



Australian Government

Senator Nick Sherry's media releases

RESPONSE TO PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION RESEARCH REPORT

13 Sep 2011

ANNUAL REVIEW OF REGULATORY BURDENS ON BUSINESS: BUSINESS AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Senator Nick Sherry, Minister Assisting on Deregulation and Public Sector Superannuation, has today released the Government's response to the Productivity Commission's *Annual Review of Regulatory Burdens on Business: Business and Consumer Services*.



The report presented 18 recommendations to reduce regulatory burden, covering issues including government consultation, superannuation, the commercial use of imported specimens and national registration of architects.

Senator Sherry said the Government is supportive of the bulk of the report's recommendations and has accepted or accepted in principle 10 of the recommendations.

"For the majority of the remaining recommendations, I believe it is prudent the Government continues to work with business and consult on the best way forward to reduce regulatory burdens," Senator Sherry said.

"Some regulatory changes to assist Australian businesses are being advanced through other means, and in some cases the Government believes the current level of regulation is appropriate.

"As Minister for Small Business and Minister Assisting on Tourism, I'm especially pleased that the Government's response includes reducing red tape for tens of thousands of restaurants and cafes, most of which are small businesses.

"The Government has accepted the recommendation to have restaurant and cafe menu surcharges for specific days placed outside the scope of the component pricing provisions of

the Australian Consumer Law."

If legislative change is agreed with the States and Territories, restaurants and cafes will no longer need to provide a separate menu for days when a surcharge applies, such as public holidays and weekends.

Senator Sherry said this was the fourth in a series of annual reviews of regulatory burdens on business undertaken by the Productivity Commission.

In May, Minister Sherry announced the fifth Productivity Commission review in the annual regulatory burdens series, focusing on effective identification of regulatory reform opportunities and the evaluation of reform outcomes. The Productivity Commission will provide its final report to Government later this year.

The Government's Response is available at: <http://www.finance.gov.au/publications/response-to-pc-bcs/>

A printable version of the  [media release](#) [PDF 55KB] is available.