

ABN: 46 109 584 947 Level 20, 444 Queen Street Brisbane, QLD 4000 PO Box 15514 City East, Brisbane QLD 4002

Ph: 07 3839 2452

The Manager
Philanthropy and Exemptions Unit
Indirect Tax Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

28 May 2012

Proposed Amendment to LAFHA - 2012/13 Budget

Dear Sir

UNIFY Solutions is a wholly owned Australian Company who employ specialist Identity Management (IT) Consultants recruited both locally and from overseas.

We believe the proposed changes to the Living Away from Home Allowance (LAFHA) will significantly impact on our ability to attract overseas candidates for roles we are unable to fill locally. We do not believe the proposed reforms recognise the additional living costs experienced by those who travel to Australia, working under a 457 visa. In particular, we are greatly concerned that the planned changes in the 2013 Budget will immediately seriously disadvantage current UNIFY employees working under a 457 visa.

UNIFY continues to employ locally based staff when they are available but the company needs to source appropriately qualified personnel from overseas and the loss of LAFHA will impact on our ability secure such staff, to service our clients and grow our company.

We believe the application of the proposed changes should be reconsidered and that, as a minimum, more favourable transitional arrangements should apply to current 457 visa holders.

We thank you for the opportunity to express our concern about the recommended changes.

Yours Sincerely,

Chief Financial Officer