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PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

24 APRIL 1977

TELEGRAM TO MR. HAMER

The Prime Minister sent the following message to the Victorian State Premier, Mr. Hamer, this afternoon.

My dear Premier,

I am concerned that every effort should be made to find a quick solution to the present petrol crisis which is so severely disrupting industry and the community generally in your State, and is having a direct impact on interstate trade and commerce. It is an intolerable situation that 230 men should be able to hold the State to ransom in the way that they have, and cause so much damage.

I appreciate that your government has available to it the powers to deal with this situation, and I was pleased to hear that you are considering the legalities of action which you might take. The Commonwealth Government, however, stands ready to assist you in your efforts in any way that you consider helpful. Commonwealth officials are available to discuss the matter with your officials.

You may be assured that the action that you do take will have the full support of the Commonwealth.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Fraser.
