

Brief comments received

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1	WA already pay more GST contributions than all of Australia. We desperately need more GST to fix our critically ill hospital and health system, our schools are crumbling lacking the funding to fix them and infrastructure including house is desperately lacking.
2	As a Western Australian, I've seen first-hand the beneficial impact of the post-2018 fairer GST share for WA. You see so much building and development happening in Perth since then, which is great for jobs. I've also seen and used the newer Metronet train station developments, which are really useful for so many people, and I'm especially excited for my new Midland Station soon. WA deserves to keep the fair share, we contribute so so much to the national economy and Australia's wealth. That wealth should come back to us, and we deserve to have a fair proportion so that people here can have access to quality services like transport, roads, healthcare and schools as well.
3	GST revenue should be equally distributed between States and not used as a massive slush fund by incumbent Governments to secure votes and retain power. If the GST legislation allows this gross pork barrelling for a parochial State, then the loophole should be stitched closed. I stand for a fair Australia where all citizens share the wealth of the Nation, and not just those with the dumb luck to be sitting on massive deposits of natural resources. Saul Eslake says it all: https://youtu.be/ujj_ahEhVMI?si=Jreur5EXvxZQwbxy . Note: I live in NSW but grew up in WA, so checked 'from' WA
4	The GST should not be increased because Australians are struggling with a cost of living crisis. Inflation is still not under control and prices are continually increasing. Increasing the GST will only add to inflation and price increases will continue and wage demands will start increasing as well. Inflation and the cost of living are the main matters which Australians are struggling with and a GST increase will make things worse . I am a pensioner and cannot afford to live because prices are too high and so are rents. Australians are getting poorer as inflation bites. The GST was introduced to get rid of state taxes but this is not the case as in Victoria the government is introduced new taxes and increasing existing ones. The needs to be a focus on government spending and waste and getting rid of unconstitutional government departments such as the federal department for local government and also stop breaking the Australian Constitution by giving direct funding to local government. Local government is a state jurisdiction and federal funding must go through the state governments. Abolishing the federal local government department will save millions of dollars each year. Unemployment is now climbing and cut in taxation is needed not an increase in GST. Government is spending too much and this causes the need for tax increases. The states with the highest population and biggest debts should get a big share of GST. Stop the state taxes as the GST was meat to achieve. Best wishes, RUSSELL MORSE
5	I am a FIFO worker,yes we sacrifice our time and put our bodies on the line working in the cruelest conditions. Financially it has its pros and cons.GST plays a big factor in the control of our hard earned money. Do we need change today with the current GST scheme YES! WHY? I can put more towards my dental care and additionally towards

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	my superannuation. Every bit goes along way. Making these changes are important. We work very long hours and unfortunately, we don't see the benefits to its fullest. GIVE BACK TO WA SO WE CAN BUILD OUR LIVES BETTER! CHANGE THE GST SCHEME.PUT MONEY BACK IN THE POCKETS OF THE FIFO WORKERS.
6	Previous GST model led to huge budget deficits in WA and lack of investment in state economic development that hurt the national economy the 75% floor has allowed balance between providing services to growing population and investing in job creating industries and should remain corporate tax and income tax already provided for redistributing wealth to poorer State's
7	Draft brief comment (supporting WA's position) I support retaining the 2018 Goods and Services Tax (GST) distribution reforms in substance, including the 0.75 relativity floor, the new equalisation benchmark (to the fiscally strongest of New South Wales or Victoria), and the Commonwealth "top-up" arrangements. The pre-reform system produced extreme swings that undermined credible State budget planning. Western Australia's (WA's) relativity fell as low as 0.3 in 2015–16, and volatility became a recognised policy problem in its own right. The stated intent of the 2018 reforms was a more stable and predictable revenue source for all jurisdictions while preserving the best features of Horizontal Fiscal Equalisation (HFE). WA is still not receiving a "windfall". WA represents about 11% of Australia's population but currently receives around 8.2% of the GST pool, and a reversion to pre-2018 settings is estimated to drive WA's share down to ~2%, materially reducing capacity to fund hospitals, schools and essential infrastructure. ([Western Australian Government][1]) WA is not seeking a larger share, only to keep the current distribution settings. ([Western Australian Government][1]) Concerns about impacts on other states are already addressed through Commonwealth-funded mechanisms (top-ups and "no worse off" payments), rather than taking GST from one state to give to another. ([ministers.treasury.gov.au][2]) Recommendation: keep the 2018 framework (at minimum, a floor comparable to the current level) and focus any further changes on transparency and fiscal sustainability, not reopening settings that restored predictability. [1]: https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/government-of-western-australia/gst-wa-what-would-changes-the-distribution-mean "GST WA: What would changes to the distribution mean?" [2]: https://ministers.treasury.gov.au/ministers/jim-chalmers-2022/media-releases/extension-no-worse-deal-help-fund-essential-services "Extension of 'No Worse Off' deal to help fund essential services Treasury Ministers"
8	Each state has its own benefits, drawbacks and challenges. All states and territories have demonstrated on numerous occasions, that there is an 'us' and 'them' mentality. Let's consider for a moment, if WA was a poverty stricken state. Would the other states be extending their hands with offers of support and aid as eagerly as they hold out their hands to claim their fair share and what they believe they are entitled to?
9	W.A pushes well above its weight per capita and faces significant issues (housing, transport network upgrades) that require addressing to enable further mining expansion. Restricting GST share back to 2018s level threatens to cut the most productive states growth potential at a time where other states productivity is already falling.
10	The WA should not keep its 75% of GST. the current arrangement strip's billions from other states and forces the federal government to fund this through other means. This amount has risen from the initial estimates and is not affordable. WA is the richest state in Australia and is running a budget surplus. The GST is better directed towards poorer states, such as Tasmania and the NT, to assist all Australians in receiving good health care, support and education.
11	My comments are based on experience starting over 45 years ago initially in NSW Treasury, a NSW Treasurer's office and after 1995,as the main financial adviser on the State Budget to two NSW Premiers. 1. The general revenue assistance system between the Federal and State/Territory Governments

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	needs fundamental reform as it approaches its centenary. It is complex, perverse, costly and not fit for purpose in a modern economy requiring improved productivity. 2. In the 1980s, the Commission deemed Queensland a mendicant State gaining a higher funding share yet it cut taxes such as abolishing death duties forcing other States to follow. 3. Fast forward to now where Victoria, one of the two benchmark States is nonsensically deemed a mendicant State. 4. NSW once incurred a cut in its funding share due to higher stamp duty revenue from a property boom. Yet due to the system's lagged nature, this was received in the year where the State was to receive lower stamp duty revenue as the property boom had ended. Tax rises, spending cuts in key areas or deficits are the response tools. 5. NSW once was criticised for having too many bus stops without regard to topography or physical ability of the aged and disabled. 6. The WA deal-at a cost of nearly \$50 billion by 2030 is unsustainable and beyond its intent. 7. There have been other attempted fixes from the Feds from handing over payroll tax in the 1970s, income tax sharing under PM Fraser, the GST deal (with some State tax offsets). Ultimately, there needs to be a fairer, simpler, less costly, more certain system. 8. I recommend that federal general revenue payments be based on per capita funding with top up payments to South Australia, Tasmania and the N.T. Such a reform could be phased in over say three years.
12	I don't believe WA should receive less than other states. We provide plenty and should get our fair share.
13	I am a sole trader, a father of two children under three, and the partner of a full-time stay-at-home parent in WA. The 75% GST relativity floor is important to my family because it supports funding for essential services such as hospitals, child health services, schools, and local infrastructure. These are services our family relies on every day. While GST reforms do not directly affect how much GST I pay as a sole trader, they strongly affect the State's ability to fund services without increasing costs for families through higher state taxes or reduced services. If WA's GST share were reduced, it would put pressure on the State budget and risk cuts to services or higher charges for households like mine. For single-income families with young children, this would increase cost-of-living pressure. I support retaining the current GST arrangements and the 75% per-person floor to protect families, small businesses, and communities across Western Australia.
14	WA deserves to retain a fair share of its GST.
15	Stop contemplating taking more than 25% of the GST paid by Western Australia businesses and individuals to distribute to other States and Territories. I personally would have drawn the line at 1/5 not 1/4.
16	WA receives the lowest percentage of the GST, but we look after a third of the territory of Australia. This means that we need to have adequate schooling, health care, infrastructure for a territory which is a third of the whole of Australia. If the Federal Government chooses to reduce our share of GST this will affect the hospitals, the schools, the roads, the trains and the various other programs that the State Government runs. This is simply unfair to the people of WA and will negatively affect every single one of us!
17	If the west Australian government believes its fair to receive 75% per person of GST revenue. Does it also believe that its residents should be able to keep 75% of their incomes earned instead of paying a majority of it towards GST, income and other goods excise taxes?
18	WA SHOULD KEEP 80% not just 75% And people working harder to earn more should not be penalised by higher income tax for little Jessica that choose to stay on Centrelink. Furthermore, if both adults are working and therefore paying more income tax, we should have an automatic 50% of all Daycare charges. Saying that there is a guaranteed three days subsidy doesn't help when the subsidy amount is not worth it to work more. We are getting taxed left

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	right and centre after working longer hours and people that cannot be bothered to work or get qualifications. Get the gas companies to pay their royalties and have little Jessica do a trade to ensure we don't have a short skills and labour supply. Use royalty to also help the homeless, dental on Medicare and stay at home mum's. Those royalties could probably pay for W.A. University fees for citizens. The most gas, but WE are getting the least amount of benefits. Take a look at SAUDI AND NORWAY.
19	I ask the Federal Government to give serious consideration to increasing Western Australia's share of GST funding. WA continues to be a major economic driver for the nation, contributing a disproportionately high share of Australia's export income and national revenue. Despite this, Western Australia remains at the lower end of GST receipts on a per capita basis. WA's mining, energy and agricultural sectors underpin national prosperity, and the infrastructure, workforce and services required to sustain this contribution come at significant cost to the State. A more equitable GST allocation would recognise the role WA plays in supporting the national economy and ensure the State has the capacity to continue delivering essential services, building infrastructure and generating long term economic value for all Australians. A fairer GST share would not only support the needs of a rapidly growing population but also strengthen national economic resilience. I ask the Commonwealth to ensure the distribution model adequately reflects these realities and provides Western Australia with a level of funding commensurate with its contribution to the nation.
20	It only makes sense that the largest contributor to the county's GST get a fair share of it to better fund the state and its needs to cater for the many people who call WA home and to those will call it home in the future. WA isn't asking for a bigger chunk than any other state but we're asking for an even chunk with other states. WA is the largest state in the country and largest contributor to the country's GST and yet get a measly amount of GST. MAKE IT MAKE SENSE?
21	I have personally seen the egregious levels of waste and lack of work by those in WA especially in the public sector. They do nothing. They spend far too much because they have too much. I suggest reducing the GST allocation so that WA can learn some fiscal responsibility and the rest of the country can thrive.
22	I believe that in Australia , the GST percentage of 75% should be the same in all states, made streamlined, that way all states get a fair share of the GST pie.
23	The value of WA resources should be shared with the people of WA. Especially those who live and work in rural and remote settings to keep the economy going.
24	Yes. We produce also one of the highest profits in industry through mines and exploration, but what does this money give back to WA community?
25	Get Rid of GST all together.
26	All the Eastern States have larger populations contributing to State Coffers. WA produces the Lion's share of revenue through exports with higher GST rates, generated by WA workers. A fair go
27	WA should continue to get its fair share of GST. WA still gets least amount back in comparison to other states for say a dollar given to federal government in taxes. If not increasing WA's share of GST, least that needs to be done is to continue the current arrangement.

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28	Wa deserves their fair share of GST!
29	Please leave 0.75 of GST for WA as per agreement in 2018
30	Western Australians work hard and contribute strongly to the national economy, and it's only fair that a reasonable share of the GST generated here comes back to support the communities that created it. From the Pilbara to Perth, local businesses, families and industries drive economic activity that feeds into the national GST pool. When too much of that revenue flows elsewhere, it can feel like WA is carrying a bigger load while still needing to fund vast regional infrastructure, hospitals, schools and essential services across the largest state in the country. A fair share of GST isn't about special treatment — it's about making sure Western Australians see the benefit of their own effort reflected in better roads, stronger services and continued investment in the places they call home. We demand a fair share for the state that powers the nation.
31	Please help WA get their fair share of GST - this is an ongoing problem - we have lots of projects in WA for WA residents that require to be attended to - roads power water housing maintenance hospitals aged care facilities education - the list is long and keeps getting longer and wider - we need to look after our own state. While on this track we also need to increase our share of mining royalties - 👍
32	STOP STEALING WA'S FAIR SHARE OF GST. WA IS THE POWERHOUSE AND ENGINE OF AUSTRALIA, WITHOUT WA, THERE WILL NO BE REVENUE.
33	WA needs a fair share of GST and they should get more GST.
34	Just because other states spend big and can't pay off their debt doesn't mean WA should take a hit. They need to handle their finances better!! We pay our share just as much as the rest of Australia if not more, why should we miss our because of their mismanagement!
35	We are the economy powerhouse of Australia which aiding all the financial shortfall to other estate. To keep generating significant financial support we need to keep building infrastructure and other facilities to attract more skilled people to come to WA and keep the powerhouse running. Reducing of share on GST will slow down the WA economy and people will not stay in this state due to lack of proper infrastructure and day to day support for their modern living standard.
36	I believe the GST collected in each state should remain with that state. The current system of redistributing revenue to support weaker states reduces the incentive for those states to strengthen their economies and improve productivity.
37	This is so frustrating for WA people. By not getting a fair share, you are just dividing the nation and eventually WA might ask to form independency and the joke will be on the other states. The biggest and richest state is the joke of the nation. We don't like it, its unfair.
38	Westralians should not be penalised for our economy doing well. We already prop up the mendicant States.
39	How dare the state government of WA take our tax dollars and waste it on a political advertising campaign demanding a "fair share" it's outrageous, disgusting and an abuse of tax payer dollars. This exemplifies why WA has too much money and too great a share of tax dollars. For them to setup an entire department of "fairness fighters" only further demonstrates their disdain for Australia and the corrupt nature of the state. I am disgusted at the waste.

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	How corrupt a political stunt this is and a waste of money that should be going to the people of Australia for an advertising campaign demanding pork barrelling.
40	I am a West Australian Pharmacist and believe the GST unfairly advantages WA and needs reform. The Commonwealth Grants Commission distributes GST and was established to ensure that each state was able to provide services to its people at comparable levels. This is no longer happening. The GST Distribution Reforms of 2018 have resulted in the wealthy WA government earning significant royalty flows as well as a very large GST share. It has robust finances compared to other states and so is able to provide better services. Compare this to Tasmania where health and education services are under severe strain and the state is heavily in debt and has limited revenue sources. Its health and education outcomes lag well behind the rest of the nation. I do not know what reforms to the current system would work best but I know reform is needed if we are to adhere to the basic premise of the Grants Commission – adequate funding to the poorer states to bring them to the standard of the wealthy states. WA used to be a recipient of increased funding for many years. It is now time for WA to contribute more.
41	Australia know for Fair go. Then why eastern states given more GST share than W.A. W.A is rapidly growing, need more funds for infrastructure.
42	How dare the state government of WA take our tax dollars and waste it on a political advertising campaign demanding a “fair share” it’s outrageous, disgusting and an abuse of tax payer dollars. This exemplifies why WA has too much money and too great a share of tax dollars. For them to setup an entire department of “fairness fighters” only further demonstrates their disdain for Australia and the corrupt nature of the state. I am disgusted at the waste. How corrupt a political stunt this is and a waste of money that should be going to the people of Australia for an advertising campaign demanding pork barrelling.
43	East Coast Bias is real and the nation is held up by WA earnings. We just want a fair share.
44	Give us the fair go we deserve!
45	I would like the GST to stays within WA
46	Just because other states spend big and can’t pay off their debt doesn’t mean WA should take a hit. They need to handle their finances better!! We pay our share just as much as the rest of Australia if not more, why should we miss our because of their mismanagement!
47	One of the criteria used to assess a states ability to raise revenue is property values. From the Grants Commission web site: "Property prices affect the ability to raise revenue from conveyancing and land taxes. States with relatively higher property prices have a greater capacity to raise revenue from these taxes." In my view, this is incorrect. The ability to raise revenue ultimately depends on the ability of the tax payer to pay the tax. For example, a first home buyer in Sydney may be paying a lot for the property. But it does not follow that they have a greater capacity to pay property related taxes (in absolute dollars) then a person in a state with lower property values. Also, a state with lower property values could potentially raise equivalent revenue through a higher percentage rate applied to the lower property value. Indeed, people may have a greater capacity to pay a certain amount in taxes if the value of the property they are buying is lower.

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48	Will this review consider whether gambling taxes should be included when assessing the fairness of any GST splits between states? To me that is critical as without it a warped picture is presented.