

To the Productivity Commission

I would like to register my protest at proposed changes to territorial copyright laws in Australia and the parallel importation of books. It is my understanding that the Productivity Commission has not fully understood the impact the proposed changes will have on Australian authors. In particular it is my understanding that the Productivity Commission has erroneously assumed that only sales in the first 12 months after publication should be protected. This is a short sighted view. I am a member of Romance Writers Australia and all published authors in this organisation would agree that the majority of book sales occur after this period.

Allowing parallel importations after 12 months will seriously impact an author's ability to earn a living from their work. It is a very rare author who can earn large sums with their work. Most only make a modest living. I support the petition submitted by the Australian Society of Authors to the Productivity Commission and like-wise reject any suggestion to change current restrictions on parallel importation of books.

Kind Regards

Pam Grootemaat