

LIBERAL CANDIDATE FOR SEAT OF FORREST - STATE-RELATED ISSUES

**648. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Minister for South West:**

- (1) Is the minister aware of the claims by the Liberal candidate for the federal seat of Forrest, Mrs Nola Marino, that she has a plan to address a range of state-related issues?
- (2) How does her obsession with state matters reflect on the quality of representation of her state-based colleagues?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

- (1)-(2) Poorly, Mr Speaker, poorly! I am aware of the campaign of Mrs Marino, the Liberal candidate for Forrest. She has mixed state, local and federal issues in the fairly bizarre campaign that she is running. She is reported to be undermined and attacked from within her own ranks. A short time ago, some people indicated that they would roll her.

**Mr E.S. Ripper:** The member for Vasse wouldn't be like that, would he?

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Apparently that is what they have been doing.

**Dr S.C. Thomas** interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** Maybe the member for Capel, who campaigned with her, can enlighten us on that later.

**Dr S.C. Thomas** interjected.

**Mr M. McGOWAN:** The member is her campaign director, is he not? I am aware of her campaign. She has put out an advertisement with a seven-point plan to get more things done in the electorate of Forrest. She talks about how she will work to build the Bunbury outer ring-road. We have been appealing to the commonwealth government for years for AusLink funding for this road through the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure. We have been requesting funds for that road because of the woeful level of funding the commonwealth government provides Western Australia.

The second point she makes is that she will - not wants to, but will - establish an Australian technical college in Bunbury. However, there is no commitment. It is in her advertisement but she has not given a commitment. I seek some clarification on this matter. The second point I make about that is that just a few weeks ago we announced the successful tender to build Manea College, which is a \$27 million college, alongside the TAFE campus that will meet the technical training needs of year 11 and 12 students in Bunbury.

The third point Mrs Marino makes is that she will work to improve the facilities of the schools at Manjimup. I am going to Manjimup later this month to open a new primary school, a library and an education sports centre that have been built in the heart of the Leader of the Opposition's electorate by a Labor government.

What does she not mention? None of her advertisements mention funding for the tourism icon of the south west - the Busselton jetty - for which the government has committed around \$50 million. All we asked the commonwealth government for was \$6 million. The principal antagonist of this project is the member for Vasse. He is undermining his own electorate. Apparently he is leading Mrs Marino around like a sheep on this issue - I ask members to excuse that pun. He is leading her around like a sheep on this very important issue to the people in the south west. Neither the state Liberal Party nor the commonwealth Liberal Party has given a commitment to that project.