



Jason Wood MP
Federal Member for La Trobe

MEDIA RELEASE

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UNION SHAM DEBATE STUNT WASTES MEMBER'S FUNDS

La Trobe MP Jason Wood has called out the ACTU for improper use of member's funds and irresponsible political stunts.

"The ACTU has used the hard earned funds of its members to pay for expensive newspaper ads, social media campaigns, autobot phone calls and flyers all over the country to advertise debates between Liberal MPs and senior union officials which they knew were not going ahead.

"Considering the Labor Party now supports passage of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement through Parliament, this has been quite a ridiculous sham political stunt.

"These dirty tactics resorted to by the ACTU explain to some extent the rapidly declining membership of unions," Mr Wood said.

Mr Wood was surprised at the approach of the ACTU, stating that ChAFTA has the capacity to create hundreds of new local jobs in La Trobe, opening up markets for our horticultural and agricultural products as well as educational and professional services.

"I'm betting the ACTU's members aren't too happy with what was done at Brentwood Park last night, and I call on ACTU Secretary Dave Oliver to openly declare how much money was wasted on this political stunt, not just in La Trobe, but Australia-wide.

"The public invitation to last night's event printed in our local paper prior to any response from myself is a clear indication that this was never a genuine offer to me – I am happy to engage on this topic, but not through the filter of the CFMEU's theatrical antics." Said Mr Wood.

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