



**Minister for Finance; Commerce; Small Business**  
**Hon Simon O'Brien MLC**

29-19991

Mr Oliver Moon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Combined Small Business Alliance of WA  
PO Box 253  
JOONDALUP WA 6919

Dear Mr Moon 

**RETAIL TRADING HOURS AMENDMENT ACT 2011**

I wish to inform you that the *Retail Trading Hours Amendment Act 2011* passed through Parliament recently. The Act received Royal Assent on 4 October 2011 and commenced on that date.

The new legislation amended the *Retail Trading Hours Act 1987* so that 18 persons (including owners but excluding apprentices), rather than the previous 13, may work in a small retail shop at any one time.

The Government believes that this modest amendment will allow small businesses to compete better with larger retailers, provide improved services and a wider range of goods.

Retailers that meet the small retail shop criteria, which now includes the increased staffing maximum, may apply for a small retail shop certificate from the Department of Commerce and then trade 24 hours a day, 7 days a week including on all public holidays. Existing small retail shops which already hold certificates are not required to reapply.

Enquiries may be directed to the Trading Hours Unit of the Automotive, Marine and Trading Hours Branch of the Department of Commerce on 9282 5641.

I would appreciate it if you could advise your members of the above.

Yours sincerely



Simon O'Brien MLC  
**MINISTER FOR COMMERCE**

20 OCT 2011