



Media Release  
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## **Australia's Publishing Under Threat**

The Australian Publishers Association (APA) today said it would be very vocal in seeking to maintain the 1991 reforms to copyright laws – and questioned why Australia would even consider changes affecting the employment of thousands of people.

The APA, the peak body for the publishing industry, today responded to the release of the Terms of Reference for the Copyright Restrictions on Parallel Importation of Books into Australia inquiry by the Productivity Commission.

“The 1991 reforms confirming Australia territorial copyright have directly led to a very strong and growing industry in Australia, to the point where 60% of all books bought in Australian bookshops are Australian, we now have a thriving export market for our books, and by investing in and nurturing Australian voices we have unearthed some great, world-class authors,” said Ms Margie Seale, Board Member of the APA.

“It is difficult to imagine why we would abandon our territorial copyright and damage this industry and its jobs particularly in a time of such great economic stress. There is not a single benefit to be gained by Australia and Australians from changing the 1991 laws.”

Ms Seale said the APA would be making a submission to the Productivity Commission.

“The APA has every confidence that the inquiry will find the current laws are extremely effective, and that ultimately, common sense, Australian jobs, and boosting the Australian economy with export dollars will prevail,” said Ms Seale.

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