

CAMPAIGN TO OPPOSE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CHANGES, COST

324. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's statements regarding his expenditure on his opposition to the federal industrial relations legislation when he said that the campaign had cost taxpayers \$220 000, and ask -

- (1) Is this the true cost of the total campaign?
- (2) What is the total cost of -
 - (a) creative element;
 - (b) media placement;
 - (c) production cost, and
 - (d) development and maintenance of the Internet site?
- (3) Are there any other advertising elements or components to this campaign, such as brochures, direct mail etc?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

I was asked about this matter on Friday and I indicated that the cost of the campaign would be approximately \$220 000. I have been advised -

- (1) The total cost will be \$256 823.
- (2) Creative and production costs will be \$30 000; media placement costs will be \$226 823; and web site-related costs are contained in the total cost.

I look forward to the comments from those opposite when John Howard initiates his advertising campaign in support of the federal government initiatives designed to take away from this Parliament its right to pass legislation on industrial relations. We know that he spent \$18 million-plus on the Strengthening Medicare campaign and that over the years he has spent \$400 million advertising the goods and services tax. Therefore, I look forward to the comments from members of the Liberal Party when John Howard initiates his campaign. We in Western Australia have a responsibility to promote our state - I did that last week with the Minister for Tourism at the Australian Tourism Exchange - and we also have a responsibility to protect our state. That is what this campaign is about. I would have thought that it is a modest expenditure for a very good cause, because the future of Western Australia and our ability as a Parliament to shape that future will be significantly affected by John Howard's push to take over industrial relations laws. The specific figure is \$256 823.

Mr M.J. Birney: Why didn't you tell us that last week?

Dr G.I. GALLOP: I was informed that it was around \$220 000. That was the answer I gave. We now have the specific details and I have indicated them to the opposition.

The SPEAKER: Question time has now finished.

Mr P.D. Omodei interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! I call the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to order for the first time.