



15 August 2018

Manager
Consumer and Corporations Policy Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Email: ProductRegulation@treasury.gov.au

Re. Exposure Draft: Treasury Laws Amendment (Design and Distribution Obligations and Product Intervention Powers) Bill 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the draft legislation for the design and distribution obligations and product intervention powers. We congratulate Treasury on excluding financial advice and associated dealing from the design and distribution obligations. As we have stated previously, personal advice is already regulated to ensure the adviser acts in the best interests of the particular client. There is no benefit, and potentially a detriment, in also applying the design and distribution obligations to personal advice.

If you have any queries or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at policy@fpa.com.au or on 02 9220 4500.

Yours sincerely

Dimitri Diamantes CFP®
Policy Manager
Financial Planning Association of Australia¹

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The Financial Planning Association (FPA) has more than 14,000 members and affiliates of whom 11,000 are practising financial planners and 5,720 CFP professionals. The FPA has taken a leadership role in the financial planning profession in Australia and globally:

- Our first "policy pillar" is to act in the public interest at all times.
 - In 2009 we announced a remuneration policy banning all commissions and conflicted remuneration on investments and superannuation for our members – years ahead of FOFA.
 - We have an independent conduct review panel, Chaired by Graham McDonald, dealing with investigations and complaints against our members for breaches of our professional rules.
 - The first financial planning professional body in the world to have a full suite of professional regulations incorporating a set of ethical principles, practice standards and professional conduct rules that explain and underpin professional financial planning practices. This is being exported to 26 member countries and the more than 175,570 CFP practitioners that make up the FPSB globally.
 - We have built a curriculum with 18 Australian Universities for degrees in financial planning. Since 1st July 2013 all new members of the FPA have been required to hold, or be working towards, as a minimum, an approved undergraduate degree.
 - CFP certification is the pre-eminent certification in financial planning globally. The educational requirements and standards to attain CFP standing are equal to other professional bodies, eg CPA Australia.
 - We are recognised as a professional body by the Tax Practitioners Board.
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