



Australian Government



Australian
**Small Business and
Family Enterprise**
Ombudsman

6 June 2018

Senate Standing Committees on Economics
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

**TREASURY LAWS AMENDMENT (2018 SUPERANNUATION MEASURES NO.1) BILL
2018**

ASBFEO supports the measures in the Treasury Laws Amendment (2018 Superannuation Measures No.1) – Bill 2018. In particular, the 12 month Superannuation Guarantee Amnesty. The amnesty should provide a one-off opportunity for small business owners to bring payments of superannuation up to date.

To encourage small business owners to utilise the amnesty

- It should commence from the date it is passed into legislation. This will maximise the preparation time for small businesses. Time will be needed to undertake an audit, identify missed payments and calculate the capacity to pay within its projected cash flow. Allowing this preparation time while the legislation is considered will maximise the number of business willing, and ready, to take advantage on the amnesty.
- the conditions, of no penalties and payments being tax deductible, should extend for the life of a payment plan. Small businesses will not have the financial capacity to make catch up payments in one lump sum and meet ongoing obligations. If the alternative of entering a payment plan is intended to support the amnesty, then payments made during the duration of the plan must attract the same conditions.
- it must be prominently, and repeatedly, promoted to create awareness of the opportunity. During the period of the amnesty regular promotion, through a variety of channels, should be undertaken to alert, and remind, businesses of the opportunity to become compliant without penalties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and we would be happy to discuss any of these matters with you. Please feel free to contact Jill Lawrence, on 02 6263 1558 or at Jill.Lawrence@asbfeo.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Carnell AO

Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman

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