

Tobacco and Other Smoking Products (Dismantling Illegal Trade) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No:	8
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Mundubbera News

And **OFFICE***smart*

To whom it may concern,

Thank-you keeping us up to date with developments in regards to this situation. And allowing us to part of the submission to support the Introduction of the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products (Dismantling Illegal Trade) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025.

Although, my husband and I can't understand,

1. Why close these illegal businesses for only 3 months, why not close them down permanently?
2. Why do you need a minimum fine, why not fine them more than the maximum \$33,380?
3. How an operator of an Illegal Tobacco business can obtain a Tobacco License?
4. How does a business selling illegal tobacco still hold an ABN?

As a Newsagent in a small community for quite a number of years and a retailer of cigarettes and tobacco products, we have noticed how dramatically these Illegal suppliers have damaged our income.

It was bad enough when these shops were in nearby towns for our towns smokers to go and get whatever they needed but now for 12 months we have an illegal tobacconist straight across the road from us.

I have sent letters to not only the local council, State and Federal members, the State and Federal treasurer's, the Qld and Federal Health Ministers, the Qld Premier, the Prime Minister and the ATO, we have called out for damage control this has caused our business. From these letters, I have had communication, and I do thank them for recognising our plea.

As you can see with the following figures of our Tobacco sales for our business, instead of over \$39000.00 per month it has decreased to over \$7600.00 for the month of September 2025.

January 2024 -

TOBACCO/CIGARETTES [54]	1210	39358.65	3935.87	43298.84	0.00	39358.65
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September 2025

TOBACCO/CIGARETTES [54]	348	7673.69	767.37	8441.90	0.00	7673.69
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Look at the amount of Tax the government is missing out to go towards, Health, Education, Overseas Donations, Federal Staff wages, Roads etc.

We are not a business which holey relies on Tobacco and Cigarettes sales, but with no foot traffic from these customers, the extra sales of buying a scratch-it, lotto, magazines, Newspapers, it is not happening either.

In our town, there is a local couple who sit outside the Backpacker Accommodation in their car and sell to our itinerant workers who come to town to work in our town's orchards.

According to the Australian Consumer Law (ACL) All businesses selling goods and services in Australia must comply with the ACL. This being part of the services in Australia must comply with the Competition and Consumer Act (2010) CCA. According to the CCA these businesses are breaking all these regulations:

- unfair market practices
- industry codes and regulations
- product safety
- product labelling
- price monitoring.

If you operate a business that sells goods or services in Australia, you must comply with national, state and territory fair trading laws. Their laws state businesses are to compete fairly with each other and uphold the integrity of the marketplace. Of which they are not.

Please really help small legitimate, tax paying businesses like ours stay alive.

Regards

Robyn and Ashley Maeyke

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