

MEDIA RELEASE

Young People to Sharpen Consumer Awareness skills

With young people becoming increasingly active in the marketplace and exposed to consumer issues, it is more important than ever for them to develop smart financial and consumer habits.

Mr Mark Boothman MP, Member for Albert, is calling for students from local schools to submit an entry in the Queensland Governments 2013 "Buy Smart Competition" for a chance to win \$1,500 for their school.

Mr Boothman said "students of all ages are being exposed to or put in a position to make a consumer decision on a daily basis, education in this area is very important as the digital age is moving along at a great rate of knots."

"It's important for students have a better understanding of their consumer rights, especially with 60% of scams delivered by phone or email. Schools and parents should also get on board and encourage their children to participate because there are really valuable lessons to be learnt." Mr Boothman said.

Cash prizes totalling over \$11,000 are up for grabs in the competitions three categories: years 4-6, Years 7-9 and years 10-12.

- First prize \$500 for the entrant, \$1,500 for the school or organization
- Second Prize \$200 for the entrant, \$800 for the school or organization
- Third prize \$150 for the entrant, \$500 for the school or organization

Students can enter individually or in groups of up to six through their school, community group, or other organization.

For more information on the "Buy Smart Competition" and to abtain an entry kit, visit <u>www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au</u> or call 13 QGOV (13 74 68).

[ENDS] [28 March 2013]