

MEDIA RELEASE

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NOURISHING THE NATION: LABOR TO PRIORITISE PREVENTATIVE HEALTH

The Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) welcomes the Federal Opposition's announcement to address the impacts of nutrition in Australia, through a National Obesity Strategy.

Labor has unveiled a \$116 million plan to target obesity and other preventative health conditions.

"Finally, preventative health and the role of nutrition is being prioritised," said DAA CEO, Robert Hunt. "Addressing the impact of food across all life stages is vital to future proof the health of our people."

Labor's health spokeswoman, Catherine King, also detailed that a Labor government would review regulation of junk food advertising and consider mandating the Health Star Rating System, among other preventative health initiatives.

"It is vital that Australians are equipped with the skills to make healthy food choices, and these are two initiatives which are a step in the right direction when it comes to supporting lifestyle change," said Mr Hunt.

The funding proposal by Labor will help all Australians live in a healthy food environment and assist those with higher body weights to access sensitive, evidence-based care from their healthcare team, including Accredited Practising Dietitians.

"There are approximately 6000 Accredited Practising Dietitians across Australia who are ready to assist Australians to optimise their diet to enhance their mental and physical health," said Mr Hunt.

"To achieve health gains, we need a food environment that makes healthy food choices available for all."

DAA awaits with interest to hear how other major political parties, will commit to improving the health of the nation through prevention.

"Supporting the health of our nation's people is vital to further our country's prosperity and wellbeing."

"This is a national crisis and investing in nutrition should be a priority for all."

To read the DAA's election statement and Nourish not Neglect report, visit: [Call for new National Nutrition Policy](#)

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For further information or to organise an interview with Robert Hunt, contact Pattie King, Dietitians Association of Australia, on 0409 661 920.