



## Leader of the Opposition

Ms Louise Adler  
President  
Australian Publishers Association  
60/68 James Street  
Sydney NSW 2007

Dear Ms Adler

Thank you for meeting with us in Canberra recently to discuss the important issue of parallel import restrictions (PIR).

It was a pleasure to meet with some of our country's most significant authors - Hannah Kent, Magda Szubanski, Andy Griffiths, Anna Funder and Jackie French. They are a testament to the great artistic talent we have in this country.

As you know, Labor has been looking carefully at the complex issue of parallel import restrictions and has consulted widely with the groups that would be affected by any repeal of PIR.

Taking into consideration the economic and cultural impacts of such a change, we have now finalised a position. Labor will not support the government's attempts to repeal parallel import restrictions.

Labor is committed to ensuring that Australia has a vibrant local book industry. That means ensuring we support Australian authors, publishers and booksellers to continue to create local content for Australian audiences.

We believe the removal of PIR would have caused significant damage to our local book industry, just as it did in New Zealand. As strong supporters of the arts – and our local book industry - we cannot stand by and let that happen.

I will be announcing this position tomorrow, and would be grateful if you could inform your networks.

I look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure we have a vibrant local book industry well into the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bill Shorten'.

Bill Shorten MP  
Leader of the Opposition  
Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs and  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

8 December 2016