



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

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Maranoa MP: Review of tax breaks in the Bush most welcome, needs community involvement

Depending on where you live you can receive a tax break for residing in a bush area, but this remote tax code hasn't been reviewed for decades – now the Productivity Commission is seeking feedback and Maranoa MP David Littleproud is asking for your involvement.

"I passionately believe in a modern Zonal Taxation model that incentivises people to not only move out of the cities but help rural communities get a leg up," Mr Littleproud said.

"Zonal taxation would lift the tax brackets of individuals, meaning those living in those economic zones would pay little to no tax not only help build regional economies but for people to decentralise to the regions.

"I've already decentralised two agencies as minister and believe Zonal Taxation will incentivise others to follow.

"State governments should also implement a Zonal Payroll Tax model as well to incentivise business to not only decentralise to rural areas but current employers to employ more.

"Concerns have been raised the remote area tax assistance hasn't really changed with the times because the eligible zones for this tax offset were established in 1945 and don't take into account the population and infrastructure changes which have occurred across regional Australia in recent years."

The Productivity Commission recently released an issues paper into Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments and is seeking submissions until April 29.

"The Commission – which began its review in February and last week released its issues paper – will undertake broad public consultation, including meeting with remote communities and are inviting public submissions.

"That's why I am keen to see our community involved in this process because a new tax break helps families already living here but also could bring more people to our regions," Mr Littleproud said.

"I invite anyone living in Maranoa who is concerned or interested in the outcomes from the remote tax code review to send a submission to the Commission.

“The Commission will also consider if businesses in remote areas should be provided with similar support and whether the tax concessions are in line with Australia’s current economic framework and what other choices we have to support those living in remote areas.”

For more information and to make a submission on the Productivity Commission issues paper into Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments, visit www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/current/remote-tax#issues

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