Leader of the Opposition

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ELECTORAL TALK

Last week the Opposition Parties announced their joint policy for a new deal for state governments.

The Federalism policy will curb the power which Canberra has in recent years exerted over the states.

It will give these governments a right to their own income tax revenues. It will end the subservient status of governments forced to make a cap inhand approach to Canberra for their revenues.

Taxpayers will keep the advantage of one tax return, but there will be provision for the states to impose their own taxation, or to decide on their own rebates.

Taxpayers will know how much government is costing them, at state level and at federal level.

This is just one of the policies which we are developing to enable us to meet the problems and difficulties confronting us all, now and in the 1980's.

The crux of the crisis we are facing is the way in which governments have seized more and more power for themselves, at the expense of the rights of ordinary people.

This is going on all around the world. During the past three years in Australia, it has gone on at a desperate pace.

Government spending has more than doubled in the last three years.

Since Labor has come to power, most of us work another month a year for the government.

These huge funds have gone into an enormous increase in the power of government and the Public Service.

The government is taking a larger share of everybody's income than ever before.

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Commonwealth Offices, 4 Treasury Place, Melbourne, Victoria 3002
Our policies on industrial relations and federal state relations will get Australia moving in the same direction. We will soon be announcing our proposals in education and social security.

All our policies are part of a plan to put more power and choice back into the hands of the Australian people.

In the next election, Australians will have a clear choice.

We can go further down Labor's road of domination by politicians, a domination which they call socialism.

Or we can take at last a new road towards an Australia in which men and women can run their own lives. The purpose of government must be to help them achieve this.

The watchwords of the next Liberal Government will be freedom and concern for all Australians.