

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT — REPEAL

471. Mr R.S. LOVE to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs:

Before I ask the question, I take the opportunity to acknowledge the new member for Rockingham and congratulate her on her election.

Ms R. Saffioti: Have you still got your Liberal hat?

The SPEAKER: Deputy Premier!

Mr R.S. LOVE: Even with that hat on. That is how gracious we can be on this side.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Ministers, I would like to hear the question.

Mr R.S. LOVE: I refer to the minister's role in Labor's spectacular backflip over the Aboriginal cultural heritage laws and to advice received from his department last night that as part of the new laws, there will be a campaign to inform Western Australians of the changes.

(1) How much will his new campaign cost the Western Australian taxpayer?

(2) How can he be trusted to get this right when he has failed so miserably to date?

Dr A.D. BUTI replied:

With regard to the previous question from the member for Central Wheatbelt, the number of the composition can be as low as six and it goes up to 11, not 12, but we are hoping to have the 11 we have on the council transfer over.

I also acknowledge the member for Rockingham. As the Premier said, the majority of the composition of this house is now female, which is something that the Nats are grappling with at the moment. I believe the member for North West Central would love to remain as the member for the new seat —

Point of Order

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: I have a point of order.

The SPEAKER: I know what your point of order is going to be. Minister, it is one thing to go off to the side, but I would ask you to address the question that you have been asked, please.

Dr A.D. BUTI: Madam Speaker, it is related, because the campaign that we are going to be moving forward with on this relates to different electorates.

The SPEAKER: I will give you an opportunity to point out how it relates.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Dr A.D. BUTI: The member for North West Central would like to remain as the member for the new seat in the next term, but I believe the current Leader of the Opposition —

Point of Order

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: I have a point of order.

The SPEAKER: I will listen to the point of order. Please sit, minister.

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: Section 78 of the standing orders is about relevance. This has no relevance to the question about the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and the minister's lack of ability.

The SPEAKER: Member for Roe, I am not accepting your point of order at this time. I am going to listen a little longer to the minister's response to see whether it does in fact relate to the question. I ask the minister to continue his response now.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Dr A.D. BUTI: I will leave it there, but we know they are not a happy camp. Just ask the member for North West Central about that. Maybe we will bring that up at another time.

(1)–(2) With regard to the member's question, the campaign will be —

Ms M.J. Davies interjected.

The SPEAKER: The minister has the call.

Dr A.D. BUTI: With regard to the question about the campaign, we will roll out an appropriate campaign. It will be costed and when it is finally costed, I will let the member know.