



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**TAXATION LAWS  
AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 7) 2003**

**Consideration of Senate Message**

**SPEECH**

**Tuesday, 14 October 2003**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

**Date** Tuesday, 14 October 2003  
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**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Cox, David, MP

**Source** House  
**Proof** No  
**Responder**  
**Question No.**

**Mr COX** (Kingston) (5.00 pm)—I thank the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer for that clarification. I had assumed that, because the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer had participated in the redrafting, the government was going to accept the amendments. I am glad that she did participate in the redrafting because I can say that, on the basis of his advice, it is perfectly safe for the parliament to pass those amendments and they will not have any other effect than that which the opposition and the Democrats intend. When we go through another iteration or two of messages between the other place and this place, we may eventually get to the point where they are accepted.

His explanation of the purposes of the draft bill, in relation to what is the predominant purpose of a charity, is interesting. It is also very interesting that the Treasurer's brother does not feel comfortable with the Treasurer's explanation of his intent and does not believe that that legislation will not be used to silence critics of the government—about the government's policies or about charitable organisations talking about needs in the community which the government is not meeting or the lack of resources for other programs to meet the needs of the poor. I expect that this debate is going to go on for some time. I talked to the Democrats this afternoon and I understand that they will be with us in insisting on the amendments in the Senate. I look forward to a further iteration of this debate.

Question put:

That the amendments be disagreed to.