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### **Message for Hanukkah 2020**

It is with great pleasure that I send my greetings to all Australians celebrating Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights.

Australia is one of the most successful multicultural societies in the world. Together we have built the Australia that we are today, grounded on our shared values, rights and responsibilities, including respect for one another regardless of our religious or cultural backgrounds.

This year has been challenging and many of us turned to our faiths for solace. Faith gives us strength in times of adversity. Hanukkah is a commemoration of the rise of the Jewish people against religious oppression and the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem - an event that symbolises devotion to faith, conviction and courage in the face of overwhelming obstacles.

As you recite special prayers and light the menorah over eight days to commemorate this important event in your history, I wish you all a very happy Hanukkah and an uplifting spiritual experience.

Hanukkah Sameach!

**ALAN TUDGE**