



MEDIA RELEASE

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AHA CONDEMNS ATTEMPTS TO BREACH PRIVACY

The Australian Hotels Association (AHA) is calling on the Senate to reject attempts to force Australian companies to publicly disclose their personal tax affairs as a retrospective precondition to receiving JobKeeper.

AHA National CEO Stephen Ferguson said, "This dangerous political stunt is an attempt to play politics with a bipartisan assistance scheme that saved hundreds of thousands of Australian jobs."

"We completely agree with the need for integrity in the payment of public money by governments to people and businesses."

"However, the Commissioner of Taxation has advised this precedent has serious implications for taxpayer confidentiality and confidence in providing information to the Tax Office."

"People who abided by the rules set down at the time will be publicly humiliated by politicians playing political games."

"JobKeeper was critical to Australian businesses maintaining contact with and supporting their employees during one of the toughest times ever known."

"If Parliamentarians wanted people to have to disclose their tax affairs as a precondition to receiving JobKeeper, they should have said so when the legislation went through the parliament."

"If the Senate goes down this path, it will be knowingly trampling on the privacy of thousands of people who have done nothing wrong."

-Ends-

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