



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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SCCA SUBMISSION ON QUEENSLAND RETAIL SHOP LEASES ACT REVIEW

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) in response to the Queensland Government's [Discussion Paper](#) on the Review of the [Retail Shop Leases Act](#). Our submission highlights areas where unnecessary and costly red tape (for tenants as well as landlords) can be either removed or reduced. In particular, we have identified other areas where 'major lessees' (which are very experienced retailers) do not need the same regulatory protections which the Act provides to small lessees. Removing regulatory requirements for these lessees will promote efficiency (which is one of the Objects of the Act) and will reduce leasing costs for these retailers and for landlords. The Government is now beginning consultation with relevant parties.

SUBMISSION ON NT BUSINESS TENANCIES (FAIR DEALINGS) ACT REVIEW

The Shopping Centre Council has also lodged a [submission](#) in response to the [Issues Paper](#) in relation to the Review of the Northern Territory [Business Tenancies \(Fair Dealings\) Act](#). As well as responding to the specific matters in the Issues Paper, the submission also highlights areas where excessive regulation of commercial tenancies can be reduced or removed.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR AMP/BRW RETAILER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Nominations are now open for the AMP Capital Shopping Centres and BRW magazine *Australian Retailer of the Year 2012* awards. Nominations close on 7 March and the awards will be presented at a dinner in Sydney on 16 May. For further details, and to nominate, click [here](#). To cast a vote for the retailer with the best customer service, click [here](#). The inaugural awards, held last year, were a great success.

FRANK ZUMBO APPOINTED DEPUTY SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSIONER IN SA

Following passage of the [Small Business Commissioner Act 2011](#) in South Australia ([Shop Talk 3/11/11](#)), Associate Professor Frank Zumbo, of the UNSW, has been appointed a part-time Deputy Small Business Commissioner. The appointment of a Commissioner is expected soon. Professor Zumbo's appointment has been [strongly criticised](#) by the Franchise Council of Australia. The SA president of the FCA, who has threatened not to open additional stores as a protest, has asked: "Why do we need extra laws [for franchising]?" That's an odd reaction from a body which is seeking extra national laws to govern retail leasing, on top of existing state retail tenancy legislation ([Shop Talk 4/8/11](#) & [8/12/11](#)).

NEW REPORT ON GST UPLIFT FACTORS FOR SHOPPING CENTRE SALES REPORTING

When the GST was introduced (and wholesale sales tax removed) in 2000, the Shopping Centre Council commissioned a report to assist the conversion of sales to GST-inclusive sales. Late last year the SCCA commissioned Pitney Bowes to update this research. The latest report, *'Shopping Centre Sales Reporting: GST Uplift Factors, October 2011'* is available [here](#).

PROPERTY COUNCIL WESTERN AUSTRALIA 2012 SHOPPING CENTRE AWARDS

The Property Council, WA, is holding the 2012 Shopping Centre Awards on 18 May. Nominations close 31 March. Click [here](#) for the entry kit.

NRA INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS BREAKFAST SERIES IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE

The National Retail Association is holding a breakfast series for retailers on industrial relations regulation. Further information is [here](#) and click [here](#) to register for the Sydney event on 1 March or Melbourne on 15 March.