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RE PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION

DRAFT REPORT

Thank you for sending me this draft report - I must admit a lot of it is "beyond me" - however I did wade through it.

Bearing in mind the quantity of Retail Businesses in Australia and the amount employed in the Trade Draft Recommendation 4.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, 9.1, 10.2, 12.1 should be looked into.

I think "on line" sales will increase more rapidly than now. All Australian Retailers obviously are going to have to "fall-in" with this "on line" purchasing, but I'm sure it will cause unemployment. If grocery shopping etc "on line" increased - could it not make things more expensive for the customer making "personal" shopping. As a customer I would not like, or want, to be forced to "on line" shopping. Not everybody has a computer or access to "on line" shopping, so there is to a certain extent "unfair" trading when it comes down to the GST. Also delivery of "on line" goods are vulnerable to drug trafficking which could get through the system and security becomes a "main issue".

Lowering the Threshold of LVT & somehow include a payment on GST at the source of the order "on line" should be looked into. Process by couriers, Aust. Post, & Express couriers should definitely be improved due to possible drug trafficking & principles for a new approach to processing is a sure way

to go.

As far as the Retail Sector is concerned - I think the Administration of Shopping Centre Owners i.e. "Westfield" are too "greedy" for Rental Tenancy causing closure of smaller competitive Business against large business i.e. Boles, Target etc.

Trading Hours should be deregulated on a "National" level on all businesses, and not restricted on a "State" level. Here in Adelaide for example there is a complete "shut down" which is bad for trade & tourism.

I'm not into workplace arrangements but I think probably flexible work hours would be a success with people with families, or students.

I think a lot of change too in customer purchases in the Retail sector i.e. clothes, shoes, etc is people are using their money on all this on going technology i.e. broadband, iPads etc & god knows what else which increases their electricity bills, so there is no money left for anything else, so it's not all about "interest rates".

I think too, if the Govt does not make good rules with this on line shopping it will get out of hand & the Govt will lose a lot of GST.

So this is my "penny worth" of comments

I hope you will achieve something from this Report by the Commission, and not leave it in "thin air". Something must be done otherwise I see gross unemployment. I do realize there is a lot of issues to address.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) J Bennett.