

SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE REGARDING THE
KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Like many people I am deeply concerned that our government is signing a Free Trade Agreement with Korea that contains an Investor State Dispute Settlement Clause. Such a clause signs away many of our sovereign rights.

Essentially it allows a commercial entity, most likely a multinational corporation, to sue our government if it takes any action that can be deemed to prevent that entity from making a profit.

Apart from an ISDS being able to interfere with government decision-making, it also strips away the right of Australians to have a say in protecting their communities from harmful developments.

When a corporation is owned by people residing in another country, these people know that they will never have to live with the consequences of their profit-making schemes. No matter what destructive outcomes may follow, an ISDS strips away our right to protect our land and water.

Whether subject to Heritage protection, Aboriginal Land Title, Marine Park status or any other state conferred protection, an ISDS can ride roughshod over these safeguards and cost taxpayers a massive amount of money in the interim.

The TPP has stalled because so many nations, sensibly, refuse to have anything to do with an ISDS inclusive deal.

Any elected member who does not object to ANY trade deal that includes an ISDS is condemning future generations to a degraded environment, and is definitely a traitor to Australia.

It is in your hands to do the right thing by our nation.

Submitted by:
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