

Anna Bligh MP

APR 2007 2 APR 2007 2

Queensland Government

> Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure

2 9 MAR 2007

Our Reference: DPF-03079

The Honourable P Dutton MP
Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Datton Potter

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I refer to your letter of 4 January 2007 seeking my agreement to a number of proposals to amend the A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 and the A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Regulations 1999. These proposals are intended to apply from 1 February 2008.

As you are no doubt aware, Queensland has a significant tourist industry, and I support, in principle, changes intended to stimulate this industry. I have no objection to the proposals to allow aggregation of invoices from a single retailer to achieve the minimum spending threshold of \$300, to extend the time from 30 days to 60 days in which goods must be exported to qualify for a refund, and to similarly extend the time period to apply for 'sealed bag' goods.

However, I consider more economic modelling of the effects of the reforms to the Tourist Refund Scheme on the tourist industry is required before I can support the Australian Government's proposal to allow open market competition for the tourist refund function.

Yours sincerely

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