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**Title:**

Statement: Premier attacks John McLeay

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# STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date... October 31, 1975

Embargo.....

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

## PREMIER ATTACKS JOHN McLEAY.

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, today accused the Federal Liberal Member for Boothby, Mr. McLeay, of conducting a disgracefully misleading campaign of scaremongering among homeowners.

Mr. Dunstan said Mr. McLeay was deliberately frightening homeowners by saying the Federal Government was considering new housing taxes which had been discussed in a report of the Priorities Review Staff.

The Priorities Review Staff report discussed the imposition of a tax on houses over 12.5 squares and an "imputed tax on owner-occupiers which would equal the annual rental value of the house. Similar taxes are in force overseas, but were rejected by the Priorities Review Staff as not being practical in Australia.

"No new taxes on homeowners are being considered, as Mr. McLeay well knows. The Priorities Review Staff comments were made in a discussion paper on housing, and the taxes which Mr. McLeay is telling people will be introduced were specifically rejected by P.R.S."

The Minister for Housing, Mr. Riordan, completely rejected Mr. McLeay's falsehoods four weeks ago, but the misrepresentations continue.

"He has deliberately singled out elderly people and organisations actively helping elderly people for this campaign. He has needlessly upset very many people by creating the impression they will have to pay additional tax simply because they own their home.

"Mr. McLeay's suggestions are wrong and unnecessarily upsetting to many people. No-one should take any notice of his claims".