

CoSBA



Combined Small Business Alliance of WA (Inc)



Date: 1 November 2011

Hon Peter Abetz MLA
Parliament House
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Peter

Re: FRANCHISING BILL

It is with profound disappointment that we read in today's edition of *The West Australian* newspaper that you may drop your Franchise Bill. This represents a serious blow to preventing predatory franchisors taking advantage of small business, and to the Government understanding and addressing the special needs of small business.

Whilst beefing up the *Small Business and Retail Shop Amendment Act* and the powers of the Small Business Commissioner may go some way to addressing the concerns of small business franchisees, it would be in our judgement only a second best option, and a weak gesture in attempting to placate small business, that may well prove to be just a token in controlling the behaviour of rogue franchisors.

What we find particular disappointing is that, this stands as a clear and poignant demonstration that when it comes to a contest between small business and the big end of town, the Government will come down on the side of the big end of town.

Yours faithfully

**Combined Small Business Alliance
of Western Australia Inc. (CoSBA)**

OLIVER MOON
Chief Executive Officer

Cc Colin Barnett, Premier; Simon O'Brien, Minister for Small Business; Liza Harvey, Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business; Ljiljana Ravlich, Shadow Minister for Small Business.