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**STATEMENT ON JULIAN ASSANGE EXTRADITION DECISION**

Labor welcomes the decision to give priority to the health and welfare of Julian Assange.

Now that a British court has found that it would be unjust to extradite Mr Assange to the US Labor believes that this has dragged on for long enough.

While the US has the right to appeal the court's decision, we call on the Morrison Government to do what it can to draw a line under this matter and encourage the US Government to bring this matter to a close.

Chelsea Manning, the US soldier who was convicted of leaking information to Julian Assange had her sentence commuted by the US President in 2017.

Labor expects the Australian Government to provide appropriate consular support to Mr Assange, as is his right as an Australian.

Given his ill health it is now time for this long drawn out case against Julian Assange to be brought to an end.

**TUESDAY, 5 JANUARY 2020**