



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Windsor urges Govt to revisit tax cuts promise

In light of economic news about increasing inflation and the need for infrastructure development, the Independent Member for New England Tony Windsor is urging the new Labor Government to revisit tax cuts promised during the election campaign.

Mr Windsor believes that the community would understand if the Government deferred tax cuts in favour of investing in public infrastructure that would enhance our future opportunities.

“The Australian people having experienced six interest rate rises over the last 3 years are more attuned to economic variables that impact on our day to day lives and whilst we all enjoy having a few extra dollars in our pockets, if our mortgage repayments go up as a result then we have to stop and ask ourselves ‘is there a better way?’

I believe that there is a better way and that is to defer our personal tax cuts in favour of investment in our public infrastructure and services.

We have just seen a report indicating our telecommunication infrastructure particularly in country areas is poor.

The Reserve Bank has been saying for a number of years that we need to improve the bottlenecks at our ports and our skill shortage needs attention.

There are predictions of a downturn in our commodity exports and the Reserve Bank has also warned that tax cuts will cause inflation to rise above the acceptable range and therefore bring about more interest rate rises.

In light of all these indicators, I urge the Government to review its process for their proposed tax cuts.

The Government should look at what is right for the nation despite their pre-election promise, lay their cards on the table, take the Australian community into their confidence by fully explaining the situation and demonstrating their economic conservatism.

The Coalition played a political game when they announced their big tax cuts in the first week of the election campaign laying a trap for the then Labor Opposition to try to match and knowing that the economy was going to tighten.

The now Labor Government, not being fully aware of the economic situation, fell for the political trap but now knowing the real situation should have every right to reassess their tax cuts promise to reflect this reality.

There’s a real opportunity for the new Government to be transparent and honest with the Australian public and in doing so set a new standard and earn their respect,” Mr Windsor said.

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