

FINANCIAL COUNSELLORS ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INC. - Without Conflict of Interest -

Grocery Prices Inquiry - Submissions Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

Dear Sir/Madam,

Public Submission to ACCC Grocery Inquiry by Financial Counsellors Association of Queensland on 11th March 2008.

I submit this submission on behalf of Financial Counsellors Association of Queensland (FCAQ).

FCAQ is the peak body for the Financial Counselling sector in Queensland. The association has 35 members located from Cairns in North Queensland to Brisbane in the south.

Our membership's client base (dependent on funding agreements) ranges from farmers and fishermen to wage/salary earners, and welfare recipients. Financial Counsellors provide support to individuals or families experiencing financial difficulties. Support is tailored to each client and includes advocacy, budgeting, education, and empowerment.

FCAQ supports the submission by the Queensland Consumers Association regarding unit pricing.

We support and welcome any proposal that will make it easier for our clients to be better informed and therefore make better decisions. Unit pricing is an effective means of providing consumers with better information and simplifying consumer choice and promoting competition among manufacturers and among retailers.

Yours faithfully,

Kathleen Austin President FCAQ