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ASSOCIATION

February 17, 2015.

APFA AND QSMA WANTS NEW FISHERIES MINISTER BILL BYRNE TO EMBRACE EXTENDING MANDATORY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELLING FOR ALL SEAFOOD.

Both APFA and Queensland Seafood Marketers Association congratulate new Qld Fisheries Minister Bill Byrne on his appointment and urge him to overturn the LNP Governments consistent 'thumbs down' for extending CoOL in restaurants and takeaway seafood outlets in the state.

Our organisations are committed to resolving the anomaly which currently applies in Queensland's food service sector in relation to the labelling of seafood.

QSMA said numerous attempts to open discussion with the previous State Government was always suppressed by former Minister John McVeigh, citing reasons such as industry across the board would find implementation far too costly.

A Senate Inquiry rejected this notion when it examined and recommended mandating an extension of CoOL to all cooked seafood outlets nationwide late last year.

APFA wants the simple one word addition of either "Imported" or "Australian" to appear on menus and chalkboards alongside the fish dish being sold - with a twelve month phase in period to ease any costs incurred.

QSMA, President, Marshall Betzell said the Senates enquiry "gave us renewed vigour to continue in our pursuit of change."

"A new appointed state government combined with a positive Senate report has the makings of bringing the planets into line for Queensland."

APFA and the QSMA notes the Senate Committee's report has created a growing momentum for extending CoOL for all cooked seafood in the interests of the consumers right to know and to end product substitution rip offs.

Both our organisations are absolutely resolved to seeing this CoOL change in Queensland.

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