



**Senator Tim Storer**  
**Independent Senator for South Australia**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Senator Tim Storer's Response to Budget 2018**

I welcome the first round of personal tax cuts announced in the budget. The boost in revenue since the mid-year economic and fiscal outlook just five months ago means they are affordable. They are also neatly targeted and provide much needed relief for low and middle income earners. The benefits will flow directly into the economy.

But I have serious doubts about the last round of tax cuts due to come in fully two elections from now. They are regressive and there are questions about their affordability.

The personal and company tax cuts proposed by the government do not amount to comprehensive tax reform. They do not encourage me to alter my opposition to any further cuts to company tax.

I am also disappointed that with such a boost in revenue since MYEFO last December that the government has not found room for an increase in Newstart, given it has broad support from business groups, respected economists and the welfare sector.

As the Business Council of Australia noted as far back as 2012 the level of Newstart "...may now be so low as to represent a barrier to employment."

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For further enquiries, please contact Jim Middleton on 0418 627 066.