Arts Access Australia

20 January 2008

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Committee Secretary

Standing Committee on Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts

By Email: ccwea.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee

Endorsing Arts Law Centre of Australia Submission on the Resale Royalty Rights for Visual Artists Bill 2008

As the national arts peak body for the one in five Australians with a disability, Arts Access Australia is writing to endorse the Arts Law Centre of Australia Submission on the Resale Royalty Rights for Visual Artists Bill 2008.

Artists with a disability are generally well represented in the visual arts as it is an area of practice requiring comparatively low set up costs with flexibility of work hours and location. We also note the Government's stated desire for the Bill to deliver benefits to Indigenous artists. Given that disability prevalence in Indigenous communities is double that of the overall population, with two in every five Indigenous people having a disability, we fully support the Arts Law Centre's recommendations. Arts income, particularly in remote areas, is often one of the few forms of enterprise available and especially significant for artists with disabilities who can earn income and contribute to their communities.

In particular we ask that the Government:

- delete clause 11
- remove the requirement that artists be identified at the time of commercial resale
- reduce the threshold from \$1,000 to \$500 inclusive of all fees, charges and taxes

Should you wish to clarify or expand on any aspect of this letter please contact me by ed@artsaccessaustralia.org

Yours sincerely

Gareth Wreford Executive Director