

RESOURCES SECTOR — COMMONWEALTH INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS REFORMS

734. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Given the massive impact on small business as well as mining, how does the Premier reconcile his claim of batting for WA, as reported, if he is not prepared to advocate for WA on this cause?

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

We always advocate on behalf of Western Australia. In fact, just last week, I was in Adelaide working with other Premiers on issues in the health system and the NDIS in terms of how we can stand up for our state. I notice that that is something that members opposite decided to critique. They thought it was not important more for me to be in Adelaide with other Premiers —

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

Mr R.H. COOK: Sorry, Madam?

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Mr R.H. COOK: I was actually in a press conference with other Premiers around Australia, so I am not quite sure how we sustain that argument. But I would like to thank the member for the interjection; she is as irrelevant as ever.

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

Mr R.H. COOK: We will continue to stand up for Western Australia and we will continue to make sure that our voices are heard in Canberra; that is part of my Canberra strategy. We will continue to make sure that Western Australians —

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

The SPEAKER: Premier, just pause for a moment. Member for Vasse, your interjections are incessant and off-point, and you are not the person who asked the question in the first place. I am asking you to desist.

Mr R.H. COOK: We will always stand up for Western Australia, and that is why we got the new GST arrangement. That is why we continue to make sure that Western Australia's voice is heard in Canberra, and we will continue to do so.