

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, MANAGEMENT INITIATED REDUNDANCY
AGREEMENTS, BAR ON CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT

1106. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister representing the Minister for Racing and Gaming; Government Enterprises; Goldfields-Esperance

I refer to the article in *The West Australian* of 17 February 2003, entitled 'Axe golden gags, say Ministers' and ask -

- (a) is the Minister aware that Management Initiated Redundancy agreements contain a clause barring criticism of the Government or the Minister;
- (b) if yes, on what date did the Minister become aware;
- (c) does the Minister support the clause in Management Initiated Redundancy agreements, which bars criticism of the Government;
- (d) if yes, why; and
- (e) if not, why not?

Mr E.S. RIPPER replied:

- (a) Yes.
- (b) This issue has been public knowledge since July 1998 when released in the Report of the Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations presented by the Hon Mark Nevill Chairman.
- (c)-(d) I support the Government's policy which is that such clauses should only apply for a limited period of time.
- (c) Not applicable.