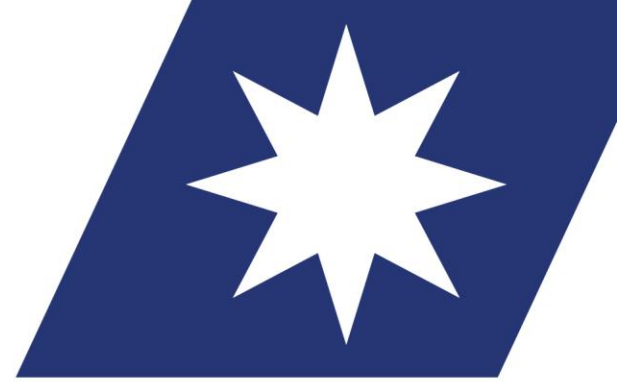


**SHANE KNUTH**

**Member for Hill**



## MEDIA RELEASE

05 December 2019

### **Knuth backing the dairy GST exemption – but stresses both State and Fed Govt and giant supermarkets need to do more**

Member for Hill Shane Knuth MP was pleased the visit from Agricultural Minister Mark Furner MP was a step in the right direction but believes much more needs to be done from both state and federal government and the major supermarkets to save our dairy industry.

Mr Knuth has been lobbying the plight of the dairy industry in Parliament and secured teleconferences with Tableland farmers, Queensland Dairy Organisation, Minister Furner and his office and had been prompting the Minister to visit and experience the issue firsthand.

“The overarching message from farmers is a fair price for the milk they produce,” Mr Knuth said.

It was strongly reiterated during the Minister’s visit, that for every 10 cents a litre of milk sold in the supermarkets, at least 10 cents in full goes directly back to the dairy farmer.

The 10 cents a litre reinforces a motion Mr Knuth moved last September which received full support of the Parliament. This is in addition to the Fair Milk Pricing (Fair Milk Mark) Bill 2013, and the Sustainable Queensland Dairy Production (Fair Milk Price Logos) Bill 2016 Mr Knuth introduced.

Mr Knuth will be backing and supporting the 12-month GST exemption proposed for dairy milk that was raised by farmers at the meeting and has already entered discussions with the Minister over this plea. This would amount to six cents a litre, \$20 million for one year from the State Government – this would assist enough for farmers to break even while a more permanent solution is reinforced.

Mr Knuth, along with the farmers, also pointed out the Federal Government’s Australian Dairy Industry Code of Conduct is a waste of time if it does not include a retail section to pull the giant supermarkets in line.

-ENDS-

**For media enquiries please phone 0409 725 466**