

MUTUAL RECOGNITION (WESTERN AUSTRALIA) ACT 1995

532. Hon J.A. COWDELL to the Leader of the House:

Can the Leader of the House provide the House with an outline of the flow-on effects that will arise with the expiry on 28 February 2001 of the Mutual Recognition (Western Australia) Act 1995? I ask the question in the sense that the Government is presumably aware of its importance because it was intended to be included with the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Western Australia) Bill, which the leader announced yesterday would not be proceeding. What are the consequences of not proceeding with the passage of that Bill?

Hon N.F. MOORE replied:

I do not have ministerial responsibility for that legislation, so I cannot provide an answer at this time.

Hon Ken Travers: You are the Leader of the House.

Hon N.F. MOORE: What a dork! Why do I have to put up with that sort of drippy stuff?

The legislation is the Premier's responsibility. A major scare campaign has been launched in the south west of Western Australia that the whole fruit industry will be destroyed in five minutes flat if this Bill is passed. The Government is re-assessing the situation, and the Premier will advise in due course what will happen.