



# SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE  
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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[Archive](#)

## ADELAIDE TELLS THE REST OF AUSTRALIA THAT IT IS 'CLOSED FOR BUSINESS' . . .

The South Australian Government, which boasts of its economic credentials, has [announced](#) it will force most of Adelaide's retail businesses to lay idle for four of the five days of the Easter weekend - costing the State many casual jobs, lost salaries and millions of dollars in GST revenue. Most retailers and shopping centres in Adelaide will only be allowed to trade on Easter Saturday and will be closed on each of the other four days. Those lucky enough to be located in the Adelaide CBD can apply to trade, for only six hours, on the additional public holiday, on Tuesday 26 April. This decision, which was criticised by the [Shopping Centre Council](#) and the [National Retail Association](#), follows the Government's decision to force retailers to close for five days over Christmas/New Year ([Shop Talk 8/10/10](#)). At a time when retail sales are still weak, and most retailers are facing increasing competition from on-line retailers (who have no restrictions on when they can do business), the decision is crazy.

## . . . WHILE VICTORIA SENDS OUT A DIFFERENT MESSAGE

By contrast, the [Bill](#) permitting retailers to trade on Easter Sunday in Victoria ([Shop Talk 10/2/11](#) & [10/3/11](#)) has now passed the Victorian Parliament. This will mean that all Victorian retailers, if they wish, will be able to trade on all days over the Easter weekend, except Good Friday and the morning of Anzac Day. This sends a strong message to the Shop Assistants Union (SDA) that, unlike in South Australia, it is no longer running the State.

## LATEST ISSUE OF INSIDE RETAILING MAGAZINE IS NOW AVAILABLE

The latest issue of *Inside Retailing Magazine* is now available. Subscribe [here](#) or phone (02) 8224 8300.

## AMENDMENTS TO COMMERCIAL TENANCY ACT NOW IN THE WA PARLIAMENT

A [Bill](#) to amend the *WA Commercial Tenancy (Retail Shops) Agreements Act* has been introduced into the WA Parliament. The Explanatory Memorandum is [here](#). This Bill has a long history. It implements the balance of the recommendations from the Review of the Act which was conducted in 2003-04 ([Shop Talk 6/12/02](#) & [14/3/03](#)). Some of the recommendations of that Review, including the 'draw down' of unconscionable conduct provisions, have already been implemented ([Shop Talk 22/12/05](#) & [29/9/06](#)), while others were found to have no industry support. Legislation to introduce the balance of the recommendations was being prepared when Labor lost office.

## WA SMALL BUSINESS AND RETAIL SHOP LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2011

The WA Government has also [introduced](#) into Parliament a Bill to establish a Small Business Commissioner. This position was agreed last year in the political horse-trading between the Government and the Opposition over passage of the Bill to extend mid-week trading hours in Perth. The WA Bill is substantially modelled on the Victorian [Small Business Commissioner Act 2003](#). Click [here](#) to view the Bill and [here](#) for the Explanatory Memorandum.

## NRA RETAIL BREAKFAST IN SYDNEY ON 5 APRIL ON GST ONLINE THRESHOLD ISSUE

The National Retail Association, as part of its Retail Breakfast Series, is hosting an expert panel discussion in Sydney on 5 April on the issue of the GST threshold, which permits goods less than \$1,000 to be imported GST free. This is an issue that will be one aspect of the Productivity Commission Inquiry ([Shop Talk 23/12/10](#)). Click [here](#) for booking details.