



BUSINESS COUNCIL
OF CO-OPERATIVES AND MUTUALS

Submission to the ACCC consultation on a draft legislative instrument for a collective bargaining class exemption

3 July 2019

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
Via email: adjudication@acc.gov.au

3 July 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM) welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) draft legislative instrument, guidance note and notice for a class exemption for small business collective bargaining.

Our submission in response to the initial public consultation conducted by the ACCC in August-September 2018 stressed the importance of co-operatives being able to play a representative role within the proposed class exemption.

The BCCM therefore endorses the inclusion in the guidance note of the following sentence:

'groups can seek to be represented by industry associations, cooperatives and professional bodies with over \$10 million in aggregated turnover.'

This provides important clarity for the co-operative sector.

The BCCM stands ready to provide further information and assistance to the ACCC.

Yours faithfully,

Melina Morrison
Chief Executive Officer

Contact:

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Policy Officer
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About the BCCM

Formed in 2013 following the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives the Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM) is the peak body for Australian co-operatives, mutuals and member-owned enterprises. The BCCM represents a diverse range of enterprises operating in sectors including agriculture, finance and banking, insurance, motoring services, health services, aged care, disability employment, education, indigenous services, social housing and retail.

The BCCM advocates for recognition of the sector and for measures that create an enabling environment for co-operatives and mutuals, including implementation of the recommendations of the Senate Economics References Committee report into Cooperative, mutual and member-owned firms, and implementation of the Hammond Review recommendations to improve access to capital for co-operatives and mutuals. The Hammond Review recommendations were implemented in April 2019, with the passing of the Treasury Laws Amendment (Mutual Reforms) Act 2019.