

Keep Me Posted wins a solid result for consumers *For immediate release*

Keep me posted is celebrating a solid result with Consumer Affairs Ministers sending a strong message to businesses that enough is enough.

Today's Consumer Affairs Forum saw Ministers consider the Decision Regulation Impact Statement on paper billing fees and agreed to encourage businesses not to charge vulnerable or disadvantaged consumers to receive paper bills. This will be issued by businesses providing a strict twelve-month period to increase their subscription to their existing exemption programs.

Ministers are sending a strong message to businesses stating if the increase in exemption program subscription is not met, they will consider a total ban on paper billing fees.

"While it is disappointing it wasn't an outright ban, we respect the Consumer Affairs Forum decision and welcome the supportive sentiment. We hope that this result sends a clear message to businesses to apply common sense and do the right thing for all Australian consumers," said Kellie Northwood, Executive Director, Keep Me Posted.

"This is clear acknowledgement from State and Federal politicians that our industry has a valued role to play amongst Australian society," concluded Northwood.

Keep Me Posted will continue to provide the most vulnerable Australians assistance through their campaign initiatives and will continue to monitor the issues over the next twelve months.

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Keep Me Posted:

Keep Me Posted AU (KMP) is a national advocacy campaign run by The Real Media Collective. KMP believes every consumer should be able to choose, without penalty, how they prefer to be communicated to via banks, utility companies and other services providers. **www.keepmeposted.org.au**