

New Government – New Hope For Older Australians

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National Seniors Australia congratulates Anthony Albanese and the Labor Party after being sworn in to government today and following the election win at the weekend, saying it represents new hope for all older Australians.

Australia's peak consumer and advocacy organisation for seniors also thanks Scott Morrison and the Coalition for its service in Government, noting it was responsible for implementing the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

National Seniors Chief Advocate, Ian Henschke says he looks forward to working with the Albanese Government in what he hopes will be a strong focus on aged care and retirement income policy so that Australians are properly looked after in later life.

"This represents a significant opportunity for the new administration to connect with millions of older Australians on a range of policy issues," Mr Henschke said.

He pointed to National Seniors' campaign to [Let Pensioners Work](#) as being a major policy priority he hopes to discuss further with the Albanese Government.

"We have had productive discussions on this issue with Labor while in Opposition.

"But it's now time to turn that talk into action and I will be seeking discussions on taking this forward.

"There are more than two and a half million pensioners in Australia, and many would benefit from our proposed reform if they choose to work, especially women, many of whom retire with little or no superannuation."

Mr Henschke also noted that much had been made about climate change as being a major factor among voters on Saturday and not just younger voters.

"A survey of our own members shows an overwhelming majority (85 per cent) believe climate change is occurring and many are prepared to take action on emissions.

"That's why the new government must look at our [Green Energy Bonds Scheme](#), which enables seniors to safely invest in green projects for a reasonable return," said Mr Henschke.

Finally, Mr Henschke says he hopes the Albanese Government will give older Australians a seat at the table for any future summits.

“Groups such as National Seniors need to be involved in Labor’s proposed employment summit. It is vital that ideas for boosting mature age employment are part of these discussions.

“A report by respected economics group Deloitte says increasing older worker (over 55) participation we will add \$48 billion a year to Australia's GDP.

“This could provide a corresponding increase in government tax revenue of more than \$11 billion a year.

"We are ready to offer a range of policy solutions to the problems facing the nation," he said.

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