



Senator for Tasmania
Putting Tasmania First
Jacqui Lambie

Attached 1

QWN – Defence Contracts

Q1

Mr President, my question with out notice is to Defence Minister Payne

I refer the minister to her government's \$450B Defence white paper and the fact that Tasmanian's businesses have been ignored for 2 decades when it comes to the fair awarding of defence contracts.

I also refer the minister to comments made by Tasmanian Businessman Michael Grainger of Liferaft Systems Australia who says that:

"It is ironic that we are dealing with the major defence forces around the world but not our own country."

When it comes to the fair awarding of defence contracts, does the minister agree that it's the weak representation by Liberal members of this parliament for 20 years

... and being taken for granted, that has guaranteed Tasmanian businesses, including those associated with the LAND 400 – will continued to be ignored for another 20 years?

Q2

I refer the minister to her reply ..

Does the minister agree that the only chance for Tasmanian Defence businesses to receive a fair share of her governments \$450B Defence budget is –

... if Tasmania becomes a marginal electorate for the major parties – and it is represented in this Senate by independents ?

Q3

I refer the Defence minister to her government's \$450B Defence white paper, Tasmania's record youth unemployment rate and Australia's trade skill shortage.

Does the Minister agree that should her government have the vision to re-establish the Defence Apprentice and trade training programs ...

... as part of a voluntary youth national service – then those training positions would offer hope to our unemployed youth while strengthening the defence of our nation?