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Dr Alexander Pound
Gift Card Expiry Dates Consultation Paper
Consumer and Corporations Policy Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Dear Dr Pound

Gift Card Expiry Dates

National Seniors welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the current consultation on gift card expiry dates.

National Seniors is a not-for-profit organisation that gives voice to issues that affect Australians aged 50 years and over. It is the largest membership organisation of its type in Australia.

As a body that represents the interests of older Australians, National Seniors has been engaged in a range of consumer-focused consultations. Older Australians expect that consumer law includes adequate protections against consumer detriment.

Older Australians are likely to be regular gift card purchasers and receivers. Gift cards provide seniors with a convenient, easy and secure way to exchange a gift with family, friends and others. Older Australians expect all gift cards to provide a reasonable minimum period from which to redeem a purchase. They are concerned that some gift card issuers do not provide a reasonable expiry date.

While National Seniors would ideally like to see a prohibition on gift card expiry dates, we support a three-year minimum expiry date as a good first step in protecting the interests of consumers purchasing and receiving gift cards. This will ensure that consumers will have ample time to redeem the value in the card.

Yours sincerely



Ian Henschke
Chief Advocate



Be
heard