

William Maslin

To the Editor,

I am writing with regards to the article 'Low-income earners at risk of losing tax bonus' which appeared on *The Sydney Morning Herald* website on the 1st April 2009.

The article is about a current High Court battle regarding the \$900 tax bonus from the Rudd Government as part of its \$42 billion economic stimulus package and the validity of the payment under the Australian Constitution.

This action by the State of New South Wales again shows why Australia needs to abolish the states. I refer to a previous article in the *Herald* on the 10th July 2008, 'Nobble the states: Abbott's quest for power' which referred to making an amendment to the Constitution allowing, where it so wishes, the Commonwealth can pass laws to override the states - not just Section 51 as it is now, but in all areas.

Here we have the Commonwealth passing legislation to provide a \$900 tax bonus to stimulate the national economy in these challenging times and you have the states taking them to court over it. While I do not agree with the cash bonuses as an effective medium to long term way to stimulate the economy, I think that in the national interest, we have the Commonwealth trying to do something which is well received by the nation, and the Commonwealth, with its authority, should be able to do it without the states getting in the way.

The only economy that is currently being stimulated is the private economies of the Commonwealth Solicitor-General and the barrister representing New South Wales!

Yours faithfully,
William Maslin