Brief comments received

No.	Comment
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/uij_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 requring 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 just75% 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 signficant finacial support we need to keep building infrustructure 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 ecomony and people will not stay in this state due to lack of proper infructure 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.
49	We, the people of Western Australia, pay a large amount of money to the Australian Federal Government, in the form of the Goods and Services Tax (GST). We, the people of Western Australia, deserve to receive a fair share of the GST, from the Australian Federal Government, in return.
50	Don't change the GST and take from WA! We need to keep our fair share
51	The arrangements for WA made by Scott Morrison have seen a disastrous attack on the fairness of the system for all Australians and makes a mockery of the horizontal fiscal equalisation principle. We need simplicity, certainty and transparency with these arrangements. An equal per capita measure with direct top up grants to those jurisdictions who need it is a better model. An Equal per capita model has merit as it will provide this while still redistributing some funding from relatively higher performing states to others.
52	Need versus want we don't need a bigger share of GST we get enough $. through mining one day that will dry up and then we will need more GST $
53	The 2018 GST reforms have provided Western Australia with greater certainty and a fairer share of GST revenue. It is important that the current arrangements, including WA's GST floor, are maintained and not unwound through this review. Any future reforms should provide certainty and stability for all jurisdictions while ensuring Western Australia is not disadvantaged by a return to the previous distribution arrangements.
54	Whilst I've only had time to read your media release and some other brief commentary I can't say I'm surprised at this attack on Western Australians and businesses here, we've been punished by this system before whilst other States have been able to sail through with hardly a care in the world. The system was flawed as soon as it was created, well before 2018 changes. How any Australian could possibly believe it's fair that WA only gets circa 30c in the dollar of GST collected whilst others wasteful spending on failed Commonwealth Games bids, unnecessary Olympic Games, massive union construction rorts, failed /cancelled infrastructure projects or the fact pokie/gaming revenues are excluded from calculations all doesn't impact considerations, is bemusing. It's well past time for those States to take a long hard look in the mirror and to be more responsible.
55	I'm a public servant working in social housing delivery. A reduction in GST allocation would almost definitely lead to a quick and ongoing reduction in funding to my Department and subsequently a reduction to social housing delivery in Western Australia. It's not all racetracks and Italian soccer tournaments over here
56	As a Western Australian resident, I strongly urge the Commission to recommend retaining the 75% GST floor. Before 2018, WA's GST return plummeted to under 30 cents per dollar, unfairly penalizing our state while we funded critical infrastructure to drive Australia's export economy and federal corporate tax revenue. The 75% floor provides vital fiscal certainty for WA to maintain healthcare, education, and roads amid global commodity price swings. Reverting to the pre-2018 system would undermine economic fairness and harm WA families. Please keep the 75% GST floor to ensure a stable and fair arrangement for all Australians.
57	Leave our GST as it is we are a big state who mines our minerals not just leave them in the ground
58	Keep what WA deserve to maintain and improve our health, education and infrastucture for future generation.

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59	Why isn't pokies revenue included in the states' revenues upon which the determination is made on GST distribution?
60	No 75 percent guarantee/no vote for Labour
61	Firstly I would insist that Mr Albanese sticks to his word and maintains the 75 cents minimum for WA. Saying that WA will get its "Fair Share" is not a guarantee, especially given his backtracking on other promises. Secondly when are the gambling taxes paid to other state governments, especially NSW and Victoria (around $3 billion) going to be acknowledged in the GST calculations. Thirdly why are other states, especially Victoria, not penalised for shutting down or not developing their own resources. WA has to provide extensive road, port, power and other infrastructure over a massive distance/area to allow for the resources development that provides so much productivity and generates income for the rest of Australia.
62	I am a Western Australian, and while I do not necessarily support the current GST arrangements, especially in terms of their effect on the federal budget, I do think that the Productivity Commission should consider the following issues before making recommendations to change the GST distribution formula: 1. Other states' access to income from poker machines which are heavily restricted in WA. 2. Other states wasting funds on political projects like the stadium in Hobart when that state claims to need a higher proportion of the GST for basic infrastructure like hospitals and education; the Brisbane Olympic Games stadium, rowing and whitewater facilities when existing facilities would have been adequate; Victorian and Queensland major construction corruption; Sydney Powerhouse museum and ANZ stadium rebuild; etc. etc. 3. Why is just the GST involved in your deliberations, when the income tax and corporation tax arrangements involve much greater sums and should also be used to subsidise those states which do not have the opportunity to generate wealth through natural advantages? 4. Why are you not looking at reducing or eliminating the diesel fuel rebate for mining companies, and asking why they are not electrifying their transport? 5. Why are you not looking at a tax on gas companies exporting their product to other countries which then onsell it? 6. Why are you not looking at an increase in the GST. If a majority of states think the current system is unfair, then surely they would support an increase in the rate to something approximating what is normal in other parts of the world?
63	Unwinding 2018 gst reforms will just circle back to reform gst share again once it fails WA needs. A more realistic approach is needed with each states costs spends and assessments carefully reviewed. Poor spend management should also be penalised and retracted from allowable gst share in all states and territories. Clear definitions required.
64	I believe WA should receive 75% of the Goods and Services Tax. To have their fair share of it.
65	We don’t need more - we just want more!I
66	HFE should benchmark each state against the highest sustainable and comparable revenue effort achieved by any state, applied to the states own realistic tax and resource base. It should not compensate a state for revenue foregone through policy, regulatory or administrative decisions. Gst should only be distributed to a maximum of 150% and minimum 75% of state by state contributions. All surpluses should be directed to defence and domestic skills and capability building, and an Australia Day party fund.
67	Fairly Simple really GST Distribution ALL STATES TO RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF 75c IN THE DOLLAR(including WA) Excess to go to the "needy" states/territories

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68	Keep providing WA's existing share of the GST. WA needs it to fund upcoming industrial growth. WA is the economic powerhouse of the nation.
69	The cost of delivering equitable services across Western Australia is more challenging than the remainder of the country. Majority of firefighters and paramedics are volunteer driven because it is impossible to maintain a salaried workforce due to the number and variance of population distribution across the state, yet we all come together to work for almost half of the geographical portion of our nation. Let us keep the resources to maintain this place and make it better, our geography is already against us but it also feeds this resource driven nation. We should not be punished for the incompetence of other states in developing industries or having strategic long term goals.
70	WA citizens are working hard and accept a lot of personal constrains keeping the mining operations going. It seems just fair to distribute a major part of the GST income for local development.
71	Leave WA with our fair share of GST!!! We are not a cash cow for the eastern states.
72	Keep WA's GST in WA.
73	Western Australians have been fighting for our fair share of the GST for longer than I've been alive — leave our shares alone!
74	WA needs to either remain at the same rate or increase. Population increases, net 0, live export stop, usa taffies etc we need a fair go
75	Please keep WA's GST share at the current level. We are using ng you t for vital infrastructure projects that will boost our economy and make us more climate change resistant for the next century.
76	I oppose these changes which will unfairly impact WA.
77	You should include the income all states receive from poker machines in your calculations. Poker machines are banned in WA. WA only receives a small amount of poker machine revenue from our casino, the only place permitted to use poker machines, but the other states generate huge amounts of poker machine revenue.
78	We live in Tasmania - stuck with a Liberal government. Is this why Mr Albanese won't play fair with us? We always voted Labour in the past; but our Labour representatives are Liberal clones on most of the issues we are facing here. It looks like Independents and The Greens are the only ones listening and seeing what is happening to Tassie.
79	I assume that because Tasmania has a Liberal government that Mr. Albanese has decided to 'punish' the people that voted them in. I am not one of them. The alternative State Labour in my opinion seems to be acting as a watered down Liberal party.
80	The current GST distribution model that favours WA is an abomination via the reduced funding to the remaining states and territories. The WA state government and citizens are very vocal on what it will cost them in the Federal Government rolled back the Morrison government's ridiculous distribution arrangements. Prime Minister Albanese is seriously misguided in not acknowledging the cost to the rest of the country and changing the distribution model. Why is he prioritising one state against the rest of the country?

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81	I grew up proud of how NSW Australians supported poorer states like WA. It was a huge proof of our egalitarianism. Learning that WA refused to return the favour when the economic situation reversed was a dismaying gut hit.
82	The population of Western Australia is roughly equivalent to the population of Western Sydney. The state of WA would therefore contribute bugger all in terms of GST revenue by comparison to the eastern states. WA rapes its landscape on a grand scale to generate itself mining royalties which it does not share with the rest of the states in the federation. It therefore follows that the share of GST revenue WA currently receives is over generous and a gross inequity. It must be scaled back.
83	Agree with the recommendations of the interim report. It is important to address the dominant state effect as this impacts delivering the best outcomes for all people of Australia. It is also imperative to address mining in the creation of the dominant state and revenue. The natural environment should be the main priority, along with the wellbeing of the nation, a good approach would be to look at the how Buthan has their GDP index based on holistic approach to measure the happiness and wellbeing of the Bhutanese population, rather than productivity.
84	I was disappointed to see the Productivity Commission recommending that WA not continue to receive a minumum share of its GST take. The GST equalisation system is broken. It is complicated, political, unfair and out of date in many of its criteria. The whole thing inevitably becomes political, arbitrary and subject to interpretation, like most high minded edicts. The Productivity Commission should be focused on simplifying and improving the GST equalisation system and ensuring that it is rewarding productive versus unproductive state behaviour. WA is a well-run and productive state with relatively high infrastructure and wage costs that go with such productivity. New South Wales (another relatively productive state) is screaming blue murder when its GST take falls below 95% and yet WA is told that it is an outrage that it isn't reduced to 20%. We can all see the double standards here. When the GST was first introduced and voters were asked to sanction it in a federal election, we were told that the states would keep their GST take. That was a promise and an understanding right from the beginning. I'm pretty sure that didn't mean some states would get to keep all of another state's GST take! The states actually own their resources and should encourage and assist the exploitation of their resources (in a responsible and environmentally appropriate way) for the benefit of the state and the nation. From an Australian Constitution and state's rights point of view requiring that resource royalties automatically belong to the poorest states is coming from the wrong position in the first place. The federal government is in a position to provide additional targetted funding to the poorer states to assist them and this already occurs in very large measure, no one is arguing against this. Automating a large fiscal transfer from a productive state to an unproductive state is simply encouraging and entrenching the unproductive states to stay that way. It fails to reward or incentivise the productivity settings or recognise the additional costs of the productive state. From a fairness and productivity point of view this doesn't make sense and it shows that the Productivity Commission has become politicised and engaged in a federal funding and state's rights debate rather than in a productivity debate.
85	I worked for 33 years for BHPIO both as a residential and FIFO mechanic. In my last FIFO job, 10 out of the 15 people on the shift were from the eastern states, flying back to Port Hedland with tales of money spent on home improvements, 4x4 modifications, realestate, holiday or big boy toy purchases. So, my point is, these workers from the east, fly in, spend not one dollar in WA as all the transport, meals and accomodation are supplied and then fly home and spend their dollars in the eastern states, creating GST credits for those states. I worked with one person from NSW who was that determined not to

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	spend anything that he would take fill an empty water bottle with locomotive degreaser and use it to wash his work clothes rather than purchase washing product from the accomodation facility shop. He got his clothes clean but it wasnt good for his skin when he sweated in the Pilbara heat.
86	It's is only fair that as Australians we all get our fair share of the GST. We are a growing state and with this comes a need to have the revenue to build the required infrastructure. Other states are responsible for working within their budgets instead of trying to reduce our share of the GST. Whether it be State, Business and home owners to be successful we all live with a budget. Thank you
87	I support retaining the current 2018 GST distribution reforms and ensuring Western Australia keeps a fairer share of the GST it generates. Western Australia makes a major contribution to Australia's economy through mining, exports, jobs and taxation. At the same time, WA faces significant costs in providing hospitals, schools, roads, power and other services across a vast area, including regional and remote communities. The previous system unfairly penalized WA for growing its economy and generating royalty revenue. Returning to that system could seriously reduce funding available for essential services and infrastructure in Western Australia. I support improvements that ensure other states can provide comparable public services, but these should not come at the expense of WA's ability to meet its own needs or continue contributing to the national economy. The GST system should recognize WA's geographic challenges, infrastructure responsibilities and contribution to Australia. Please retain the current GST arrangements and ensure Western Australia receives a fair and sustainable share of GST revenue.
88	In western Australia a great deal of the government's income is derived from mineral royalties. Other states do have mineral deposits but they value their environments more. That is fine but there is an economic cost to them. This is greatest in Tasmania and the NT. Economic realities are a brutal unavoidable way of distributing wealth. The tax cuts made by the Howard government could also be targeted to identify Australia's current deficit and to explain why some states are now short on cash.
89	WA isn't asking for extra GST. It's asking not to be punished for carrying the nation! Keep the 2018 deal: 1. Without it WA drops from 82¢ in the dollar to 24¢ — ~$6bn a year. No other state has ever been sent that low. 2. WA is 11% of the population, 17% of the economy and 45%+ of goods exports — yet gets 9% of GST (2.7% without the deal). 3. Even with the floor, WA still subsidises the rest of Australia by ~$2bn a year in GST. Since 2000: $50bn+. 4. Full equalisation clawed back ~89¢ of every extra iron-ore/lithium royalty dollar. That's a tax on success. 5. $6bn is WA's public schools — or the wages of its hospital staff. Cut that and you cut the ports, roads and energy that lift national exports. A strong WA funds Australia. Don't wreck the state!
90	What if you try to change the GST distribution and then WA decides to secede, then the eastern states will end up with no GST.
91	Since the Prime Minister has already announced that there will be no change to the GST System, why we are wasting public money to continue the charade? We used to understand that looking after each other means that not everyone gets the same thing. This is what Croc Dundee or Steve Irwin would want... but really we're just the seagulls from Finding Nemo.
92	The GST system should be fair, but fairness does not always mean giving every state exactly the same amount. We should also consider how much each state contributes to Australia's economy and recognise the hard work of Western Australians and their communities. I think the Productivity Commission should discuss and work towards a fairer share of GST for Western Australia.

No.	Comment
93	As a life long Sydney resident who has spent time travelling to other states in Australia I am able to compare the facilities and infra structure state to state. As the most populous state I believe we should retain a greater share of our GST to maintain and improve our facilities. The money is spent and collected in our state, so pour it back into our state so we can be proud to call Sydney our beautiful home city. Why should Sydney residents have to pay huge public transport fees, when Brisbane residents can travel on all public transport for 50cents a journey? Because their wonderful city facilities are being propped up by NSW. You just need to walk into any city's domestic and international airports to see that Sydney is way behind the eight ball. The facilities are low standard and quite frankly filthy. As the first port of call for most international travellers, it's a disgrace. GST spent here must stay here to lift our standard.
94	Blatantly unjust and irreverent of logic,criminal by nature
95	WA does not presently receive its full per person share of GST, and receives only 83% of its full share. The other 17% is given to less successful states to help prop them up. WA already makes the biggest contribution to the other states, of any Australian state. It is only fair to WA, and in the best interests of Australia, that a floor be put under the amount any state loses in GST, or there is no incentive for a state to successfully manage and expand its economy. WA, like every other state needs this floor, to give it the incentive to grow its own, and the national economy for the benefit of everyone.
96	Comment to the Productivity Commission consideration of GST distribution reforms. Thank you for considering this vexed topic. Having noted the arguments of your Interim Report as outlined in the Executive Summary, I would like to think that your final report will be adopted in view of the clarity and force of your case. However, reflecting on the reception which the Interim Report received, in particular from the Premier of WA and the Prime Minister, I expect it will suffer the fate which the great David Hume said greeted his seminal A Treatise of Human Nature – falling dead-born from the presses. Politically, that will not be surprising. It seems human nature finds it all but impossible to accept that one is unjustly favoured by some arrangement and should support a revision which more fairly and equitably distributes whatever benefit is in question. Thus a premier of WA who agreed that their state is unfairly advantaged by the current distribution would be unlikely to retain government as soon as the voters have the opportunity of expressing their view, while a prime minister would have to be very sure of retaining government despite losing seats in WA to believe it politically possible to back an analysis such as your interim report provides. It may be possible to make some headway by focusing not on the distribution for the existing states, but on how a possible future state should be treated. This would apply the method used with great distinction by John Rawls in his ovular 'A Theory of Justice', in which he envisaged citizens designing rules for the distribution of wealth in their future society from behind a veil of ignorance, which prevented them from knowing what position they would occupy in the future – rich or poor, young or old, strong or weak and so on. Suppose the existence of Capricornia, a new state comprising all that part of Australia north of the Tropic, with its capital in Darwin. Capricornia would include most of Australia's currently most valuable mineral and fossil fuel deposits, but with a population sparsely distributed over a great area making services costly to deliver, and having to meet the great needs of the remote communities, including the large indigenous population. A GST carve up which was agreed to be fair to Capricornia, and also to what would remain of WA and QLD after they lose much of their resource income, might just be a model the premiers sitting in Perth and Brisbane and all the others could agree on and confidently put to the voters that would remain in their states, giving the Prime Minster confidence to offer his support.
97	I support the current GST model and oppose any changes to the 2018 GST reforms..
98	If you doubt the need for funding in our state..you have only to take time to visit! Especially in regional communities. Hospitals, roads, housing is ridiculous and has been short for so long! Homelessness is not acceptable in Australia due to lack of availability. Why is there such a lack of railway

No.	Comment
	transport&passenger use in WA? Because its not connected with circular systems if any! Most countries invest and protect primary industries sadly Australia doesnt seem to value that. Connected infrastructure is important if you want engagement and productivity out of your working population. Whats the plan to house and staff aged care im W.A? Difficult to employ people or get skilled migration without affordable accommodation all over the state both metro and suburban. Frankly all Aussies are tired of the pantomime our politicians have been engaged in! Wake up and earn your ridiculously large salaries and remember that to be a public servant should be a badge of honour and a position where you feel pride and responsibility to serve your country! We were one but many now we are led by many who aren't one but think only of themselves. Australians have always been a nation that when it got tough we got together aa one for all. Lead us with that and the thought of you are what you leave behind.
99	Your comment I strongly support retaining the 2018 GST reforms, but my concern goes beyond protecting existing services. I believe Western Australia is at an important point in its development. We have the opportunity to become not simply Australia's resources State, but one of Australia's great population, tourism, entertainment and investment centres. For too long, Western Australia has often been viewed primarily in terms of mining revenue and its contribution to the national economy. I believe we should be looking at what WA could become over the next several decades. Western Australia has extraordinary natural assets, an attractive climate, a growing capital city, world-class beaches, wine regions, unique regional destinations and one of the closest Australian gateways to major Asian markets. There is enormous potential to attract more tourists, major events, entertainment, resorts, attractions and private investment. That potential requires investment. It requires transport infrastructure, aviation capacity, roads, utilities, tourism infrastructure, major events, new attractions, accommodation and vibrant precincts that give interstate and international visitors more reasons to come to WA, stay longer and return. WA is already pursuing this ambition. The Western Australia Visitor Economy Strategy has set a target of growing annual visitor expenditure to $25 billion by 2033. I believe GST policy should support, rather than constrain, this kind of economic development. I understand and support the principle of horizontal fiscal equalisation. Western Australia should contribute to ensuring Australians have access to essential services regardless of where they live. But equalisation should have reasonable limits. Under the current reforms WA still receives less than its population share of GST. The WA Government estimates that unwinding the reforms would reduce WA's share from approximately 83 per cent of its population share to around 24 per cent, costing the State up to $6 billion each year. My concern is what that represents in opportunity cost. Every billion dollars that cannot be invested in productive infrastructure, tourism development, transport, regional access, housing-enabling infrastructure and economic diversification is also investment that could have generated new businesses, employment, visitor expenditure and taxation revenue for Australia as a whole. Western Australia's success should not be viewed as a problem that needs to be corrected. A stronger and more diversified Western Australian economy benefits the federation. If WA can use today's resources prosperity to build tomorrow's tourism, entertainment, technology, advanced manufacturing and service industries, Australia ultimately gains another major engine of economic activity. The Productivity Commission has acknowledged that dominant-state effects associated with mining are a genuine issue. I believe that is an important consideration when assessing whether returning to the pre-2018 arrangements would produce a genuinely better outcome. WA should continue contributing substantially to national equalisation. But it should also retain sufficient fiscal capacity to invest in its own growth. My hope is that in twenty years Western Australia is no longer regarded primarily as a distant mining State, but as one of Australia's great destinations to live, invest, visit and do business. GST reform should help make that possible, not make it harder. I therefore support retaining the 2018 GST reforms and the protections they provide Western Australia.

No.	Comment
100	Going it alone might not be so disastrous as naysayers might suggest. A practical economic concordance existed with Singapore, Malaysia and India, former colonies of the British Empire which traded directly with Western Australia before Federation. A Western Australian customs house remains at Cossack in the state's north-west as evidence of direct trade into the region. Defence?? W.A. is already the sacrificial asset as the Townsville line of WW2 historically demonstrated. If it comes to warfare, the state is already a goner regardless of remaining federated or not. The reality is that if ever a Western Austraian parliament enacted a unilateral instrument of secession, there would be a Federal military intervention. This might occur on the pretext of Commonwealth military and civilian assets needing to be secured. If there was a near hung state parliament, the Federal government might decide to send the ADF in to intervene if the minority state party declared itself to be a minority government then requested Federal assistance. Otherwise the 600lb gorilla of the Governor-General's non-codified doctrine of necessity might be enlivened and the ADF ordered in. The enlivenment might be indirect by the Western Australian governor being ordered or persuaded to prorogue the Western Australian parliament to put a stop to secession. As nice a notion secession might seem to be, it will be prevented by force if deemed necessary. Things would become interesting if Western Australia sought to become the United States of America's 51st state of the union. A US expeditionary force of sufficient size to enforce it already exists within Australia. However to most Western Australians, living and loving under a flag of 51 stars would be totally unacceptable. I would not be entirely surprised if China or the United States formented future secessionist zeal within Western Australia.
101	I believe that the 2018 GST distribution should remain unchanged and WA deserves it’s portion to build better state for its citizens.
102	Why doesn’t distribution model also look at states income eg gambling . WA choice not to have pokies other states take in gambling billions. Other states don’t want to mine. Their choice . Why penalise WA for their choice ?
103	The cost of government across large land surface area is higher than the cost across smaller land surface area. Counting people and assigning money is thus unfair, un-Australian.
104	Living cost in WA is hard. We need more public transport and increase tax bracket
105	Protect WA’s fair share of GST.
106	It’s a future fund, essentially. We hold up the whole country now, we really do. We save the money and keep us going in the future
107	As a Western Australian resident, I strongly oppose reversing the 2018 GST reforms and removing WA’s 75-cent floor. The existing floor provides greater certainty for our state’s finances. Removing it could put pressure on funding for essential services and infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, roads and housing. I urge the Productivity Commission to retain the 2018 reforms and protect WA’s 75-cent floor.
108	Western Australia deserves a fairer share of GST revenue. WA contributes enormously to the Australian economy through its resources, exports, businesses and workers, yet Western Australians should not be disadvantaged by a GST distribution system that does not adequately recognise this contribution. The GST distribution system should be fair, transparent and sustainable. States should not be rewarded in a way that unfairly penalises states such as WA for having a strong economy and generating significant national wealth. I strongly support reforms that ensure Western Australians receive a fair return from the GST they help generate and that WA’s contribution to Australia’s economic prosperity is properly recognised.

No.	Comment
109	Not many people lots of stretched infrastructure. You do the maths
110	Please redistribute the GST based on need, not on where a resource was millions of years before settlement. Equal distribution of GST now!!!
111	Hello, I disagree with the GST WA productivity commission report recommendations. It's completely unfair to treat States differently in terms of fair share of GST irrespective of how well other State income streams are doing and particularly so for such gross level of GST disparity that has occurred in the past and may do so in future if changes occur. Other States need to stand on their own two feet to raise revenue and be more sustainable. The State of WA should not be penalised in such a manner, it is a vast State 1/3 size of Australia with large and remote areas needing infrastructure and development. This is not how other States and Federal Government should treat the economic engine room of Australia.
112	Keep your hands off WAs share of the GST it produces
113	The GST allocation numbers are going to remain a source of contention until we are allocating based on recent information and all the information. We should be looking at total state government revenue of the previous to do the balancing. A lowest return balance may also be in order at a lower threshold than currently.
114	To the productivity commission i ask that WA remains to have the same share of GST distribution in turn that reflects the considerable outlay our mines and resources sector provide for the Australian economy as a whole.
115	For Australia to be successful I believe all States should compete on an equal playing field and that is 100% GST staying in the State that produces this GST, this is Productivity and does not create welfare States! To have Idle States and Territory`s is a recipe for disaster!!
116	WA is the biggest state, we still receive the lowest GST per capita. For years we have received below our fair share and it shows in our congested roads and failing health and education systems. Our infrastructure needs to catch up to what was provided to the east coast historically. Why should all of our hard earned money go to improve their economy to our detriment. Mining royalties aren't guaranteed forever.
117	We need a fiat GST split. An equitable formula that doesn't give special treatment - good or bad - to any state. The 2018 deal should be reversed.
118	It's our hole in our state typical of eastern states, dont care about W.A. till it benefits them.