

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Adrian Pederick MP JP**

Member for Hammond

**Shadow Minister for  
Agriculture, Food and Fisheries  
Forests**

Wednesday, March 30 2011

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### **Labor abandons SA agriculture**

Labor has abandoned South Australia's agriculture industry forcing it to fund its own research and development.

The State Labor Government has withdrawn funding from the Advisory Board of Agriculture (ABA) which provides advice to the Minister on directions and developments in the sector.

The ABA's website describes the organisations role saying it provides *"policy advice and recommendations on agricultural matters to the State Government including direct advice to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries"*.

The ABA's members are appointed by the Minister and include representatives of government departments, the University of Adelaide, Women in Agriculture and Business as well as representatives of rural regions.

Shadow Agriculture Minister Adrian Pederick said that it was outrageous that Labor expected the agriculture industry to assist with grassroots advice yet completely failed to support it in research and development.

"By withdrawing support for its primary contact point with the agriculture industry Labor has shown that their election promise of reconnecting with the community was hollow and meaningless," Mr Pederick said.

"This is yet another blow to our regional communities that are already suffering at the hands of Labor's reckless economic mismanagement.

"Labor has abandoned regional South Australia and expects one of the state's most important industries to carry the research and development burden and the full financial responsibility for the state's future agricultural prosperity itself."