



# MEDIA RELEASE

## David Littleproud MP

FEDERAL LNP MEMBER FOR MARANOA

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### **Win for Maranoa producers with proposed backpacker tax rate cut: David Littleproud MP**

The Coalition has listened to industry concern in the Maranoa on the proposed backpacker tax with the government today outlining a new plan, David Littleproud MP said.

“From January 1 next year, the government will set the tax rate applying to working holidaymakers at 19% on earnings up to \$37,000 rather than the 32.5% announced in the 2015-2016 Budget,” Mr Littleproud said.

Mr Littleproud said the agriculture and tourism industries made a fundamental contribution to local economy and often relied on working backpackers in everything from picking fruit to manning the bar at the local pub.

“This is a win for not only producers – who can get their fruit off the tree, off the vine and off to market – but also tourism hubs which rely on this type of labour in the Maranoa,” he said.

Mr Littleproud said he did not support the backpacker tax as it was presented in the last Federal Budget.

“I do support the Coalition Government’s swift response to review this tax and the consultation process that we undertook,” he said.

“We sought comment and more than 1700 stakeholders made submissions to reach this new outcome.

“Today’s announcement demonstrates the government listened and is now providing certainty to stakeholders for the upcoming harvest and tourism seasons.

“Today’s outcome has been made with an informed understanding not only of the labour challenges facing our agriculture and tourism sectors, but also the challenges facing our economy in a global labour market.

“The review was about more than the tax rate, and the government will continue to consider a number of issues and suggestions that emerged through the review.”

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