

ALBANESE REAPPOINTMENT PROVIDES STABILITY

The accommodation industry welcomes the reappointment of Hon Anthony Albanese MP as the Shadow Cabinet Minister who is responsible for tourism.

The Accommodation Association of Australia said it provides continuity and stability as tourism strives live up to its potential as one of Australia's super-growth industries.

"The Accommodation Association congratulates Mr Albanese on his reappointment to the shadow tourism portfolio," said the Association's Chief Executive Officer, Richard Munro.

"Since taking on tourism, Mr Albanese has consulted extensively with the sector and this was apparent in the detailed tourism policy Labor took to the federal election."

Mr Munro said there are several short-term policy challenges for Labor which directly affect operators of tourism accommodation businesses.

"The accommodation industry strongly supports cutting the company tax rate because it would directly result in lifting the level of employment in the industry," Mr Munro said.

"The Government took this policy to the election and we respectfully request the new Parliament takes this into consideration when it considers the measure.

"High penalty rates on Sundays and public holidays remain a 'job-killer' in the accommodation industry. The Accommodation Association is not calling for penalty rates to be abolished - rather, we agree with the Productivity Commission recommendation that Sunday penalty rates should be the same as Saturday penalty rates."

The Accommodation Association is keen to see the Opposition give greater recognition to bricks-and-mortar businesses in the face of fierce competition from sharing economy platforms who employ very few Australians and pay little tax within Australia.

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