

Issued: 29 March 2012

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS Inquiry into bills referred on 22 March 2012 Chair: Nick Champion MP Deputy Chair: Paul Neville MP

## House Committee to inquire into Shipping Reform Bills

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Communications is conducting a new inquiry into the following Shipping Reform Bills 2012, introduced into the House and referred to the Committee on 22 March 2012:

- Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Bill 2012
- Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2012
- Shipping Registration Amendment (Australian International Shipping Register) Bill 2012
- Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Bill 2012
- Tax Laws Amendment (Shipping Reform) Bill 2012

The bills provide a comprehensive package of reforms proposed to revitalise the Australian shipping industry. Reforms of this magnitude have not been delivered in the shipping industry for around 100 years.

The Committee is interested in receiving submissions from stakeholders affected by these reforms, to assess whether concerns raised during the consultation process are reflected in the legislation currently before Parliament.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Nick Champion MP, said that "The Committee is interested to hear whether these Shipping Reform Bills, having been prepared in consultation with industry stakeholders, will revitalise the Australian Shipping industry."

The Committee is now inviting submissions from interested parties on the details of these bills.

The Committee will accept submissions until **Friday 13 April 2012**. The terms of reference are the text of the bills, which can be accessed, together with explanatory memoranda, on the Committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/ic</u>

Further details about the inquiry, including copies of submissions received to date, can be also be obtained from the Committee's website.

**Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary on (02) 6277 2352, email <u>ic.reps@aph.gov.au</u> or visit the Committee's webpage at <u>www.aph.gov.au/ic</u>

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Nick Champion MP, on (02) 6277 4451.