

Dear Productivity Commission,

I'm a 34 year old stay at home mum, with a 4 year old son and a husband who works in the auto industry. Like many people our age, we also have a mortgage.

My husband and many of our friends work directly in the auto industry, so the loss of the industry is the loss of their jobs.

I find it hard to adequately explain how passionately I believe in maintaining the auto industry in Australia. No other country in the world supports their car industry as little as we do - Japan artificially manipulated their yen to accommodate their struggling manufacturers. Clearly they value their car industry.

In basic economic terms, the benefit of having Holden, Toyota and all the parts suppliers here far outweighs any assistance that the Government provides at the rate of \$31 generated for every \$1 in government support. This is not to be taken lightly.

The sheer amount of potential job losses is staggering - 200,000 people. Why would you willingly do that? A lot of these people will also find it hard to find new employment, those who are unskilled labourers - or even those who are highly skilled but in a very specific job will find it difficult. Also those who are older, a group that already finds getting new jobs difficult will be hugely impacted. Surely some support for the industry would be cheaper than having more people on government benefits?

A future where Australia has no manufacturing industry left is a very grim prospect indeed. We need to protect, support and encourage industries to stay here - for the economic and social benefits provided.

It frustrates me greatly that so many people fail to see how big an impact the loss of this industry will have on families and the larger community.

Australia needs to be a country that makes things - to lose even more manufacturing is just short sighted and foolhardy. It often feels as though Governments play short term games to the detriment of their constituents - to balance the books and make some loud minority happy.

We have a proud history in car manufacturing - we have produced amazing things here. We can do this again, but not if there is no industry to do such things. Let's not throw all that away on a whim.

You say we cannot afford to keep the industry? I tell you without a shadow of a doubt that we cannot afford to lose it.

Kind Regards,

Lorrella Tucker