



# Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Coalition Extends TFES for Tasmanian Drought Relief Fodder Donations**

The Coalition Government has extended the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme (TFES) to include northbound donated fodder, in a move which will ease some of the hardship in drought affected areas of the mainland.

“The extension of this vital shipping subsidy to allow Tasmanians to give generously in support farmers on the mainland recognises the strong bonds between all regional farming communities,” Senator Richard Colbeck said.

“Tasmanians have shown extraordinary mateship in looking out for drought affected farmers and as a Coalition Government we want to help make that support a reality.”

“I was approached late last week by Tasmanian charities and individuals looking to lend a hand but who were hampered by the cost of shipping their hay across Bass Strait.”

“I then made personal representations to the Deputy Prime Minister as Minister for Infrastructure and after much hard work we have been able to secure an extension of the TFES until June 30 2019.”

“We don’t know what next summer will bring but, with this historic amendment to the TFES, mainland farmers can be sure that Tassie has their backs,” Senator Colbeck said.

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Media Contact: Felix Ellis 0457 517 734

Authorised by Senator Richard Colbeck, 5-7 Best St, Devonport TAS 7310