

Dear Sir, I have no in principle objection to the government charging GST on internet purchases however it needs to be done in such a way as to not result in a larger fee being imposed on the consumer for processing of the tax. I think it will be grossly unfair to have to pay more in collection fees to a third party than the tax that is due. Asking the suppliers to collect the tax on behalf of the government will either push prices up astronomically or result in the suppliers not doing business with Australia. Either one is unacceptable. Complaining by local retailers that the playing field is not level is unrealistic in many instances. My internet purchases are largely driven by the fact that the things I want are simply not available in Australia, not because of cost. I ask the commission to please reassess this impost in the light of the cost of collection and potential reduction of availability of overseas goods and leave the threshold where it presently is. Thank you.

Craig Thompson