THE SENATE

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (COMMONWEALTH-STATE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (COMMONWEALTH-STATE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS—CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (WINE EQUALISATION TAX) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (WINE EQUALISATION TAX IMPOSITION—GENERAL) BILL 1999
A NEW TAX SYSTEM (WINE EQUALISATION TAX IMPOSITION—CUSTOMS) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (WINE EQUALISATION TAX IMPOSITION—EXCISE) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (LUXURY CAR TAX) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (LUXURY CAR TAX IMPOSITION—GENERAL) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (LUXURY CAR TAX IMPOSITION—CUSTOMS) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (LUXURY CAR TAX IMPOSITION—EXCISE) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (INDIRECT TAX ADMINISTRATION) BILL 1999

A NEW TAX SYSTEM (WINE EQUALISATION TAX AND LUXURY CAR TAX TRANSITION) BILL 1999

Second Reading
Senator MARGETTS (WA) (11.21 am)—I seek to move an amendment to the Labor Party's second reading amendment.

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT—Is this one that you have foreshadowed?

Senator MARGETTS—No.

The ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT—You need leave.

Senator MARGETTS—I seek leave.

Leave granted.

Senator MARGETTS—In order for me to support the Labor Party's amendment, I would seek to amend it by deleting part (b). I move:

Omit paragraph (b).

I seek leave to briefly explain that.

Leave granted.

Senator MARGETTS—I thank the Senate. Just briefly, it is about the emphasis on applauding the efforts by, in effect, the Keating Labor government to maintain or emphasise a low inflationary economy in Australia. There are many issues in relation to that, including the fact that the accord did not keep up with the profit levels of many corporations. In relation to unemployment, I think the issue is that often inflation was put above unemployment. So from the point of view of the Greens (WA), we would not like that to be seen as a particular issue that we applauded, because it needs to be so qualified that it becomes meaningless. Therefore, I would be happy to support the rest of the Labor Party's second reading amendment, but first I would like to have it amended by the deletion of part (b).