



# RICK WILSON MP

Federal Member for O'Connor



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Increased funding for regional, rural and remote aged care facilities

**30 May 2014:** Federal Member for O'Connor Rick Wilson MP has welcomed the Coalition Government's funding boost to aged care providers in the federal Budget.

Aged care providers in O'Connor receiving the viability supplement will benefit from a 20 per cent increase to the supplement in recognition of the unique challenges they face operating in a regional, rural or remote location.

Mr Wilson said the boost for regional and rural providers is part of a wider funding increase for all providers in the Budget.

"This measure is worth \$54 million and will help these providers to continue to provide quality care to older residents who don't live in metropolitan areas.

"The viability supplement is particularly targeted at smaller providers who face additional challenges to larger facilities.

As part of the Coalition's election commitment to repurpose the previous government's Aged Care Workforce Supplement, which imposed red tape on aged care providers, we have increased payments to all home and residential aged care providers.

"This will result in a 2.4% increase in funding across the board for providers from 1 July 2014, which regional, rural and remote providers will also receive in addition to the 20% increase in their viability supplement," Mr Wilson said.

This new funding arrangement will give aged care providers a boost in funding while also giving each individual provider the flexibility they need to direct the funds to the areas where they need it most.

This and other red tape reduction measures contained in the budget will allow providers to focus on what they do best – providing quality care to older Australians.

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