



**National Tourism Alliance**

17 December 2012

The Hon David Bradbury MP  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Sent via email: [australianconsumerlaw@treasury.gov.au](mailto:australianconsumerlaw@treasury.gov.au)

Dear Mr Bradbury,

**RE: PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION EXPOSURE DRAFT AMENDMENTS RELATING TO RESTAURANT  
AND CAFE MENU SURCHARGES**

We are writing with regard to the December 2012 exposure drafts of the Commonwealth's proposed amendments to the single pricing ("component pricing") requirements in the Australian Consumer Law for restaurants and cafes.

The proposed amendments give effect to the Australian Government's response to a recommendation of the Productivity Commission (PC) in its 2010 Annual Review of Regulatory Burdens on Business: Business and Consumer Service (Report), with the PC recommending:

*"The Australian Government should amend the Trade Practices Act 1974 to have restaurant and café menu surcharges for specific days placed outside the scope of the component pricing provisions of that legislation (Recommendation 3.3)."*

The National Tourism Alliance (NTA) is the forum that unites the Australian tourism and hospitality industry, providing a single voice to Federal Government on issues of common interest. Our membership comprises the major associations within tourism including the Australian Tourism Export Council, AAA Tourism, Restaurant & Catering Australia, Accommodation Association of Australia, Board of Airline Representatives, Australasian Casinos Association, Bus Industry Confederation, Caravans & RV Association, the Australian Regional Tourism Network, as well as all of the State Tourism Industry Councils.

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The NTA lodged a submission on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2010 to the aforementioned 2010 review, asking that amendments be made to allow restaurants and cafes to be able to return to operating with just one menu which lists any surcharge at the bottom of the menu for weekends or public holidays. This amendment would enable restaurants and cafes to operate outside of the current restrictive single pricing requirements and alleviate the associated regulatory burdens.

On behalf of our members and the tourism industry, we support the Productivity Commission's recommendation that the Government amend the law to place restaurant and café menu surcharges for specific days, such as public holiday and weekend surcharges, outside of the single pricing requirements. Further, we applaud your acceptance of the recommendation to amend the law.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on 02 8971 3155 or 0488 0699 45.

Yours faithfully



Juliana Payne  
Chief Executive  
**National Tourism Alliance**



The NTA thanks its national sponsors

