

**CoSBA**



Combined Small Business Alliance of WA (Inc)

21 October 2011



Senator Nick Sherry  
Minister for Small Business  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

**Re: ACCC STATEMENT ON FRANCHISING LAWS**

With reference to your Media Release of 20 October 2001 headed: "MINISTER WELCOMES ACCC STATEMENT ON FRANCHISING LAWS", we wish to convey to you our profound displeasure with the comments of Mr Rod Sims, Chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, at a Senate Estimates hearing on 19 October 2011 concerning your Government's franchising laws, and your support for his comments.

Mr Sims' comments and your support for them is a clear demonstration of his and your lack of understanding of the special needs of small business, in this case franchisees.

Given the history of empty rhetorical statements laced with hollow promises concerning what your Government and its agencies will do for small business has in the past, and will no doubt in the future, amount to an absence trust and confidence.

Additionally, you should be aware that your minority Government is perceived by CoSBA, and no doubt by small business in general, as lacking credibility by making and implementing policies at the behest of the unions, the Greens and disaffected independents, that are in many cases grossly detrimental to interests of small businesses bound by red tape operating their businesses productively and profitably.

For our part, we are totally dismissive of Mr Sims' comments and your support for them, and we will continue to support and prosecute, which is in our judgment, a compelling case for State laws in Western Australia, that are consistent with our Franchising Policy Position Statement and the Abetz Bill.

Yours faithfully

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

**OLIVER MOON**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

cc. Mr Rod Sims, Chairman, ACCC; Bruce Billson, Shadow Minister for Small Business; Simon O'Brien, Minister for Small Business (WA).