

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY — SHIPBUILDING CONTRACTS —
DEFENCE INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD

726. Mr P. PAPALIA to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Will the Premier reinstate a defence industry advisory board and seek out senior ex-military officers to assist in winning part of the defence dollar for Western Australia?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

I am not about to offer the member a job if he loses his seat!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am answering the question; the member has asked his supplementary question.

No, we do not intend to reinstate the committee the member referred to.

Mr P. Papalia: It was an advisory board.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Yes, and we are getting rid of a lot of advisory boards across government—we are, because the responsibility —

Several members interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: What is the point of answering the question? What a bad example this is to the students in the gallery—what a bad example the Labor Party is.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I am aware that the industry itself is looking at reconstituting not that committee, but a representative group for the industry.

Mr P. Papalia: It was an advisory board, not a committee.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I know what it was, and we will deal with this with the responsible government agencies at a senior level, and the industry itself, probably in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia, in constituting a shipbuilding group.