

OUTER HARBOUR TASK FORCE — ESTABLISHMENT

**368. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Treasurer:**

I have a supplementary question. Given that the government is remaining committed to the outer harbour, can the Treasurer confirm that the investigations are looking at it being largely automated or will the government be complying with Maritime Union of Australia's request?

**Mr B.S. WYATT replied:**

I am aware of the concerns raised about automation and potential job losses. We are an export economy, so we need a modern, efficient port. That is something that we want the outer harbour to be. I assume that the Deputy Leader of the Opposition agrees with me. I hope she would agree with me that in Western Australia —

**Dr M.D. Nahan:** It was just a furphy. You'll never build this in your lifetime.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** The Leader of the Opposition is in a dark place.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! Minister, can you quickly finish this, and members, please don't interject.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** Can I just say to the Leader of the Opposition that I am one of the few who is his mate. I want him to succeed and, to be frank, I want his party to perhaps re-engage with the mainstream political debate. I think that would be of some use to the broader parliamentary and public policy debate across Western Australia. Coming back to the specific supplementary question asked by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, I am aware of those concerns, but a modern, efficient harbour will be good for the economy —

**Dr M.D. Nahan:** You'll never build and you know it. It's just an excuse. You will never build that. And, by the way, will you promise to commit to your promise to resign? Will you resign?

Several members interjected.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** I am not sure what to do, Mr Speaker!

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the Opposition, this is not a chat fest; this is question time.

**Dr M.D. Nahan:** Will you resign, as promised?

**The SPEAKER:** Leader of the Opposition, did you just hear what I said? I call you to order for the first time.

**Mr B.S. WYATT:** Mike, I want to be your friend! Help me be your friend!

Anyway, we will get on. We want to plan for that port because it is there. It needs to be planned. It is good for the economy of WA.