

# Media Release

## Andrew Broad

Member for Mallee

Wednesday, 29 March 2017

### **BROAD CALLS FOR GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE COMMITMENT TO CGM SUBSIDY**

The Member for Mallee, Andrew Broad, used his 90 Second Statement in the Federation Chamber today to urge the Government to push through the rollout of subsidised Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) devices for children under the age of twenty one.

Since first being made aware of the challenges faced by young children with Type One diabetes, and their families, Mr. Broad has led the charge for increased support for sufferers.

He rose in Parliament in 2016, to highlight the issue and called on the then Minister for Health, The Hon Sussan Ley, to commit to a subsidy that would benefit thousands of families across the country, struggling under the burden of both the financial and emotional stress associated with living with and managing, Type One Diabetes.

Mr. Broad said the CGM device, which eliminates the need for round-the-clock finger prick blood sugar tests, would be life changing for children with the disease but the device doesn't come cheap and is consequently out of reach for many families.

"As a country, we have the ability to help these families. We can do this and we should do this," Mr. Broad said at the time.

In the wake of Mr. Broad's comments in 2016, the Minister for Health announced that CGM subsidies for children under the age of 21 would be introduced, as part of the Government's election commitments.

During his statement today, Mr. Broad applauded the commitment however, he also expressed disappointment at the length of time it is taking for the subsidy program to be actioned.

"It saddens me that nine months in, we still haven't delivered on this election commitment.

"This is a commitment that should be honoured, that must be honoured.

"My understanding is that the Minister is working on it but it is time that we deliver this for the children of Australia.

"This is certainly a worthwhile project and nine months is too long, too long to wait."

**ENDS**

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