

Director Corporate Tax Policy Unit Treasury Langton Cres Parkes ACT 2600

By email: [frankeddistconsult@treasury.gov.au](mailto:frankeddistconsult@treasury.gov.au)

Dear Director,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a response to the consultation on the proposed legislation relating to Franked Distributions and Capital Raising.

[I/we] object to the proposed legislation changes.

[I/we] believe the draft legislation is inequitable to Australian companies and shareholders and it could inadvertently impact situations of legitimate company operations. The draft legislation fails to recognise the fundamental principle underlying the franking regime and the reason for its creation, the avoidance of double taxation on company earnings.

The Franked Distribution and Capital Raising draft legislation, if widely applied, will lead to the demise of the franking system. It will stop Australian companies who issue new shares under a Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRP) from paying franked dividends and significantly increase the cost of capital for all franked dividend paying Australian companies.

It will also risk the stability and integrity of the Australian banking system by inhibiting effective capital raising during challenging economic periods such as the start of the coronavirus pandemic. If passed, its application would also unfairly burden Australian investors with retrospective tax debts, to be paid at a time of economic uncertainty.

On a personal note. My husband and I are self funded retirees. We have been retired for 5 years. Over the last few years of CoViD self funded retirees have received no /little support in comparison to other groups in our communities. We have felt the effects of VERY low interest rates on our savings. Franking credits are an integral part of our investment planning and securing income in our retirement years. Any legislation brought in should not apply to those already in retirement phase of their superannuation retirement phase .

Yours Sincerely

Joan Watkinson