

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS — RIGHT TO DISCONNECT LAW

16. Ms L. METTAM to the Premier:

I refer to the right to disconnect law, passed by federal Parliament, that forbids employers from contacting workers after hours with penalties including jail time, that has the potential to lead to —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Ms L. METTAM: — workplace breakdowns, productivity losses and the reduction of other flexible conditions.

- (1) Does the Premier support the introduction of these laws and believe that it is in the best interests of Western Australia?
- (2) Will the Premier guarantee that there will be no adverse outcomes for WA businesses that are required to operate across multiple states or time zones?

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

- (1)–(2) We have now had six questions from the opposition and I think every one of them has been about the federal government—every one of them!

Mr R.S. Love: What about the power situation?

Mr R.H. COOK: The power situation—okay; I will give you that.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Mr R.H. COOK: On one hand, opposition members raged against the storms that impacted WA, and in the next stage they raged against the federal government —

Mr R.S. Love interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, you did not ask this question. I ask you to cease interjecting, please.

Mr R.H. COOK: Federal Parliament makes the decisions that it makes. Western Australian companies will manage those laws and act in a commonsense way. We know that Western Australian companies will continue to lead this country and its economy, and it will continue to make great investments on behalf of the people of Western Australia to create great Western Australian jobs. The decisions made by federal Parliament are essentially a function of Canberra.