



# Submission in response to Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee review of the Copyright Amendment Bill 2025

**Joint Submission from the Australian Film/TV Bodies**

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Submission filed via email: [legcon.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@aph.gov.au)

The Australian Home Entertainment Distributors Association (**AHEDA**), the Australian Independent Distributors Association (**AIDA**), the Australia New Zealand Screen Association (**ANZSA**), the Cinema Association Australasia (**CAA**), the Independent Cinemas Australia (**ICA**) and the Motion Picture Distributors Association of Australia (**MPDAA**) (together, the **Australian Film/TV Bodies**), are pleased to make this submission in response to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee review of the Copyright Amendment Bill 2025.

Additional information about the Australian Film/TV Bodies can be found in Appendix 1.

Over the past decade, the Australian Film/TV Bodies have been very involved in the consultation process with the Australian Government leading up to these proposed amendments. We welcome the Bill as currently drafted, which we firmly believe will be an important addition to the Australian copyright law framework.

We commend the Australian Government for the detailed and comprehensive consultation and feedback process and look forward to more meaningful engagements in the future, particularly with respect to providing rightsholders with greater capacity to enforce their rights.

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## Appendix 1: The Australian Film/TV Bodies

These associations represent a large cross-section of the film and television industry that contributed \$9.2 billion to the Australian economy and supported an estimated 54,818 FTE workers in 2017-18:<sup>1</sup>

- (a) **AHEDA** represents the \$400 million Australian film and TV home entertainment industry covering both packaged goods (DVD and Blu-ray Discs) and the distribution of content via digital retailers. AHEDA speaks and acts on behalf of its members on issues that affect the industry as a whole, such as: intellectual property theft and enforcement; classification; media access; technology challenges; copyright; and media convergence. AHEDA initiates industry marketing campaigns, conducts market research and tracks total market sales data on behalf of its members. There are currently 13 members and associate members including Universal Pictures, Sony Pictures Television, Paramount Home Media Australia, Walt Disney Co Australia, Studiocanal Australia through to wholly-owned Australian companies such as Roadshow Entertainment, Madman Entertainment, Defiant Entertainment, All Interactive Distribution and Umbrella Entertainment. Associate Members include Foxtel and FetchTV.
- (b) **AIDA** is a not-for-profit association representing independent film distributors in Australia, being film distributors who are not owned or controlled by a major Australian film exhibitor or a major U.S. film studio or a non-Australian person. Collectively, AIDA's members are responsible for releasing to the Australian public approximately 75% of Australian feature films which are produced with direct and/or indirect assistance from the Australian Government (excluding those films that receive the Refundable Film Tax Offset).
- (c) The **ANZSA** represents a group of major participants in the film and television content and distribution industry in Australia. ANZSA's core mission is to advance the business and art of filmmaking, increasing its enjoyment around the world. We seek to protect and promote the safe and legal consumption of movie and TV content across all platforms. More information can be found on [anzsa.film](http://anzsa.film).
- (d) The Cinema Association Australasia (**CAA**) is the peak industry body representing cinemas across Australia and New Zealand, established to act in the interests of all cinema operators, advocating on matters in support of the industry. The Cinema Association Australasia represents cinema operators across Australia and New Zealand, including the major national chains as well as many independent and regional cinemas. The Cinema Association Australasia represents over 2,000 screens across Australia and New Zealand, with members cinemas contributing 87% of Australia and New Zealand's consolidated box office.
- (e) **ICA** is a not-for-profit industry association that develops, supports, and represents the interests of independent cinemas and their affiliates across Australia and New Zealand. We represent 181 independent cinemas across 693 screens in Australia. Independent cinemas are mostly small and family businesses, often multi-generational, located in every state and territory in Australia from single screens in rural areas through to metropolitan multiplex circuits and iconic arthouse cinemas including Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace, Cinema Nova, Randwick Ritz, Palace Cinemas, Dendy Cinemas, Ace Cinemas, Luna Cinemas, Cineplex Cinemas, Wallis Cinemas, and Regional Cinemas.

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<sup>1</sup> Olsberg SPI, *Study on the Economic Contribution of the Motion Picture and Television Industry in Australia*, <[https://anzsa.film/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Study-on-the-Economic-Contribution-of-the-Motion-Picture-and-Television-Industry-in-Australia\\_Final-Report.pdf](https://anzsa.film/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Study-on-the-Economic-Contribution-of-the-Motion-Picture-and-Television-Industry-in-Australia_Final-Report.pdf)>

- (a) The **MPDAA** is a non-profit organisation representing the aligned interests of a number of theatrical film distributors in Australia – Paramount Pictures Australia, Sony Pictures Releasing, Universal Pictures International, Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures Australia and Warner Bros. Entertainment Australia. The MPDAA members make available and promote the supply of a range of screen content to entertain all Australian audiences. Formed in 1926, the purpose of the MPDAA is to advance and support the interests of theatrical film distribution, particularly in regard to copyright, piracy, classifications and other relevant matters.