

VEHICLE IMMOBILISER SUBSIDY SCHEME

**397. Mr OMODEI to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services:**

I refer the minister to a statement made by the now Minister for Health in October 1997, when he was Assistant Commissioner of Police, that “We want everybody to put an immobiliser in their car, and I’ve got to say that’s the best thing I’ve heard for years.” In view of the resounding support given to the scheme by a now senior Labor minister, how can this Government justify the slashing of the successful vehicle engine immobiliser subsidy scheme, which, by the Government’s own admission, has had a significant impact on car theft, with the vehicle theft rate dropping 12 per cent over the lifetime of the scheme?

**Mrs ROBERTS replied:**

The withdrawal of the \$40 subsidy for the installation of vehicle engine immobilisers does not remove the requirement to fit an approved immobiliser before the vehicle is registered or before the licence is transferred.

The effectiveness of this scheme should continue, and it will continue to reduce the opportunity for motor vehicle theft.