



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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PM needs to take charge of Public Liability Insurance Conference - Windsor

The Prime Minister hasn't ruled out his personal involvement in the forthcoming Commonwealth / State Conference in relation to Public Liability Insurance according to Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor.

Mr Howard made the statement in Federal Parliament today in answer to a question from Mr Windsor.

Mr Windsor said Mr Howard outlined the problems that charitable and voluntary organisations were incurring with a major blow out in costs.

Mr Windsor said that he and the Independent Member for Calare, Peter Andren have raised this issue on a number of occasions in the Parliament.

"It was obvious from the Prime Minister's answer that he has a good grasp of the problem facing our citizens and organisations.

It is time however, that the Prime Minister played the leadership role on this issue," Mr Windsor said.

In his reply, Mr Howard admitted that he thought that no one level of government could solve the problem and this is why Mr Windsor wants the Prime Minister to take the lead.

"I call on all groups within Australia who are experiencing problems with public liability insurance to lobby the Prime Minister to take the required step to take charge of this issue," Mr Windsor said.

We cannot afford another talk-fest on this crucial issue," Mr Windsor said.

The question Mr Windsor asked the Prime Minister was, "Given the national crisis that is unfolding in relation to public liability insurance and the demise of many charitable and voluntary functions particularly in country communities, will you Prime Minister, personally take charge of the proposed conference with the States and elevate the meeting to the status of a heads of government conference.

Further information from Tony Windsor on 0427 66 8868 or 0412 916 040