



Victorian Commercial Teachers Association



To: The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) Review Committee of Copyright and the Digital Economy

The Victorian Commercial Teachers Association represents approximately 2,000 teachers in the areas of Economics, Law related education, business and accounting.

Essential to these teachers' work is the use of information from a wide range of sources to create, prepare and provide innovative and engaging lessons. In doing so, they routinely photocopy, print, scan and electronically share material with students in the classroom from a wide range of sources.

The Educational Statutory Licence system currently in place reduces their workload and school costs. This system is transparent, fair and equitable and enables them to copy and share material for approximately one quarter the cost of a commercially produced textbook from a wide variety of materials to suit their students' needs and contexts. The current system is time-efficient for teachers and supports quality, innovative teaching to enhance classroom practice and provides quality outcomes.

We also believe in the moral and legal principles that people who create the educational content receive payment for their skill, expertise and time.

We understand a recommendation has been made to remove the current system and replace it with a combination of new arrangements.

We would like to request that this letter be placed officially on record by being tabled as a formal submission to the ALRC Review Committee.

For reasons outlined in this letter, we strongly oppose any change to the current system that:

- will create any additional burden on teachers' time due to the proposed changes to the current copyright compliance regulations
- creates uncertainty about what can and cannot be shared with students
- takes away fair remuneration from the people who create high-quality educational resources, many of whom are teachers, which we value highly.

Christine Reid
Executive Director

30 July 2013

Suite 201, Level 2
Carringbush Business Centre
134-136 Cambridge Street, Collingwood Vic 3066
PO BOX 361, Abbotsford, Vic 3067
Phone: 03 9419 9622
Fax: 03 9419 1205
E-mail: vcta@vcta.asn.au
www.vcta.asn.au