

AUSTRALIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

27 July 2012

Committee Secretary House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics PO Box 6021 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

E-mail: economics.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Committee Secretary,

Inquiry into the Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission exposure draft legislation

The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) is the peak council of Australian business associations. Our member network has over 350,000 businesses represented through Chambers of Commerce in each State and Territory, and a nationwide network of industry associations.

ACCI has constructively engaged in a number of consultations as part of the government's reform agenda for the Not-for-Profit (NFP) sector, primarily through earlier detailed submissions to the Treasury.

As the exposure draft legislation (Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Bill 2012) is now limited to regulating NFP entities that are charities, we are not intending to participate more fully at this stage. However, we do note that the exposure draft Explanatory Memorandum (at p.25) contemplates a possible extension to other NFP entities in the future.

NFP entities, such as business organisations, including registered industrial organisations, are already subject to governance, reporting and compliance obligations, and are materially different to charities.

Business organisations who are NFP entities, are neither seeking nor supporting inclusion in the draft legislative scheme which is currently before the Committee.

My senior executive and Director of Legal Affairs, Daniel Mammone, has primary carriage of this matter and can be contacted on (03) 9668 9950 (daniel.mammone@acci.asn.au).

Yours sincerely,

Peter Anderson Chief Executive



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