



PRESS RELEASE

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KAP President: "This is how you close the gap"

With the Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter introducing legislation into Parliament this week aimed at banning the sale of fake Indigenous Australian art, the party's President Shane Paulger has criticised the major parties on their inability to close the gap.

"While the rest of the politicians are failing to close the gap Bob Katter and the KAP continue with real action to help the Indigenous community," Mr Paulger said.

"Mr Katter's legislation to stop the sale of fake Aboriginal art in Australia is a real attempt to close the gap by protecting the jobs and culture of our First Australians.

"Aboriginal art is a national asset with far reaching benefits for the indigenous community. To subject this asset to cheap mass production overseas in order to make a quick buck is like spitting in the face of our country's heritage and the Australian way.

"Bob has been very active in the indigenous communities and he has seen first-hand how their art can benefit not only themselves, but everyone in Australia.

"The KAP is determined to stop the sale of these fake items and to help the First Australians keep hold of one of their most precious aspects of their culture," Mr Paulger said.

Mr Katter's legislation aims to create a certification similar to the *Australian Made* logo which would prove a product is not a fake.

The legislation has garnered large support from the public and from *The Arts Law Centre of Australia* who, in a joint statement, said "It's been an issue of concern for the community for some time."

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