



# LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

## STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION THE HON SIMON CREAN MP

### **Labor to scrap Ansett Levy**

The Ansett levy can no longer be justified and should end immediately.

The Ansett Levy is increasing the cost of a holiday in Australia and costing the local tourist industry revenue and jobs at a time when it can least afford either.

Labor has consistently argued the Ansett workers should get all their entitlements. But the Government has made it quite clear that no matter how long the ticket levy remains in place, the Ansett workers won't receive one cent more of their entitlements from the Government.

If the Ansett Levy is no longer going to be used for the purpose for which it was introduced – to fund the entitlements of Ansett workers – it has become just another Howard Government tax on tourism and should be scrapped now.

The levy, which is raising about \$11 million a month, is now little more than a revenue raiser being used to build up a political slush fund.

Worse, the Howard Government is now considering a further levy to fund tourism promotion.

The Howard Government's response to every new problem is a new tax – Ansett Tax, Dairy Tax, Sugar Tax, Medical Indemnity Levy and now Tourism Tax.

The tourism industry does not need a new tax – it needs a break from the Howard Government's tax fetish.

Neither the Ansett Levy nor a new Tourism Tax can be justified and both should be immediately abandoned.

**GOLD COAST  
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