



Franchise Council of Australia Media Release

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

IFA franchisee Chairman opposes proposed WA/SA franchising changes

And former franchisee Chairman of IFA also speaks out against WA/SA legislation

New International Franchising Association (IFA) Chairman Jack Earl added his voice to the opponents of the Abetz and Piccolo Private Member bills in WA and SA that are currently subject to Parliamentary Inquiry scrutiny.

Mr Earl said that Australia was fortunate to have only one compliance regime and should work to keep it that way.

Mr Earl could not understand the logic of introducing state based legislation when there was an existing national regime.

“This new legislation would be a backward step for the Australian sector and I am happy to add my voice to those who are strongly opposing the new changes,” Mr Earl said.

Mr Earl, who lives in the Philadelphia area, is an award-winning franchisee in the McDonalds franchising system and is a highly respected member of the United States franchising community.

He said he understood that McDonald’s had made a submission to the WA Parliamentary inquiry strongly opposed to the private member’s bill raised by WA State backbencher Peter Abetz.

Mr Earl is the third franchisee to be appointed chair of the IFA – the world’s largest franchising representative body.

Mr Earl spoke yesterday to the Australian delegation of almost 50 franchise executives at the IFA Convention being held in Las Vegas, Nevada from 13-15 February, 2011.

Australian franchise relationship expert, Greg Nathan, facilitated a major plenary session at the IFA convention and also joined the Australian delegation seminar, addressed by Mr Earl.

The Australian delegation seminar was also addressed by former-Chairman of the IFA, award winning franchisee, Lawrence Cohen.

Mr Cohen has twice been the franchisee of the decade within his franchise system, the great American Cookie Company, which is owned by the Mrs Fields brand.

Mr Cohen said he too was concerned about the Abetz and Piccolo initiatives.

“I don’t see how that can be good for franchisees - or anybody in the sector,” Mr Cohen said when addressing the Australian delegation seminar.

The IFA is the world’s oldest and largest organisation representing over 1,100 franchise networks, mostly based in the USA, but many with a global presence.



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IFA's mission is to protect, enhance and promote franchising through government relations, public relations and educational programs.

The Franchise Council of Australia sends a delegation each year to the IFA Convention - this year is a record year, with 48 franchise executives making the trip to Las Vegas.

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