

SCREEN PRODUCTION ATTRACTION FUND

**520. Ms M.M. QUIRK to the Minister for Culture and the Arts:**

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's efforts to —

[Interruption.]

**Ms M.M. QUIRK:** — diversify our economy, including its unprecedented investment —

[Interruption.]

**Ms M.M. QUIRK:** Sorry, Madam Speaker, I have no idea what that is.

I refer to the McGowan Labor government's efforts to diversify our economy, including its unprecedented investment in growing WA's local arts and film industry, and I ask the following, without interruption.

- (1) Can the minister outline to the house what this government's new screen production attraction fund will mean for jobs, businesses and the local economy?
- (2) Can the minister update the house on this government's investment in the new film studio?

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:**

- (1)–(2) I thank the member for Landsdale, who is a great patron of the arts, I might say—a lover of many genre of the arts sector, particularly, of course, film. As we know, the McGowan government is bolstering the screen industry for Western Australia. It will be a new bolstered industry for Western Australia, highlighting our aims to diversify the economy by investing in creative industries. It will build upon our investments in regional film, television and series production, which is the \$16 million Screenwest fund. It will also build on a range of other arts investments throughout the state. However, the pinnacle is the \$105 million commitment, which has been now booked into this budget for our new screen industry facility, which, of course, will be the missing part of the puzzle because, by creating a new screen industry facility, we will also unlock access to federal government funding, which is over half a billion dollars. It is an investment and attraction fund that we cannot access at the moment because we do not have screen facilities. By building our screen facility, we will be able to access that funding, but, additional to that in this budget, is a \$20 million attraction fund.

I was very pleased to be in Fremantle with the member for Fremantle, Minister McGurk, and Ben Elton, a famous Western Australian writer, producer and comedian. He was there with us to announce this fund.

The \$20 million will allow us to attract activity in television screen series to Western Australia. When our facility is built, proudly, we will see more activity than ever in the screen industry in Western Australia. It will build upon the magnificent films that we have filmed in regional Western Australia. Some great films have been filmed in regional Western Australia.

The future looks very bright for creative industries in WA. It has been the investment by the McGowan government and the support of members like yourself, member for Landsdale, that will see our creative industries front and centre in a diversified economy. I think that is wonderful news for all our creatives, be they in dance, film, writing, producing, directing —

**Ms R. Saffioti:** Stand-up comedy.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN:** — or stand-up comedy. Everyone will benefit. It is a tremendous investment by this government and one that I know the sector has been anticipating for a long time. A Labor government will deliver it. It is a Labor government that invests in creative industries and it is a Labor government that will see those successes benefiting many Western Australians and creatives. This state is very well known for its creative talent in music, dance and performance—all those things. We will also maintain many of them to stay here to produce their wonderful stories that we can share with the world.

Thank you, member for Landsdale, for a marvellous question. Stammered at the start, but you got that question out in the end and it was a wonderful one and I thank you for asking it!

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Vasse with the last question.