

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LEGISLATION, AMENDMENT TO COVER INDUCEMENTS TO
WITHDRAWN CANDIDATURE

316. Hon C L Edwardes to the Minister for Labour Relations

I refer the Minister to the alleged inducement by Joe McDonald to Terry McParland to withdraw his candidature for the then forthcoming CFMEU elections, and ask -

- (a) given that S.70(2) outlaws threats of violence, injury, punishment, damage, loss, any form of intimidation etc. to induce candidature or withdrawal of candidature in relation to elections, but is deficient in that it does not make “the offering of an inducement or bribe to withdraw candidature” an offence, will you amend the section of the Industrial Relations Act 1979 to make the offer of such an inducement, an offence;
- (b) if so, will you include it in the first Industrial Relations Act Amendment Bill to come to the Parliament; and
- (c) if not, why not?

Mr KOBELKE replied:

- (a)-(c) A number of provisions of the Industrial Relations Act are currently being reviewed and this issue may be considered in that context. However, no decision has been made on when or if any action will be taken on this matter.