



N.S.W. Retired Teachers' Association

Honorary Treasurer: Ian Massingham

[REDACTED]
15th March, 2022

Committee Secretary,
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties,
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

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To the Committee Secretary,

Re: Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Adelaide, 17 December 2021 and London, 16 December 2021)

The News South Wales Retired Teachers' Association wishes to make submission concerning this agreement.

Our key concerns are:

That the Intellectual Property provisions cast doubt on the Australian Government's claimed support for the World Trade Organisation's temporary waiver of Covid-19 vaccine monopolies. As older citizens, we are afraid that, until the developing countries are well vaccinated, new variants will emerge to the detriment of our health, as have been reported last week. "Until we are all safe, no-one is safe".

That Trade in Services provisions could restrict government regulation of essential services such as aged care. We fear that it could limit regulation of food quality and staff-to-patient ratios in aged care facilities operated by multi-national entities such as BUPA.

Yours faithfully,

Ian Massingham,

On behalf of the Committee of the N.S.W. Retired Teachers' Association