

26 October 2022

Hon Tara Moriarty MLC Committee Chair Portfolio Committee No. 1 Parliament House Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Via email: <u>TaxReformTaskforce@treasury.nsw.gov.au</u>

Dear Ms Moriarty

ABA Submission: Property Tax (First Home Buyer Choice) Bill 2022

The Australian Banking Association (**ABA**) welcomes the *Property Tax (First Home Buyer Choice) Bill* 2022 in its current form.

We support proposals that assist first home buyers to enter the housing market. The policy will remove a barrier to home ownership by providing the option to reduce up-front costs for certain first home buyers at the time of purchase. It should encourage greater social mobility by removing a hurdle to some property transactions in NSW.

The intended date of implementation of 16 January 2023 is ambitious given that implementation requirements of this scale usually take six months. Banks will need to make changes to their loan application and management systems to support the taxation reform. Other implementation requirements include updating training and materials for front-line lenders and mortgage brokers to support customers through this substantive policy reform.

The ABA is concerned that, if further substantive policy changes were made at this stage without a change to the implementation date, there may be insufficient time to introduce the reform.

Yours sincerely

Director, Policy Australian Banking Association

About the ABA

The Australian Banking Association advocates for a strong, competitive and innovative banking industry that delivers excellent and equitable outcomes for customers. We promote and encourage policies that improve banking services for all Australians, through advocacy, research, policy expertise and thought leadership.