

TAB — ASSET SALES

124. Mr M.P. MURRAY to the Leader of the National Party:

That was a disgraceful answer. I have a supplementary question. I ask again: will the racing industry and regional communities be made aware of the Liberal–National government’s agreement to those demands prior to the Nationals agreeing in any way to the sale of the Totalisator Agency Board?

Mr D.T. REDMAN replied:

What the racing industry will be aware of is the strong level of connection we have in engaging with it about the issues in the sector. That is what it is aware of. The member opposite is not doing the yards; the Minister for Racing and Gaming is doing the yards out there. He is doing the yards and I have absolute confidence that what he brings to cabinet —

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro, do you want to be number three? You seem ambivalent!

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I have absolute confidence that what he brings to cabinet for decision will have the support of the sector and will have the support of the National Party.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I draw the house’s attention to standing order 75(2) that provides that questions may be asked of —

The Leader of a party in government regarding that party’s policies;

The SPEAKER: That is correct.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The Leader of the National Party has been asked about his party’s policies and he has not, either in his initial answer or in answer to the supplementary question, actually addressed his party’s policy with respect to this issue, which is what the member is asking about.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr D.T. REDMAN: In response to the member for Midland’s point about a question related to policy as asked of the Leader of the National Party, a motion was passed at, from memory, the Margaret River conference we held two years ago that basically said—exactly what I have said—that the Nationals’ position in respect of the TAB will be the position that leads to the best outcome for industry. I am confident in the minister and the fantastic job he is doing in trying to land a position to achieve that.