



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ACIS ADMINISTRATION BILL 1999

**ACIS (UNEARNED CREDIT
LIABILITY) BILL 1999**

**CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT
(ACIS IMPLEMENTATION) BILL 1999**

Consideration in Detail

SPEECH

Thursday, 24 June 1999

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

Date Thursday, 24 June 1999
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Questioner
Speaker Cox, David, MP

Source House
Proof No
Responder
Question No.

Mr COX (Kingston) (1.57 pm)—I am absolutely incredulous of the statement of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources, at the table, that the government proposes to have a review without having a review and that the opposition's amendment would create uncertainty. The government is the one that is creating uncertainty. The government is not proposing any outline for industry assistance for the vehicle industry after 2005. It is not saying what is going to happen to tariffs after 2005. It is saying that it can leave that uncertainty on the basis of some small review that it is going to do internally. The review is not going to have proper public input. It is not going to be done properly by the Productivity Commission. It is not going to give all of the stakeholders in the industry an opportunity to make submissions. It is not going to have proper quantitative analysis of what the effects are going to be on the industry.

The government is simply saying that it is going to do a little quick and cheap in-house review and then it is going to come out and make some far-reaching decisions on the basis of what tariff protection should be after 2005 and what should replace what it is calling the 'transitional arrangements' that are contained in the ACIS bill to take the car industry after 2005 into the future.

This is not an acceptable situation for the Labor Party. I hope that members opposite who have car industry seats and who are concerned about the long-term viability of the industry—and we have seen them popping up over the last 24 hours to give their contributions in this debate—talk to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources, Senator Minchin, in the intervening period before we come back to this issue. I hope they try to get some sense out of him on this issue, because we do need a full Productivity Commission inquiry into the vehicle industry to determine what the arrangements are going to be for motor vehicles after 2005.

Mr SPEAKER—Order! It being 2 p.m., the debate is interrupted in accordance with standing order 101A. The member will have leave to continue speaking when the debate is resumed.