



Australian Government



Australian
**Small Business and
Family Enterprise**
Ombudsman

9 September 2021

Market Conduct Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
Parkes ACT 2600

via email: businesscomms@treasury.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Treasury Laws Amendment (Measure for Consultation) Bill 2021: Use of technology for meetings and related amendments

Our Office supports the initiative to allow businesses to use technology to hold meetings, and sign and send documents. We believe the proposed legislation contains appropriate safeguards to protect against any intentional misuse of technology.

The proposed legislation supports the Australian Government decentralisation and digitisation agendas and will help individuals separated by significant distances to more seamlessly do business together. This is particularly true for small business owners and directors in rural and regional communities, who are less likely to be able to absorb the costs associated with travelling for business. These individuals will now be able to more easily look for business opportunities beyond their region while being able to spend more time in their local community.

We recommend that should this legislation pass, the Australian Government leverage the networks of the various organisation's that represent small businesses, including this office, to ensure those small businesses understand the opportunities and their responsibilities under the new law.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Eamon Sloane on 02 6213 7451 or at eamon.sloane@asbfeo.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Bruce Billson
Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman

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