

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Standing Committee on Health and Ageing MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 22 October 2008

Chair: Steve Georganas MP Dep Chair: Hon Kevin Andrews MP

Food manufacturers to front obesity inquiry

The body representing major food and drink manufacturers such as Coca-Cola Amatil, Nestle, Kelloggs and Cadbury Schweppes, along with public health advocates like the Heart Foundation and Nutrition Australia, will be discussing Australia's obesity problem at a public hearing in Melbourne.

The Australian Food and Grocery Council will meet with the House of Representatives Health Committee, chaired by Steve Georganas (Member for Hindmarsh SA), at a public hearing in the Melbourne Town Hall on Friday 24 October.

The inquiry into obesity will also hear from the Planning Institute of Australia and the Australian Local Governments Association about the impact of urban planning on obesity rates. The committee will learn more about a project called *Healthy Spaces and Places* (a collaboration between the Planning Institute of Australia, the Australian Local Governments Association and the Heart Foundation).

The committee will also hear from Nutrition Australia, the Australian Psychological Association, the Heart Foundation and YMCA Australia. In addition, the committee will hear from Smart Shape, a company that advises fitness professionals on nutrition, and Be Well Australia Ltd, who have undertaken a three year research project into the treatment of chronic lifestyle diseases.

PUBLIC HEARING AND INSPECTION PROGRAM Friday 24 October 2008 9:30 am to 4:15 pm The Supper Room, Level 3, Melbourne Town Hall, Corner of Swanston Street and Collins Street, Melbourne

- 09:30 am Smart Shape
- 10:00 am Be Well Australia Ltd
- 10:30 am Nutrition Australia
- 11:20 am The Australian Psychological Society
- 2:00 pm Planning Institute of Australia and the Australian Local Governments Association
- 2:40 pm The Heart Foundation
- 3:15 pm YMCA Australia
- 3:45 pm Australian Food and Grocery Council

For media comment, please contact the Chair, Steve Georganas, on (08) 8376 9000 (Electorate office).

For all other inquiries, please contact the secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/haa</u>.