

TAFE — TRADE STUDIES

810. Mr F.M. LOGAN to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:

I have a supplementary question. The minister has deliberately killed off five smaller craft —

Mr J.H.D. Day interjected.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Mr Speaker, can I finish my supplementary question?

The SPEAKER: Yes, with pleasure, member.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: The minister has deliberately killed off five smaller craft studies and tried to justify her action in this house. Now it appears that she has not only killed off WA jobs and contracted them out to training in the eastern states —

Point of Order

Mr J.H.D. DAY: What is the question?

The SPEAKER: If the member is going to ask a question, ask a question please; you had a big lead-in.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr F.M. LOGAN: How can the minister justify this total incompetence?

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr F.M. Logan: The minister has given away jobs to the eastern states.

The SPEAKER: That concludes question time. Does the minister want to answer?

Mrs L.M. Harvey: Yes. The member was continuing to talk, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: You were sitting there waiting; I am sorry. Make it a quick answer.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

If the students are not fronting up for the courses, it is usually because there are no jobs waiting for them. I reiterate —

Mr F.M. Logan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cockburn, I call you to order for the first time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We subsidise training—up to 85 per cent of all the course costs—right across the state for all students, pretty much. We fund and arrange training for over 600 priority skills areas. The courses that the member has referred to are not for priority skills. Industry is telling us that it does not have the jobs for people. The students do not want to be trained if there are no jobs.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cockburn, I call you for the second time. Member for West Swan, I call you for the first time. Give the minister a chance.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Our priority as a government is to fund training that leads to employment or further education. We are not going to fund training for thin markets if there are no jobs. We are making the right decision. We have had a nine per cent increase in enrolments for our priority skills areas.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cockburn, I call you now for the third time; member for Pilbara, for the first time. Have you concluded, minister?

Mrs L.M. Harvey: Yes, Mr Speaker.