

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

Personal Explanation - Incorrect Answer to Question without Notice

MR KUCERA (Yokine - Minister for Health) [4.00 pm]: I seek leave to make a personal explanation to the House.

Points of Order

Mr BARNETT: Standing Order No 60 clearly states that when the Address-in-Reply no longer has precedence, private members' business will take precedence on Wednesdays between 4.00 and 7.00 pm. It is time for private members' business.

Mr KOBELKE: A member may make a personal explanation when a matter is not before the House. I have not yet moved to put a matter before the House, although I will do so in about 90 seconds. The statement the Minister for Health wishes to make will take less than 60 seconds. I hope leave will be granted for him to make that statement.

Mr BARNETT: A personal explanation by a minister of the Crown does not constitute private members' business. He will have the opportunity to make a statement later in the evening.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Andrews): As there is no question before the Chair, I grant the Minister for Health leave to make a personal explanation.

Debate Resumed

Mr KUCERA: During question time I gave the member for Darling Range an incorrect answer. I have personally advised him of that. I said that a \$5.5 million commitment of the Labor Party was not an endorsed Labor policy. I was wrong to say that, and I apologise to the House. Unfortunately, my staff member looked at all of Labor's published costings and could not find any reference to this commitment. In fact, the reference was in the previous Government's forward estimates and, therefore, did not have to be included in our list of costings. However, it was a commitment we gave to the electors.