

SENIORS — COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES

306. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Minister for Seniors and Ageing:

I have a supplementary question. What did the minister and his department do to help seniors when the government was proposing savage increases to electricity prices?

Mr M.P. MURRAY replied:

I think that is just a re-word of the first question. I reiterate what I said; we take the situation of seniors very, very seriously. There are seniors out there who need our help and, again, the federal government has not been forthcoming in areas such as aged care.

Mr P.C. Tinley: They don't care.

Mr M.P. MURRAY: Very much so. It provided 3 000 extra beds for aged care with a performance factor that was very difficult to maintain, and certainly there was not enough money to make people pick up those beds to give seniors some comfort in their later years when they need help. We need the opposition to go to the federal government to help us get more funding so that we can supply seniors with what they need.

The SPEAKER: That is the end of question time.