

[Received by email 24/6/11]

Subject: Deregulation of Shopping Hours in Adelaide

Dear Sir / Madam,

I have just read with great interest the AdelaideNow article "National body joins trading hours push" ([link](#)). I work as a solicitor in the Adelaide CBD and I am looking forward to moving into or near to the CBD before the end of the year.

I firmly believe that South Australia's restrictive retail trading hours are hampering the state's ability to attract and retain interstate and international visitors and the concomitant tourist capital. I find it absurd that key retail precincts in Adelaide are necessarily shuttered on public holidays and after 6pm most days. I have heard countless anecdotes of friends, acquaintances and businesspeople electing to leave the state on or around public holidays, ruefully justifying it with the all-too-true statement "Adelaide is shut, but I know Melbourne will be open".

With the retail sector depressed and displaying no signs of imminent recovery, I cannot think of a better time to allow retailers to make commercial decisions about their own trading hours. In my opinion, deregulation of trading hours can only result in increased retail innovation, higher employment and an enlivened urban culture.

I urge you to override the State Government laws and deregulate shopping hours in Rundle Mall, Glenelg, and other major shopping hubs.

Yours faithfully,

Matthew Hawke