

LEARN FOUNDATION FOR AUTISM CENTRE — CLOSURE

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham — Leader of the Opposition) [10.12 am] — without notice: I move —

That so much of standing orders be suspended so far as to allow the following motion to be moved forthwith —

That this house —

- (a) condemns the Barnett government for its failure to fund the LEARN Foundation for Autism centre in Fremantle;
- (b) condemns the Premier for misleading the house in relation to the government's knowledge and awareness of the funding request; and
- (c) calls on the Barnett government to today provide the necessary funding for the centre to continue to operate.

As members would know, the suspension of standing orders is an extraordinary step to take, but we are keen to take up an important issue on behalf of families in Western Australia, in particular needy families, many of whom are in the gallery in Parliament today, who would like to see some action by the government. We are taking this issue up on behalf of these families and we feel that it deserves proper consideration in an appropriate debate in this house. I am advised by the manager of opposition business that each side will be able to spend half an hour debating this issue; in other words, matter of public interest rules will apply. If I get an assurance of that nature from across the chamber, I will sit and allow the debate to begin.

Mr R.F. Johnson: Yes.

Mr M. McGOWAN: The Leader of the House is giving that assurance, so I will sit and allow him to move an amendment to the motion.

Standing Orders Suspension — Amendment to Motion

MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys — Leader of the House) [10.14 am]: The government has agreed to the motion to suspend standing orders but I need to amend the motion. I move —

To insert after “forthwith” —

, and that the debate be conducted according to the time limits that apply for a matter of public interest

Amendment put and passed.

Standing Orders Suspension — Motion, as Amended

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.

Motion

MR M. McGOWAN (Rockingham — Leader of the Opposition) [10.15 am]: I thank the government for allowing appropriate time to debate this matter. I move —

That this house —

- (a) condemns the Barnett government for its failure to fund the LEARN Foundation for Autism centre in Fremantle;
- (b) condemns the Premier for misleading the house in relation to the government's knowledge and awareness of the funding request; and
- (c) calls on the Barnett government to today provide the necessary funding for the centre to continue to operate.

Today we are going to plead the case on behalf of a large number of Western Australian families whose children have autism. Many of these families are present in the gallery with their children. We have seen imagery on the television and in the newspaper of what confronts these families on a daily basis and the fact that they are very keen for a service that provides appropriate care, attention and therapy for their children to be able to continue.

Autism is Australia's fastest growing disability. It particularly impacts young boys, but of course girls can also be susceptible to this disability. It is a developmental disorder that impacts on young people's communication

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skills, social interaction and capacity to learn. It is apparent from all the research that to manage this disability and give these young people an opportunity to lead fulfilling productive lives, intervention is needed at an early age. There needs to be intervention and assistance for these children at an early age. That is what all the evidence states. A scheme run by the LEARN Foundation for Autism in East Fremantle services the needs of 35 families. It provides for this early intervention and puts in place an intervention model—a therapy known as acquired behaviour analysis. It has to be recalled that these children have been engaged in this acquired behaviour analysis for some time and that children with autism, in order to grow, learn and develop, do not like change. They do not like change; therefore, if they can continue in an environment not only with therapies that they are used but also surrounded by people and other children they know, their performance, growth and development will be enhanced. That is what this centre does for these children.

The parents involved fund this centre. I heard some of them on the radio this morning. They are not highly paid people, but people who care for their children and who want to see the best for their children. Therefore, they fund this centre from their own pockets to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars. People come to this state from elsewhere so that their children can attend the centre and hopefully develop and grow into productive and fulfilling lives as they get older. These parents spend their own money; they fund this centre and it provides these services for these children. Of course, they are terribly upset that this centre may close, which is where the government comes in, because they would like some assistance for their centre in the same way that other autism centres have assistance from state government funding. They would love to see a little help from the government. They want to know: Why does the Premier make it so hard for them? Why is the government so caught in bureaucracy and red tape that it will not assist these families and these children? Why is everything so hard for these people? This organisation does not employ expensive accountants, consultants, lobbyists and corporate affairs advisers; it is a little organisation providing intensive therapy for children. The government should be able to intervene and help it ensure that it can receive state government funding. This organisation does not have the resources of other organisations in order to do that, so why does the government not roll up its sleeves and help this group? That is all we are asking the government to do here today.

I will go over the history of this matter because it is quiet enlightening. In September 2010, the former chair of the LEARN Foundation for Autism, Dr Andrew Mason, got in contact with the Premier's office. I think he is a constituent of the Premier. He ended up getting an appointment with the Premier in his office in Cottesloe in October 2010. He met with the Premier and put the case to him personally. He wrote an email of what transpired at that meeting; I will read it to the house —

I believe I spoke with him for about 45 minutes as I went ... over the time I had been allotted. I described ABA, —

Applied behaviour analysis —

the costs involved, evidence backing, the results and the lack of evidence based practice by the autism association. I stressed emphatically the difficult financial position LEARN was in and our need for emergency funding. He —

The Premier —

was very sympathetic but urged me to go through the channels with DSC. Problem was that DSC was not planning on opening tenders ... for about 2 years ...

He basically hit a brick wall with the commission, just as has happened recently. Dr Mason had an appointment with the Premier and he was urged to go off to the Disability Services Commission; he was given the bureaucratic run-around.

What happened then? In 2011 there was a discussion between Mandy Mason, who runs the centre, and the Disability Services Commission about the pre-qualification process. No dates were given to indicate when it would open. On 29 September 2011 —

Mr C.J. Barnett: Who met me in my electorate?

Mr M. McGOWAN: The Premier should have listened—Dr Andrew Mason.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Andrew Mason, and the organisation is run by Mandy Mason.

Mr M. McGOWAN: That is right. He is the chair of the board.

On 29 September 2011, Mandy Mason wrote to Helen Morton's office to ask how the LEARN Foundation could apply for funding ahead of the pre-qualification process and whether she could have a meeting. That meeting never took place until a further three requests were made by Mandy Mason to Minister Morton's office. The

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meeting was organised only after the *Subiaco Post* called Minister Morton's office. Mandy got to have a meeting with Minister Morton after the press became involved in the issue. She received a letter from the Disability Services Commission consequent to her meeting with Minister Morton. I will quote from the letter, which is dated 17 April 2012 —

It is likely that the Disability Services Commission will conduct another prequalification process during the 2012/13 financial year. The precise timing of this process will be dependent upon the Commission's assessment of the need for additional service provider capacity.

In other words, wait. In other words, LEARN has a significant wait ahead of it before it is able to access any of the state government funding that these organisations are ordinarily able to access. This is another example of a bureaucratic run-around by the government. The Premier prides himself on being "Can-do Colin". I think he is "Can't-do Colin". These parents and children are in need. When they go to see the Premier, they are fobbed off in a bureaucratic way. When they go to see the minister, they are fobbed off in a bureaucratic way. What happens then? They are told that at some point in time LEARN may be able to apply for funding. In the meantime, the foundation is closing and all these children will be sent elsewhere.

This morning we heard Minister Morton discussing these issues on the radio. According to my notes, she said this in relation to Mandy Mason, who runs the LEARN foundation —

Mandy Mason has a simplistic view that she can come into my office and then walk away with a cheque.

How insulting! Is that the way the minister treats members of the community on radio for the entire state to hear? Is that how the minister abuses ordinary members of the community who are trying to help autistic children? The letter from the Disability Services Commission shows us that Mandy Mason cannot get the money because she cannot apply because the pre-qualification process is not on offer. The Premier's minister gets on the radio, abuses a worthwhile contributing member of the community for wanting to walk away with a cheque, but we learn from the correspondence sent by the department that she cannot apply for the funding that she has been abused for not applying for. How shameful of the Premier and his minister. The Premier is "Can't-do" Colin. He will not help these people. He ought to roll up his sleeves, fix this problem and help this organisation.

According to my notes, later in the interview—again, I wrote it down because I was so shocked she was saying it—Minister Morton said about the issue of whether this organisation gets funding, "I am not sure whether the issues are real or not." Who would be sure? She is only the minister! Then we get to the Premier. I have quite deliberately incorporated into the motion some criticism of the Premier for misleading the house about the government's knowledge and awareness of the funding request. Yesterday, the Premier said in the house —

To this day, despite repeated efforts by the Disability Services Commission, the LEARN Foundation has not gone through a pre-qualification process. In fact, it has refused to do so and to this day has not applied for or received state government funding for that reason alone.

... despite several approaches by the Disability Services Commission, it has refused to do this and to this day it has not applied for government funding. I do not know why—I cannot answer that—but that is the truth.

Mr C.J. Barnett: That is the truth.

Mr M. McGOWAN: I have a letter here in which LEARN has been told that it cannot apply until some point in the future. The Premier was very misleading in his answer. What is more, the Premier met with this organisation in 2010. He spent 45 minutes with the person who —

Mr C.J. Barnett interjected.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Did the Premier say he has not?

Dr K.D. Hames: No, he didn't.

Mr M. McGOWAN: The Premier spent 45 minutes with Dr Andrew Mason, who used to run this organisation. Did the Premier reveal that in the house? The issue was of some moment before we had question time. Did the Premier reveal that he met with this organisation and heard its concerns? The Premier does not even reveal that he knows about the case and the circumstances that this organisation has been in for a considerable time. The Premier comes into the house and basically fobs off this organisation, the minister abuses the people who run this organisation and then the Premier does not reveal all the facts within his personal knowledge and that this organisation is not even able to apply through the process through which it is required to, yet he says that it has not applied.

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I will tell the members of the public gallery one thing the Premier can do; since this matter has been going on, he has approved, he has planned and he has commenced construction of his own new office complex.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Riverton! Members, there is a very nice and very, very welcome sound coming from the public gallery today, but I ask members nicely to keep that in mind and keep their interjections to a minimum. I do not need to hear that kind of roar across the chamber.

Mr M. McGOWAN: Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker; I appreciate your advice.

There are some things the Premier treats as priority and some things he does not. His office complex is his number one priority. It will be the one project started, commenced and completed on his watch—his own office complex. Everyone else can wait. Those families in the public gallery have to get the bureaucratic run-around; they get fobbed off, misled, lied to, abused —

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The Leader of the Opposition made an accusation that they were lied to. I assume he meant that I or the minister had lied to them. I would ask him to withdraw that.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The Premier interjected across the chamber that the Leader of the Opposition is shallow and dishonest. I request that he withdraw that.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr J.M. Francis): There is a precedent for what can and cannot be said in this chamber. My understanding of that is that a member cannot reflect that another member lied. Leader of the Opposition, if you did, I ask you to withdraw. If you did not, I ask you to carry on.

Debate Resumed

Mr M. McGOWAN: These people have been lied to. I did not allege by whom, but I said that they had been lied to, and that is true. The Premier has come into this place and not revealed the full extent of what he knows. The time has come. He needs to intervene and sort this out. We raised the issue of PCYCs around Western Australia; we forced an outcome there. We have now raised this issue, and on behalf of those families in the gallery today, we ask that the Premier intervene once again and resolve this issue on behalf of those families.

DR A.D. BUTI (Armadale) [10.31 am]: I rise to support this motion before the house. There are really two main issues we are looking at today. One is the Premier misleading Parliament yesterday and the second issue, the more important issue, is why this government treats people with disabilities and their families with such contempt and insensitivity. The Premier's response to the Leader of the Opposition, in his usual little chitchat voice that we can just hear, was disgraceful. I will go on to why that was disgraceful. As the Leader of the Opposition mentioned yesterday in answer to a question about this issue, the Premier stated that the LEARN Foundation for Autism had not applied; it had not engaged in a pre-qualification process to be funded. Premier, when someone misleads, they mislead by either stating something or omitting something. In his answer to a question yesterday, the Premier stated —

Each and every one of those organisations is required to go through a proper process of qualification— if you like, accreditation effectively—through a due diligence process. The LEARN Foundation has been advised since 2010 that that is what is required. To this day, despite repeated efforts by the Disability Services Commission, the LEARN Foundation has not gone through a pre-qualification process.

When the Leader of the Opposition said something about that to the Premier not so long ago, the Premier said under his breath, but loud enough for someone to hear, “No; they haven't; they haven't applied.” How could the organisation apply when the pre-qualification process has not commenced? It was told in 2010 that the new process had not commenced as well as in a letter that it was maybe sent in July this year, but we are not sure. For the Premier to be so pedantic and insensitive to people who need help—the most vulnerable part of this society—is an absolute disgrace. In the two years that I have been in this place, I have never seen the Premier display such insensitivity. He can weasel his way out by saying that it has not applied, but how can an organisation apply when the pre-qualification process has not been opened? The Premier then misled Parliament by omitting to say that he had actually met with the organisation; he had met with Dr Mason.

Mr C.J. Barnett: I never denied meeting with my constituents.

Dr A.D. BUTI: But he omitted it —

Mr C.J. Barnett interjected.

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Dr A.D. BUTI: As the Premier would very well know—he has been here long enough—a person can mislead by omitting something and the Premier omitted to say that he had met Dr Mason. Then when the Leader of the Opposition mentioned it today, the Premier showed insensitivity by asking, “Is he in my electorate?” If someone came to me in my electorate about an issue of such importance, I would not worry about the geographical boundaries; I would deal with the issue, especially if I was Premier. What an absolute disgrace the Premier is on this matter. This is reflective of the intolerance that the Premier has for anyone who does not agree with him. The Premier just does not get it when it comes to people with disabilities; he just does not know how hard it is. He just does not know how hard —

Mr C.J. Barnett: How would you know?

Dr A.D. BUTI: How would I know?

Mr C.J. Barnett: How would you know that I don’t know?

Dr A.D. BUTI: I will tell you how I know. I have an 18-year-old daughter with a disability. She has cri du chat —

Mr C.J. Barnett: You are not the only member of this house who has a child with a disability.

Dr A.D. BUTI: I did not say that, did I? You asked me a question.

Dr K.D. Hames: He didn’t ask how you knew; he asked how you know he didn’t.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr J.M. Francis): Members, I do not want to repeat my comments.

Dr A.D. BUTI: The Premier asked me how I would know.

Dr K.D. Hames: How do you know that he doesn’t know? That is what he asked you.

Dr A.D. BUTI: The Premier asked me a question: How would I know? And the answer is I know because I have a personal experience of it.

Several members interjected.

Dr A.D. BUTI: I did not ask that question. I said that the Premier is insensitive to this issue with his actions over this. An organisation that has been doing unbelievable work came to him. As I hope the Minister for Health would know, early intervention is the key when it comes to disabilities. Early intervention is what is critical. LEARN is an organisation with runs on the board. The Premier himself even admitted, I think yesterday, that this organisation, by all accounts, is providing a good service. What can it do? It cannot actually apply for funding because the pre-qualification period has not opened. What option does it have? The only option available is to close. But the government had an option; the government could have provided some bridging funding. The government could have provided funding to allow this organisation to remain operating until it could have applied in the pre-qualification period. But no, the inability to show sympathy and empathy to this organisation was absolutely disgraceful. Yesterday in his answer to the supplementary question from the Leader of the Opposition about what he would be doing, the Premier said, “Oh well, we’ll try to find alternative services for them.” As was pointed out by the Leader of the Opposition, people with disabilities, children with disabilities, do not necessarily adapt well to change. They need to follow the same routine day in, day out. They need to be able to trust the people providing the services. Therefore, just to say that alternative facilities will be provided—I would like to know what those alternative facilities are for a start—is not the answer. All the government needed to do was provide bridging funding until this organisation could apply in the pre-qualification period. It is absurd to say the organisation has not engaged in the process of funding, when it is not possible to apply to the process of funding because the pre-qualification period has not commenced. The Premier omitted to say that yesterday; that is misleading this house.

What did we have this morning? As the Leader of the Opposition mentioned this morning, Hon Helen Morton, the Minister for Disability Services, was on radio. How insulting could she be? What the Premier has to understand is that parents of people with disabilities are exhausted. They are exhausted because they have to engage in going from one bureaucrat to another. They have to engage in going from one politician to another. Hopefully when they do go to a politician, he does not ask them, “Do you live in my electorate?”. Hopefully, he deals with the matter. Whether they lived in East Fremantle or Cottesloe would be irrelevant, especially for the Premier. The point is that families with people who have disabilities have an incredible economic impost on their services. The time factor in trying to raise a child with a disability is phenomenal and we have a heartless, insensitive Premier and Minister for Disability Services confronting them as they try to survive, and as they try to keep open an organisation such as LEARN that has the runs on the board. All they needed to do was to provide funding until the organisation could put in an application. But no, they would not do that. And this morning Hon Helen Morton basically said that Mandy Mason thought she could just come in and get some

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funding. If she had read the correspondence from Mandy Mason through which she has been trying to engage with the bureaucrats and the politicians, Hon Helen Morton would not have made that statement. What an insult. Mandy Mason and the other parents are beside themselves about having to close the LEARN Foundation. And what did she receive from Hon Helen Morton this morning by way of 720 ABC radio? A comment that Mandy Mason thought she could just come in and get a cheque from her. I am led to believe that the minister then said words to the effect that Mandy Mason thought she could walk into her office and walk away with a cheque. It is just absurd.

Besides the Premier misleading the house yesterday and being heartless about this matter, he also needs to sack his minister. His minister has been proven to be incompetent. She is not on top of her brief. She is insensitive, she has no understanding of the issue and she has no understanding of disability services. The Premier today has gone back to type. Whenever he is under pressure, he becomes more and more arrogant. He talks about us playing the man, but no-one plays the man more than the Premier; he is incredible. As soon as we seek to play the man, he then cries crocodile tears. I will tell the Premier one thing: the parents up in the public gallery and the other parents are not crying crocodile tears; they are just in despair. They are wondering when this government is going to listen to their concerns. It is just one organisation in the disability service industry that is concerned about this government. The Premier may say he has increased funding to NGOs in the last budget, but just increasing funding to NGOs is not the end of the story. He has to ensure that the proper services are being provided. The Premier can frown and he can look at his friend next door, the Minister for Education, but the fact is the people up in the gallery are not frowning; they are in absolute despair that this government, which is going to lord its great budget today, cannot find in its heart to provide some funding so this organisation, which has the runs on the board, can continue.

Dr M.D. Nahan interjected.

Dr A.D. BUTI: When we talk about being heartless, it is great that the member for Riverton intervenes. There is the poster boy for heartlessness.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr J.M. Francis): I am going to remind members of standing order 92. I have provided a fairly long bow in this debate. I appreciate members trying to refrain from interjecting too much, but standing order 92 reads —

Imputations of improper motives and personal reflections on the Sovereign, the Governor, a judicial officer or members of the Assembly or the Council are disorderly other than by substantive motion.

I have twice read the motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition. I am going to remind members who will take part in this debate of that particular standing order. I am going to ask the member for Armadale to stick to the motion in front of him.

Dr A.D. BUTI: We condemn the Barnett government for its failure to fund the LEARN autism centre in East Fremantle. We want to hear today an apology from the Premier for misleading the Parliament and an apology to the families of the children in the public gallery and others who are involved with the centre. We want to know what he is going to do. The Premier can quite easily say today that he will provide funding or he will bring forward the pre-qualification process. The Premier stands condemned.

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe — Premier) [10.43 am]: I will address the issues raised, and I will also give some background to what this government is doing in the area of disability. I would find it difficult to understand or fully appreciate the stress that families and their children would have had yesterday when they turned up to LEARN centre, having paid fees, having confidence in the program that was being delivered, to find that the doors were basically shut in their face. That should never, ever have happened. I ask the question: why were parents not advised in advance, and why was the government and Disability Services Commission not advised in advance? I can think of very few things more distressful for a parent with a child with a severe disability who is in a program to turn up and find the door shut in their face.

It is a significant issue. I am disappointed but not surprised that the Labor Party members would simply try to use it once again to their political advantage, as they have done. For the Leader of the Opposition to get up and talk about the Premier's office and everything else—what else was that if it was not about political advantage? That is what he did. However, out of respect for the parents and care for the children, I will forget about that, and I will deal with the issue.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: I really do not want to start calling people to order.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Before I come to LEARN itself and the families and children affected, I am going to again place on the record very briefly what this government is doing in this area. I remind members it is budget day

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today. In last year's budget, this government allocated \$604 million to provide a 15 per cent plus 10 per cent increase—a 25 per cent increase in funding for over 500 organisations covering over 1 000 contracts for support for not-for-profit organisations. Included in that were 115 organisations that have contracts with the Disability Services Commission. No other government in this state or this country's history has ever made such a significant one-off commitment to not-for-profit organisations, including 150 working in the disability area. That is a matter of fact. For members opposite to say that this government does not care or act on disability is a lie. That is the lie of this chamber.

I also want to remind members that only a few weeks ago, along with the Minister for Education, this government announced the first 10 new child and parent centres with child health nurses, with early examination and diagnosis and testing, for preschool children on school sites. It is 10 of probably what will eventually be around 40 child and parent centres. Again it is a demonstration of our financial commitment and our personal commitment and this government's commitment to caring.

Mr B.S. Wyatt interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The member for Victoria Park laughs for what may well prove to be the most significant policy on addressing early identification, diagnosis, intervention and help for children in some of the poorest and most disadvantaged communities in our state.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: The Premier, to continue.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Within the space of 12 months there has been an extraordinary commitment by this state government to those in need in our community. Later on today the Treasurer will present the budget and there will be further evidence of the compassion, caring and commitment of the Liberal–National government—something the Labor Party in government failed to do. The Labor Party was approached by the Western Australian Council of Social Service and ignored it. It failed to do what this government, the Liberal–National government, has actually done and will continue to do. That is a fact.

I now move on to the LEARN Foundation for Autism—the purpose of this debate.

Mr A.P. O'Gorman: You never learn!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: How witty. I have the greatest sympathy and concern, as does the Minister for Disability Services, for those parents and children who arrived for their program yesterday and found the doors locked.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Members!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am trying to address the issue. I think everyone in Western Australia is sympathetic to those parents and children. Parents have paid a large amount of money out of their own pockets for this program. They also receive government support; nevertheless, they have paid probably the bulk of this out of their own pockets. Now they find the program terminated, and I am sure the children are distressed.

Ms M.M. Quirk interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: For goodness sake!

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen, I am going to call you for the first time.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Let me again say, as I did yesterday, the LEARN centre is operated by the LEARN Foundation for Autism Ltd. It is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. It is not a government agency; it is a private organisation that provides services on a private basis to children and families. That needs to be understood for a start. Again, as I said yesterday, the organisation does not receive and has not received government funding which would come normally through the Disability Services Commission on a contract for service. As I said yesterday, it has not applied. There may be some mitigating circumstances, but up to this point, it has not put in an application. It has been offered assistance at least twice to do so; it has been offered an alternative way through the system, effectively, but it has chosen to not pursue that. That has been that organisation's choice, despite some repeated efforts on behalf of the Minister for Disability Services and the government to assist it.

In early September 2010, LEARN was advised that pre-qualification was a necessary requirement for contracting with the commission—as it should be; we are talking about taxpayer funds, and every organisation that receives taxpayer funding, all 115 organisations that receive funding through the Disability Services Commission, accepts that. They accept opening their books, they accept an examination of their programs and they accept meeting the

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requirements to qualify for state government funding, which is massive funding in this state. This organisation, for whatever reason—it is its choice—chose to not go down that path. It was offered the opportunity to do so in 2010. Despite that, the minister's office and the commission informed LEARN in 2010 and 2011—we are going back two years and one year—on its need to engage in pre-qualification. Again, LEARN did not engage and take part in the process. I do not know why; maybe it does not like dealing with government, but it did not proceed with it.

Mr M. McGowan: How were they advised?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The Leader of the Opposition has spoken, now I am speaking; I am going through it and I want to make my speech. We listened to the opposition.

I stress that the Disability Services Commission funds 115 organisations in little old Western Australia. All those organisations, across the full range of disability, including several involved with autism, have met and engaged in the process to qualify for government funding. LEARN was offered that opportunity at least twice, and chose to not do it. The Disability Services Commission has consistently dealt with LEARN since 2010. The commission has repeatedly provided advice and guidance on how to engage with government and how to seek pre-qualification. On the advice I have, that has been repeatedly on offer and maintained, and LEARN has not taken it up. I do not know why; members will need to ask LEARN. Maybe the parents need to ask LEARN why it did not take up the opportunity to be in the system. Why does the government have that process? It is a process of due diligence that looks at the quality of services, safety and financial matters. LEARN has never followed up on this advice; nor has it ever formally applied for funding. I will come back to that.

Mr J.N. Hyde: Did you make Woodside apply for free police in Broome? No.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr J.M. Francis): Member for Perth, I call you to order for the first time today.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Four weeks ago, LEARN met with me in my electorate office; there is no secret about that. Why would I be secretive about that?

Mrs M.H. Roberts: You tell us.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I certainly did not conceal it. I am proud to meet with people in my constituency.

Representatives from LEARN met four weeks ago with the Minister for Disability Services and the Director General of the Disability Services Commission, and were given the same advice about needing to go through a quality assessment, and so it goes on. The minister also met with Andrew Mason, the chair, and Mandy Mason, who runs the program. I will add to that that on two separate occasions, LEARN has been invited to discuss and engage, on a personal one-on-one basis, the process for pre-qualification outside of the normal process. Members opposite have been going on about LEARN being locked out of the system; no. On two occasions it was invited to come in on a one-on-one basis with the Disability Services Commission outside the normal pre-qualification basis to give it extra assistance and extra encouragement to actually be part of the system. It has been given, if you like, almost a privileged position in terms of getting into the pre-qualification so that those parents and children could be assisted.

The most recent meeting was followed up with a reply from the Director General of the Disability Services Commission. I want to read from one paragraph of what he wrote in that reply, following a meeting with the minister and the Disability Services Commission. Dr Ron Chalmers, Director General of the Disability Services Commission, concludes the letter with this paragraph, and members opposite should listen to this paragraph. This came after two attempts to help LEARN get pre-qualification in an abnormal process, it having rejected the normal process on two previous occasions. Dr Chalmers wrote —

During the meeting with the Minister questions were raised about the capacity of Government, via the Disability Services Commission, to allocate funds to LEARN to address accumulated debt. Unfortunately, it is not possible for funds to be made available for this purpose.

LEARN's application was to address accumulated debt, which I understand to be in the order of \$300 000. I do not know the exact figure; it is a private company. Issues have also been raised with the government by people who have worked for LEARN. They may or may not come forward publicly, but issues have been raised with respect to —

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Point of order.

Mr Mark McGowan; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Colin Barnett; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Acting Speaker; Dr Tony Buti;
Ms Adele Carles; Ms Rita Saffioti; Dr Kim Hames; Dr Janet Woollard

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr J.M. Francis): Take a seat, member for Midland. I will give you the opportunity to make your point of order in silence. Member for Albany, unacceptable—I am going to call you to order for the first time. I want to hear the member for Midland in silence.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The Premier quoted from a letter from Ron Chalmers, the director general of the department, and he had the document in his hand. He directly quoted from it, and I ask that he table that official document.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am happy to give a copy of that letter to the member when I have finished reading it. I am using it at the moment.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Members, this is very easy. The Premier will continue to refer to the letter and at the end of this debate, I will seek advice from the Speaker and ask him to use his discretion.

Debate Resumed

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am quite happy to make that letter available. To the best of my understanding, the most recent approach by LEARN for financial assistance from the state government was not about services; it was about paying or helping to pay off a debt of around \$300 000. I also understand that there are tax issues relating to the LEARN Foundation for Autism. Indeed, I will paraphrase part of some correspondence that was received some time ago. I do not know the date, but it is from a former employee of LEARN. I am not going to identify that employee, and I do not know whether it is right or wrong, but this is —

Mr B.S. Wyatt: Well, why read it out, then?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Because this is correspondence to the government that the government has to recognise. Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: I want to hear the Premier in silence!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Members opposite actually need to do their homework.

Dr A.D. Buti: Unbelievable! What are you going to do for the kids?

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, unacceptable. I call you to order for the first time.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: We know that the LEARN Foundation has a debt issue of around \$300 000. We know there have been some issues relating to tax, and the Disability Services Commission has had some issues with LEARN about governance and the operation of this foundation. Indeed, some people might even have some views about the programs, but I am not —

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, when you stood in this house previously you made some excellent points; I think all members in this house would acknowledge that. If you are going to interject, member for Armadale, you had better make an excellent point when you do so. I understand where you are coming from; I understand entirely.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The correspondence from a former staff member, I understand—the person may still work there; I do not know—refers to previous examples of financial trouble, refers to thousands of dollars of superannuation not being paid to staff, refers to staff not receiving their salary or receiving it late, talks about a parent who had bailed out the organisation and perhaps was not fully aware of the circumstances in doing so, and so it goes on. The government cannot ignore the fact that no matter how good these services might be, the organisation clearly has financial difficulties, it clearly has management issues, and it has, despite the encouragement of the Disability Services Commission, on at least two occasions failed to even engage in the pre-qualification process. Even when it was offered almost a fast-track process, it again rejected it. When LEARN came to government and the minister most recently, it sought financial assistance to deal with the debt.

Mr M. McGowan: Where is your evidence of that? Where is the correspondence?

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am going to give it in a moment.

Mr M. McGowan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Yes, everyone is concerned for the children and the parents, including the minister and me, but do not jump to the conclusion that everything is perfect with this organisation. Some serious questions have been asked about its management and financial accountability. I do not think it is acceptable to come to the government and expect taxpayer funds to be used to pay off past debts; that is not an acceptable use of taxpayer money. It is quite right and proper for the Disability Services Commission to question that.

Mr Mark McGowan; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Colin Barnett; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Acting Speaker; Dr Tony Buti;
Ms Adele Carles; Ms Rita Saffioti; Dr Kim Hames; Dr Janet Woollard

With respect to the children, to this date some 15 parents have contacted the minister or the Disability Services Commission about alternative programs or places for their children. The minister has undertaken to do that and is providing some additional funding to provide some transition so that the children and families can be cared for to the best possible level by the government.

I will conclude with this: it is not the government that runs LEARN, it is not the government that has funded LEARN and it certainly was not the government that closed the doors on a private organisation. The questions that might really be asked are: why were the doors closed? Who really closed the doors? I suspect it may have something to do with the debt or perhaps tax issues—I do not know—but it was not the government that closed the doors, yet the Labor Party came in here today and tried to put all the blame for the stress of these parents and children on the government. It sought to put the full blame for these problems on the government when this is a private organisation that is not funded by government and that has twice declined assistance when it was offered, and when it did come to the government, it sought financial assistance to pay off its debt. That is the reality. If members opposite were genuine about this issue, and maybe some of them are, their motivation today for coming into this Parliament would have been different, but it has been all about politics and very little about the children and their families.

[See paper 4825.]

MS A.S. CARLES (Fremantle) [11.00 am]: I rise today in support of the motion moved by the opposition. I say to the Premier that if we really are all concerned about the children today, as he just said, then let us put the politics to one side, let us put the children at the centre of this debate and let us sort out the bureaucratic issues at a more appropriate time.

Very serious allegations have been made against this company today. Very serious allegations were made by the minister on an ABC 720 radio program today. I was listening, absolutely horrified that a minister would use the power of government to make unsubstantiated allegations about this company without any right of reply. The Premier has just repeated those allegations. People are sitting up in the gallery. They do not have the right to speak here today. They do not have the right to talk about wages or superannuation or any of those other issues. That is an issue to be resolved behind doors with auditors. They want to show the books and get that sorted out. To raise that in Parliament today when they have no right of reply is completely inappropriate and completely embarrassing. I am embarrassed that these people from my community have been subjected to that in our Parliament today. It is absolutely embarrassing.

Let us look at the work that this place does. Mandy Mason has been a tireless advocate for the rights to evidence-based treatment for all children with autism. She has used her own money to establish this not-for-profit organisation in East Fremantle. This centre has been a vital resource in my community, servicing 200 families in the past three and a half years. And, yes, they have not got government handouts—they have been too busy trying to help the children with autism. They do not have specialist accountants and everything, but, my God, they need some help, and they need it right now! This Parliament better start getting a bit generous. LEARN has been a vital resource for these families. We all know that if we do not help these children, there will be so many problems down the track when they go to school. It is just unbelievable that we have to have this debate. Thirty families are currently receiving therapy in LEARN's program. If this program shuts its doors today, 13 staff will be on the unemployment list. How is that a win for this community? There is also a significant waitlist. All morning, people have been ringing in to talkback radio to say how fantastic this service is. Just as I was parking my car a grandmother was talking on the radio. She said that her little two-year-old grandson had been to LEARN and there was an extraordinary benefit to him. She had worked as a teacher and she could not believe the standard of care her grandson had received and how he was progressing. I urge the government to just open its heart and stop with the bureaucratic nonsense. That can be resolved next week or next month, but these children need access to this service today. I urge the government to do what is right.

MS R. SAFFIOTI (West Swan) [11.07 am]: Let us get down to this issue. This issue is about real people, real families and real hardship. We are calling on the government today to act to solve this problem. We have heard the Premier make some very serious allegations and make this a political issue. Let us bring it back to what it really is: it is real families going through real hardship. It is a proven program that works. What are we calling on the government to do? It is to put in some finance, even if it is bridging finance, to allow the doors to remain open, and then for the Disability Services Commission to sit down with Mandy Mason. Let us get this program back on track. What we have seen is a program that works. It is a program that works that has not been funded by the government. That is a good thing—a program that works that has not been funded by the government. This issue has been in front of government since September 2010; more than 20 months. It is not entirely the responsibility of LEARN or individuals, it is also up to the government to actually sit down and make this happen.

Mr Mark McGowan; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Colin Barnett; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Acting Speaker; Dr Tony Buti;
Ms Adele Carles; Ms Rita Saffioti; Dr Kim Hames; Dr Janet Woollard

Mr C.J. Barnett: They refused to.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The Premier has not provided any evidence to show that. He said that LEARN was offered assistance in 2010 and 2011. He did not quote any letter or document. He has provided no evidence. The Premier quoted a 2012 letter, which I have seen. That letter says that LEARN could go through a process but that the process had not commenced. So LEARN could go to this door, but the door is locked. How does the Premier expect anyone to get through the door if the door is locked? This is truly an issue about helping families in the community. As a Parliament, if we cannot do these basic things, it does not matter what the budget delivers today. These are real people—real children—who need assistance. It is a program that works. We are calling for the government to allow the centre to keep running and to sort out those problems. That is all it takes. The minister and the department need to sit down with them and make it happen.

Mr C.J. Barnett: They were offered it on two occasions and refused.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The Premier has provided no evidence. I have seen evidence to the contrary. I have seen referrals to federal departments. I have seen a letter that says that LEARN can go through a process in 2012–13 but that the government could not tell it when that process would commence. That is what I have seen. If the Premier has evidence, he should show it. The Premier spoke about the opposition making this a political issue. He made it political. He politicised the centre. He talked about individuals in the centre who do a lot of work. He cast aspersions on those people. He attacked people who work hard to help the community. It is an absolute disgrace. The Premier spoke about other centres. We all know there is a waitlist for those other centres. The government is taking these children out of an environment they are comfortable in. All I know about autism is people —

Mr C.J. Barnett: We are not doing it—the centre closed!

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: You are!

Mr C.J. Barnett: We did not close it.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: They came to you, and you are the government! Take some responsibility.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Mindarie, I formally call you to order for the first time today. I do not think anybody in this place resolves any of the issues that we confront by continually yelling at each other.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: We have a government that believes the Minister for Disability Services' role is not to help people with disabilities. What is her role if she cannot come in and sort this problem out? That is why she is a minister. The alternative that the Premier put forward is: go to other centres. We know the enormous waitlists. We know that this centre is working. We know that all it would take is for the government to sit down and sort this problem out. The government can say what it likes in today's budget, it can talk about the non-government sector all it likes, but here is a practical example of something that has been in front of this government for 20 months. This government has done a lot of things in 20 months, as the Leader of the Opposition outlined. It has made other things its priorities—we all know what they are—but these are people who want some assistance, who are going through hardship, who have a program to help their children, for goodness sake! It is their children, for goodness sake! The Premier stands up trying to cast aspersions on someone running it. These are their children, for goodness sake—put them first!

DR K.D. HAMES (Dawesville — Deputy Premier) [11.12 am]: Through the Department of Health, I fund a large number of non-government organisations requiring assistance. I do not know the exact number, but it is in the order of 600. That includes some of the bigger organisations such as St John Ambulance. There are approximately 600 NGOs that I fund through the Department of Health—disabilities support groups such as cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and motor neurone disease. A range of service organisations for adults and children receive funding from this government to provide assistance. What every single one of them has to do in order to get that funding is open their books to government so that we can see how the operation is working and so that government can make sure it is a legitimate business offering a legitimate service and there is proper governance and accountability behind it.

At present a parliamentary committee is looking at the operations of Tourism WA, which provided sponsorship to an organisation. It is alleged that Tourism WA did not do enough detailed work around the running of that organisation before providing the funds. Here we have an organisation that allegedly, since late 2010, has been in financial difficulty —

Mrs M.H. Roberts: What has the government been doing?

Dr K.D. HAMES: I will get to that.

Mr Mark McGowan; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Colin Barnett; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Acting Speaker; Dr Tony Buti;
Ms Adele Carles; Ms Rita Saffioti; Dr Kim Hames; Dr Janet Woollard

Allegedly, since late 2010, it has had financial difficulty. If that organisation came to my office to talk with me about what it needed to do, I would have said—I am sure the Premier did the same—“It is absolutely critical, if you want to get funding from a government organisation, to open up your books. You have to show the service you provide is a good one.” I make no reflection on the service, good or bad, because I do not know, but certainly the parents who go there are of the belief that it is a good service. If that private organisation is having difficulty getting money from parents to make it able to pay its way, it is quite entitled to come to government, as very many others come to me, to seek funding. It is quite a legitimate process. When that occurs, they get information on the sort of information they have to provide. They present that to the Disability Services Commission to be assessed. If it is appropriate, that funding is provided.

I got involved, in the changeover between ministers, in the riding school for people with disabilities located near McGillivray Oval. The riding school was having problems with not doing its proper paperwork. Part of the reason was that people there were under a lot of pressure as well. They were looking after riding lessons for children with disabilities, which is what I am talking about—a fantastic service for children with disabilities. They were having problems. The people from disability services came to the school and provided the assistance we are talking about to help the school get its paperwork in order to ensure it was being run legitimately. In fact it changed some personnel to make sure it could do it. We have never had an opportunity to do that.

The member for Armadale talked about people on this side not knowing or not caring about disabilities. I sympathise with the fact that he has a child with a disability, but so do I and so do other members —

Dr A.D. Buti: I only responded to the Premier’s question: how would I know?

Mr C.J. Barnett: I did not say that at all.

Dr K.D. HAMES: We pointed out that the member for Armadale got it wrong.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members! I suggest to members in this place that to give reasonable credit to this motion—it is an important motion for everybody in this place and for some other people who have joined us today—we stick with the substantive motion and do not enter into any personal conflicts as this house attempts to resolve the outcome of this motion.

Dr K.D. HAMES: I want to clarify the point that the member for Armadale raised about what he said the Premier said. I listened quite clearly to what happened. The member said —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I do not think the minister on his feet needs any assistance. I stood before and asked that members cease interjecting, and that they respect the absolute substance of this motion and the importance of it for all of us in this place.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The member for Armadale said to the Premier: how would the Premier know about people with disabilities?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: The entire 58 members are not in the chamber, but the number is pretty close to that. No doubt all members have a different interpretation around questions that might be asked in this place. There is only one person from whom I expect an interpretation at this point; it is the Minister for Health.

Dr K.D. HAMES: Members will be able to read *Hansard* tomorrow and judge for themselves whether what I am saying is accurate or not. I can tell members my interpretation, or my hearing of what was said —

Mr T.G. Stephens: You’re wrong!

Dr K.D. HAMES: I am not wrong. I expect you to apologise to me tomorrow when I prove it to you.

This is what was said. The member for —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Girrawheen, I formally call you to order for the first time. Member for Warnbro, I formally call you to order for the third time. Member for Pilbara, I formally call you to order for the first time. If members want to take this particular motion seriously, I suggest to members that they stop interjecting, which will enable members, and the minister in this instance, to put their perspective. I will say it again: you all have different interpretations—you are entitled to that—but at the moment the only person speaking in this place who I want to hear from is the Minister for Health.

Mr Mark McGowan; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Colin Barnett; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Acting Speaker; Dr Tony Buti;
Ms Adele Carles; Ms Rita Saffioti; Dr Kim Hames; Dr Janet Woollard

Dr K.D. HAMES: It is important to get this point on the record because the member reflected adversely on the Premier's attitude towards people with disabilities. It is absolutely critical that this point be clarified. The member said to the Premier words to the effect—I am paraphrasing—“How would you know about people with disabilities? What do you know about people with disabilities?” The Premier replied, “How would you know that that is the case?” In other words, how would the member for Armadale know that the Premier does not know! That is what he asked: how would the member know that the Premier does not know? That is the point I am making.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Premier, I formally call you to order for the first time today. Member for Victoria Park, I formally call you to order for the first time today. Everybody in this place is interested in their own particular answer. Members are not helping progress this subject whatsoever. I do not think they are demonstrating to those people in the gallery the ability that they all have to resolve issues in this place. Continual interjecting does nobody in this place any credit whatsoever.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The reality is that some members on this side are in a similar situation to the member for Armadale, including members other than myself who are ministers in this government. We do have an understanding of those difficulties. In fact, my wife's best friend has a child with autism. I have grown up with the issues that that child has. At the end of the day there are processes to go through. The member for Armadale continues to say that LEARN is not able to put in a request for funding as it is too late. I will read from the letter to Ms Mason again. It is not too late for LEARN to request funding. The letter specifically states —

It is likely that the Disability Services Commission will conduct another prequalification process during the 2012/13 financial year.

The precise timing has not been determined. When does the 2012–13 year start?

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: How far away is the 2012–13 financial year? It is six weeks away.

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Swan, I formally call you to order for the second time today. Member for Cannington, I formally call you to order for the first time today.

Dr K.D. HAMES: That process starts in six weeks.

Ms R. Saffioti: You're misleading the house.

Dr A.D. Buti: It doesn't say that.

Dr K.D. HAMES: It does not say what month that is. The 2012–13 financial year starts on 1 July.

Dr A.D. Buti: Read the next paragraph.

Dr K.D. HAMES: So what if the precise timing has not been determined? There is a huge difference between providing the information that is needed to pre-qualify and putting in an application and getting funding.

Dr A.D. Buti: The next paragraph says to apply at the appropriate time.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I formally call you to order for the second time today.

Dr A.D. Buti: Read the next paragraph.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The next paragraph does not stop LEARN from doing anything.

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale, I formally call you to order for the third time today. I think you would like to see a resolution to this motion. I am endeavouring to help in that respect but your interjections are not, member for Armadale.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The member for Armadale's constant interjections are stopping me from putting forward a proposal that might assist the group. I do not know why he insists on saying that and that a determination has not been made at this time.

Since 2010, LEARN has had the option of doing the prerequisite work; that is, opening up its books, showing the department its funding level and showing it what services it provides and how it carries those out so it qualifies so it can put in an application to seek funding. Nothing stopped it from doing that in 2010. The letter stated that another process will be starting in six weeks. There is nothing to stop it —

Mr Mark McGowan; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr Colin Barnett; Mrs Michelle Roberts; Acting Speaker; Dr Tony Buti;
Ms Adele Carles; Ms Rita Saffioti; Dr Kim Hames; Dr Janet Woollard

Dr A.D. Buti interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: I will read it out again, to save the interjections of the member for Armadale. This letter is quite clear. It states —

It is likely that the Disability Services Commission will conduct another prequalification process during the 2012/13 financial year. The precise timing of this process will be dependent upon the Commission's assessment of the need for additional service ...

Where does that take away from the first sentence? Where does that say that the first sentence does not work? What a load of nonsense. There is an opportunity for the group to open up its books to the department, and to put its processes before government as quickly as it can to seek funding. It has yet to seek funding. I suggest that it takes its books and sits down with the department, shows it what its finances are, shows it what the issues are with the debt, shows it what sort of services it provides and puts in an application for funding. We never know what might happen. As with any other organisation that seeks funding from the government, it needs to show that it has the capacity to run a business that is sustainable and provides a quality service to patients. The parents think so, so why on earth would it refuse to show anybody else?

DR J.M. WOOLLARD (Alfred Cove) [11.27 am]: It is very sad that this debate is occurring today. We all feel for the parents and children who turned up to the LEARN Foundation for Autism centre yesterday to find the doors closed on them. Families struggle very hard to care for children with autism. I have helped care for autistic children. As a result of the short time that I spent doing that, I know how difficult it is for those families. I am very pleased that the Premier said in his speech that these families can notify the Minister for Disability Services and that placements will be found for them so that they can still receive some help. It will not be the same as if they were receiving help from LEARN because continuity is important. This debate has brought forward to this house the fact that we need more services. Children who have autism need more support from the community. Families who have children who are autistic need that support. Whilst the Education and Health Standing Committee does not have time during its current inquiry to look at this area, I would hope that in the future this issue is looked at carefully. Maybe we should look at disability services as a whole to ensure that support is given to children, young people and adults. We all feel for those parents and children.

Question put and a division taken with the following result —

Ayes (26)

Ms L.L. Baker	Mr J.C. Kobelke	Mr J.R. Quigley	Mr A.J. Waddell
Dr A.D. Buti	Mr F.M. Logan	Ms M.M. Quirk	Mr P.B. Watson
Ms A.S. Carles	Mrs C.A. Martin	Mr E.S. Ripper	Mr M.P. Whitely
Mr R.H. Cook	Mr M. McGowan	Mrs M.H. Roberts	Mr B.S. Wyatt
Ms J.M. Freeman	Mr M.P. Murray	Mr T.G. Stephens	Ms R. Saffioti (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr J.N. Hyde	Mr A.P. O'Gorman	Mr C.J. Tallentire	
Mr W.J. Johnston	Mr P. Papalia	Mr P.C. Tinley	

Noes (29)

Mr P. Abetz	Mr V.A. Catania	Dr G.G. Jacobs	Mr D.T. Redman
Mr F.A. Alban	Dr E. Constable	Mr R.F. Johnson	Mr M.W. Sutherland
Mr C.J. Barnett	Mr M.J. Cowper	Mr A. Krsticevic	Mr T.K. Waldron
Mr I.C. Blayney	Mr J.H.D. Day	Mr W.R. Marmion	Dr J.M. Woollard
Mr J.J.M. Bowler	Mr J.M. Francis	Mr J.E. McGrath	Mr A.J. Simpson (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr I.M. Britza	Dr K.D. Hames	Mr P.T. Miles	
Mr T.R. Buswell	Mrs L.M. Harvey	Ms A.R. Mitchell	
Mr G.M. Castrilli	Mr A.P. Jacob	Dr M.D. Nahan	

Pair

Mr D.A. Templeman

Mr C.C. Porter

Question thus negatived.