

## Red tape reduction welcome and urgent

Red tape is costing Western Australian's billions of dollars and is threatening the state's ability to compete with the eastern states, according to a report released today by the Western Australian Government.

The state government's Red Tape Reduction Group Report released today has been welcomed by the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and the Institute of Public Affairs.

"The Red Tape Reduction Group Report confirms that over-regulation is reaching a crisis point," said Ron Manners, Executive Director of Mannkal.

The Treasurer's Red Tape Reduction Group Report draws heavily from *Over-ruled: How excessive regulation and legislation is holding back Western Australia*, which was released in June 2009 by Mannkal and the IPA.

Mannkal Economic Education Foundation is a Perth-based organization which seeks to expand individual liberty and economic freedom. The Institute of Public Affairs is Australia's leading free market think tank.

"*Over-ruled* found that Western Australia has an international reputation as one of the most heavily regulated Australian states. The amount of new legislation passed per year is increasing faster than any other state," said Mr. Manners.

"*Over-ruled* found that regulation is costing the Western Australian economy \$2.1 billion per year.

"All Western Australians know that the minerals boom won't last forever and that we need to start preparing for the future now. That means cutting red tape so our economy can grow.

"Western Australia needs to start cutting red tape if it is to maintain its high living standards and increase economic growth," said Mr. Manners.

The Mannkal Foundation is currently sponsoring a paper on *Productivity? – Why is development so hard in the West*

- *for property developers*
- *for explorers and miners?*

Details will be published later this year.

### **For more information**

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