PETITION

To the Honourable President and members of the Senate in Parliament assembled:

This petition of the undersigned Australian citizens draws to the attention of the Senate our concerns about the ongoing negotiations between Australia and 15 Asia- Pacific countries, including India, China, Japan, South Korea and the 10 ASEAN countries, for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). These talks are being conducted in secret without public access to the text, and will cover half of the world's population.

Your petitioners ask that the Senate oppose in the RCEP

- special rights for global corporations to bypass national courts and sue governments for millions of dollars in unfair international tribunals if they can argue that a change in law or policy would harm their investment, known as ISDS;
- stronger monopoly rights for pharmaceutical companies to charge higher prices for medicines, which would delay the availability of cheaper versions of those medicines; and
- increased numbers of temporary migrant workers, who are vulnerable to exploitation, as shown by recent research and media reports, without testing if local workers are available.

and to support

- inclusion in the RCEP of fully enforceable labour rights and environmental standards; and
- release of the RCEP negotiating texts to enable informed input from the community, and release of the final text for independent assessment before it is signed.

Name	Address	Signature

Please return to AFTINET, Level 7, 321 Pitt St, Sydney NSW 2000, by October 10, 2019.