



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Inquiry into IT Pricing

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

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## **House Communications Committee releases information technology pricing report**

The House of Representatives Infrastructure and Communications Committee today released the report on its inquiry into IT pricing in Australia.

The inquiry investigated claims that Australians pay higher prices for IT products than consumers overseas do.

Committee chair Nick Champion MP said “The committee found that big IT companies and copyright holders charge Australians, on average, an extra 50 per cent, a practice consumers call the ‘Australia Tax’. High IT prices can have significant impacts given the critical role IT plays in many areas of Australian life.”

“While companies should remain free to set their own prices, the committee took the view that there are a number of ways in which Australia can act to increase competition in IT markets, which should reduce prices over time,” Mr Champion said.

Key recommendations in the report include:

- a consumer education campaign, to help consumers find cheaper goods online
- reforms to the Competition and Consumer Act and the Copyright Act to remove barriers to competition, foster innovation, and ensure consumer rights are not lost in the transition to digital content.
- action to reduce the impact of high prices on Australia’s most vulnerable social groups – the disabled, students, and low-income Australians.

The report is available from the committee website at [www.aph.gov.au/itpricing](http://www.aph.gov.au/itpricing).

**For further information** go to: [www.aph.gov.au/itpricing](http://www.aph.gov.au/itpricing), or contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 2352.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Nick Champion, on (08) 8284 2422 (electorate office)