



Australian Cane Farmers Association Limited  
ABN: 68 009 657 765  
GPO Box 608 Brisbane Qld 4001  
P: 07 3839 1900 | F: 07 3839 1911 | E: info@acfa.com.au

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Committee Secretary  
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and  
Transport References Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Email: [rrat.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:rrat.sen@aph.gov.au)

25 May 2018

Dr Jane Thomson

**Inquiry into the Primary Industries Levies and Charges Collection Amendment Bill 2018**

Thank you for providing an opportunity to make a submission to this inquiry.

The Australian Cane Farmers Association (ACFA) is supportive of the proposed legislative changes and the establishment of a sugar levy payer register.

Sugar Research Australia (SRA) is the industry-owned research, development and extension (RD&E) provider for the Australian sugarcane industry. SRA's role is to provide its levy payers, cane farmers and millers, with RD&E that both meets their needs and delivers valuable impacts for the industry.

In order to identify and respond appropriately to their levy payers' research needs and priorities, SRA must be able to communicate and consult directly with all of their levy payers. Access to levy payer contact details is therefore a necessity for SRA to operate effectively and deliver on its role.

Additionally, access to information on the size of levy paid by individual levy payers, in terms of volume (tonnage) and quantum of levy (dollars), will assist SRA to tailor, where appropriate, its communications and RD&A activities to suit small, medium and large cane farmers.

However, it is important that the privacy of individuals and their businesses must be maintained. The ACFA does not support the provision of a farmer's personal or business information to parties, other than SRA, without the permission of the farmer.

The Australian Cane Farmers Association looks forward to hearing the outcomes of this inquiry.

Yours sincerely

**Stephen Ryan**  
**General Manager**