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**Media Statement  
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## **FREE TV STATEMENT ON ANTI-SIPHONING LIST**

Free TV Australia today notes the Government's announcement on the future of the anti-siphoning list.

Free TV Chairman, Wayne Goss, says, "Changes that allow most listed sporting events to be shown on free-to-air digital multi-channels is good news for viewers and recognises the increasing popularity of these channels.

"The Government has faced a difficult task in updating the anti-siphoning rules in the digital television age whilst preserving the public interest."

"There has been a lot of give and take throughout this process which has resulted in tougher use-it or lose-it rules and the de-listing of numerous events."

The Government has signalled its intention to delist some games in the AFL rounds and to look at a similar approach to the NRL, in the future.

"Free TV shares the Government's determination to ensure that the best games remain available to *all* Australian viewers," says Goss.

Goss added, "Assuming the policy is reflected in the picks mechanism yet to be agreed, then overall the Government will have achieved a balanced outcome that will deliver free sport on more channels for all Australian viewers and help drive even further take-up of the successful free-to-air digital platform.

"Longer term it is vital that quality events do not migrate to pay TV forcing people to pay to watch them," says Goss.

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