



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY**

Inquiry into circumvention of anti-dumping laws

*Chair: Mr Rowan Ramsey MP
Deputy Chair: Ms Clare O'Neil MP*

Committee to examine circumvention of anti-dumping laws

The House of Representatives Agriculture and Industry Committee will conduct an inquiry into Australia's anti-circumvention framework in relation to anti-dumping measures.

Committee Chair, Rowan Ramsey MP, welcomed the referral of this inquiry from the Minister for Industry, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP.

"Industry claims that as soon as an anti-dumping decision is granted against an imported product, the producer finds a way of changing the description, altering the product or routing the product through a third country to avoid the anti-dumping action. Some months ago I was contacted by the steel industry and following my interest in this matter there has been a steady stream of contact from the steel, aluminium and food industries" Mr Ramsey said.

"Australia is open for business, but it does not mean that we are prepared to accept competition from heavily subsidised overseas manufacturers dumping product below its cost of production. The World Trade Organisation allows us to take action against dumped products and all of our actions are compliant with the WTO. It is simply not acceptable if, when we take action, importers immediately find a way to circumvent that action" he said.

The terms of reference provide for the committee to inquire into and report on the following matters:

- the scope, prevalence and impact of circumvention practices by foreign exporters and Australian importers, especially from the perspective of Australian businesses;
- the operation of the anti-circumvention framework since its introduction in June 2013 including its accessibility, use by Australian businesses, recent amendments and effectiveness to date;
- practices that circumvent anti-dumping measures and the models for addressing practices administered by other anti-dumping jurisdictions; and
- areas which require further consideration or development including the effectiveness of anti-dumping measures and the range and scope of circumvention activities.

The Committee will accept submissions addressing one or more of the terms of reference until **30 November 2014**. Further details about how to make a submission can be obtained from the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/agind.

For media comment please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Rowan Ramsey, on (08) 8633 1744 or (02) 6277 4967 (Parliament House).

For further information please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4500, email agind.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at www.aph.gov.au/agind