

TASKFORCESUBMISSION: submission

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POSITION: Director

ORGANISATION: Pro-Fitness

SUBMISSION1: It seems that the main direction of this paper is promotion and education of healthy lifestyles. Why aren't people rewarded for choosing healthy lifestyle options, healthy food is more expensive and if an employer pays for Fitness center memberships for his employee's the employee's have to pay fringe benefit tax. What message is this sending?

Also there is a professional industry that is already in place that is not fully utilised and would be very easy to use to help in the obesity epidemic. The Fitness Industry provides a safe secure environment where participants are supervised by fitness professionals and usually the first place people seek help. Attending a Fitness Centre people are also not just encouraged to lose weight but to lower Cholesterol, blood pressure and to increase their aerobic fitness. By growing this industry the Government would be increasing employment in an industry that has a very positive impact on the community.

If people can produce evidence that they have attended an accredited Fitness center or Sporting organisation regularly, why can't the cost of their membership be tax deductible. This would be controlled and only for people with measurable results.

This is needed especially in lower socially economic areas where fitness center memberships are cancelled as a direct result of interest rate or petrol price rises.

I have also noted that the head of Fitness Australia has not been included in the production of this Paper. The Government cannot do this alone and if the Government worked and helped the Private Fitness sector the results would be a higher level of success, very similar as with Government and private schools increasing the level of education.

PRIVACY: yes

SUBMIT: Submit