



*MEDIA RELEASE*

# *THE COALITION'S PLAN TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT PARTICIPATION*

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The Coalition will take real action to get unemployed Australians off welfare and into work.

***Click here to read our policy.***

We believe that every Australian who is capable of working should be i for a wage but, if not, for the dole.

The Australian unemployment rate is increasing and the level of long-t unemployment is simply far too high.

If elected the Coalition will put in place targeted measures to help get p and into work.

### **1. A Job Commitment Bonus for Young Australians**

The Coalition will introduce a *Job Commitment Bonus* payment to encour unemployed young Australians to find a job and keep it.

Young Australians aged 18 to 30 who have been unemployed for twelv and are on Newstart Allowance or Youth Allowance will receive a \$2,50 *Bonus* if they get a job and remain off welfare for a continuous period (

The Coalition will provide a further *Job Commitment Bonus* of \$4,000 to tl remain in a job and off welfare for a continuous period of 24 months.

This means that young Australians who are long-term unemployed car \$6,500 under this programme.

These bonus payments will be managed by Centrelink. Bonus paymen directly to the employee at the end of the 12 and 24 month qualifying p suitable confirmation that their employment has been ongoing.

These *Job Commitment Bonus* payments will provide a real incentive to g term unemployed Australians off welfare and into paid work. Making tl conditional upon retaining work for an extended period provides a furt those who secure a job to remain employed.

### **2. Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job**

The Coalition will introduce new measures to help connect unemploye jobs to increase workforce participation and boost productivity.

Many jobseekers find themselves living in areas with high levels of unef far away from new job opportunities. This, combined with high moving many jobseekers to give up on taking up a job that they could ordinari

are simply too far away.

The Coalition will offer unemployed Australian's real financial help to relocation so that they can get to where the jobs are.

We will provide financial assistance of up to \$6,000 for long term unemployed if they move to a regional area to take up a job, or, \$3,000 if they move to a regional area.

This relocation assistance will only be available to long-term unemployed who have been on Newstart or Youth Allowance for more than 12 months. Relocating between capital cities or within capital cities will not be eligible for payment.

The Coalition understands that relocation is even harder for jobseekers. Therefore, families with dependent children will be provided with an expense allowance to cover the additional costs of relocation.

Jobseekers who do not remain in the job they have accepted for a period of 12 months will be subject to a six month waiting period before they are eligible for further benefits, unless reasonable grounds for job separation can be established.

If elected, the Coalition will create one million new jobs over the next five years and a further million over the next decade.

These sensible, targeted measures will help get people off welfare and into jobs. More than 140,000 Australians have been unemployed for more than 12 months. If elected, we will take real action to get them into work.

Getting more Australians into work is part of the Coalition's *Real Solution*. A stronger Australia and a better future – for all Australians.

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