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MEDIA RELEASE

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CALLS IN PARLIAMENT TO SCRAP ABC NATIONAL SPORTS WRAP

The ABC must reverse its decision to broadcast a national sports wrap from Sydney.

In Parliament today, I moved a motion urging ABC management to reconsider this Sydney-centric policy.

The quality and scope of sports reporting right around Victoria will suffer, if it isn't already.

Certainly country and regional Victoria are the biggest losers out of the decision to broadcast out of Sydney.

Local sports coverage in Victoria from Victoria was a strong feature of the ABC's programming and a source of the ABC's popularity in Victoria.

That's why these changes are hard to understand – because they undermine the support and goodwill of the community toward the ABC.

The ABC has a responsibility to maintain local and regional sports coverage at its full level.

The ABC must continue to be a national broadcaster – not a Sydney broadcaster.

Our message is that Victoria is not a branch office of NSW. It's our ABC too.

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