



**BILL SHORTEN MP
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS
AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS
MEMBER FOR MARIBYRNONG**

**RICHARD MARLES MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

LABOR TO SUPPORT WA DEFENCE INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESSES

A Shorten Labor Government will invest in Western Australia's defence industry infrastructure and businesses by investing \$105 million in the Australian Marine Complex at Henderson and \$10 million to create the Western Australian Defence Industry Support Centre.

This election will be a choice between a united Shorten Labor Government with a plan for a sustainable defence industry for Australia, or more of the Liberals' chaos.

Labor's investment in the Henderson shipyard precinct will give Western Australia the modern facilities it needs to be part of Australia's defence industry future and help defence industry businesses grow.

This investment will increase the facility's capacity for larger vessels and its wharf and services infrastructure, including a sling lift.

This investment by a Shorten Labor Government will mean the State Government can develop a minor vessel centre of excellence to grow the shipbuilding industry.

Federal Labor's commitment will also fund the scoping and business case to develop a heavy industry area at the Australian Marine Complex to support the resources sector and position Western Australia to take on a larger share of submarine and frigate sustainment.

Labor will also provide \$10 million to establish the Western Australian Defence Industry Support Centre. This commitment will leverage investment from the private sector and the State Government to support small and medium-sized Western Australian businesses to be part of Australia's defence industry supply chain.

Western Australia has excellent skills to offer our defence industry but faces the challenge of distance when competing for defence contracts, and in international markets.

A Shorten Labor Government will work with the McGowan Labor Government through the Support Centre to provide the training, knowledge and networks to ensure Western Australian businesses can compete for defence business and win.

TUESDAY, 30 APRIL 2019

Authorised by Noah Carroll, ALP, Canberra.