

**House:** Legislative Assembly- Premier's Statement  
**Date:** Wednesday, 1 November 2006  
**Member:** Quigley, Mr John; Cowper, Mr Murray; ACTING SPEAKER; Castrilli, Mr John; Kobelke, Mr John  
**Subject:** PREMIER'S STATEMENT  
**Page:** 8017b - 8027a / 1

---

**MR G.M. CASTRILLI (Bunbury):** Another matter I place on the record, which I am keeping a very close eye on, is one I raised in a question to the Minister for Disability Services about incontinence. Western Australia is the only state that does not assist people with continence aids. From memory, I think about five years ago, a report was compiled and placed before the minister but its recommendations were not taken up. I therefore asked questions in this place because a lot of people in the community were hurting, especially pensioners who, out of their pensions, were paying between \$40 and \$80 a month for continence aids. It is a real drain on resources, especially for pensioners on fixed incomes. The minister said that he would put an initiative in place by July 2006. That was fantastic news. However, no initiative was in place by July 2006. Why? It was put off because the minister had not worked out how to do it or what effect it would have and so on. My point at the time I raised the matter was that the minister should look at the Queensland legislation to find out exactly how that model worked, that it would be better than doing nothing and that he should just get on with it and do it. A promise was made that the scheme would be available by 1 January next year. I have not heard a whimper from the minister since July. I will therefore be keeping a very close eye on this issue, because after all this time the one thing that people suffering from incontinence deserve is assistance with continence aids, and they should not have to wait any longer.