**From name   
Title**

**Organisation   
Address  
Phone number**

**Email address**

Mark Butler  
Minister for Health and Ageing,

Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme  
Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

**[Insert date]**

Dear Minister Butler,

I’m writing to you as the Minister for Health and Ageing, Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme [**insert ‘**and as my local representative**’ if you reside in the electorate of Hindmarsh, South Australia**] toadvocate for the recognition of the full scope of practice for Accredited Practising Dietitians (APDs) across the country.

Enabling APDs to practice under a protected title, to work to their full scope of practice, and to make direct referrals would:

1. ensure Australians have access to the nutrition care they need when they need it across primary care, hospitals and community health settings, and improve affordability and accessibility of dietetic services through Medicare and other government funding
2. streamline care pathways and reduce delays in treatment for patients through direct referrals from APDs to other health practitioners, including medical specialists, when clinically appropriate.

These measures would enhance resource use and improve efficiency across the health system, reduce extended waitlists, reduce health system costs and improve the health outcomes of Australians.

Harnessing the full scope of dietetic practice across practice settings means dietitians can:

* identify and manage nutrition-related health conditions with evidence-based strategies
* prescribe individualised support to enhance treatment and recovery
* lead preventative health initiatives that empower individuals and communities to make informed nutrition choices
* conduct comprehensive anthropometric and biochemical assessments to guide tailored interventions
* collaborate within multidisciplinary care teams to enhance health outcomes.

All Australians deserve to be supported to optimise their health through nutrition and their relationship with food so that they can participate fully in society.

**[Insert here further supporting information or a personal story that shows the impact of not being able to work to full scope that you are willing to share.]**

**[Optional call-to-action:** I urge you to work closely with Dietitians Australia, my professional association, to advance the matters raised in this letter.**]**

**[Optional, if you live in the electorate of Hindmarsh:** As a constituent in your Electorate, I would like to request a meeting with you, and Dietitians Australia, at your Port Adelaide Office, to discuss the matters raised in this letter, and how they will not only improve the wellbeing of the Hindmarsh community but also create positive, far-reaching benefits across Australia.**]**

Yours sincerely,

**[Insert name]**