



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

1st May 2002

Windsor puts Nationals on Notice – Support Enterprise Zones or face Country revolt!

Independent Federal Member for New England, Tony Windsor has put the National Party on notice to support the introduction of Enterprise Zones or face a revolt from country people.

Mr Windsor was speaking about the National Party Member for Parkes, John Cobb's statement on wanting to separate income tax systems for country and metropolitan areas saying unless Mr Cobb can convince not only his fellow National Party representatives but also their Senior Coalition partner, the Liberals, then his comments were worthless and only grandstanding.

“Mr Cobb knows full well that the Liberals won't support the concept and has raised the proposal again to lift his stocks in the electorate and in doing so is giving false hope to country people.

If Mr Cobb and the National Party are truly representatives of country people, they will support my Notice of Motion and bring on the debate in the Parliament.

If they don't, then country people will see that the National Party are once again paying lip service to a proposal that has been supported by their constituent base and rolled over on the issue,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor said he had the full support of his fellow country Independent colleagues at both the Federal and State level.

“My country Independent colleagues in the Federal Parliament, Peter Andren from Calare in NSW and Bob Katter from Kennedy in North Queensland along with NSW State Country Independents, Tony McGrane (Dubbo) and Richard Torbay (Northern Tablelands) have been fully supportive of the Enterprise Zone proposal which was launched in May last year,”

On his return to Parliament on May 14 for the Budget session Mr Windsor will move –“That in light of the NSW Farmers Association City-Country Snapshot Report showing the growing divide between city and country and the new 10 year discriminatory US Farm Bill, this house discuss as a matter of urgency the adoption of Enterprise Zones as put forward by the National Farmers Federation, The Institute of Chartered Accountants and Local Government Association as a way of overcoming the population drift, economic decline and inequity of services of country Australia.”

Further information from Tony Windsor on 0427 66 8868