



Media Release

Senator Mathias Cormann

Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Apprenticeships and Training

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NO NEW MONEY FOR JOBLESS HOME INSULATION WORKERS

The rescue package for home insulation workers announced with much fanfare by the Prime Minister and Senator Arbib yesterday has no new money in it.

Job seekers not involved in home insulation will miss out on training and job services because the government needs to re-allocate funding from the Jobs Fund, the Productivity Places Program and other existing training programs to sort out their home insulation mess.

Employment Participation Minister Mark Arbib admitted in Question Time that the package was put together based on existing programs and that 'some people were always going to lose their job'.

"This is robbing Peter to pay Paul, or rather robbing Paul to pay for Peter's stuff ups," Senator Cormann said.

"This announcement was all about the government managing the news cycle, desperately trying to dig themselves out of the mess they got themselves into.

"This package has been cobbled together on the run," Senator Cormann said.

"This is the exact same modus operandi that got the government, and more importantly home insulation businesses and workers into this mess in the first place.

"This government does not appear to be able to manage anything.

"Why would anyone believe that Mark Arbib can fix this mess when he was a central part of creating this mess in the first place?" Senator Cormann asked.

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