

MINISTERS, DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**592. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Premier:**

I refer the Premier to the criticism he levelled at his predecessor's ministerial code of conduct, specifically that it did not include provision requiring ministers to declare a conflict of interest when their spouses had a pecuniary interest in a matter before cabinet, and ask -

- (1) Will the Premier explain why it was his position that a minister should disclose a conflict of interest when his or her spouse has a pecuniary interest in a matter before cabinet?
- (2) Does he still hold to this position?

**Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:**

- (1)-(2) We outlined very clearly the reasons behind our particular code, and the factors that were important. There is always an issue about how far the net is drawn on these matters. It was thought to be important to include in that net the economic interests of spouses. They are directly related to ministers and that is why it was put into the code.