



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PROOF

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Economy

SPEECH

Wednesday, 27 March 2024

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

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Questioner	Responder
Speaker O'Brien, Ted MP	Question No.

Mr TED O'BRIEN (Fairfax) (13:57): To invoke the lyrics of one of Elton John's greatest hits, 'sorry' can be the hardest word. As we go to Easter and we see Australians right across the country struggling amidst Labor's cost-of-living crisis, we know how tough they're doing it.

If I can give some gratuitous advice to the Prime Minister, maybe now is the time to just say sorry—to say sorry to the Australian people, who were promised a \$275 reduction in their household power bills and who we now know will pay up to \$1,000 more than what they were promised. Since Labor came to office, 500 families have gone on hardship arrangements every single week, and they're struggling. They'll struggle through Easter.

So I say to the Prime Minister and to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy, who also continues to hold that line: we all know your promise has been broken. The Australian people aren't fools. It's a hard word to say, but just say sorry.