



## Franchise Council of Australia says digital reforms in Federal Budget a big boost for small business

The Federal Government has listened to small business and implemented policy critical for the road to recovery.

Proposed changes to digital technology in tonight's Federal Budget will allow small business to access critical tools to streamline interpretation of employment awards and industrial relations regulation.

"The feedback I get from small business is that the Award system is too complicated", said FCA CEO, Mary Aldred. "The biggest hurdle is understanding which award is applicable to them."

"The Attorney General's changes, which allow them to understand which Award is applicable to their industry and ensure they are compliant, is a step in the right direction."

"The FCA has worked constructively with the Attorney General on this issue and she has listened to the feedback from small business and franchises. We hope these tools will be implemented as soon as possible", said Ms Aldred

"The introduction of new technology in business is moving faster than anticipated and this Budget shows that the government recognises that technological growth and innovation by Australian small businesses."

"The pandemic has seen business adjust to more agile systems embracing a digital way of working. The FCA particularly commends the Government's decision to promote electronic invoicing."

Franchised businesses were an early adopter of streamlined payment processes and the FCA strongly advocated with the Minister for Superannuation, Financial Services, and the Digital Economy to encourage adoption across small business", said Ms Aldred.

The Government anticipates that the change to electronic invoicing will save up to \$20 dollars per invoice. "Any saving to small business will help growth and encourage employment, especially in regional areas", said Ms Aldred.

"Post pandemic recovery will rely to a large degree on the digital revolution to facilitate economic growth."