

TAXIS — PLATES — BUYBACK SCHEME

203. Mrs L.M. HARVEY to the Minister for Transport:

Before I ask my question, on behalf of the member for Dawesville, I would like to acknowledge Bill and Waverley Treeby and their friends in the public gallery. Bill and Waverley celebrate being married for 53 years today.

I refer the minister to the regulatory impact statement on the “Proposal for Industry Funded Voluntary Buy-Back Scheme of Perth Owned Taxi Plates” and, in particular, the fact that an eight per cent levy will cost the industry and users more than \$56 million a year, but will raise less than \$30 million in revenue.

- (1) Did the minister deliberately hide this document because of the significant negative impact her new levy would have on the economy?
- (2) If not, will minister the explain to this house why she was not transparent and did not disclose this important information to Parliament when the legislation was being debated and opposition members were making their decisions about whether to support the levy?

Ms R. SAFFIOTI replied:

I thank the member for the question.

- (1) The answer to the first part of the question is no.
- (2) We are abiding by the guidelines that the opposition prepared regarding the release of regulatory impact statements.

In relation to the member’s analysis, which I have been observing over the past couple of days, it has been quite interesting—very interesting. She is looking at one bit of analysis—an analysis made before the final reform was developed and finalised—but she did not go to the other bit of the analysis, which talks about the significant savings for industry and consumers from regulatory reform. The member comes in here —

Mrs L.M. Harvey interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Scarborough, you have a supplementary question.

Ms R. SAFFIOTI: The member comes in here with one bit of analysis and she spoke on the radio about one bit of analysis, but she did not talk about the other one. When it was put to the member, on radio, “How about the bit of analysis that shows the savings from regulatory reform in the industry?” she said, “If the government has another document that has different modelling, I would call upon them to release that as well.” Member, go to the website and click a couple of dot points above the document you are using, and look at the other report. The report the member claims I am hiding is on the website next to the one she selectively quotes.