

Dear Committee,

I am writing in relation to the Modern Slavery Bill.

Requiring some Australian companies to merely report on efforts {effective or not} to stamp out goods and services provided by slavery might not be the strongest measure that can be taken.

Recommendation

A ban on the importation of slave made goods might be a much more direct way to help. President Obama signed a bill that banned the importation of goods produced by forced labour.. This could be adopted in Australia.

It seems highly unlikely that a self-report mechanism that only involves some Australian companies is going to undermine the lucrative industry that is modern day slavery nor be enough of a measure to ensure all Australian companies do the right thing and choose human rights over cost cutting and profits.

Banning the importation of goods made by slaves would capture non-Australian companies as well and arguably have a much greater impact and do more to stop the vile trade that is modern-day slavery.

Thank you
David Hale