

Senior Adviser
Contributions and Accumulation Unit
Personal and Retirement Income Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

By email: sgcharge@treasury.gov.au

Dear Sir or Madam,

Comments on the Superannuation Guarantee Charge Exposure Draft & Explanatory Materials

Thank you for giving the Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner (OSBC) the opportunity to comment on the Superannuation Guarantee Charge Exposure Draft and Explanatory Materials.

The OSBC is focused on supporting and improving the operating environment for small businesses throughout NSW. The role of the OSBC is to:

- provide dispute resolution services;
- deliver quality business advice through Small Biz Connect; and
- speak up for small business within government.

We support the identification of, and improvements to, features of the tax system that are unreasonably or unnecessarily hindering or preventing small businesses from pursuing and achieving their commercial goals.

The OSBC supports in-principle the proposed amendments to the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*; the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* and the *Crimes (Taxation Offences) Act 1980* to simplify and reduce the burden of the superannuation guarantee charge for employers.

As the Australian Taxation Office has recognised, many small businesses find it difficult to meet their superannuation and tax obligations because they lack time or resources¹. Tax and superannuation compliance costs represent the time, effort and financial costs taxpayers must bear to meet their taxation obligations over and above the cost of keeping records and accounts in the usual course of business.

Australian taxation and superannuation compliance costs have a more significant impact on small businesses than on larger businesses. They are regressive, with a given cost imposing a proportionately higher impost for smaller businesses. As such, the OSBC supports the Australian Government's efforts to reduce small business superannuation compliance costs.

¹ Australian Taxation Office, Compliance in Focus 2013-14, page 11

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Superannuation Guarantee Charge Exposure Draft and Explanatory Materials. Should you wish to discuss any of the issues raised in this submission, please contact Magdalena Kaczmarek, Advisor, Advocacy on (02) 8222 4853 or at magdalena.kaczmarek@smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Robyn Hobbs OAM
NSW Small Business Commissioner

18 September 2015

