

RETIREE TAX — FEDERAL LABOR POLICY

184. Mrs A.K. HAYDEN to the Minister for Seniors and Ageing:

I refer to the policy of Bill Shorten to impose a \$45 billion retiree tax on senior Australians. I note that Western Australian seniors have already been hit by the minister's government's cuts to local government and water service charge rebates and its increases in power and water costs.

- (1) Can the minister explain why he has been asleep at the wheel and done nothing about stopping Bill Shorten's retiree tax, when he should be advocating for seniors?
- (2) When will the minister tell Mr Shorten that his retiree tax is too costly, unfair, mean-spirited, and will lead to more pain for Western Australian seniors?

The SPEAKER: Member, when you ask a question, it is not a statement. Just ask a question next time.

Mr M.P. MURRAY replied:

Thank you. I thank Mr Speaker for clarifying whether that was a question or a novel, to be quite honest.

A federal election is coming up and both parties will have their policies out there. Mr Shorten has put his out there, and I support it.

Mrs A.K. Hayden: So you support it?

Mr M.P. MURRAY: I support it very strongly. Just two minutes ago I put on the table what the member's Australian government is not doing. It is not helping elders in our community. The member has the audacity to say that we are doing something wrong! The Labor Party is putting out policies that will help elders in the future—not hinder them, like the member's government.