



## Public Hearing into Tobacco Plain Packaging Legislation

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing will conduct a public hearing into the plain packaging of tobacco products in Canberra today.

Witnesses will speak on the Tobacco Plain Packaging Bill 2011 and the Trade Marks Amendment (Tobacco Plain Packaging) Bill 2011 and include a tobacco manufacturer, public and preventative health advocates, and government departments.

Steve Georganas said "Whilst much of the debate surrounding these bills to date has focused on economic or legal issues, the decision by the Selection Committee to refer these bills to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health and Ageing provides an important opportunity to consider the potential health impacts separately and in detail".

Mr Georganas also said "Both of the major tobacco companies who made a submission to the inquiry were invited to attend and one had accepted."

The Committee has received 63 submissions from individuals and organisations, including the tobacco industry, retailers, public and preventative health advocates and from government departments.

### Committee Room 1R1, Parliament House, Canberra ACT

Time	Witness
10:45am	British American Tobacco Limited
11:15am	Break
11:30am	Australian National Preventive Health Agency
12:15pm	Cancer Council Australia, National Heart Foundation & Quit Victoria
1:15pm	Break
1:45pm	Department of Health and Ageing
2:30pm	Close

The hearing will be webcast live on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

**For media comment**, please contact Hannah Frank from the Office of Steve Georganas on (08) 8376 9000.

**For all other enquiries**, please contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/haa](http://www.aph.gov.au/haa).