

REVENUE LAWS AMENDMENT (TAX RELIEF) BILL 2004

Consideration in Detail

Clauses 1 to 19 put and passed.

Clause 20: Certain instruments to be assessed again -

Leave granted for the following amendments to be moved together.

Mr R.N. SWEETMAN: I move -

Page 16, line 12 - To delete "29 October 2004" and substitute -
the commencement of the *Revenue Laws Amendment (Tax Relief) Act (No. 2) 2004*

Page 16, line 21 - To delete "29 October 2004" and substitute -
the commencement of the *Revenue Laws Amendment (Tax Relief) Act (No. 2) 2004*

I need to move these amendments to this Bill in case the minister agrees to the proposition contained in my main amendment to the Revenue Laws Amendment (Tax Relief) Bill (No. 2) foreshadowed in the cognate second reading debate. To have any validity, these amendments are a necessary precursor to the amendment on the other Bill. The re-assessment provisions need to be put on hold until the other provisions come into being.

Mr E.S. RIPPER: The member and I canvassed the issues involved during the second reading debate. He has an argument that we should reduce debt, not cut taxes. My response is that we should be stimulating the economy to have growth to the benefit of householders and businesses in Western Australia. That will generate its own revenue flow to the State Government. I have another argument: when the Government announces that tax cuts will apply from a particular date and businesses start to make plans on that basis, for the Government to accept amendments in Parliament to change the dates to in effect put the taxes cuts into the never never, it might look appealing to an individual member of Parliament on the other side of the House but it would produce a high degree of frustration in the business community. For good reason, the business community does not like the sort of uncertainty that would result from accepting these amendments.

Amendments put and negatived.

Clause put and passed.

Title put and passed.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by Mr E.S. Ripper (Treasurer), and transmitted to the Council.