



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Main Committee**

**APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2009-2010**

**Consideration in Detail**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 18 June 2009**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

**Date** Thursday, 18 June 2009  
**Page** 6628  
**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Smith, Anthony, MP

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

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**Mr ANTHONY SMITH** (Casey) (11.25 am)—I again ask the minister whether, as the former Assistant Treasurer and as the minister here today representing the Treasurer, he thinks the goods and services tax was a good reform and is a good tax for Australia. I remind the minister that with respect to the Henry review deliberations that are occurring—the minister will correct me if I am wrong—everything is being examined except the rate or base of the GST. I commend the Treasurer on that point. The point I make to the minister is that the Treasurer has singled that out as something to be preserved. I ask whether the minister thinks that it was a good reform and is a good tax for Australia.