

Business Council Response to Questions on Notice

- 1. What organisations were asked to sign the Commitment to the Senate that the Business Council of Australia issued on 21 March 2018?**
- 2. What organisations refused to sign the Commitment to the Senate that the Business Council of Australia issued on 21 March 2018?**
- 3. What organisations failed to respond to your request to sign the Commitment to the Senate that the Business Council of Australia issued on 21 March 2018?**

Response to questions 1 to 3:

As we have already stated we sought to put together the commitment urgently because the matter was before the Senate.

We worked with members who we were able to contact and who were able to make that commitment in the tight timeframe that we had set.

No companies refused to sign the commitment. We approached a sample of member companies. Some could not be reached or get back to us before our deadline and to name them would be inappropriate. The companies that were available were available and that is who we worked with.

- 4. What organisations said they would sign the Commitment to the Senate if changes were made to the wording? What were the changes to the wording that were suggested, and which organisations made the suggestions?**

Woolworths asked for the word 'therefore' to be added to the statement.

- 5. Prior to the Commitment to the Senate that the Business Council of Australia released on 21 March 2018 how many earlier drafts of this document were there?**

There were four versions (including the final commitment) all created on 21 March as follows:

Version 1 (11.00am)

We believe that a reduction in the corporate tax rates, as proposed through the Government's enterprise tax plan, are urgent and vital to keep Australia competitive.

If the Senate passes this important legislation we, as some of the nation's largest employers, commit to invest more in Australia which will lead to employing more Australians and wage growth as the tax cut takes effect.

Version 2 (11.55am)

We believe that a reduction in the corporate tax rates, as proposed through the Government's enterprise tax plan, are urgent and vital to keep Australia competitive.

If the Senate passes this important legislation we, as some of the nation's largest employers, commit to invest more in Australia which will lead to employing more Australians and therefore wage growth as the tax cut takes effect.

Version 3 (3.07pm)

We believe that a reduction in the corporate tax rates, as proposed through the Government's enterprise tax plan, are urgent and vital to keep Australia competitive.

If the Senate passes this important legislation we, as some of the nation's largest employers, commit to invest more in Australia which will lead to employing more Australians and therefore stronger wage growth as the tax cut takes effect.

Version 4 (3.25pm)

We believe that a reduction in the corporate tax rate, as proposed through the Government's enterprise tax plan, is urgent and vital to keep Australia competitive.

If the Senate passes this important legislation we, as some of the nation's largest employers, commit to invest more in Australia which will lead to employing more Australians and therefore stronger wage growth as the tax cut takes effect.

6. Was there an earlier version or versions of the Commitment to the Senate or a similar document under a different name that the Business Council of Australia circulated to its members?

No.

7. For any of these earlier versions were BCA members asked to sign onto the document? If yes to this question, please list which organisations agreed to sign on and which organisations did not agree to sign on.

See response to question 6.