

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 21 March 2013

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Inquiry into IT Pricing

Chair: Mr Nick Champion MP Deputy Chair: Mr Paul Neville MP

APPLE, ADOBE AND MICROSOFT IN CANBERRA TOMORROW

Apple, Adobe and Microsoft will appear before the House Infrastructure and Communications committee at a public hearing into IT pricing in Canberra tomorrow.

The Committee is investigating claims that Australians pay more for IT products than consumers overseas.

Committee chair Nick Champion MP said 'The committee has been told that big IT companies and copyright holders charge Australians, on average, an extra 50%, a practice consumers call the "Australia Tax".'

Mr Champion said, 'Many consumers have drawn the committee's attention to Apple, Adobe and Microsoft products, so the committee welcomes the opportunity to hear directly from these companies. We look forward to hearing their views.'

The hearing will take place in **Committee Room 2R1** from **09.30am** tomorrow. The program for the hearing is as follows:

9.30 am	Apple
11.00 am	Adobe
12.30 pm	Lunch Break
1.00 pm	Microsoft
2.30 pm	Adjourn

A program has also been posted to the Committee website at <u>www.aph.gov.au/itpricing</u>.

PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION

Date/Time: Friday 22 March 2013 at 09.30 am Venue: Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra. Webcast live: <u>www.aph.gov.au/live</u>

For inquiry information: including the terms of reference and submissions, go to: <u>www.aph.gov.au/itpricing</u>, or contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 2352.

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Nick Champion, on (02) 6277 4451 (Parliament House office)