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**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Peter Treloar MP**

Member for Flinders

Wednesday 7 February 2018

### **Waiver of oyster fees crucial for industry**

Member for Flinders Peter Treloar is strongly urging the State Government waive fees and charges for South Australian oyster growers affected by a disease outbreak.

Oysters growers and businesses are suffering significant financial stress as a result of the POMS (Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome) outbreak in Tasmania, which has meant oyster growers are expecting little or no income for 2018, with production severely impeded.

“Government fees and charges are placing an unnecessary burden on growers at this difficult time, and I urge the Minister yet again to move to waive these fees to assist the businesses to recover,” Mr Treloar said.

Mr Treloar asked the Fisheries Minister in State Parliament last year if fees would be waived, following this request with a letter this week. Mr Treloar is still awaiting a reply.

“We are a few months down the track now, and we have already seen many jobs lost in the industry,” Mr Treloar said.

“Couple this with significant contraction of business, and the oyster industry is really hurting.

“I ask again that the State Government assist this critically important industry by waiving government fees and charges while they are going through this very distressing time.”

A Marshall Liberal Government has committed to waiving government fees and charges for South Australian oyster growers until the industry recovers.