*Please use your own letterhead and you may wish to tailor the letter to add an introductory or closing paragraph about your organisation’s interest in this issue. You can search for an MP by name, postcode or electorate by clicking* [*here*](https://www.aph.gov.au/senators_and_members/members)*. You might also like to write directly to any/all of the following:*

* *Hon Dr Jim Chalmers MP, Treasurer,* *jim.chalmers.mp@aph.gov.au*
* *Hon Stephen Jones MP, Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Financial Services,* *Stephen.jones.mp@aph.gov.au*
* *Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for the Environment and Water,* *tanya.plibersek.mp@aph.gov.au*
* *Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Minister for Social Services,* *amanda.rishworth.mp@aph.gov.au*
* *Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry,* *senator.watt@aph.gov.au*
* *Hon Katherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government,* *catherine.king.mp@aph.gov.au*

=====//=====

DATE

NAME

TITLE

BY EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear

I am writing to request your support in advocating for the immediate introduction of a National Food Donation Tax Incentive.

Australian food relief organisations cannot keep up with the current demand for food relief. The *Foodbank Hunger Report 2023* confirmed that 3.7 million households experienced food insecurity last year, an increase of 383,000 households on the year prior. Food insecurity is being experienced in homes it has never touched before, with 77% of households experiencing food insecurity doing so for the first time, and 60% with at least one person in paid work.

Despite these confronting statistics, Australia currently wastes more than 7.6 million tonnes of food each year, costing the economy more than $36.6 billion. Almost three quarters of this food is perfectly edible and redirecting it to food relief would potentially deliver $2 billion in social return.

Australia’s current tax framework does not motivate farmers and manufacturers to donate surplus stock. In fact, it is often more costly to pick, pack and transport donated stock than to dump it or plough it in. A National Food Donation Tax Incentive would be a game-changer, providing an avenue for actors in food supply chains to offset a percentage of costs related to food donations from taxable income. The ultimate goal is to encourage the food industry to donate surplus product to food relief rather than sending it to landfill, delivering positive impacts for people and planet alike.

The National Food Donation Tax Incentive developed by KPMG with the support of End Food Waste Australia and Foodbank Australia, would not only reduce food loss and waste, but would also help stimulate local economies and small –medium businesses (including those in the transport / logistics industry), and help deliver more supplies to food relief organisations.

The incentive has the strong backing of a broad range of stakeholders, ranging from the National Farmers’ Federation and Country Women’s Association to the Australian Logistics Council and CHEP to the Australian Food & Grocery Council and Rabobank. The incentive also has the backing of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Agriculture, following the recent Inquiry into Food Security in Australia.

While it is understood that there are wide-ranging considerations in formulating tax policy, the impact of the changes proposed are likely to be modest in terms of foregone tax revenue to Government, particularly compared to the positive economic, environmental and social outcomes for Australia.

We look forward to your support for this critically important initiative.

Yours sincerely

NAME

TITLE

ORGANISATION