

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, ENTERPRISE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS AND  
AWARD CONDITIONS

557. Hon C L Edwardes to the Premier

- (1) I refer to the Premier's statement when launching the Labor Party Industrial Relations Directions Statement of the 22 September, 2000, of 'In the public sector where the Government is the employer, workplace agreements will be replaced by enterprise bargaining agreements and award conditions without anyone losing out.' and ask when referring to the public sector, will this include or exclude Government Trading Agencies, and /or occupational groups, which traditionally have no nexus with public sector salary rates such as nurses, teachers and police?
- (2) What is meant by 'without anyone losing out'?
- (3) Does this mean that disparate rates which occur between agencies across the public sector due primarily to differences in the hours required to work each week and the extent to which employment conditions have been "cashed out" or "traded off" will be removed, and therefore rates will be aligned to the highest agreement rate?
- (4) If so, will this alignment of rates to the highest agreement rate, be adjusted for differential employment conditions, or not?
- (5) What would be the additional cost per annum, of aligning the rates to the highest agreement rate -
  - (a) without adjustment for differential employment conditions; and
  - (b) with adjustment for differential employment conditions?

Dr GALLOP replied:

- (1) Government Trading Agencies and the identified occupational groups are covered by this policy.
- (2) No one will be required to take a pay cut.
- (3) No.
- (4) Not applicable, see (3).
- (5) Not applicable, see (3).