



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Backpacker tax must be resolved urgently #FFS – for farmers’ sakes**

The Federal Government’s proposed backpacker tax legislation must be passed today and political bickering must not see it slip back to the original 32.5 per cent proposed, according to Avocados Australia.

CEO John Tyas said the industry was already immensely disappointed the Government will be pocketing 95 per cent of backpackers’ superannuation – a cost that industry would be having to bear the brunt of – and something that seems to have been hidden in this debate.

“At the moment, we’re seeing the Government giving with one hand while taking with the other,” he said.

“Our position is that as long as the new backpacker’s tax rate stays between 10.5 and 15 per cent, growers can live with that. But sort it out so our growers and backpackers have some certainty.

“Our farmers need these workers to do their job of supplying Australians with premium grade, highly nutritious food.

“Without backpackers working in the avocado industry, everyone will suffer the cost.”

***Ends.***

#### **For more information contact:**

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#### ***About Avocados Australia***

*Avocados Australia (AAL) is the representative industry body for the Australian avocado industry. We provide a range of services to our members and the broader industry to foster growth and development.*

*Avocados Australia is a “not for profit” member-based organisation and our members include avocado growers, associated businesses and industry people.*

*Avocados Australia seeks to work with all parts of the chain, from production through to the consumer. By working together we seek to continually improve the ability of growers to provide a healthy, profitable and safe product for all consumers.*