

ANIMAL ACTIVISM

668. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Why is the government dragging its heels on this important issue? When will legislation be introduced so that the people who are impacted will know?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

The legislation will be introduced when it is drafted. We cannot introduce legislation if it has not been drafted. It has a priority.

Ms M.J. Davies interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the National Party!

Mr M. McGOWAN: We are working to ensure that it happens as soon as we can. As the member knows, the government has a very large legislative agenda, but it is a priority for the government to deal with this important issue. I ask the member again: if it was so important to the National Party, why did it not draft the legislation in the eight and a half years it was in office?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the National Party and member for Moore, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I ask the question again: why did the National Party not make it a priority in eight and a half years?

Ms M.J. Davies: This is a statement by the Premier's own minister, who said it was a priority. The Premier just said he has not even drafted it!

Mr M. McGOWAN: The question is answered, because the National Party did nothing about this issue in eight and a half years.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the National Party, I call you to order for the second time. Member for Moore, I call you to order for the second time. This is not a shouting match.