books be justified? Freedom of speech and freedom of taxes for the written word.

Therese Brulisauer
Lee Yaw
Lena Hudson
Cliff Henderson
Penny Williams
Duc Nguyen
Caroline Rigby
Abraham Papantoniou
Bronwyn Campbell
Tracy Enslin
Alison Greenhill
Diane Bell

Appreciate your First world thinking! Aus can be very 3rd world.

Lee Yaw
Lena Hudson
Cliff Henderson
Penny Williams
Duc Nguyen
Caroline Rigby
Abraham Papantoniou
Bronwyn Campbell
Tracy Enslin
Alison Greenhill
Diane Bell

Wouldn't cheaper books make it easier for more Australians to read and not just for school or work but for pleasure!

Please make books cheaper that would be great

WHAT IS THE VESTED INTEREST IN KEEPING THE EXISTING SYSTEM, WHO IS IT BENEFITING AND WHAT POLITICAL CLOUT ARE THEY EXERTING IN THE FACE OF DEVELOPING A RATIONAL SITUATION

Murray Dougill
James Dean
Diana Drummond
Daniel Ormella
Amanda Ward
Deborah Horscroft
Ward Al-ghurani
Desiree Sarc Canabady
Declan Robertshaw
Fern Chang
Meg Shimoji

This market has always had too many closed doors. Let's open it up and deal with the rest of the world.

Vladimir James
Mei Leng Yap
Vanessa Privitera

Books are way more important and beneficial than and you have done it for them...what about books

Barbara Ballinger
Tanith Condon
Jennifer Clark

I am an avid bookreader. I think that it is unfair that Australian booklovers have 2 choices: 1-buy books at inflated prices or 2-wait for 2 or more years before local libraries buy the books so that readers can enjoy them. I have bought books OVERSEAS at disadvantageous exchange rates in countries where English is the SECOND or THIRD language and I paid LESS!!!!! than I would have paid for the SAME book in Australia. Its unfair! I think Australian readers should be able to expand their libraries, expand their minds, and experience the imagination, creation and words of wisdom of writers from all around the world. So that children and adults of every age can love the written word as I do and cherish each page of a favorite book and look at them lovingly and re-enter worlds of imagination.

Andrew Knight

I'm in! Books' are one of the essential part's of my and MANY other's enjoyment of life in this country.

Jessica Chow

Books are very educational, possibly even more so than CDs. So why should such educational and informative sources be so expensive?

Vic Groenhout

The government should only act as an enabler of free trade

Amy Sargeant

For so many people price equals access. Lower prices, increase accessibility, improve literacy.

Julie Devenish

Because of the relatively high price of books in Australia, it can be worthwhile to buy 'on-line' from overseas. The more this happens, the worse it is for Australia

Gavin Cusack

Any reseller of any product should be free to import that product subject to current Australian importation laws from the cheapest source legally available.

Sarah Gray

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Michael Raftery

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Andrew Sutcliffe

Let's encourage reading with cheaper prices!

Caroline Chin

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Lorna Hazen

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Aaron Beck

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Patricia Underwood

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Noffita Dwiyanty

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Brad Potter

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Miho Yamaguchi

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Sue Lowe

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Ruth Bayley

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Antoinette MacDonald

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Andrew Sutcliffe

Let's encourage reading with cheaper prices!
Margaret Byron
Anne McNamara
Igor Chuprov
Michael Cole
Haley Culver
Ben Haebich
Cassandra Teo
Natalie Baladi
Wendy Mayes
Mark Windle
Maria Gultiano
Olga Jevdic
Vanessa Schmidt
elena barber
Stan Gerebtzoff
Johanna Choi
Jessica Wong
Natalie Tenaglia
Marylou Simpson
Fiona Plani
Edith Wilson
Louise Escott Mccarthy
John Edwards
Kim-Yen Van
Tanita Seton
Douglas Shearman
Jeff Thorpe
Mitchell Mackenzie
Peter Harris
Chanel Roistacher
Luke Smith
Jasmine Mateus
Elisha Balcombe
Elena Arroba
Heath Kelly
Diane Rowan
Shirley Scholte
Elizabeth Lim
Jasmine Soo
John Van Drunick
Haley Mcdougall
Jason Yosar
Jaclyn Baiada
Shauna Charles
Heidi Mcneill
Susan Barnes
Claire Eaglestone

terri Gentle
Christopher Harris
Samantha Best Lawson
Doreen Haberle
Shawn Marshall
Steph E
Elise Howarth

It's ridiculous to have "regional" constraints in such an open world today! How archaic and greedy.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

the middle man always costs us more as purchasers - but adds very little in value, so I am all for the petition.

Books should be cheaper. Poor people need to read as well.
Lea McWhae
Zolia Yu
Moira Evans
Gillian Dodgson
Julie Schmitt
Laetitia Rodriguez
Maxine Ashton
Melissa Kelly
Chris Ormerod
Ngoc Son La
Jane Mathews
Sarah Dunstan
Dino Valentini

Get a bunch of economists and work out the effects of such a proposal and the effects that it will lead in the long run.

Lea Barker
Melissa Meadows

Make the policy changes to lower costs to the end user. That is one way for Australia to have literacy rates comparable with other developing nations. If you have done it with CDs why not with books? It will create larger multiplier effects of benefits.

Leah Echanes
Lorraine McLaren

Reducing the price of books to make them more affordable will greatly increase access to books for everyone and contribute to increased literacy in the general community.

Leah Echanes
Lorraine McLaren

Please remove the unfair restrictions on book importation. It's unfair that people who love to read are forced to pay such a high price for books, and many other people are discouraged from reading because of these prices and the lack of availability in public libraries.

Anne Peverill
Chris Goods

Paperback prices are hideously expensive. Much better to borrow than to buy. Drop the prices and buying becomes much more attractive.

Joseph Zagari
Kristy Lorimer

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Totally. I go on holidays and spend up because I cant resist the 'cheap' books. Please help me the overweight baggage is becoming more than the ticket and I'm not buying Australian.

Desley Harrington
Bill McPherson
Dr Lex Weaver

More people should be able to afford to buy books which can only be good for Australia and its people.
Too much regulation inhibits true competition and encourages pirating, where no-one receives the copyright fees they deserve. And also results in the stupid situation with DVD’s where my locally bought player will not play legally purchased DVD’s from overseas, which are not available in Australia, unless I unlock my DVD player with a freely available "crack". Perhaps there should be an enquiry into who benefits from these restrictions on the dissemination of knowledge.

Fully support the petition to achieve book prices similar to what can be obtained by people living in the UK and USA. Childrens books included - we all want out children to be able to read freely which means be able to purchase books at the best price.

books are, in general, too expensive in australia. I believe that parallel imports will almost certainly reduce the cost of books to the public.

Making all people who love reading books pay top dollar for each book, is only making the government meaner an richer on something like this. Let book stores get the cheapest price for the books, so that they can pass on the savings to everyone that loves reading.

As a student of literacy education I am a strong believer in making all forms of literature available for everyone. Please help make this possible.

There is already a huge probably with the kids from lower socio economic families who are not exposed to books and are therefore at a huge disadvantage when they get to school and this often continues right throughout their lives. Our country needs to become smarter in order to be economically strong as the working class jobs are heading over seas. Having access to cheaper books may help to resolve this.
The Australian government is concerned about the falling literacy levels of Australian students in comparison to international standards. The high cost of books is a contributing factor towards this. Books must be an affordable alternative to the present focus on magazines and computer games. A lifelong love of books is created in childhood and adolescence. Books contribute to a person’s overall knowledge of the world. Don’t let books become a luxury item for a few, but a doorway to knowledge that every individual can open and walk through.

I think the availability of books is absolutely crucial to the literacy of our generation and generations to come. It is also very important that we as Australians can "afford" Australian literature and that works of Australian authors aren't priced beyond our reach.

I fully support this petition & Coalition for cheaper books. I strongly believe that Australians have always paid very high amounts to purchase books and it is totally unfair especially for students who already pay large sums to universities in fees. Good Luck. Thanks. Raj.

Access to quality books at a reasonable price would be a major contributor to the movement for a better educated population in Australia.

It is important for people of all ages to be able to read, and have a choice of what reading matter they enjoy. Prices of books makes quite a difference, so it is vital to keep books at a price most people can afford.

Books are so much cheaper in England.

Books are prohibitively expensive

I’ve been a consumer of books for many years. I have seen prices of books locally in the Australian market continually increase - from my first paperback at around $8 to the current prices of around $23. I understand prices of labour and materials etc... would have increased over time. However when you compare the prices of the same book by the same author overseas (e.g. prices of a book in Borders in the USA are around USD$7 to $8, even taking into account exchange rates and freight, this is till cheaper than Australia), Australian prices are way over inflated. My view is the import restrictions only favour the publishers, and the removal of these restrictions will help generate competition and help lower prices of books. This lower price may help stimulate more people to buy books, which
Good luck with the petition

1) Present economic conditions warrant immediate implementation of such a step. Cost has to be brought down in every possible way.

2) Govt is putting in place state of the art Broadband to unleash the intellectual and creative abilities of Australians and this intention would be complimented if the books would be made affordable.

Please do all you can to encourage parents to buy books for their children; reading is so important for children, but books are competing with such a wide range of electronic entertainment these days that it is getting more difficult to get kids to choose books over other types of entertainment. Some good junior/young adult books are $30 and over, and a lot of kids can not afford that on their pocket money and it is hard for parents to afford too. Cheaper books, while protecting the authors:

Fabulous idea!

I'm currently spending more than $600 per semester as a uni student just to purchase textbooks, which could have been less than or equal to $300 if the law on importing books weren't enforced. That's $300 dollars worth of money being wasted when it could have been better used elsewhere e.g. groceries and more.

I urge the Productivity Commission to remove the restrictions that make us, Australians to pay for more to read books.
Karen Brown  Books should be available to everyone at a reasonable price.
Angelene Nieto
Ming Tak Chan
Daniele Reynolds
Sarah Stevens
Alena Sullivan
Mietta Reynolds  Books are way too expensive in Australia as it is!
Renee Taylor
Kerry Louise Siddall
Claire Tinson
Margaret Frewer
Hetty Choy
Joss Frewer
Zoe Lim
Jennifer Van Den Tol
Steven Silva
Dee Jackson
Tristan Viscarra Rossel
Katrina Bernardo
Sandra Tan
Victoria Caton
Hoi Pham
Tanya Hickey
Rosalyn Thompson
Geoffrey Hurle
Gareth Jones

These days, younger generations like myself like to simply order through the Internet (Amazon, etc) anyway, as often even with added postage costs and FX fee charged, it is still far cheaper that way! If books, etc were cheaper here in Australia, I and many other people would actually be far more inclined to buy directly from Australian bookstores.

Wayne Wang
Alyssa Dyball
Jane Hadley
Paul Frewer
Marea Corrigan
Lucy Wang
Renae Cooper
Steven Tredwell
Jessica Coleman
Melissa Paul
John Robertson
Erin Gibbins

I have long resented the high prices I have had to pay in Australia for books that sell for half the price in the US. I strongly recommend the removal of these restrictions on parallel importation of books.

Charu Khopkar
Kayleen Smith
Katherine Lau
Zoe O’callaghan
Rachel Forster
Catherine Hall
Carmen Starick
Eric Ireland
Anna Evangelista
Sarah Miller
Kristi Grigg
Sarah Griffith
Luisa Hubble
Out of the 20 people who have signed the petition, Alex Clarke, Dagmar Reuther, Samantha Huynh, Geraldine Macaulay, Theresa Roberts, Antony Huang, Jane Daley, Jenny Jacinto, Matthew Pickett, Lyn Ferguson, Kathryn Wilson, Jenni Cliff, Ian Culley, John Brannan, Mirelle O'Mara, Kirsten Young, Kathryn Wilson, Lisa Hall, Tina Phan, Michelle Lacosegliaz, Kate Rutherford, Jane Hunter, Christopher Lockhart Smith, Kate Palmer, Lourdes Samson, Tak Ming Ho, Carrol House, Felicity Chivas, Michelle Lodge, Andrew Suchowersky, Sophie Greer, Rob Emerson, Gabrielle Pompe, Thea Eikemo, Robert Maguire, Graham Ford, Kylie MacGregor, Alyse Wilcox, Ros Jaffe, Steven Newman, Jessica Grauds, Max Irvine, Brian Maguire

Please let us buy books at more reasonable prices!

Books should be cheaper, they are far too expensive for the average person in the street. I and my friends do not buy as many as we would like and we swap them around instead of buying them.

The Australian book industry should be driven by the Australian book buyer and not the local subsidiaries and agents of overseas publishers!

I am a dual citizen of the USA and Australia and am shocked at the prices of books in Australia. The worst part about it is the fact that only people who are making good money can afford to buy books for their children. When I compare many Australian children to children in American homes, it is astonishing how many Aussie kids have so few books in their bedrooms in comparison. My kids have a small library! All of the latest research in education says that in order for children to read well, they need to be exposed to many genres and levels of books in the home at a very early age. The prices of books makes this disgustingly inequitable! Please have some sense and change remove the restrictions so that all Australian children can have a healthy variety of books to read at home.
When I arrived home after living in the USA for 20 years, I was horrified by the price of books here. That certainly stopped me from buying my usual books. Australia used to be a very literate country but if we can't buy the books, we won't be for much longer. You can see what's happening in the schools. The literacy levels are dropping.

Yvonne Jasper

In a digital world it is still wonderful to be able to pull up a real book and take it with you wherever you want.

Robyn Layton

Anything that makes the cost of books, and therefore the availability of the opportunity to use their imaginations and learn cheaper and more accessible to everyone, has to be good for the Australian public.

Kerry Kraus

Colleagues and I have often purchased books overseas via www.Amazon.com and similar sites as items purchased from these sites can be more competitive even with shipping included. I would much prefer to buy from Australian sources, thus keeping money in Australia.

Karen Mackenzie

I LIKE CHEAP BOOKS

Nicole Barrett

Amanda Or

Denise Kirk

Galina De Boer

Cindy Loi

Nicole Mangura

Geraldine Condon

Liz Moore

I am an avid reader, a student working on a research thesis and a grandmother concerned that the prohibitive price of books will impact on the acquisition of books to facilitate the reading ability and education of my grandchildren. Please remove the restrictions on the import of books!

Yvonne Duffield

Rhonda Bes

Alexandra Portus

Michelle Lino

Lyndall Philbey

Sarah Thomas

Aldo Savian

Rachel Spinks

Tim Darton

Mona Hawa

Jessica Varcoe

Angela Stratiotis-kasmas

Jason Perger

Toni Cuss

Donna Cianciosi

Vanessa Nguyen

Melissa Chisholm

Greg Tyszkiwicz

David Karlov

Rhiannon Kozyra

I buy a lot of books ..and agree that parallel importation restrictions should be removed.

I would certainly buy more books if they were cheaper. Please consider this petition seriously.

Michael Clay

Tamara Cox

Shoma N

Melanie Podlesak

Jodi Blackmore

Jan Pearce

Jodie Cartwright

Trevor Aitken

We, as book lovers, deserve a fair go when it comes to buying cheaper books. It is about time that these restrictions be removed from books. I will be glad that it did happen.
Barbara Iliopoulos

I regularly purchase books from Amazon.com at much cheaper prices in US dollars; they are somewhat inflated after adding shipping costs, but they are still competitive against the same books sold at local bookshops. Local prices are inflated far beyond exchange rates, and are unfair to book retailers and buyers alike, and I fully support the campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Kai Ying Chan

when i was in uk recently books were very much cheaper than here in Australia..same books.. We seem to pay very high prices for paper back novels etc when same can be bought elsewhere for much less I urge you to consider removal of restrictions for importation thus allowing more access for us. Thank you

Graeme Deuchars

Will help us become a smarter nation

Helen Mccurdie

I have had experience of these imported prices - we purchased books for my granddaughter in the UK. The exact same books were more than double the cost (even with allowing for fluctuating exchange rates) once they arrived in Australia.

Chris Maddison

YAY FOR CHEAPER BOOKS! =)

Frances Mills

As an avid reader, I would appreciate books being a little more affordable.

Alisanne Hall

In an age of increasing technology, the pure and simple joy of holding a book in your hands and reading for pleasure, leisure or information, should not be denied. Access for all through affordability is almost a basic right and something we should all strive for for future generations. If the prices continue to rise, people will not purchase books but simply go on-line or book share or further use libraries, thus reducing income for writers and probably will deter others from pursuing this profession.

Natasha Claxton

I have travelled overseas for years, and have always wondered why books were cheaper there. I would love to see books come back down in price. It's mad that we pay $20 for a thin paperback these days.

Nicole Phelps

It's about high time Australia removed its anti-competition laws - I feel like I'm in a communist country!

Natalia Siauw

Angela Ritchie

Julie Mcconnell
The best books should be available at the cheapest prices to reflect economy of scale and increased penetration of readership.

education is in books not a screen! I need them to be an affordable way to bring my baby girl up with!

Access to knowledge should be easier for everyone - not just those who have money.

I support your petition, many books are out of the reach of families as they cannot afford them, everyone should have the opportunity to read.

I do believe prices of books are too high!

buy many books online from uk because cheaper even adding postage!

Cheaper books will increase the amount of reading done by Australians which surely is beneficial for both individuals and the country.

This will be great as I actually buy most of my books through the internet as books are so bloody expensive here in Australia, even with the rate of exchange at the moment it is still cheaper to get my books OS. So this will mean that I can get my books here and keep my money in Australia instead of spending it overseas.

DO NOT INFLATE BOOK PRICES! THEY ARE THERE TO EDUCATE! NOT HARM ANYONE!
Being on a disability support pension, this would be the only way I could afford to buy new books...

Australians have always paid more for books than almost anywhere else - if we allow this to go through they will be even more expensive. As pensioner who reads constantly I can't afford this. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW IT TO HAPPEN.

It is commonly accepted by economists that restrictions on international trade (except in the case of illegal items) ultimately results in an inefficient economy. Australia has engaged in a substantial program of trade reform - so now let's do the same with books.

We need to encourage literacy in this country and if books become more available due to reduced costs then it will benefit everyone.

Cheaper books bought in Australia means I won't have to order books online (often cheaper, even including postage costs) from overseas booksellers and watch my money leave Aussie shores. I would rather spend locally any day. This campaign has my full support.

Books should be more affordable for everyone to enjoy them and encourage literacy and knowledge acquisition.

Books should be made as available as possible to all Australians, very young through to very old. It is through books that young minds develop and older minds keep active and are able to broaden their interests. BOOKS SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE VERY LOWEST POSSIBLE COST TO ALL CONSUMERS. My theory is: "Children should LEARN TO READ as young as possible so that they can spend a lifetime READING TO LEARN." Regards, Caroline Neary
Books are currently, in my opinion, a complete rip-off. Young teenagers such as myself, who are bookworms and absolutely adore reading should be allowed to read books and expand our horizon of thoughts and our vocabulary, we should not have to pay a fortune (especially when we are only young teenagers and are not eligible to have a job yet) just to read. Books are filled with knowledge and since when did we have to pay for knowledge? not all people can afford books, and for those that have children, books are a part of their growing up, so that they can learn to read and so that they can progress and develop their imaginative side, lower book prices will benefit all.

Gina Zheng

i fully agree with this submission

It's important that Australia remains competitive in the international market and by removing restrictions, it will ensure that customers order locally. I know that I often shop internationally via the internet as books can be cheaper, even with postage charges, to purchase that way. So the local market will miss out more and more as people catch on to this.

Maureen Dolan

We should be encouraging more people especially younger people to read and this would be a positive change in assisting this aspect. Encourage to read not sit on computers and like.

Terry Miles

It is about time this rule was overturned. International exchange of books, although need to be regulated through trade taxes and maintain its foreign value should still be priced and reasonably for local consumers. It is tremendously unfair to increase on the cost through this law. Fair trading is definitely not promoted here, and the productivity commission has been nothing but counter-productive here with this matter.

Jessica Qiu

I am an avid reader and I do find myself purchasing books over the internet from overseas companies. I would prefer to purchase from Australia but when I see the difference in prices even with the exchange rate I purchase from overseas. I know a few people who also do that. BRING ON CHEAPER BOOKS!!!!!!!!!

Julia Featherston

I strongly support the push for cheaper books so that they affordable by all sections of the community. Books provide opportunity for recreation, learning and skills development in all fields of life and should be easily accessed as required.

Mary Blaiklock
Kelly Iannello
Reducing the price slightly will make more people buy books themselves instead of borrowing a friend's!

Angela Muir
Being a person who wants to one day have their own library and who is interested in all kinds of books, from all over the world, the current laws are a serious restriction on my dreams and my budget :(

Natalie Sommer

Stuart Donward

Ralph Peter Forster
Our only hope in this current crisis is to facilitate global free trade. Artificial support for higher prices is a long-run trap.

Craig Zimmerman

Judith Tanner

Mariano Llana

Stephanie Hatzinicolaou
it is time to remove these restrictions

Brooke Ryan

Adrian Deutrom

Phillip Gageler

John Kitchen

Louise Kirey

Val Lawson

Frances Arguelles

Brendan Florio

Geoffrey Pittaway

Robyn Shobbrook

Nadine Horton

Anne Brown

Sandra Martin
I would love to see cheaper books as I buy so many

Daniel Paperny

Fiona Thomson

Gordon Love

Emily Dickson

Kevin Deutrom

Kyle Mitchell

Andrea Finger

Elissa Mckee

Suzanne Duncan

Kerrie Girdo

Stephanie Tan

Sushama Sharma

Sushama Sharma

Danny Go

Diane Schofield
books are still vital if you want an educated nation

Cassie Tapper

Sarah Blakeway

Sarah Butler

Brad Jones

Carolyn Pyle

Michelle tomkinson

Jeanette Howes
Have been frustrated by this unfair restriction. As an aged pensioner I have not been able to afford the purchase in Australia of significant historical books which available in the USA & UK at a very much cheaper price.

James Israel

Kerryl Noble

Sushama Sharma

This will bring about great benefits for society and should be implemented soon.

In my family we are bringing our children up to love books and reading for pleasure and education. Please help us and other families to do this by making books more affordable.

Michael Bedward
Louise King
Renelle Mower
sally cahill
Kelly Le
Les Feiglin

I agree with Dymock, this will only result in less Australians reading.

Meredyth An Deutrom
Andrew Murray

I fully agree with this proposal as it is about time we are able to source books from the most competitive markets.

Terri Kidd
Suzanne Brndusic
Wendy Thomas
Jacqui Oulton
Vivien Hewitt
Olivia Djendjnovic
Susan Taylor
Melissa Boardman
Sherryn Bennett
Michael Browning
Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis
Deidre Timms
Lauren Murray
Melinda Michael
Sam Karpiniec
Melinda Tan
Claudette Prindable
Lois Pearce
Kelvin Tran
Josette Jaisingh
Dinah Morgan
I wholeheartedly support the cheaper books campaign - Dinah Morgan
Michelle Granzow
Helen Dymond
Phyllis Dadley-moore
Kathrina Majcher
Amanda De La Garde
Robyn Hanney
Robyn Hanney
Vicky Kosmas
Jenny Lee
Jacq Parkes
Jody Langmaid
Donna BATTAMS
I deserve to have cheaper books and so does the rest of Australia.
We have been exploited for far too long, as we were with CD's. Certainly it's time we fixed this up.

Peter Cochrane
Jeni Owens
Joan Pratt
Sarah Corbett
Niki Micallef
Judith Fritz
Richard Portlock
Sarah Jane Stanton
Sonya Luzar
Gweneth Baker
Danica Jeffrey
Colin Attard
Julie Banks
A good book a good friend, please believe for older citizens it is important to be able to purchase at reasonable prices.

It is time that books came down especially in this difficult economic times.

I am a uni student and youth worker and need to purchase books at a reasonable price for both work and study.

Australians should not be disadvantaged by having to pay more for books than citizens of other countries! How are we ever going to increase our literacy if books are prohibitively expensive?

Books are far too expensive here in Australia and Australian booksellers suffer as a result because most of us will simply order from Amazon.com or other American booksellers instead of buying the books here.

If you believe that all Australians should develop adequate and/or better literacy levels by a certain development stage - referring to students of all ages - then access to appropriate reading materials should be available at a reasonably affordable price as not all individual's preferential books can be found at your local libraries.

Reading is not just a hobby, it is also for an individual's psychological and philosophical development, providing a pathway for improved comprehension and logical thinking skills through literary understanding. It is crucial that, in order to aid all Australians to develop profound literacy skills, books should be a complement to their aid and not a supplement of their deficiency. This can be supported if books are kept at reasonably affordable prices.
Rosie Mooney
Richard Kemp
Susan Way
Malanie Godschalx
Karen Garner
Carmel Moore
Katie Mealey
David Blockley
Zazeh Morifttis
Pauline Hartman

Rhonda Gibson
Layla Chalmers
Emma Chidgey
Liza Mcquaid
Alexandra Rajewski
Charles Roberts
Helen cooke
Genevieve Canh
Nicole Arnold
Amy Basha
Elizabeth Duncan
Kerrie Kellner
Eloise Barber-cato
David Smith
Ben Rae
Roanne Young

Linda Tran
Kirsty Grey

THE MORE REASONABLE THE PRICE OF BOOKS THE MORE PEOPLE WILL READ

It's gotta happen. It does.

the price of some books can just be ridiculous, i mean $40 for a book is just crazy. i hope this brings the prices down!!

Books are an essential part of life, more so, access to knowledge and books from all over the world in a time such as we are experiencing. People have less money, books offer a retreat from everday life - don't make them more expensive.

Anything that helps puts less expensive books into the hands of all Australians is worth supporting.

Thank you for your consideration of future generations (and current ones!) who will have better financial opportunities to access hard copies of texts rather than rely on electronic ones. It will make turning the pages and rereading books more sensory-acute and stimulating. Bravi!

Books are now so expensive that I am unable to purchase them unless on special. In fact, I am forced now to borrow books from a library. Surely this restraint of trade should be removed to provide cheaper books to the consumer!

As a mother who struggles to afford books for her children, I would appreciate any changes in legislation that would reduce the price of books not increase it.
Books are far too expensive here in Australia. With finances becoming tight for everyone their sales will go down unless they are made more affordable.

We should always look at getting the best price for the customer.

I have a family of four who thrives on reading books. With today's economic climate it is making it more and more difficult to afford to purchase books for my family to read. I strongly believe reading is vitally important so therefore make the books cheaper for people to purchase then more would be sold.

I am an avid reader and bought both my children up to have a love of books. I would like my granddaughter to have the same love of books but in this harder economy books may be the first thing to go from the budget. As Local Councils are also feeling the economic pinch the libraries will not have the buying power to be able to keep up with demand. A smart country is one that has literate children!

Book prices are ridiculously high in Australia. Books should be easily affordable and accessible. If they're not affordable, they're not accessible. Please do everything possible to lower the cost of books so that Australians on modest incomes can afford to buy and thus read more books. Thank you for your efforts.

It is a contradiction that we claim to have an open economy yet place restrictions on trade in some market segments.

Preventing Australia from desending into sloven illiterate ignorance can be stopped by making literature more readily available to all!!
This is so good books are fantastic I see so many kids growing up unable to read and with cheaper books I would donate books to schools.
I think that with all the free trade on other goods it's unfair not to do likewise with books! More people would be encouraged to read if they were cheaper.
Australian books are overpriced compared to the rest of the world, buying books in non English speaking countries are the same price we pay here, which is ridiculous. Australian bookstores often lose my custom simply because it is cheaper to buy from the USA and pay postage than it is to buy here.

I fully support this approach and do not believe that Australian content will be adversely affected. With the advent of the Internet and globalisation, the relevant market is broader than Australian printed books, but extends globally. Australian content and ideas can and do feed a global market; we do not need archaic restrictions to protect us.  

Mark Eames

Should of been pushed for years ago!

Christopher Barton

Reading is an amazing tool - everyone should be able to afford it.

I note that hardback books manufactured in the United States are typically produced with better quality materials (including acid free paper and quality sewn cloth bindings) than their cheap Australian cardboard counterparts. I would welcome the freeing up of the market to allow such products to be sold in Australia at competitive prices.

This will enable my family to read more books than we can currently afford

Cheaper books to further our own self-learning!!!!

Having moved here from the UK I am amazed that books in Australia are sold for up to three times the price they are back home, and there is no choice but to pay these ridiculous prices! I strongly support the removal of these restrictions.

To restrict importation for 12 months is ridiculous! Some books are ridiculously priced as it is and it can't be easy for Dymocks to compete with Big W and other places who obviously source their books elsewhere. Books should be priced like CDs. They are something can become quite costly when you are buying books every 2-3 months.

Corina Treitl

i love reading but books are so expensive. I am supporting the coalition for Cheaper Books!
Reading is something that you either love or loathe. I have tried to set a good example to my children by reading to them - they also know that Mum has a 'quiet hour' on Sunday where she reads a bit of her book herself. In this era of technology, reading a book is something of an odity! But it is also a skill that can be enjoyed for many years - and handed on. Yes the economy has nose dived, things cost more, Australia is struggling - but how many books are actually published here, why put reading out of the reach of ordinary Australians?? Keep books affordable, encourage kids to read - make more books part of the Australian school curriculum, lets not be too hasty to tax books as it may come back to bite us!

We need cheaper books with the same price as Amazon.

The high price of books is detrimental to the healthy functioning of society as whole. There have been numerous non-fiction books I would like to have bought and studied but have not due to ridiculously high prices (eg over $100 per book!).

Books are indeed expensive, comparing them to DVD's and CD's. The prices are unacceptable and it is also clear that they are inconsiderate - making consumers pay more for goods when clearly cheaper alternatives are out there. Forcing us to pretty much import elsewhere, ironic considering the purpose.
Due to the high cost of purchasing books locally, especially computer related books, I often order them over the internet from places like Amazon. I purchase several books at a time and even with the exchange rate and shipping costs I usually still save significantly over the local price. I will continue to shop for books overseas so long as they remain so expensive here in AU.

I am a school teacher and I would like to see all my students have a future with books. Books are far too expensive under the current rules! If we want to encourage people to read and improve the general education of our population, we need less expensive books.

I have always felt we in Australia have had to pay excessive prices for books available even in third world countries at half to one third the prices we are quoted. Thank you for developing this petition.

The price of books over the last decade has really reached the point of being criminally obscene. It's about time they came down. Prices of books here are far too high. It is a crazy system when it is cheaper to buy online from another country. I should prefer to support local booksellers.

Support for Australian businesses, particularly Australian subsidiaries of overseas multi-nationals should not come at any price to the consumer. Australian readers have long lamented that book lovers in United Kingdom and USA, among others, have enjoyed more competitive pricing structures, while we have to pay disproportionately high retail prices to pursue our reading pleasure. With the caveat that authors and publishers receive fair compensation for their publishing rights, I am supportive of the Dymocks proposal to increase the competitiveness of book retailing in this country.

These Unnecessary restrictions put lovers of books (bibliophiles) in an disadvantageous place especially when these current laws force us to buy from Australian based companies, with the majority of proceeds reaching foreign investors. By repealing these Archaic and Protectionist laws we allow the Australian consumer to get the best quality for their money, and further prevent publishers from holding booksellers to ransom over their "Australian produced"- I use this term Loosley goods.

I support a free market to all. Without having all the information, I support the removal of the tariffs on importing books providing it assists all book retailers and does not aid in creating more monopolistic power to the larger retailers by adding to their economies of scale.
If we are trying to encouraging people, especially children to read more and get them out of looking at TV screens then why are we still paying so much for books?

Yay to cheaper books

Any initiative that will reduce the price of books, whilst maintaining the rights of the writer and publisher would be welcome. As an avid reader - at least one book per week - I find it a very expensive hobby.

Surely this will assist scholarship greatly and make important research easier to undertake and more accessible for all.

I am very keen that the copyright is preserved for authors, but feel that if local booksellers are to stay in business we need to be competitive in Australia. So many people buy their books from Amazon or such like so the Australian booksellers are cheated of potential customers. Marie Wilson

Booklover wanting cheaper books, especially as I'm a full time student!! Best petition ever.

I live in Central QLD and as such have access to one small book store and a library with limited selection. Because of this I don't get to read as much as I'd like to if books were cheaper I'd be able to buy and read more books.

This is a vitally important matter and relevant to our national maturity.
I think that by doing this our literacy levels in our current society will strengthen due to the lower costs in books. Education is the very essence to success, every student is entitled to have cheaper books for learning. Book being so expensive makes some families stress needlessly. Cheaper books will definitely aid the students of this current day and age a better chance to rise above the standard that has been set in the past. Making education more affordable with today’s crisis is very important. So I totally support this coalition in this fight. Thank you

Exclusive agents equals added costs. I strongly support the cheaper books campaign. An educated population does not happen without a reduction in costs. Books and information at a low cost result in a better educated population. Australia needs a better educated population.

The cost of books especially to families with a number of children is frightening. It is in the interest of this country to do everything in its power to ensure that families are not disadvantaged by unjust levies on the cost of books. Believe me, with a family of eight children I know what I am talking about.

I have supported such an initiative for some time and would welcome changes to Australia’s protectionist stance. Knowledge comes from reading and books should be at an affordable price for everyone to enjoy.

The Australian public is struggling financially; does the government want us to support the economy by spending on things like books or not? It seems like a pretty simple equation to me. Removal of parallel importation restrictions = cheaper books = more people can afford to buy books = healthier economy.

Continuation of the current protectionist policy for printed media is contrary to the present Australian Government and other Leading Nation policy for countries not further exasperate the GFC by engaging in protectionist policies. The double handling of printed media, for no gain in value, is a negative waste of labour and just detracts from Australia’s GDP. Printed media should have the same free access to Australia as does the electronic media, e.g. CD’s. Michael Perrott
Books are exceptionally expensive in Australia with GST added, and far more expensive than in U.K. With the current economic climate this is effecting people majorly and as such is causing a reduction in the number of people who can afford to buy books. We should be reducing the price to encourage more people to read and cultivating more scholars and academics in Australia. This would help us to grow as a Nation!

I'm a current highschool student, and although there are a lot of books to choose from in our local and school libraries, it has to be acknowledged that not all books can be provided through those sources. I consider myself a booklover, and indulge in buying books when I have the money, but it would be greatly appreciated if these books were cheaper. It doesn't seem that expanding one's knowledge and literacy skills should be placed at such an inflated price. If the government wants to support the maturity of literacy skills in Australian children as well as adults, than what better way to do that than lowering the price of the greatest literary sources we have - books.

Continuation of the current protectionist policy for printed media is contrary to the present Australian Government and other Leading Nation policy for countries not further exasperate the GFC by engaging in protectionist policies. The double handling of printed media, for no gain in value, is a negative waste of labour and just detracts from Australia's GDP. Printed media should have the same free access to Australia as does the electronic media, e.g. CD’s. Michael Perrott
Books should definitely be cheaper as they are essential to the education of children.

As a student, I find the price of books to be crippling. As someone who also reads for leisure I find the price of an average new release book at $35 to be exorbitant.

We should all be supporting cheaper books and as a teacher that doesn't see enough children reading anything that makes books cheaper is a great idea!!! I very much support this campaign. Thanks.

Please put them down!

I rarely purchase books locally, finding it much cheaper to by online at Amazon.. even after currency conversion and postage, the books are significantly cheaper than those available in West Australian book stores. If I could purchase my books at reasonable prices here in Perth, I would surely do so.

Reading forms a huge part of education, culture, literacy level and our enjoyment of life and standard of living. Books are already not cheap, would further discouraging readership be any use? If buying books becomes too expensive, I personally feel I'd rather order mine online in mass buys to overcome shipping costs. And that would move business out of Australia, yet again, not effective to the aim?
This stranglehold on timely access to world literature for Australians almost ranks with the burning of the books in Nazi times! Anything that militates against accessible prices for books reduces availability for very many would-be purchasers and presumably libraries and sources of books for readers. People are retreating more and more to the world of the computer and fewer readily purchasable books will further discourage potential readers from the so much more satisfying habit of reading.

This is another instance of control of trade. In a global economy that lauds free trade there is no excuse to maintain this artificial trade barrier. I have four children and with books around the $15 to $20 limits the amount I will by them to read. They all love reading and have their favourite authors. I would love cheaper books for them.

I am originally Canadian and everytime I return to Canada I buy so many books there as the price is considerably lower than here. I have always been shocked at the expense of books in Australia. If we want to interest people in continuing to read books in this time of recession it is vital to remove the restrictions allowing this in Australia.

As an educator and teacher of children, I strongly believe in the purpose behind this petition. Books are something to be cherished as well as enjoyed, and children deserve the best opportunity at the best prices available. Many a time I have come across beautiful books with messages of morals, purpose of life, and how to interact with others, only to be discouraged by the cost. This cost factor is often the reason behind the lack of books in low-economic homes - homes where it is particularly important. Please consider this petition seriously and act upon it in the interest of our children. Jacqueline Sheehan

Good Luck with your goal, hope it works out for you!!!!
I believe that books should be cheaper as it is not fair that we are paying such high prices for them when markets overseas have the very cheap. Eg. the US

If we can remove the it on CD's we should be able to do it on books.

We have been ripped off for decades. Please stop this rort.

Absolutely - bring on cheaper books and encourage reading!

We love books and it costs us much money buying books.

Books need to be available for all to purchase and not a luxury item. Please do all you can to make books more affordable.

Yes - cut out useless middlemen. They add no value.

Books are vital for the development of the nation's education and intellectual capital. They should be affordable.
Luisa Watters
Sarah Kirkham
Krystyna Kidson

I thought this was a 'free country' without restrictions......Books open our minds, whether it be fiction or not. Please don't restrict Australians from getting the books we want. Those of us who can barely afford the high prices now don't need any more pressure. For some of us, books are our friends.....

Alison Bambach
Julia Moszczynski
Roshan Dhammapala
Roger Chan
Stacey Hart
Cathy Sheen
Susan Kicsak

I agree that making books cheaper to buy, literacy in Australia will improve dramatically. I work in a Library and this decision will affect myself and my workplace dramatically in a positive way.

Lyn Wotton
Samantha Cooper
Emilia Farkas
Corinne Al Natour
Ashley Edgar

Please do this to make books more acessible to everyone - reading is one of the greater pleasures in life and it is important that young people develop their reading skills -more access and lower prices will encourage this.

Nadja Bamberg
Alice Yu
Anne Baker
Karen Fitzgerald
Virginia Familton
Claire Neyland
Jenny Oakley
Ivonne Lizama
Rhys Politis
Peter Petrou
Chris Landon
Paul Allinson
Valarie Sawran

Also I would like to say that I don't except Dymocks price policy, since I can buy up to 50% better priced in other shops. Your Management should review costs wasted in flashy offices, cars etc. end bring it back to better offers, so you don't loose the customers. I would like to spend more money for my children in your shop due to service and quality not to price! Another little advise from my experience from overseas. A childrens corner with chairs or 'beenbags' in australia would support mum's when trying to 'spend money' in your shop and there is hardly enough room to get around the shelves with shopping bags and children in your care. Last but not least: I tried to purchase exlibres (stickers to personalise book ownership) but shops told me they run out and they would not be able to o

Margaret Martin
Sarah Vitsas
Anita Moyes
Madeline Darvell
Monica Vu
Alexandra Mellas
Nina Estigoy

For Australia to learn we need books cheap so all Australian's can make our country a better place to live now and for the future.

CHEAPER BOOKS!

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. This is very important for the Developmemnt and Education of our whole community especially our young.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kevin</td>
<td>Frawley</td>
<td>Having spent many years in the past as a student and later an academic, I know the impact of this book pricing. Americans can buy books much cheaper than us which convinces my peers and I to buy books online from overseas. If Australian books were cheaper we would buy them, keeping the money within Australia. Isn't that what we want right now seeing as we are in a recession...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yvonne</td>
<td>Ruth Dodds</td>
<td>I fail to see why a simple system (which is already in place for the locally published books) of passing royalties back to the author could not be implemented on imported books. Australians deserve cheaper books and deserve not to have prices dictated by third parties. Let the market operate as it should. Allow the retailers to source books from the cheapest supplier!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Herringe</td>
<td>I want cheaper books</td>
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<td>Nat</td>
<td>Wong</td>
<td>I want cheaper books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thea</td>
<td>Kramer-woodbridge</td>
<td>I wish I could sign this petition a million times over.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marisa</td>
<td>Cardamone</td>
<td>Healthy competition will mean more books sold, not less.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra</td>
<td>Sampson</td>
<td>I thought free trade meant free trade, so it should happen both ways!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maureen</td>
<td>Nichols</td>
<td>The only thing keeping the price of books high will result in, is more people buying their books from overseas sources like amazon.com which won't help the Australian economy at all.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Richard</td>
<td>Laznik</td>
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<td>Rodney</td>
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Mary Ewers
Book buying should be encouraged for people with all levels of income, so reducing prices will pay dividends for the literacy of our nation.

Carl Battaglini
truly about time as the price is getting out of hand

Jacob Mottram
Cheaper books mean more people buy books. If Australian authors write good books surely they are more likely to sell if they are cheaper. Like all content in the current era the providers of the old business models need to realise the world has moved on and the days of the "middle men" being able to get their piece of the action from just being there are fastly disappearing. regards

Paul Brown

Cheryl Lamond

Jeff Petchell

Susan Wilkinson

Tek Shen Ling

We need to do all we can to support reading in the community at large, as reading encourages and enhances communication, which is essential for the future of our species. Vocabulary is enlarged, and intelligence increased, by reading.

Robin Hawken

Julie Samerski

Ailsa Mcmanus

Jill Marsland

Marcia Schwarcz

Elaine Hart

Stacey Hall

Trevor Wainstein

Julie Cutting

Anna Jackson

Poh-ling Chin

Wendy Saw

Christine Little

Megan Seymour

Casey Finigan

Traci Thornton

Katrina Boldt

Shirley Hoopert

Susanne Whelan

Daniel Calcei

Stewart Unwin

Katharine Colegate

Jie Lin

Sonya Pryce

Janice Sommer

Megan Phillips

Bruce Williams

Nick Ceder

Sue Schubert

Shannon Wood

Sarah McInnes

Cassandra Bisinella

Thalia Ta

Dorothy Brinkman

Matthew Smith

As a lover of reading, I find a lot of books unjustly expensive and out of my price range and I definitely support this push for cheaper books.

Cheaper books encourage reading, which increases literacy. A generation of children unable to think critically is no longer science fiction; it is a sad reality. Let's stop this.

This is a fantastic initiative. Books, specifically, paperbacks. should not be $20 when they can be had for $10 from Amazon and similar sites.

At the moment the cheapest way to buy books is online - and this is taking a lot of custom away from Australian booksellers.
Silvana Bettiol

I'm currently in the UK now and I see that prices of books are reasonable which means everyone can get the opportunity to buy a novel, it opens creativity for every social class of person, it encourages the young to dream gives companionship to the old, it opens discussions, book clubs, literary groups...you cannot deny this from your people. I am appalled to think I came to the UK with our terrible exchange rate and still find books cheaper than what I can buy in Australia.

Casey Mckenzie

I remember when books cost $10, now I am paying upwards of $20 for the same sized book when the cost of publishing has gotten cheaper!

Philippa Roylance

Janine Caburian

Karen Knight

Michael Webb

Cora Baldock

David Carosin

Dan Layton

Amee Butterworth

Jocelyn Hodgson

Eduardo Mesiti

Sean Blackwell

Linda Murray

Edgar Gonzales

Richard Robinson

Stephen Braun

I believe that access to books at the lowest possible price should be a priority for all governments in order to encourage literacy and stimulate learning.

Paul Mc Evedy

Meulyn Bird

Salwah Kirk

Huong Tran

Honor Van Der Plight

Books are the path to education and knowledge, and knowledge should be cheap and accessible.

There is no sense or justification of being part of a global market to revert to the rankest of protectionism when dealing with the profits that accrue to UK publishers.

Michelle Hanley

Katrina Wong

Jacqueline Manning

Quan Tran

Sue Goudas

Robert Yeo

Adriana Da Silva

Horst Gunthx Burkhardt

Wendy Liu

Simone Foggio

Gabrielle Von Tessin

Julie Mckinnery

Angela Jenkins

Rachel Pearson

Julie Hampton

Elizabeth Fraser

Segolene Autret

Books are the cornerstone of great education and a first class back-to-basics entertainment form. If successful, this campaign to provide cheaper books will encourage more people to read instead of watching TV or playing video games, which will surely have some effect on the current environmental issues which Australia and the world are facing. If you remove these restrictions then more people than just book lovers will benefit.

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign.

Why do I have to pay more when I should be allow to buy for less. Because copyright will still be protected if restrictions are lifted, I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign.

I support free access to the cheapest available versions of literature for the benefit of Australian readers.
With the economy down fall, us booklovers deserve a worthy retreat and that's in our books. If the price of the books are going to increase, the level of readers will reduce and I believe in today's society people are reading enough. Therefore, consider the fact that the creative arts not only bring the best out of people but implement many attributes to the viewer.

We should encourage people to read books. Helping bring the price down will also be a great thing for future generations to love to read.

These kind of restrictions should be removed to assist the World economy. There is no valid economic argument for protectionism of this kind.

Bureaucracy sometimes is like cancer ... pervasive. This petition hopefully will shake up those who implement these restrictions.

When travelling overseas it brings home the ridiculous regulations which prohibits many in Australia from reading and buying books, due to their high price. In the global market today, there should be no restrictive trade practices which prevent a level playing field and therefore encourages literacy in all age groups.

The current laws, have increased my online book shopping and I am spending my Australian dollars overseas to get cheaper books.

Thank you. It is great to know that something is being done.
Cheaper books mean more books for children to read.

Books are already too expensive. Keep them at this price or I will not buy anymore!

As a teacher and a parent I believe that the government should remove all restrictions as a way of demonstrating it's commitment to improving literacy standards in Australia. If books are expensive families with lower socio economic standards won't be able to afford them and thus children will miss out on an vital and wonderful resource.

I buy books which have an inflated price because of the restrictions. I would buy more without them!!!

Books help ensure that our nation is inspired, educated, and broad-minded. Please remove the restrictions.
We need to encourage more reading so that books don't disappear in favour of the internet and other medias. Don't make it any harder to buy good priced beautiful books please!

It is frustrating that a book is often much cheaper in the United States of America than in Australia. Even allowing for currency differences and freight it is sometimes cheaper to purchase a book from an overseas bookshop rather than an Australian bookseller. This is costing Australian jobs.
Access to books is an essential for any so called democracy.

Books have been too expensive for why too long - it is about time prices were lowered.

Book prices in this country should be somewhere between 20-30% less than what they are. I believe that we deserve cheaper books and by making books less dear will encourage people to buy books and therefore stimulate the economy, is this not what we want in the current financial crisis?

Books should never be regarded as a luxury. They are food for the mind and should be priced at an affordable cost.

When I want to buy a particular title, in nearly all cases, I will buy online. Range and price from overseas sources is, within my experience, always the better option. The price differential is often substantial. Books and reading are so important!!!

Making books cheaply and freely available is the best way we can educate our young and bring pleasure and knowledge to all Australians.
Books are so important for everyone. Getting kids excited about books is the key to a bright future. As an adult, being able to escape to a different place through a book is vital for a healthy mind. Books MUST be affordable and as such, I support this campaign and ask for the removal of restrictions.

People hesitate going to book stores like 'Dymocks' and 'Angus & Robertson', cause it's so expensive, compared to other stores that retail books. Such as 'Big W' and 'Target'. It's a shame, cause I love going into stores specifically for BOOKS. But it's just so expensive :(

Literacy is to be encouraged in every way at all costs. We must make books cheaper and encourage reading. Our language skills are crucial if Australians are to competitive with the rest of the world.

This will help me purchase books in Australia - rather than skipping locals and buying imports online. Support business, support Australia, support the Coalition for Cheaper Books!

GST should never have been imposed on books, so important to our nation's education. Please see that some reduction in their prices can be brought about.

CHEAPER BOOKS, CHEAPER BOOKS, CHEAPER BOOKS =]

books are awesome!

Totally in favour - would rather my money stay here than spend it on Amazon....

Until recently I had been a mature age tertiary student. The cost of books made some of my research prohibitive. These same books were on loan in the university library but were in such demand they were frequently unavailable. If their cost had been a more reasonable price, I could have bought the books I needed instead.
I for one would welcome the amendment of the current laws that stop Australian Booksellers from importing books other than through the Australian subsidiaries, or agents of overseas publishers. I personally find the prices of even paperback novels a bit obscene. The CD market did not collapse when similar restrictions were removed. Please help me buy cheaper books, and help me buy titles that I am often after, from my local bookshop rather than having to use AMAZON. It seems silly that even with postage costs the same book will cost me less getting it sent over from the USA than from my local bookshop. Cheers, Jascha

Jascha Zimmermann
Claire Kewley
Brooke McCallum
Janice McDonnell
Jill McDougall
Rebecca Dominguez
Susan Oliver
Nick Franey
Annie Pinto
Narelle Chocholowski
Debby N
Sophie Rothwell
Melissa Lai
Sachi Taulelei

I support the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation.

Michelle Green
Norman Newbon
Joanne Tan
Carli Bonavia
Norman Newbon
Judy Chan
Fiona D’Souza
Kavi Jarrott
Skye Mcguffie
Jasmine Huynh
James Langlands
Fiona MacGregor
Dianne Goodfellow
Kate Kimber
Phil Tennant
Jennifer Stein
David Walker
Catherine Borchok
Diane Turner
Amanda Milios
Stacey Rae
Jenni Davis
Jessica Neurohr
Lyndal Maloney
Katherine Pollard
Tresna Davies
Belinda Stevenson
Grant Wilson
Natalie Charlesworth

I believe this action is overdue as the cost of books in Australia is excessive. It is about time this change was made.

We should be able to buy books at the most competitive prices, not be held to ransom by the current laws. As a school librarian, I would be able to buy more books with the limited budget I get, thus allowing access by the students to more books.

We should be able access knowledge at the cheapest price possible!

yyyah. i like cheap books. sorry i couldnt give me rea addres. just dont do that on the internet

Books are already expensive as it is to buy so making it cheaper would encourage more people to read

We’d absolutely support the removal of restrictions on importing cheaper books. Bring on cheaper books.
David Munoz literature should be an easily affordable commodity to people from all walks of life.

Yanqi Qiu

Val Ferreira

Cassandra Dowdell

Wendy Barry Jefferson

Peter Fitzgerald

Julie Goulopoulos

David Turner

This is a necessary and sensible change.

Nicola Gorton

Manfred Sollorz

Charlotte Clezy

Alison Withers

Janice Ha

Lynette Philpott

Wendy Zheng

Stasia Kail-Buckley

Lindsey Moralee

Anne Muller

Saige Exner

Danielle Wrigglesworth

Karen leBlancSmith

Hussein Karimjee

Elaine Hayward

Abe Mordoc

I work in the printing industry one of the top 2 commercial printers in australia and NZ. Book publishing in this country is such a small part of the printing industry, it is ridiculous to believe the current laws are in place to protect Australian jobs. There is only a couple of companies that do the bulk of the large run (read popular) books here in Australia. The law is designed to protect their interests

Anchana Kandiah

Rebecca Calgaro

Stephen Doyle

Jessica Westlin

Lauris Grose

As an avid book reader I think it is imperative that these outdated laws are removed, thereby encouraging thousands of Aussies to develop important reading and creative skills

I'm happy to buy my books from the store if it means the money stays local.
As a booklover I would welcome the prospect of being able to purchase books at a cheaper price whilst ensuring royalties are left intact.

Books are important for our children's reading, writing, spelling & speech.

As a recent returning Australian who had lived in Canada (North America) for over 7 years, I find it unconscionable that Australians have to pay more for books here. For example, a novel purchase in Canada would cost me $10 including GST and currency conversion, which I find now I have to pay $22 - $25 and this is for a paperback, not a hardcover. How can the government allow hardworking Australians to be robbed this way? If we are to incent Australians to remain invested in Australia, we have to demonstrate that Australia is a place that puts actions behind their word of "fair go". Books are a medium to get young and old remain educated through self learning and to be a more educated and literate country.

I love reading and I must say it costs me a fortune to buy books. So to get books cheaper would allow me to read more books.

Yes, please, for cheaper books. Whoever is regulating the price of books is pricing them out of the average person's reach. They are becoming more and more of a luxury.

PLEASE - AUSTRALIANS DESERVE MORE AFFORDABLE BOOKS.

This is a good idea as it may be able to encourage reading and thus help increase literacy levels which is good for the economy as it means that workers who read will gain more skills hence making the work force more educated. Good luck! =)
It is about time books were cheaper and then perhaps parents would bury more and the children of to-day would read more and watch less television or play computer games.

You know, what really serves Australia's best interests is expensive books.

Anything to encourage reading - my daughter loves books and most of the books she wants are not available at our local library. The cost of some children's books is disgraceful.

Removing this restriction will help people shop within Australia. At the moment Amazon and Bookdepository are able to undercut prices of those in stores here and there is no incentive not to buy books cheaper from overseas.

Australian book sellers are currently losing business because it is often cheaper to order on-line from overseas than purchasing from local bookstores. I am just one of many who would rather see money going in the pockets of our local businessman.

I'm ashamed at our government. I find it hard enough to buy books for enjoyment and school, as I'm a student, but they're keeping it this way?

I have often ordered books from overseas (generally through ebay) as it has been cheaper to get books this way - even taking postage into consideration. A recent example - I paid AUD $40 for a (new) book from the UK instead of $90 locally. I would love to be able to buy books locally, supporting local booksellers, but not feel ripped off.

I buy a lot of my books from US or UK, as they are so much cheaper, even with our low dollar. Would prefer to buy here. Melissa
This is an important campaign for the general public to be able to buy cheaper books. My wife and I wholeheartedly support Dymocks petition.

Please only use my first name and surname and not my address. Thank you.

Cheaper books allow for accessibility for everyone. This also includes libraries. Help us create a smarter Australia and reduce the price of books.

On a recent trip to the USA I was shocked to see how much cheaper books were there than in Australia. I wanted to fill my suitcase with books. If we had price parity, I for one, would buy more than double the number of books I currently purchase.

whats best for the community - not whats best for the government.

I'd rather buy from Australian retailers than Amazon - this would make it more equitable.

Promoting such competition SHOULD, in my humble and uneducated opinion, only help people spend money and thus make a contribution to helping to stabilize the economy.

I believe in the interests of free trade - and to ensure Australians have access to the best of current literature at reasonable prices, this distorting trade barrier should be removed. The benefit in the past has gone in the main to overseas publishers who have charged premium prices in the Australian market. It has not helped to support Australian publishing of Australian literature. This anachronistic restraint of trade should end. Yours sincerely Julie Bayliss
The cost of books that feed our mind and soul, that entertain and inform us, that expand our horizons and knowledge of the world and all it contains has been far too high for too long and is discriminatory and restrictive. Please bring down the costs of these experiences to a level where 'Everyman' may attain them.

This law is ridiculous. Get rid of it and help Australian kids to enjoy the gift of books.

Quite frankly, the price of books is and has been out of reach for many people. Such a shame when it can give so much pleasure over and over again. Good luck with your submission.

Cheaper books will also promote Australian writing talent.

The price of books in Australia is currently ridiculously high. As long as copyright issues are respected, Australians deserve access to cheap books!

Books in Australia have been far too expensive for avid readers to buy and it is about time we came into line with other countries where books are so much cheaper

And maybe a wider range/variety of titles will be accessible.
A significant portion of my income is spent on books. The fact that I can buy a bundle of books (be they paperback, trade or hardcover) from an overseas supplier, and the are cheaper than buying locally (and that includes conversion to other currency, conversion fees and postage) is to the detriment of the local industry. I would like to spend my money locally and support local business and industry, but when I can get more for less elsewhere, it's hard. And with the Federal Government making significant spending on education as part of the stimulus package, should this not be supported by encouraging people to read?

Books overseas have always been so much more affordable than in Australia. It's time we made knowledge, learning, literacy and a nation of readers more financially achievable.

I am sure that many people like myself have bought from Amazon rather than from an Australian company in order to access cheaper books.

I support the coalition for cheaper books Campaagain for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Wendy Norris

I support the reduction in the price of books under parallel importation. Recently when the exchange rate against the US dollar was almost at parity, it was cheaper to buy a book from an American online book store and pay for the freight to Australia than to buy the same book even the same edition in Australia.

This will help curb the loss of sales through sites such as amazon and ebay and help Australian businesses to remain competitive.

I strongly support the above Coalition for Cheaper Books Campaign - we must remove restrictions on parallel importation
As with most market sectors, meaningful competition is essential if prices are to influenced by market conditions. Generally, increased competition will result in a lowering of prices. Where consumers have no choice, nothing can be done to influence prices. But, with books, this is not the case. The internet enables disgruntled consumers to compare prices here against there. Where it makes financial sense, consumers will purchase their goods overseas and deprive local suppliers of their custom as a consequence. Not having local competition makes no sense at all - economic or otherwise - and protectionism is not the answer either. Put it to the test and let the market (and the consumers) decide - it will resolve itself very quickly.

Books are too expensive in Australia and I love to read. Make books cheaper, so more people can afford to read. How can you encourage people to read when books are so damn expensive. We face a future of people that won't be able to express themselves because they never were exposed to a different way to do it.

I am only a student, and therefore I do not receive an income at this current time. This makes it extremely hard for me to buy the books I like (especially if I want to continue a series) and so I have to ask my parents or wait till my birthday to receive them. If there was no restrictions and they were cheaper, I could buy them with my own money and not have to worry about paying people back or that I would not be able to afford them because they cost too much.

The book market in Australia is way too expensive and therefore limits the availability of books and the viability of libraries being able to supply enough new titles through their falling budgets. Books are cheaper overseas and I don't believe that their publishing industries or authors have been disadvantaged by the pricing policies of the USA or UK.

I am always astounded at the price of books! Surely reading is something we want to encourage, not have them priced beyond the reach of so many! Buying a book now is like buying a luxury item.

I think that book should be cheaper as it would encourage more readers throughout Australia and it would surely boost the economy as well as give younger readers more opportunity to buy books as I know that even though I love to read, I can't always afford the books.
I recently spent 18 months working/training in the US. I found that not only was there a significant difference in the price of books but also in the diversity and volume of available books. I prefer a specific genre (paranormal) and have found it increasingly difficult to continue to purchase my favourite authors since my return to Australia. I agree with your campaign wholeheartedly.

Books are an amazing experience. I could not imagine my life without books and making them harder to get and buy is an awful possibility that I hope will never happen.

Reading books is such an important activity for people of all ages so removing the restrictions on parallel importation will enable more people to buy books and encourage reading.

Books should be cheaper! I can only afford one book a month! Thanks DYMOCKS for bringing this to my attention!

I agree and totally support the removal of restrictions.

We have been paying far too much for books for a very long time. And then GST was added to the cost of books! I’m all for cheaper books.
Please support the push to make Australia 100% literate by making books available to all!

The economy is dying, and so are literacy rates. Two in one solution! (: books should be cheaper and yes the restrictions should be taken away ...its terrible the prices we pay for books -----

I have long queried the price of books in Australia. I maintain regular contact with a number of friends overseas and have been advised of the differences in price, after exchange rates are taken into account, and it is unacceptable. Being a reader of 14th Century Literature and a massive fan of Medieval Philosophy the price difference has a massive impact on whether or not I buy a book, and in some instances, I have found it cheaper to simply have a friend buy the book overseas, send it to me, and still at a noticeably cheaper price than any retail store in Australia can compete with. The fact is, your legislation makes it so that book lovers such as myself are forcing exceptional retailers with incomparable ranges of literary works and impeccable customer handling skills, such as Dymocks

If prices were to fall I would definately buy more books. The joy of having a new book to read is head'y and the pleasure of reading it is bliss. I often find that I miss out on owning a copy of certain books as by the time I can afford to purchase they are no longer available, this I find exceedingly sad. Anything that can bring the beauty of reading to more of the community will never be anything but great.

This really sucks, books are too expensive as it is!!

this is a great idea.
As an English teacher who spends her days despairing at the reading and writing skills of today's youth, I find the idea of making books dearer negligent and dooming our educational standards. It is hard enough to get children to read books without making books less accessible due to price inflation. If we want to become the clever country, we need to invest in the future, make reading MORE accessible - strategies should be put in place to make books cheaper. Good on Dymocks for beginning this campaign and spreading awareness about this contentious and vitally important issue.

It should be seen as an imperative that the knowledge and pleasure which can be obtained from literature is available to everybody. But the prohibitive prices of books make this a luxury - not part of everyday life. I believe good literature informs, which benefits the mind (and spirit), as opposed to some of the more vacuous television programs which deadens the brain. Affordability may find new devotees, especially amongst the young.

I strongly disagree with the draft recommendation to continue the import restrictions for 12 months from the date a book becomes available in Australia. Let competition rule while protecting authors' and publishers' copyright. Don't make consumers pay to protect local subsidiaries and agents of overseas publishers. We should be able to access books at prices comparable to those available in the USA.

I love books, but I can't afford all the ones I really want. It would be AWESOME if the prices were reduced!

Yay for knowledge. :)}
Providing a monopoly to the Australian importers, creates predatory pricing models for the advantage of a limited few. When we object to other industries and nations doing so, why single out Australia agents and subsidiaries for preferential treatment? Should they not also have to compete in the world market?

I support retailers trying to give me a product at a reasonable and competitive price... why would the government stop this? It's my money and my choice..

It would make a big difference to the amount of books I buy. I usually buy them as presents, but if cheaper, I could buy them for myself without feeling too much lighter in the purse.

Doesn't it make more sense to have cheaper books? I'd buy books at least once a week if they were a little bit cheaper.

The price of books in Australia is already ridiculously high. Almost all the many books I have purchased over the last few years have been bought over the internet from overseas at well below(including freight) the same book price in the local bookstores. Any increase in prices will drive more booklovers to follow the same path and further impact on the local economy.

As a book lover I support means to lower the cost of books in Australia so long as the authors continue to receive their rightful royalties, and no jobs would be lost in Australia. If books in Australia were less expensive it would reduce online searches for comparative pricing, and ordering from overseas.

Cheaper books would be an amazing thing. I often don't by books in Australia, choosing instead to order them from America due to price differences. Having been book shopping in the US I would dearly love to see their prices (or even twice their price!) down here in Australia. I sincerely hope this petition works.
As a lot of the books I read are specialty books mainly on gardening it is desirable that these books are able to compete in an open market and are cheaper for we who are on pensions or for those restricted in movement where they cannot avail themselves of libraries.

I do wish that books are priced reasonably in Australia and that there is a better range. I have been buying books from Amazon.com for over 10 years and more recently from BookDepository.co.uk from whom the shipping is 100% free! I have also used Borders as a place to preview books due to their EXTENSIVE range compared with Dymocks, A&R, Collins etc... When the range and price of books available locally in Australia becomes comparable to what I can buy on the internet, I will return to buying most books locally. Ironically, someone is shooting themselves in the foot here by pricing and limitation - the parallel importer has become the reader and the Australian book stores suffer for this. Buyers will always find a way around restrictive Australian pricing if they are keen enough to str

A book should be the cheapest way to educate, and to broaden the knowledge available to all people

Removing restrictions will improve user choice and literacy levels and lead to a 'smarter' country.

In the overall scheme of business, without the restrictive protection, the price comes down, more books will be bought and every party will benefit, agents and subsidiaries included.
I do not think it is fair that an Australian book shop like Dymocks cannot compete with the likes of K mart (foreign owned) and urge you to listen to what Dymocks are saying so that people like me can continue to afford to shop at Dymocks and enjoy the experience of doing so with knowledgeable staff to help etc

Janette Morris
Michelle Baumgartner
Daniel Morrissey
Books are the one thing that should be treat, as they can entertain for hours. The current regime imposes an unfair impost on information. Australia will never be the “clever country” until we can access information in book form (and in fact all forms) at internationally competitive prices. Changing the law to level the playing field is an absolute no-brainer - even for a "not so clever country"!

Gary Blair
Viva Le Books!
Shane Treacy
Toni Patsias
Maggie Anderson-Lister
Veronica Tay
Steven Bale
Jan Triggs
Books are much cheaper in the USA even if paying postage to Australia.
Patricia Cook
Wei Lew
Matt Gilbert
Joan Bray
Jeannie Crommelin
Gordon Grivas
Merinda Rigoll
Catherine Haigh
Ken Truslove
This is long overdue...more people would read more if books were cheaper
Alessandra Moore
Vivienne Ward
Lorraine Newland
Shi Yan Liu
Norah Walden
Karen Chau
Trevor Bourke
Deanne West
Tracey Duke
Make books more accessible and more affordable for all.
Vikki Hughes
Sue Crofts
I enjoy reading on a regular basis and have considered buying books online but I would rather support the Australian economy

Sian Brewer
Mary Heferen-faulkner
Due to the fact that books are alot cheaper overseas, I tend to stock up at that time which stops me from spending dollars in my own country. If books were competitively priced as they are overseas, I would buy more books in Australia.

Nina Solder
I urge Government to seriously consider this petition and remove those restrictions that will ultimately lead to cheaper books. It is vital to encourage more people to read books and being able to afford books is an important step forward to a more literate and informed society.

In the last few months, I have bought few books from bookstores, having instead to rely on second hand bookstores, because of excessive prices, which is a real shame, because I used to go to bookstores a lot.

Why has it taken soooooo long for this issue to be addressed?? Why are we being ripped off like this??

Access to books is so important to everyone’s education in so many ways. It should be easier to buy books at an economical price without huge taxes added.

Books are our most basic source of education and entertainment. Why should we be forced to pay inflated prices when reading benefits us all greatly (citizens and government alike)? University is expensive enough. Don’t make it hard for people to learn, on their own, from home as well.

Australians are entitled to be able to purchase books at the cheapest price possible - particularly in a tighter economy as this will help Australian sales and therefore Australian jobs ie a more buoyant retail book buying economy within the country.
To enable Australians to be able to afford to purchase books, it is necessary that they become cheaper to buy. The price of books is very expensive and has been for several years now. Anything which enables them to be cheaper to buy can only be a good thing.

we seem to have not passed on the love of books to this generation - they are missing out on so much. Yes we have libraries, of which we are all probably all members, but to pick out a book that you really want to read and then turn it over and find out “that you just cannot afford it right now” and have to put it back is really disappointing. I am just pleased that we are a family of readers.

If books were cheaper perhaps we would not have many illiterate people in our society and it would help to encourage children to read more in this electronic age.

Australia’s literacy levels will continue to drop if the price of books continues to remain high or even increase. The current financial situation of many households means that expensive purchases considered to be non-essential will stop, and for those householders who don’t consider books or literacy to be important that means buying books will stop. While it is cheaper to buy a piece of plastic in the shape of a superhero or TV star than it is to buy a book about that same superhero or TV star there is no incentive for people of lower literacy levels to consider books as a suitable gift for their own or other children.

I believe books are a necessity of life, not a luxury, and support any legitimate means to lower prices to make them more affordable for everyone.

We need to improve literacy levels in Australia and cheaper books would be a step in the right direction.
Lidija Berberu
cheaper books
Why does this even need a petition?! Of course remove the restriction. Stop protecting businesses and start looking out for the consumer for a change! As we are a family of book lovers i thank you for taking this on on our behalf. Regards Ann Dye and Family.

Heather Bennett

Ann Dye

As we are a family of book lovers i thank you for taking this on on our behalf.

Thalia Bonfield

Kathy Marie Genua

Jennifer Franco

Stephen Bonfield

Erika Aheimer

Jesus Lariosa

Leanne Dowsett

Bruno Tomadon

Vanessa Bayldon

Barbara Vlahos

Hannah Johnson

Natalie Winter

David Epstein

Renee Patterson

Ceri Kitely

Clare Hinchey

Melissa Tjakrawisada

Dimitar Berberu

Melissa Crawford

Siobain Bonfield

Julie Samarelli

The price of books in Australia is very expensive, compared with the UK. When trying to encourage our daughters to read it only hinders the learning process with books being so expensive. My parents visiting from the UK do not buy books in Australia because they are more than 100% higher in cost than in the UK. Please make books more accessible for ALL Australians.

Kuan Sin

Cheaper books mean more people will be reading. We need to encourage reading to lure kids away from the computer where information is dumbed down through bits and bytes.

Iain Hawkes

As a frequent international traveller I regularly see that we are paying in Australia non-competitive prices for books.

Colin Taylor

The sooner the better

Kimberley Milton

For a lot of people, books are away of escaping reality and being transported into their own world of fiction. Whether it be to Forks or to a secret location somewhere in the Amazon. Increasing the prices of books may not give people who are on a small income to spend their money on small luxuries like books. My children are increasly sourcing information from the internet (which is mostly inaccurate). Making books more affordable again may prompt this generation to actually pick one up from time to time!

Trish Joyce

Aidan Kraus

Sharon Lothian

Joy Spray

Amy Kavanagh
I fully support this petition. The cost of books is becoming prohibitive and it is totally unreasonable to expect people to pay on average $40 for a book.

BOOKs cannot and should not be replaced by anything. Kindly note that there are ample of plus points while reading a actual printed book rather than using any electronics media which are also most harmful hazards to our Eyes. So Government must support Printed and Cheaper Books...

It is so important for everyone to be able to access books and reading. Sadly, so many of our younger generations do not experience the wonders of reading. While obviously this isn't totally as a result of the cost of books, anything that we can do to help and encourage people to read will be a good thing.

What better way to encourage today's youth to read than to help lower the price of books? Consider it an investment in our countries future.

If books became cheaper, more young teenagers like myself would start reading more.

I am a reader of several books per week and have to constantly shop around to find cheaper books and sometimes certain authors new books take far too long to come here and so I am more likely to get them directly from overseas anyway. Keep my money local and allow this to happen.

I agree whole-heartedly.

Free trade benefits everyone in the long run.

If we are serious about reducing trade barriers then it is a nonsense to limit the importation of printed material to what amounts to Australian subsidiaries of overseas owned businesses.

BOOKs cannot and should not be replaced by anything. Kindly note that there are ample of plus points while reading a actual printed book rather than using any electronics media which are also most harmful hazards to our Eyes. So Government must support Printed and Cheaper Books...

Books are expensive enough as they are. Books are about learning and gaining knowledge. They should not be increased in price, therefore less people will buy them, therefore less learning in the country. Also seriously, we are in a recession...who is going to buy more expensive books??
Public Libraries do not get all the books people want to read. It is very expensive also to buy childrens books.

Cheaper books will encourage younger readers to continue to read. If parents can't afford books, kids will not get the best opportunity at a wide range of interesting books and will quickly lose interest. It's harder enough getting them to read now, without price being an issue too.

As an avid reader and traveller, I find myself either purchasing books elsewhere or researching and purchasing them online as they are actually cheaper. How silly is that?

No one can lose if book prices were cheaper!

this is a very important step in the literary development of our country. I know many people who say they would read more books if only they could afford to buy them. I also know many parents that say the same for their kids.

as i am on a pensioner concession card & an avid reader i would welcome any way i could obtain cheaper books as reading is big part of my life, regards, gary wallin.

Cheaper books means I can spend my coins on something more than a Big Mac and fries. I bet you can tell which option is doing me better in the long term.

Australians are forced to pay the dearest prices compared to book-readers elsewhere, and also to wait up to 3 months from publication because of sea/surface freight times. Remove at least some of these artificial price-raising laws.
Andrew Middleton
Patricia Olde
Robyn Robson
Julie Mason
Fatin Atiqah Abu Othman
Xianru Li
Darryl White

In these hard and uncertain financial times, surely the removal of restrictions that enable bookstores to sell more product would be regarded as an "economically stimulating" step?

Russell Dessai-Chin
Ros Te Maari
Nikola Maricic
Kerry Hopkings
Oenone Cameron
I support the Dymocks submission. I want to be able to buy affordable books.
Kiera Magee
Laura Jennings
Phoebe Rayner
Rob Aitken
Donna Gaffney
David Stephenson
Garda Turner
Natalie Dixon-Flint
David Olshen
Jo Sanfilippo
Emma White
Keith Thoma Stephens

Currently I bypass Australian Book sellers and by online from the US/UK. I would much rather buy from Dymocks!

David Shaw
June-marie Howson
Laura Kennedy
Robyn Davies
Carey Barlow
John Sanderson
Christine Trull
Mustika Putu Liza Kusuma
Rebecca Rawlinson
Loretta Hines
David Van Schoten
Rosalie Cook
Gemma McFarlane

Anti-competitive laws which deny Aussies from buying books at similar prices to the USA & U.K are unfair...get rid of them! Regards Michael Barry

Michael Barry
Megan Lewis
Andrew Burgess
Dany Elachi
Emma Kramarzewski
Ying Lo
Janine Cowen
Florence Bremer
Vicki Tyson
Dejan Eminagic
Lyn Brown
Mark Van Schoten
Irene Styles
Brian Jones

Even though I live in Singapore I still purchase books online from Dymocks when I can't find them here.
For many years I have been forced to utilise services like Amazon, to achieve parity with the prices available offshore. I would much rather support a local retailer, but it is prohibitively expensive to do so. The current restriction simply force book buyers to consider purchases from offshore entities, rather than supporting local retailers. Surely this can't be good for the Australian retail scene. The price differentials between Australia and the rest of the world, in particular the US, are such that it is cheaper to purchase from offshore, pay postage and handling to have the book air freighted from overseas, and still be much lower than the price in Australia. It would seem sensible to have those profits flowing to Australian retailers instead.

Wake up Australian government. why would you want to make books and learning resources expensive and out of reach for people? doesn't everybody have a right to learn???? get a gripe on yourself NOW

Please allow me and other retirees to indulge our love of books and my g/children to develop it. Sue

The main reason most people i know dont buy books is because they are too expensive!

In my opinion, two things should be achieved on the world market in case of any goods: Copyrights must be always respected and on the other hand the world market should be a free-market with no restrictions and protectionism of any government.

Just do it! It is a disgrace that we should pay inflated prices as we do.

If this gives Australia more choices at cheaper prices I'm all for it.

The cheapest possible access to all reading materials is an important part of encouraging the development of literacy and an informed Australian community. I support the request of DYMOCKS in the quest for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation as stated in the above. In this age of declining economy it is vital to make this step to keep encouraging booklovers and buyers and keep the economy rolling.

Anything we can all do to encourage more reading should be supported.
This is such an important cause. I often look for books on international book selling websites most often in the USA because I find the prices are much cheaper even with the exchange rate and postage included. And I find a much bigger selection especially in reference/non fiction books related to art/design. I remember the CD prices change too, and that was such a relief, it has resulted in my buying many more CDs. As I love music! And to know that a similar situation is behind our high book prices crazy. Hope this petition helps lower the price of books so they can be affordable for all people.

We have to be very careful with electronic and publishing rights in Australia.

Surely, we want to encourage reading?

I believe that Australian readers. Per Capita we are the largest book buying and reading nation and we deserve a better deal.

I think it is very important that books are as inexpensive as possible to ensure all families have the ability to buy them, which will increase their literacy and that of the children. On a more personal note, I buy new releases on a regular basis and it would greatly assist me if they were cheaper.

As a society, we need all literature more accessible - including cost.

Tariffs only benefit a small number of people with a vested interest...

The public should have the right to buy books at a fair and reasonable price which is not happening at the moment with the restrictions being applied at the present. It is not only fiction but all other books including book of instruction, history, science, etc. that it is imperative that the restrictions should be lifted.

I love reading and due to financial restrictions which have recently been placed on me, I will have to start using the library, which is OK, except I love the experience of keeping my books in pristine condition, reading them more than once if I want to, not having to wait for a latest release, not having a time limit in which to return the book, and best of all sharing the book with my family. I currently spend approx $4000/year on books.
Cheaper books mean people read more. Reading for pleasure is one of the best ways to learn and an excellent way to improve our intelligence, culture and wisdom as a whole. The government is going to make the internet even cheaper and faster, please support cheaper books. Books are and will continue to be the corner-stone of our education, do not neglect this vital learning and cultural resource!

As an avid reader and a father, any reduction to make books cheaper can only be a good thing, we require a fair and equal system that will benefit us all.

Books are essential to our education, by increasing restrictions on importing overseas books, the government is limiting our resources to learn; on an exaggerated note, it could result in lesser skilled people, reducing employment, therefore decreasing our economy and the government certainly wouldn’t want that.

Education is one of the most important aspects of a good society. The first step is to instil a love of books in children. By reducing the price of books more parents will be able to afford good books for their kids and introduce them to literacy at an early age.

Book are there to make people happy and to educate them, so why should a little happiness and education cost so much?

It is ridiculous for us to have to buy books at double or triple the equivalent price we can buy them for overseas. Books need to be cheaper to encourage more people to buy a book, rather than a DVD or video game.

Books promote culture and education. They must be kept as affordable as possible.

most people will eventually turn to libraries as it will be too expensive to buy books which in return people lose their jobs and shops go out of business

The more books available the better educated Australians will be.

I support your petition 100% and books should be deregulated without any restriction. "nothing more expensive to the nation than ignorance"

I am English and have a huge proportion of my books sent direct as gift for xmas and birthdays from family as they can buy them and post them cheaper than I can buy them. Thats not right is it, we should support Australian book shops and allow them to sell at reasonable prices
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Megan Hay</td>
<td>If Australia is really to be &quot;The Clever Country&quot;, we need access to all books at more reasonable prices.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexis Mitchell</td>
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<td>Abir Dalati</td>
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<td>Rebecca Wong</td>
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<td>Shri Gayathi Kaliyappen</td>
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<td>Owen Pennells</td>
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<td>Zereen Nisha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joanne Martin</td>
<td>I love books but they really do need to be cheaper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faiza Bhuiyan</td>
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<td>Rodrigo Altaf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sally Raines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heather Soo</td>
<td>Some book prices are ridiculous! I would love to see this campaign flourish and help reduce the prices of Australian book sales.</td>
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<td>Elaine Sheridan</td>
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<td>Joy Yo</td>
<td>Books are the wealth of knowledge. A well read society is a well learned society.</td>
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<td>Jonas Mulombwa</td>
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<td>Stephan Wellink</td>
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<td>David Chandran</td>
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<td>Jo Flynn</td>
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<td>Kym Wheildon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zereen Nisha</td>
<td>I believe that the consumer will benefit.</td>
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<td>Murray Stewart</td>
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<td>Vicki O'Brien</td>
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<td>Maree Tennant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alain Khanh</td>
<td>Thankyou for working for the benefit of Australians.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Ali</td>
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<td>Paul Eistis</td>
<td>I cannot believe how the price of books have escalated over the past years and will support this campaign whole-heartedly.</td>
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<td>Valerie Verma</td>
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<td>Peta Doodson</td>
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<td>Qwayne Ybe Guevara</td>
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<td>Joan Williamson</td>
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<td>Nathan Howell</td>
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<td>Rebecca Millar</td>
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<td>Gavan Bromilow</td>
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<td>Carol Kees</td>
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<td>Ian Webber</td>
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<td>Naomi Barron</td>
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<td>Amy Jones</td>
<td>the price of books these days is ridiculous, so many people are missing out on things because they look at the price tag and put it back. I belive that the worlds population should have the chance to go on great adventures, learn magic, discover lost worlds and let their imagination fly free or learn the behind the scenes life of the rich and famous, their minds should not be restricted by the price of paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yvonne Steirn</td>
<td>I would love to be able to buy books cheaper.....then I'd be able to buy even more than I do!!!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Veysey</td>
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<td>Chris Robilliard</td>
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<td>Lili Lenton</td>
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<td>James O'Connor</td>
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Julie Warwick
The fact is, that I often order DVD’s or books from Amazon.co.uk and Amazon.com if I can’t find the same item cheaper or available here. Why not keep the profits in our country? Likewise with sheet music. As a music teacher I can often order sheet music including postage cheaper than I can buy it here. I am a Primary teacher and have four children and books are really important in encouraging children to read. Children love their own books. Nice clean books. Not ones carrying goodness knows what germs from the library. My children have collected sets of their favourite authors that they treasure. Dymocks are a great bookshop, Australian owned, unlike Borders and I would prefer to keep my business in this country. If you have all these extra restrictions that raise the price, we, as consum

Brooke Brittain
Vanessa Gregory
Amy Jones

As a regular and frequent buyer of books for both academic and leisure purposes I wholly support this initiative. As a nation which aspires to being a Knowledge Society it is imperative Australia make the creation and delivery of books and other forms of intellectual property efficient and free of artificially inflated costs just as we have done for goods.

Bring it on!

Mai Dinh
Jenny Purdie

the price of books these days is ridiculous, so many people are missing out on things because they look at the price tag and put it back. I believe that the world’s population should have the chance to go on great adventures, learn magic, discover lost worlds and let their imagination fly free or learn the behind the scenes life of the rich and famous

I’m all for cheaper books!!!!

Damon Taylor

Author protection and readers’ affordability --both essential

Joanna Baker

Alfred Croucher
Eduardo Jos Gaya

Hariharan Thirunavukarasu

Peter Noser

Chiara Dassie

Linda Wibberley

Amitee Goulton

Clive Lohrey

Nitamarie Vorster

Patricia Halvorsen

Andrea Thompson

Ramin Amid

Kay Ryan
Vincent Wei
Sharon De Kleijn
Wendy Huynh

Lydia Leung
James Neave

Katherine Stewart
Janette Hall
Abraham Ayoub
Marie Ishac
Clare Cadman
Denise Klemm
Belinda Redford
Jodie Mcdonald
Brendan Garlick
Tara Smith
Ellise Phan
Donna Mayer
Jamie Stevens

Candace Driscoll
Debbie Parker
John Herlihy
Ken Turner

Leonie Ryding
Leonie Ryding
Jessica Martin
Samantha Lin
Emma Rigelsford

I think Australian government should try not to limit book sellers but to encourage book reading as the to rasie a country's economic standard. Reading book is a form of education and heathy entertainment. It is often a comfortable balance in people's life style and according to teh article, what the government are doing in short terms is tryign to encourage Australia's book printer's economy, but in the long term, it may just result in discouraging people from reading and buying books. This will not improve the economy of book printers in Australia as less people will be purchasing books due to the increase in prize and people will be much more selective in buyign books in result of less book been purchased. This will also result in less peopel reading book and been benifit by the he

Books are expensive right now already, it does not take that much to even produce it, so why charge customers so much?? If there are any ways to reduce the price of books, I'm supporting it. Afterall, I'm just a poor student who loves books.

I often buy books overseas because it is cheaper than here even with postage costs attached.

To; RUDD THE DUD, GIVE US CHEAPER BOOKS!!

I rarely buy books these days and go to the library. Cheaper books would encourage me to buy and add to my personal collection more often!

To lift the standard of spelling and literacy in Australian youth, books need to be more readily available at reasonable prices.

Books are way too expensive.
Julie Paterniti  Kevin Cho  I support the CCBC!!
Mark Spiers  Alexander Burke  Elizabeth Kelly  Sharlene Jobson  Donna Li  Marie Jager  Kezia Christianti  Jacinta Lyne

Robyn Tilbrook  Leonie Hearn  Lauren Willis  Chanel Leong

Books need to be available to everyone in society, Cheaper prices make them more affordable for everyone.

Lee Howard  Heather Trevisan  Georgina Smark  Leisa Govan  Dean Larcombe  Jonathan Robinson

It does give pause for thought when checking the US or UK price and doing a currency conversion to find that in Australia we pay so much more. Obviously there is transport costs, but even then the price still seems to represent a big mark up

Cheaper books will improve literary ten fold.

Eugenie Cotter  Linda Drossos  Humyara Mahbub  Sarah Miers  Rhonda Maclean

Books are a very important part of our lives. They bring us knowledge and they bring education. They bring us wisdom. They bring us joy. They provide relaxation. They provide us with dreams. If the price of books goes even higher, this will mean that the less privileged in our society will have less access to books, simply because they will not be able to afford to purchase them. And not everyone has access to a library. I have been a great reader all my life and with signing this petition, I would hope that books will be available at all - not just the few.

Rhona Feeney  Peter Cobcroft  Rouba Ramlawle  Sarah Harris  Natalie Armstrong

I sometimes buy books from overseas - so miss the restrictions - which seems silly on the whole as no one in Australia benefits. Books here are expensive - help them become more reasonably priced.

Roslyn Breen  Guy Scotton  Denise Martin

I am forced to purchase books from aboard because I find them cheaper..I would much prefer to purchase it from within Australia.

Simone Phillips  Maree Franc Madden  Garth Parkhill  Rendy Muliady

I am a teacher and am constantly buying books for classroom use as well as an avid reader in my spare time. I support this petition wholeheartedly. I have always been appalled by the GST on Educational Books and supplies as well. Reading should be promoted and celebrated!

I agree with the proposal being put forward by the Coalition for Cheaper Books’ Campaign. Being a teacher I am passionate about reading and enjoy instilling this in younger readers. I can see a correlation between the expense of books and lack of reading in younger kids.

pls reduce the price for books, because I really love reading.
This is long overdue. I look forward to being able to purchase books at a more reasonable price.

I believe this law should be changed. When I was in the USA recently I returned with a luggage bag full of books as it was cheaper for me to buy them from there even with the exchange rate! The prices charged here are ludicrous and I am 100% behind Dymocks in their endeavour to change this. GO DYMOCKS!

When I first arrived in Australia, I couldn't believe the price of CD's. Instead of promoting home grown music, I believe that encouraged illegal pirates and cheap overseas imports. Thankfully that time is now over. Please cut out the restrictions - we need to encourage people to read. Otherwise we could really be said to be breeding a dumber nation! Sue

Making Books Cheaper, Increasing Competition What is not to like Remove this obsdirdity now.

Given that I buy most of my books through the internet from the UK and can get them bought and delivered to Australia cheaper than going to the bookstore here, I would say "about time this was sorted out for Australia's benefit" I may get books cheaper, but I miss out on the whole fun of browsing in a book store and discovering little gems that aren't well known best sellers. And Australia's economy missed out on about $100 of my spend a month. Good luck in your endeavours Dymocks.

As I am on a pension, any reduction on Dymocks books would be of a great help.

Books are prohibitively expensive in Australia. Any move to rectify this is gladly welcomed.

my whole family loves reading, and yes the prices do affect and limit me to what I can buy for them, so reducing the prices will increase what I can buy them which will make the whole family very happy. good luck and I hope you are successful.
It seems strange that despite Australian Governments removing tariffs and promoting free trade, there are still protectionist restrictions for the book industry. It is particularly unfair that bookshops can't import books because they are unable to compete on price with Amazon.com, which enables the consumer to import books for cheaper prices.

The cheaper the books the more people will be inspired to buy. That's got to be a good thing as it steers one away from the hideous, in-your-face mass marketing and advertising that comes with every other form of so called entertainment. It's far healthier for children, in particular, to enjoy the written word than sit like garden gnomes in front of the television soaking up the adverts.

I am strongly supporting this petition, books are educational tools that lead to success. The more books we buy in Australia (instead of often having no alternative to pay US suppliers overseas for books that either we cannot get here or are still cheaper there after conversation and postage rates taken into account) the better it will be for the Australian readers, the economy and retailers who sell them here. Australia is great but we also want access to the overseas publications at a home level. We are global now or haven't you noticed?

I want to keep my book buying in Australia and support booksellers like Dymocks, but often it's far far cheaper for me to buy my books from Amazon.com with unemployment as high as it is and with the shortage of jobs out there, reading is my only escape from reality. Cheaper books would be a big help.
Books are a source of education - they should be cheaper.

As a student, I fully support this move to import books cheaply. It is extremely difficult for me and most other students to have to buy books at ridiculous prices because we do not have a good enough system in place to allow us to buy cheaper books.

Books may not be as contemporary or popular as other mediums, which may be why it has taken so long for something such as this Campaign to reduce their import restrictions, but books and intellectual medium should not be subject to higher prices for the consumer. If people are to buy books, it is necessary that they be able to select from the widest range and at the most competitive prices.

I am an avid reader and I wholly support this petition. If music lovers are assisted then the same should apply to readers.

I believe that if books were made available at a reduced price we would see a lot more people buying more books for themselves and their children.

Cheaper books can only benefit the consumer and encourage more people to buy books, and the current bookbuyers will be able to buy more.

Books are one of the major educators for our younger generations, so don't make it harder than it already is to get children to read like they used to.

The Books are expensive enough we need no rises in Price.

Don't make me waste my money.
Over the years of being a student at various levels, I found that I often had to resort to purchasing books from overseas publishers which were breathtakingly expensive. If we are serious about encouraging the Australian population to aspire to higher levels of education then removing prohibitive book prices removes one more barrier to learning.

The current laws are just a form of protection, preventing international competition.

I myself love to read but books are getting very expensive

I personally would buy more books instead of looking for and buying them on ebay.

Recently I have been purchasing books from EBAY, as the full pricing of book’s now is atrocious....I have been a bookworm for 47 yrs and now a pensioner, so I say good luck with this proposal.....regards Chris Gobby
I recently bought a paperback book in Dubai while we were travelling and this book cost us less than half the price that it would have cost us in Australia.

As part of the ‘Education Revolution,’ it is vital that Australian literacy levels are raised. It is well known that economic backgrounds can severely affect the learning development of children, and recent British studies have shown that children are reading less and less. Any attempt to reduce the rate of illiteracy amongst the Australian public will promote a life-long love of learning and help to establish a much more intelligent (and therefore productive) nation, and thus must be supported. Don’t let money dictate learning, it controls far too much of our lives already.

To be honest, most of my money goes offshore where books are concerned, I buy from the US and the UK mostly, as even with postage and the current exchange rates it ends up cheaper. This is money that should be going back into the Australian economy, not helping overseas economies, especially in these trying financial times. Anything that will keep extra money in Australia and keep Australian bookstores in business should surely be welcomed by the government.

Literacy is one of the cornerstones of human civilization - it’s what elevates us from all other animals. Books are integral to the maintenance of literacy, but if they are too expensive, people will look to other forms of entertainment and communication that are cheaper, but which contribute little to the literacy level of the person, or their children. If books were cheaper, they would be accessible to more people, and you would find more people reading, and learning. I spend thousands of dollars per year on book purchases for myself, and also for my two young children, because the local library has a very limited selection of new release books, and there is a long waiting list of members who wish to read those books also. But how do you encourage a love of reading in children, when th

yay for cheaper books!

Lift the Level of Literacy in any way possible
Books should be cheaper to enable everyone to be able to buy them. They are a necessity of life
Any efforts made to bring this about will be greatly appreciated. Congratulations!

Expensive books will encourage piracy - don't let this happen in Australia!

I currently buy books direct from the USA and even with exchange and shipping, they are much cheaper than they would be in Australia AND there are many, many more titles available. This is a disgraceful state of affairs and I fully support any move to allow unrestricted parallel imports by Australian booksellers.

I am able to buy books online through Amazon cheaper - even with the exchange rate - that I am through Australian retailers. If we are to do everything we can to support jobs in Australia then we need to address this problem.

Book are knowledge, please do not make them more expensive then they have to be the Rudd Government has a chance here to undo a heinous disservice to Australian readers and bookshops.
I now buy most of my books via the internet, off sites such as Amazon, Alibris etc. Why would I pay $80.00 for a book I can get for less than $20.00. It's much cheaper even with postage and our poor exchange rate. I am old enough to distinguish the "Australian" spelling and terms from the American.

Reading books is about learning and having fun. Please don't make reading out of reach of the ordinary Australian by having high priced books. thanks,

Supported fully Syd Smith

I believe that all people have the right to read books that were written for the people. although they are copyrighted, it doesn't have the rights to stop the people from reading the books that authors have put all their time and effort into writing them. that is just wrong and unfair to both the writer and the reader!

Reading is such an important skill for our children lets make the books cheaper.

Anything that can reduce the price of written material can be related to improving education for our children, electronic media is not going to replace the pleasure of the written word

It would also provide more employment for Australians and stop money being sent overseas to suppliers such as Amazon.

I have previously lived in Europe and have always been horrified at how expensive books are here in Australia compared to overseas, particularly the UK where there has been a very competitive market for some years now after the lifting of similar restrictions there.
Books are so much more affordable overseas, I really hope this goes ahead so people don't have to pay $30 for a half-decent read.

Does the government want to encourage educational behaviour such as reading, particularly as adolescents become more and more addicted to technology or not!?

I am all for freedom of choice. Both nationally and internationally.

The importance of reading cannot be ignored.

I'm perfectly happy to support the petition as long as copyrights etc are protected as mentioned in paragraph 2.

Yes, I agree wholeheartedly with what Dymocks are trying to do. We in Australia pay far too expensive prices for our books compared to overseas. We want to try and encourage all Australian's to read books especially our children. A lot of people just can't afford to buy them because of the price

Please make book accessible for generations to come by doing all you can to lower the selling cost of books
Please make book accessible for generations to come by doing all you can to lower the selling cost of books.

Overpriced books are ridiculous, but the authors should be given the same royalty amount.

I don't buy many books, mainly because they are so expensive.

Sounds like a good deal for everybody.

book lovers can't help but go into book shops that they pass, or can't be responsible when they buy 3 books that they don't really need. So I think that lowering prices will make them buy more, especially me because I love love love love buying books.

I think that the productivity commission's draft report supports the continued exploitation of the Australian reading public. I fully support Dymock's proposal that import restrictions are lifted.

It's about time, books are often currently more expensive than other non-educational material. Well done Dymocks!

An intelligent population needs to read!

I have long held that books bought in Australia are outrageously priced. I sincerely trust that this petition is successful..

I fully support the opportunity to enable me to buy cheaper books, not just for myself but for my children also.

I would rather buy local than purchase books from overseas online. At the moment the price difference makes it hard to buy locally.
I also believe this will put specialist book stores (such as Dymocks) in line with large chain stores that can sell books below RRP because of their buying power. Dymocks without having to pay excessive prices due to the importation laws should be able to sell books at a lower price therefore putting them in a more competitive position against the big chain stores.

All books should be affordable, and therefore available to everybody, as reading is such an essential aspect of education, as well as an enjoyable past-time. The current law sounds a bit like it is breaching the US-AUS Free Trade Agreement. Regardless if the government believes in a free market, and global markets, then I can not see why they should not support the new proposal - it will allow the politicians cheaper books as well! We should be doing everything we can to make books less expensive in Australia - especially in the current climate. Why should Australian readers be forced to pay a premium for the same titles?! Having to order books from overseas because they're cheaper completely defeats the purpose of the current drive to 'buy Australian'. Thank you Dymocks for raising this issue!

If prices on books keep going up how can we encourage our children to read all their lives if they can not afford to buy a book.
I just wish books were cheaper and therefore more accessible to people. Books have become so expensive and in these hard economic times are going to become more and more inaccessible to the general public and yet MORE people should be reading. People are losing the skills to read, write and communicate in general!

Lets make it better for Australians.

ridiculous bumping up prices!

Get on with rest of the world. Cheap books = more readers = better education

The removal of restrictions on parallel importation should be taken seriously and done in a timely manner!

Making books more accessible (by being more affordable) to the Australian buyer would encourage higher literacy levels AND strengthen the book industry, by providing a cheap portable and reasonably-priced entertainment to a country tightening the belt on so many other entertainments.

Import restrictions result in unfairly inflated prices for Australians.
Beverly Adair  
I lived in the USA for 3 years and spent more on books in that year than almost anything else. My children all became huge readers and we now have a huge collection. It is about time that Australia caught up with the world. Cheaper books are more important than cheap CD's, DVD's or anything else.

Anne-Marie Robinson  
Books are for enjoyment!

Phillipa Erzay  
I would purchase more books more often if they were cheaper but as I am on a strict budget I am only able to purchase one book a month & it isn't enough as I read sooooooo many books!

Sophie Storie  
I am so pleased that finally this initiative is being undertaken within Australia. I travel overseas often and have always been so miffed to how much cheaper books are - especially in the UK and US.

Justene Lewis  
Since I started purchasing books in my teens - over 40 years ago - I have been aware that in Australia I pay significantly more for all books than overseas. This not only affects popular books, but important books I need for my work. Quite simply, the Australian branches of overseas publishers load prices by about 50%. It is necessary to change their culture of profiteering due to their monopoly control. If you need a certain book then the publisher does have a monopoly on that item.

Elizabeth Borrello  
I am so pleased that finally this initiative is being undertaken within Australia. I travel overseas often and have always been so miffed to how much cheaper books are - especially in the UK and US.

John Henstridge  
I can't believe in the wake of borders, amazon etc that the govt would do this. I fully support Dymocks in their petition to lift import restrictions with regard to books to achieve cheaper prices for the Australian public.

Paula Corcoran  
Until the government removes these restrictions on importing books I will continue to support overseas bookshops such as Amazon where, even with exchange rate fluctuations, books are often up to 60% cheaper, and not my local Dymocks. (or Angus Robertson either). For too long the Australian public has been ripped off when it comes to literature. No wonder we've bred a nation of morons - it's too expensive to buy a book!!

Debbie Lamb  
More reading rocks!

Sarah Daniel  
books should be made cheaper some of the prices are rediculous

Justine Watson  
A long overdue petition.

Elsie Jensen  
More reading rocks!

Barry Berglund  
As a consultant physician who works in the UK and has done so over the last 8 years, I am constantly staggered by the cost of books in Australia that have been imported. It is not unusual to find the cost 60% above the cost of the same books in the UK but, probably more important, I suspect that this same charging system is limiting the scope of books available in Australia - I have heard denial of this over the last 40 years (I am now 63).
It is very important for Australia that its citizens be able to access knowledge as cheaply as possible. Otherwise we are disadvantaged in international and local markets for your products and services.

I am a librarian and believe having cheaper books will increase people reading and educated debate instead of limiting them on the basis they will benefit local businesses that publish books.

Won't somebody think of the children!!!!!!

Books are so horrendously expensive! Please reduce the cost a little so that our kids grow up with an enjoyable alternative to electronic media.

The cost of a book here in Australia is $30+ compared to the same book in the US for $15. Does our government want a nation that cannot enjoy inexpensive access to books?

I am a pensioner and love reading, due to my asthma I am home a lot, due to costs I am buying few books now and would certainly welcome the reduction of price of books.

If you want children to read, you have to make the cost of books cheaper to encourage parents to buy books for their children. Yes, there are still libraries, which are fantastic in my area, but if you really want to encourage book reading and sharing among children, I think the price of books needs to come down. I love books and reading, and I want to be able to buy all my favourite books at a reasonable price so that I can display them proudly in my home and allow friends to borrow and share my love of books.

The cost of books has restricted the amount of books I read. Our local libraries do not meet the demand on new books being available.
we shouldn't discourage reading due to cost

Dear Sir/Madam, If you raise the price of books I won't have anything left to live for. I will riot and then commit mass suicide. Thankyou.

Everyone should be supporting and encouraging people to read. Everything else is costly as it is. Please do not hinder people from enjoying books by not making them affordable for us.

As a responsible Government should we not be encouraging people to read more books rather than sitting in front of the television? Most books are very expensive at the best of times, making them more expensive will be detrimental and make people less likely to buy them. With less money to go around during the financial crisis more people will spend their money on beer over a book...

you would notice a boom in sales for starters among many other things

I support your course for cheaper books there I love reading

Cheaper books will mean more sales.

Australian book market should be kept up to date with the latest and greatest books and not have additional taxes imposed. Not all families view reading as a valuable tool for their children's mental development or in fact their own. If books are made more affordable maybe it will assist in increasing the reading ability age within Australia.
I absolutely agree. Too many imported books are prohibitive in price and the prices need some parity with local publications.

Why is it that I can buy books in the US & UK and even with the added cost of postage they are cheaper than if I bought them in Australia?

I have always been very cross at how much we pay for books in Australia.

I regularly travel to Ireland and cannot believe the difference in the price of the same books between Belfast and Perth. The high cost we pay is a tax on knowledge and should be lifted immediately.

It is absolutely ridiculous that books continue to have import restrictions. Do we not share the common goal of making books as accessible to the people as possible? We should be encouraging books and the worlds, perspectives and lessons they contain - not discouraging them in lieu of government revenue. Get you act together, parliament. I'm only 16 and even I know this much.

As a customer that now buys books in digital format I have noticed that overseas customers are paying much less for books that I am, This just means that now I will buy the digital book from an OS company instead of an Australian company.

Here, here. I still purchase the bulk of my books from the UK and USA as they are still cheaper, even after shipping. The change would allow me to support local booksellers instead and make them more competitive in the global market.
The best way to encourage reading is to make books more accessible to more people - bring down the price.

Cheaper books to create greater reading!!

I used to buy many books each year. The increase in prices has made me reduce the number I currently buy.

Greed is the course of all ill!

I fully support Dymocks urge for the Coalition for Cheaper Books' Campaign for the removal of restrictions on parallel importation. Cheaper books will allow people to a greater access of books, which will improve Australia's Literary levels of citizens.

It is the 21st Century and a global market. Australian companies should be able to negotiate internationally. It is the Australian people who suffer with ridiculously inflated prices; else people just use international websites to order books which does not support local businesses.

No wonder the books are so expensive!
The cost of books needs to be able to compete with other leisure materials such as CDs and DVDs.

Less expensive books means more books being read encouraging greater literacy, and more sales benefit the writers and sellers.

Any assistance to buy books cheaper can only lead to a higher selling rate and benefits to sellers and families.

Why is it that Australians have ALWAYS had to pay more for EVERYTHING that is brought into this country. Even our own Australian Made products are made more expensive due to the import costs of any overseas materials or machinery used. So much so that manufacturers in this country are outsourcing to countries like China, India, etc., because they can not only be made cheaper in those countries but can also be imported at a cheaper rate. How much do we have to endure these inadequacies. Poor Fella My Country indeed. Lovely country, delightfully isolated from the rest of the world, allowing us to contain quarantine. Yep, I love Australia, but why do we have to pay more than the rest of the world for anything, let alone books. Reading materials are so important, not only to basic educa

I strongly support the removal of import restrictions to open the book market to international competition. The price of books in Australia is too high. I equally strongly disagree with the draft recommendation that import restrictions should continue to apply for 12 months from the date a book becomes available in Australia.

This reduction in protection will not only benefit consumers/book buyers, but the in the long term it will benefit the overall Australian economy, with a more efficient and competitive market.

Tired of being ripped off by overseas publishers --THEY still classify Australia as a subservient colony.
Just yesterday I bought two books from the U.S. which together were $50 cheaper than buying them in Australia (and that includes delivery!). One was released less than 12 months ago and was 1/2 the AUD price that I could get from an Australian retailer. Please remove restrictions so that Australians can buy books from Australian retailers without the inflated prices, otherwise I will be forced to continue to buy my books from the U.S. or elsewhere.

Sylvia Ryan
Richard Faulder
Lachlan Mead
Andrew Crawford

Sandra Gillett
Jacqueline Dickinson

Roslyn Troy
Grant Batty

Books should certainly be cheaper for the general public - literacy is already disgustedly low.

I support the move for cheaper book prices.

Yes, please, let us have cheaper books. Reading will always have a place in our lives and there is nothing better than settling down with your favourite book to escape our hectic lives. I have always encouraged our children to read books and now they are adults they still love a good book.

A book is the window to the world, opens our minds and trips our imagination. Books should be affordable to all and at the moment they are not, lowering book prices would enable more Australians to read and would help children's literacy levels to improve. I would like access to books at competitive prices which is not happening at the moment.

Helen Sinclair
Joanne Appelbee
Brenda O'Brien
Candida Carelli
John Hepburn

Australians deserve cheaper books - at prices comparable to those available overseas.

As an independent and self employed researcher and Adjunct Associate Professor of Curtin University (without institutional income support) the issue of affordable access to the latest published books is critical for my work and life.

Jan Burnett-McKeown
Dr Helen Singleton
Peter Abrahamson
Tamsin Jones
Susan Kitching

It amazes me that I can buy books from an overseas provider like Amazon that are cheaper than the same thing here even with international freight charges included. I want to buy local and do as often as I can - why should I be significantly financially penalised for doing that?

Cheaper books will hopefully encourage more children and adults to pick up a book rather than turn on the TV or play computer games. Hopefully, it could also make it cheaper for students needing already expensive text books.

Pam Macdonald
Rodney Dippel

Elizabeth McIntosh
Chantal Davidson
Shirley Griffiths-smith
Trevor Gallagher
Olivia Burke
Anne Ashby

Australian children need to enhance their reading skills. Our children have to wait years for books by their favorite authors to be available in Australia. They read about the book online but cannot buy them. By the time the book is released here the child has grown out of that book. We need these children to read good material and read it when THEY are ready for it.

Pearl Ager
Raymond Lumley

Yes it would be lovely to have books at a cheaper rate... the USA seem to do it well!!!!!!!

Yes it would be lovely to have books at a cheaper rate... the USA seem to do it well!!!!!!!
Yes it would be lovely to have books at a cheaper rate... the USA seem to do it well!!!!!!

i would love to see the price of books come down.

When I can't purchase something in a book store like dymocks I buy it on amazon from overseas. It is so frustrating. I wish I could just walk into a store and buy the book I want for the right price.

Yes. Books should be cheaper.

When the exchange rate is reasonably high, it is actually cheaper to buy books off the internet e.g Amazon and thats even adding shipping costs. If no changes are made, it would make it increasingly hard for Australian booksellers to remain competitive.

I am the child and grandchild of book lovers and want my children to grow up loving and valuing books the way I did - and that is through not only reading them - but also owning them, saving up your pocket money and buying them! So many other things are getting cheaper - why make something so intrinsically valuable unobtainable for the average person? Surely this will help improve literacy and make us the clever country we want to be? Keep culture!!!! Make books available to all - make them cheaper!!!!

there is less and less people who read books- why punish the ones who do?

A very good idea.

The prices of books in Australia are ridiculous. I don't understand why we pay so much when the government keeps saying they are interested in improving literacy rates. Making it cheaper will improve access to those who really need it.

It will allow us (the readers) to read what is available in other countries,thus allowing us to see what are the topics that "flaot their boats"!!!
I believe the restrictions should be removed from books. I often purchase books online from sites like Amazon as they are cheaper than buying them in Australia. I would like to see the money go to Australian businesses not overseas. I have an 8-year old son who has taken time to take to reading but it is through continuously buying books (new and second-hand) that he has become interested in books. How can we educate the next generation when books are so expensive? It costs over $30 for an adult paperback novel - unless you love books you won't spend that sort of money. There should be no GST on books either, they are not a luxury item, they are an essential part of continual education, no matter what age you are.

At the moment it is cheaper to purchase books from overseas websites in the UK and US and have them transported here e.g. Amazon. That can't be right! I want to support WA economy books should be available for everyone at affordable prices - everyone has the right to enjoy books and reading should be a part of every Australian's lifestyle!

I have thought for many years the price of books in Australia is outrageous compared to other countries. Good hardcover books can be bought overseas and imported to Australia cheaper then a common paperback can be bought here. This is ludicrous.

In this era of the Global Village the Government should show it's commitment to truly Free Trade in all commodities, including books. If we are serious about urging (eg) the US to remove unfair subsidies on farm produce in order that Australia is able to fairly compete on a "level playing field" we must also agree to the same level playing field with respect to books.

Being an avid reader I am all for Dymocks obtaining books at the most competitive price possible. I, and a vast number of friends, buy anything up to 10 books a months each, so being able to purchase this number of books at better prices is to my and Dymocks advantage.
If the government intends to 'stimulate' the economy by having Australian's spend money within it's confines, please ensure that we are ENABLED to purchase items from local distributors for reasonable prices. Personally I would buy 'off-shore' via the net if the prices became too inflated here in Australia.

I am an avid reader, as is my 11 year old son. I would truly appreciate being able to buy more books for a more reasonable price. It is especially important to me as i am a uni student teaching Kindergarten in Primary school and the cost of children's picture books it far too high, especially for a struggling uni student such as myself.

I feel that we have had to suffer this unfair cost impost for far too long. It merely entrenches a privelidge of a "rentier" group of monopoly holders. Any moves by Government to making reading accessible and cheaper for everyone, can only benefit Australia by making it a smarter country.

Books available in Australia NEED to be cheaper! With the advent of internet shopping, if I can get a book delivered to Australia faster and cheaper than local suppliers can match, this does nothing to help our local market.

I am originally from Canada and I have alwasys been flabergasted by the price of books here in Australia. It seems very unfair for us to have to pay inflated prices to 'read' books when elsewhere in the world there are cheaper books. If books were cheaper perhaps they would be more accessible to everyone...which is a very very positive thing!

Less people will read, if books are expensive. So, really, lowering prices on books could boost literacy!
I would appreciate it if the Productivity Commission would outline its reasons, which I assume is primarily for the protection of copyright, which, under the Dymocks proposal would still be protected. Surely a solution that both protects the author/publisher and allows freedom for the importer is best. The productivity commission should NOT unnecessarily stop free enterprise.

We pay far too much for books here in Australia; books form a valuable part of society and our development. Please make them more affordable for all of us!

Making books cheaper to purchase in Australia would mean I would finally be able to purchase most of my books from Australian bookstores - rather than ordering from overseas. As it is, at the moment, it's often cheaper (even when you factor in international shipping costs) to purchase books from overseas and have them delivered here.

i am a high school student and absolutely love books but cannot afford them. if this is introduced, it would make a great difference to me and other people in different situations. i would love to see this eventuate.

For people who love to read books at their own pace, it can be very expensive. Also for people to have reference books it can sometimes make it impossible. Please make our books cheaper. Think of the children who we are also trying to encourage to read more, improve themselves for their future. You can't always rely on the libraries to carry the books you like either. Thanks.

Making books cheaper to purchase in Australia would mean I would finally be able to purchase most of my books from Australian bookstores - rather than ordering from overseas. As it is, at the moment, it's often cheaper (even when you factor in international shipping costs) to purchase books from overseas and have them delivered here.

Make books affordable for our children so that price is not such an obstacle. Too much is learned nowadays from watching (tv, movies etc) and the enjoyment and imagination which is developed from reading is being lost to a lot or youth.

People in the world need something good, and this will help provide that.
Reading is educational and should be made as cheap as possible.

Self education and personal growth through enabling access to well priced books can only help our society. I believe if books become more affordable, more books would be consumed. Simple economics. The more people read, the more stories they share about books they have read - network theory. Any potential loss of profit by wholesalers should be more than made up by the additional volume. If we want an education revolution - lifting these restrictions would be a great start. I give my full support to this petition. Well done Dymocks for bringing it to my attention. Its a win win for all of us.

I am choked that we still have such restrictions here in Australia. Having been in Europe recently and the cost of books was much more acceptable than here in Australia - I was able to purchase newly released books for $12 - why am I not able to do so here in Australia. Being a Primary teacher I am very keen for children AND their parents having access to plenty of books and if the cost was more reasonable then many more Australians will become lovers of reading and therefore more aware of what is happening around them - they will read the papers / information / reviews easier if encouraged to read because their access is not hindered by cost.

I support the protection of copyright, however would like to see books available cheaper within Australia.

I cant beleive that this hasnt already been done, any thing that stops cheaper books which improve literacy should alreayd have been done.

If the price of books was reduced I would certainly purchase a lot more. Instead of waiting for them to be on "specials" I would buy them immediately. At the moment in the $30.00 range is just too much. I am sure there are many other people in the same position.

I firmly believe books should be cheaper, and so more available to anyone who wants to read them. Cheaper books mean more books would be bought, so profits would not be lost. This will benefit Australia in the long term, as literacy levels rise.

Give books to more Australians!
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<td>Books are Knowledge and knowledge should not be 'sold' at prices that a common man finds hard to get. Of all the things the government gets up to and the people go along with it - this is something they should be stopped from doing because it is ridiculous!! I say NO!</td>
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<td>David Phillips</td>
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<td>I think being able to access books at these lower prices would reduce the need to go to websites like Amazon to source cheaper books, keeping more dollars here (and having the books on-hand quicker).</td>
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<td>Liz Mcleod</td>
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<td>if the prices rise up, the number of readers will drop and we all want to encourage more people to enjoy their own imaginations and fantasy worlds that books provide (:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Pooley</td>
<td>jpooley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murray Barton</td>
<td>mbarton</td>
<td>We read a lot of books in our home, but the prices we currently pay are crippling. The prices of books in Australia do need to be reduced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Butcher</td>
<td>mbuthcher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodie Hayley</td>
<td>jhayley</td>
<td>It is a disgrace and totally indefensible that I have to buy books from overseas off Amazon for example because it is significantly cheaper to do it this way. You are taxing my education and knowledge to protect the book selling industry. This is hardly an impressive position for the Productivity Commission to take even with a Labour Gvt in power. Poor showing!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyndi Cole</td>
<td>ccole</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anita Griffiths</td>
<td>anitagriffiths</td>
<td>It would be great to get books at a cheaper price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meryl Pannaci</td>
<td>mpannaci</td>
<td>It's about time Australian booksellers and buyers got a decent deal. I am still resorting to purchasing from Amazon (US), while AUD is around USD0.70, &amp; even with paying freight charges I usually get a cheaper price than I can in Australia. It is ridiculous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Crick</td>
<td>hcrick</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherry Baxter</td>
<td>sbaxter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Hings</td>
<td>jhings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Blumfelds</td>
<td>ablumfelds</td>
<td>I feel very strongly about the extortionate pricing of some books here in Australia when compared to US and Canadian pricing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kaye Morgan
Stephanie Monastra
Jenny Hayley
Jacqui Brown
Kylie Castor
Shane McAliece
Helen West
Tracy Staines
Alan Galbraith
Steven Crick
Amanda Hayley
Chris Kokolas
Gae McElhone
June Burnett
Kellie Magee
Dolores Hombsch

Education is power, and if we can make it available to more people through cheaper books I believe that our society would be a better place.

Kylie Castor
Shane McAliece
Helen West
Tracy Staines
Alan Galbraith
Steven Crick
Amanda Hayley
Chris Kokolas
Gae McElhone
June Burnett
Kellie Magee
Dolores Hombsch

I currently purchase around 95% of my books directly from online book stores located in both the US and the UK. I would much prefer to buy my books locally, but currently the price difference (even with the addition of overseas postage) makes this choice economically unviable. Sometimes the price savings of buying online as opposed to locally can be as much as half price. Unless the situation in Australia changes, I will continue to purchase my books internationally.

Serena Jensen
John Worth
Katherine Prastidis
Samantha Liebich
Michael Kerr
Gemma Hayley
Samantha Buck
Elisabeth Tacko
Cornelia Lodder
Rob Willis
Kristy Sinteur

I heartily endorse this venture and/or petition.
Please bring down the price of books! I am sick of buying $35 for a soft cover book of 200 pages!

Tomme Tsang
Kristy Crawford
Michael Sheridan
Suan-li Low
Toni Hubble

This is an important initiative if Australia is to sustain & grow a reasonable level of book readership and ultimately help stave off declining literacy.

George Gibbins
Tomme Tsang
Kristy Crawford
Michael Sheridan
Suan-li Low
Toni Hubble

It makes perfect sense to remove the restrictions on the importation of books, and bring the regulations into line as per CD’s.

Paul Whitfield
Olivia Newsome
Andre Wheeler
Anea Hurdle
Katrina Meenahan
Andrew Phillips
Roger Fenwick
Caitlin Howroyd
Hilary Goodier

I believe the current laws make no sense where it is possible to order books directly from internet sites such as amazon.com

Kishore Singh
Shoshane Boyd

Books need to be affordable in order to promote literacy in our schools and society. By making them more expensive our children and future generations are being deprived of the privilege of cost effective access to reading.
I definitely support anything that brings people to become readers! Making the price more accessible can only be a great thing in this economic climate.

Since living in Perth for the last 2 years I make the bulk of my book purchases on Amazon, it is still cheaper to pay the overseas postage than buy books here. My daughters get books from the library, whereas in the UK I would buy them a new book weekly.

Cheaper books in Australia would save people having to order their books online from overseas.

Trade restrictions of this sort are archaic, and have been or are being removed in almost every other industry. I see no reason that book publishers should receive special treatment, to the detriment of the Australian book consumer.

I feel books are too expensive. I read a lot and am always looking for a cheaper read as the new books cost too much. I am retired so I have limited income and one of the joys of my life is reading.

Cheaper books would be especially beneficial for families; it would provide the opportunity to buy more books and share in the reading experience.

Cheaper books mean we can read more.

I agree that we should be able to access cheaper books. I sometimes look at the prices and it prevents me from buying some books I would otherwise have purchased.

Serious booklovers on limited budgets will certainly applaud such a move.
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<tr>
<td>Matthew</td>
<td>Miliani</td>
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<td>Daniul</td>
<td>Chowdhury</td>
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<td>Suellen</td>
<td>Tolley</td>
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<td>Mark</td>
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<td>Helen</td>
<td>Stackhouse</td>
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<td>Steve</td>
<td>Hill</td>
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<td>Dr Loretta</td>
<td>Giorcelli</td>
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<td>Samantha</td>
<td>Larkin</td>
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<td>Peter</td>
<td>Woollacott</td>
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<td>Ilona</td>
<td>Regev</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary</td>
<td>Mcmahon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesley</td>
<td>Chang</td>
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<td>Kharla</td>
<td>Jones</td>
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I have moved from England, where there are book clubs to get cheaper books and deals etc. I am appalled how expensive books are here. We read a lot as a family and it is cheaper for me to get books from the UK paying a postage fee of £40!!! Books are important and I have stopped buying books in Australia!!! Not the right thing for the Australian economy!!!!!!! or the Australian children!!!

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<td>Jennifer</td>
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<td>Korinne</td>
<td>Nolan</td>
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<td>.steve</td>
<td>james</td>
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<td>Diana</td>
<td>Todd</td>
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<td>Maria</td>
<td>Lissenburg</td>
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<td>Aimee</td>
<td>Munro</td>
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<td>Salwah</td>
<td>Kirk</td>
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<td>David</td>
<td>Simmons</td>
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Anything which makes books cheaper is good for everyone.

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<tr>
<td>Candace</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
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<td>Brenda</td>
<td>Murphy</td>
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<td>Helen</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
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<td>Michelle</td>
<td>Deans</td>
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<td>Nicole</td>
<td>Aravidis</td>
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<td>Emily</td>
<td>Cooke</td>
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All Australian’s should have access to all titles released worldwide. Protect the authors rights, absolutely, but give us the choice of all books published. We should be doing all that we can to make books more affordable. In tough economic times these luxuries are often one of the first things people do without but we need to be promoting a love of books and reading for the positive effects that it has on our society.

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<tr>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Sanford</td>
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<td>Colin</td>
<td>Power</td>
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<td>Joe</td>
<td>Malik</td>
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<td>Maeghan</td>
<td>Mcdonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie</td>
<td>Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>Lock</td>
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I order most of my books from the US, UK and Canada because it’s cheaper to pay the shipping and currency conversion than to buy them in Australia.

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<tr>
<td>Anne</td>
<td>Rutledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Mcmahon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maryanne</td>
<td>Mcgregor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ninette</td>
<td>Maddrell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angelique</td>
<td>Milojevic</td>
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If books were cheaper there would be more people buying books. A lot of people cannot afford to pay the prices that are current with new book launches.

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I purchase many books but at the current prices, I have to think twice before I do.

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I totally agree. How can all Australians keep up with the literary world and continue to be well educated with books costing so much.

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We want an educated population let us have access to books at a fair price.
I certainly support this. For way too long we have paid really top rates for books.
Please remove these restrictions and let true competition in! Thank you. BARBARA

I am a book lover and one reason I don't purchase more is the increased costs.

I think books should be as cheap as possible so as to encourage reading, literacy, learning and knowledge sharing.

This sounds like a ridiculous law. No wonder books are half the price in the rest of the world. I can import from the UK or US, from Amazon. Pay postage and get it cheaper than I can in my local bookshop 5 minutes up the road.

If there is a legal way for the Australian public to have access to cheaper products
then it should be a priority to make it available. If the price of books was more affordable a wider range of people would have access and a new generation may discover the wonder of reading again!
My husband and I support your campaign.

Well, is either reducing process here, or us, clients buying online. Even with shipping charges, is cheaper to buy it directly from overseas. I support the COALITION for CHEAPER BOOKS!

As a committed reader since infancy, I am trying to pass on my love of books to my grandchildren and assist them with gaining a love of reading and language. Any reduction in the cost of books would be very welcome and will help families to encourage their children to read.

With these current restrictions many book lovers like myself simply order books direct from the UK and US market as even with postage it is cheaper than purchasing here in Australia. I would prefer to purchase books from a local company and support them, but price is the deciding factor. If books were available in Australia at the same or similar price as overseas then I would have no hesitation buying them.

The result we should be benchmarking against is the outcome for CD's in recent times.

This issue has needed to be addressed for so long and now that it is I may choose to buy books locally instead of ordering them from overseas for cheaper prices.

I used to live in the UK and would purchase 2-3 books per week from the supermarket with a retail price of 3.73 UK pounds. All of these were new release paperbacks. I cannot afford to read as much as I used to with the prices of books in Australia.
Janet Hayden

You need to encourage people to read - not make it out of their reach! Having just returned from the USA and seeing the vastly different cost of books I cannot agree with this partition more. Let's increase the likelihood of Australians purchasing books at reasonable prices.

Anne Finnie

Melissa Harty

Leanne Barnes

Jacqueline Powell

Alana Bechelli

Louise Bewick

Mona Mbogua

Phyllis Foster

Fiona Maley

Lydia Caporrella

Dani Simonds

Adam Watson

Sharon Mortimer

Alfred Esteban

Cathryn James

Gillian Fleck

Cheryl Johnson

Melissa Young

Sam De Francesco

Brett Payne

Keith Crews

Peta Button

Sara Parker

Glen Dickinson

Michelle Oakley

Kim Swift

Maria Jenner

Alyson Noakes

Kelli Floyd

Jill Mewett

Karen Rogers

Peter Joyce

Nancy Comelab

Gavin Migro

Lara van der Wall

Neil Hunt

Nicole Saunders

Tina Howlett

Narelle Redmond

Melinda Carr

Elizabeth Jones

Margaret Speers

Merryl Walker

Louise Oliver

Helen Bell

Gloria Chan

Daniel Moss

Mark Kellett

Bev Bostolk

I strongly support this petition!

Please make books more affordable, so more people can read them AND more people will continue to have their own personal library.

Increased knowledge for all!!!

Reading is one of the greatest gifts a parent can give to their children. The gift of books, particularly new books, encourages reading. Please remove the restrictions on parallel importation so more parents can afford to buy new books.

I wish you luck!!

I so hope this silly restriction will be removed! Thank you for the initiative.

I strongly believe books should be affordable to as many Australians as possible, especially children.

I want cheaper books, I read a lot.
Thank you for this. It is difficult to understand that a government of the people, for the people is unable to see the benefit of having cheaper books for all. Surely this would aid in increasing literacy - making books more available to those who may not afford them. Isn't increasing knowledge within our communities a core policy direction of this government?

Would be good if this applied to DVD and Blu-ray movies too

Bookshops in Australia may benefit by less people importing books via overseas internet sites

The printed word needs all the help it can get!
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<tr>
<td>Deborah</td>
<td>Leighton</td>
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<td>Valuks-walsh</td>
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<td>Victoria</td>
<td>Sharpe</td>
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<td>Gallace</td>
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