



ATT: National & Melbourne Media

House Economics Committee - Reserve Bank hearing

10:00am, Friday 11 May, 2001

Victorian State Parliament House, Melbourne

- Media information -

The House of Representatives Economics Committee will hold its next six-monthly public hearing with Reserve Bank Governor Ian Macfarlane and other representatives of the Reserve Bank in Melbourne on Friday, 11 May, 2001.

The hearing will be held in the Legislative Council Chamber of Victoria's State Parliament Building (Spring Street). It will be part of the official Centenary of Federation events that week in Melbourne.

Media access & seating

The hearing will be on the floor of the Legislative Council Chamber of the Victorian State Parliament, around the central table. Media will have access to the floor of the Chamber.

Entry: via front entrance of Victorian State Parliament House. Look for House of Representatives signage in the entrance hall for the appropriate entry point.

Seating plan: Journalists will be seated close to the 'action', in the seats occupied by front and back-bench Government MLCs when parliament is sitting. *A floor plan is attached/follows.*

Vision: photographers and TV cameramen will be able to shoot the 'overhead' view of the hearing from the first floor balcony for the first 20 minutes of the hearing only. After that, all vision will be from the floor of the Chamber, where there will be no restrictions on movement, except for normal sensitivities.

Split box: a split box will be provided.

Direct feed to Parliament House, Canberra: Parliament's Sound and Vision Office will provide an audio feed only into Parliament House, Canberra (no vision)

Internet: an audio feed of the hearing will be streamed from the live webcast link of the Parliament's website, <http://www.aph.gov.au>

All media: Please be set up at least 10 minutes prior to the hearing, which will commence at 10:00am sharp.

Story angles: besides the fact of Governor's appearance itself, and 'hard news' questioning about interest rate policy, credit card interchange fees, operation of the Board etc ... a colour angle is the attendance of economics students from Melbourne schools and universities. Students will also be seated around the Chamber, getting a first hand look at the Committee and the Reserve in operation. Students have also been able to submit questions to the Committee to be put to the Governor.

Members of the House Economics Committee will be available for both preview and review interview regarding the hearing. Please contact Geoff Dodd via the numbers below. An article from the new *About the House* magazine profiling the Committee is also available from Geoff.

For media queries or information contact:

House Economics Committee Media Liaison, Geoff Dodd

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Further information:

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The House Economics Committee

Chairman:	Mr David Hawker MP	tel: 03 5572 1100
Deputy Chair:	Ms Anna Burke MP	tel: 03 9898 0675
Members:	Mr Anthony Albanese MP	tel: 02 9564 3588
	Ms Tanya Plibersek MP	tel: 02 9550 5877
	Ms Teresa Gambaro MP	tel: 07 3283 4277
	Mr Christopher Pyne MP	tel: 08 8363 0666
	Mrs Kay Hull MP	tel: 02 6921 4600
	Hon Alex Somlyay MP	tel: 07 5471 6611
	Mr Mark Latham MP	tel: 02 4628 3377
	Dr Andrew Southcott MP	tel: 08 8374 0511
