

Reference number CR138

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Is your submission confidential?
No
Submission type
Have Your Say
What should be the priorities for a competition policy reform agenda to ensure that efficient businesses, large or small, can compete effectively and drive growth in productivity and living standards?
Local governments providing similar services to small business should be subject to the same strict legislation that they themselves force onto small businesses
Are there unwarranted regulatory impediments to competition in any sector in Australia that should be removed or altered?
<p>The annual liquor license fee is crippling small family owned country hotels that provide accommodation and meals. The liquor license fee is significantly lower for clubs which contributes towards clubs being able to keep their prices lower.</p> <p>Liquor permits have now been dropped for not for profit organisations who hold a fund raiser, this is a smack in the face for small hotels that have to apply the smoking and rsa laws all year round.</p>
Are government-provided goods and services delivered in a manner conducive to competition, while meeting other policy objectives?
Local government in the Isaac coastal region provide up to 500 free camping sites, for example they allow up to 100 campers to camp for free at carmila beach with 3 drop toilets. Caravan parks in the same area have to have EPA approved septic systems and grey water disposal, permits etc. The rules for the caravan parks are quite strict and it is difficult to compete with the councils free sites. The businesses have to pay water rates on a per unit basis and not on a user pay basis so for example if your business is doing badly due to natural disasters you still have to pay for the water even though you have not used it, yet the same council provides free water to 500 travellers. There are only 30 houses on town water where I live but up to 100 caravans a day can fill up for free.
Is there a need for further competition-related reform in infrastructure sectors with a history of heavy government involvement (such as the water, energy and transport sectors)?
yes