



## MEDIA RELEASE

### FUTURE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH APPLAUDED

Aged Care Association Australia (ACAA) welcomed the announcement yesterday by Climate Change Minister, Senator Penny Wong, to fund research that will advise on a national strategy for health and climate change.

Rod Young, ACAA CEO, said 'the growth in the Australian population over 65 years to 7.2 million over the next thirty years and in particular the quadrupling of the over 80 years age group to 1.6 million means detailed research into the likely impact on the elderly will be essential to ensure the provision of adequate and appropriate health and housing services.'

'If the Australian healthcare system is to adequately plan for likely changes into housing requirements, service types and respond to changing disease outcomes caused by climate change then planning for these significant events should commence as soon as possible as reform of this nature often has a long lead time involving physical infrastructure and campaigns to convince the general public of the need for lifestyle change,' said Mr Young.

The Government is therefore to be commended in providing funds to commence this valuable research and aged care will be more than willing to contribute its support to achieving a successful outcome.

ACAA represents over one thousand providers of seniors housing, retirement living, residential and community care services across Australia.

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