



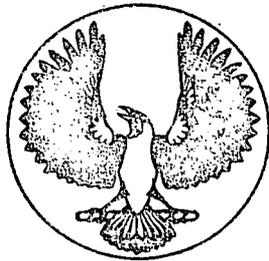
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Title:
Statement: Federal cutbacks

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date...8 June 1976.....

Embargo..... 4 p.m.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
228 4811

EMBARGO - 4 p.m.

FEDERAL CUTBACKS

An extra \$50 million is to be made available by the State Government for public transport improvements, unemployment relief, and the State's building programme.

Announcing the funds in Parliament today, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said the State had been forced to find the extra money because it now had to put more funds into schemes for which the Federal Government had refused to meet forward commitments.

"Mr. Fraser's cutbacks mean the SA Government will have to do the job itself in the field of public transport, our building programme for schools and hospitals, and unemployment relief.

"The Prime Minister and his Government have cut back Federal proposals to give us money for programmes, particularly in the public transport field.

"We had reasonable expectations of \$16 million to help the upgrading of Adelaide's bus fleet, but they now will only give us \$1.3 million.

"The State Government, in order to continue to provide the services which the people of the State expect, has now to spend an extra \$20 million on public transport improvements, mainly the 370 new airconditioned buses, and new rail carriages for the metropolitan railways, above the expenditure already provided for.



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"Another \$20 million will be used for the building programme to maintain levels of construction, ~~and the school~~
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"We will also greatly expand our unemployment relief scheme by making \$10 million available to help SA's jobless. SA's scheme was introduced last year initially to carry over unfinished Federal R.E.D. schemes, but we have expanded it because the Federal Government clearly has no intention of providing any employment stimulating schemes.

"The State's unemployment scheme is the best in Australia and it is another example of how SA must now start doing the job which the Federal Government has abandoned."

Mr. Dunstan told Parliament the Federal Government had cut funds for hospitals, public transport, free school dental care and had given a "niggardly" increase in education funds. As well, major programmes such as water filtration were under threat because of uncertainty about future funding.

"The result of these and many other cutbacks, both known and anticipated, is that the State's financial resources will have to be used to support these programmes," the Premier said.

"This means that our healthy revenue surplus and reserves will be used to continue providing services previously funded partly by the Federal Government.

"Without a surplus and a strong level of reserves, it would be difficult for us to continue to provide welfare schemes, hospitals, roads, schools and the other services which the people of the State rightly expect from their Government," Mr. Dunstan said.



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