LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

UNIONS SPEND MEMBERS CASH TO FUND BLAIN POLITICAL CAMPAIGN

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Leader of Government Business John Elferink has expressed his irritation at the Australian Education Union (AEU) NT President Matthew Cranitch for using Union member’s funds to finance his own political campaign.

“Mr Cranitch has admitted that the AEU NT will financially back his campaign for the by-election in the Electorate of Blain,” Mr Elferink said.

“Union members have been speaking out and expressing their dissatisfaction with Mr Cranitch’s move saying they were never consulted over the spending of their Union dues.

“AEU NT members’ hard earned cash is being taken away from delivering any real outcome for the future of education in the Northern Territory and is instead being used to promote the ‘Cranitch Show’.

Mr Cranitch spoke on ABC Radio this morning about his use of Union funds saying:

“Ultimately all Unions make donations, many make donations to the Labor Party in election campaigns.

“I’ll be supported by my members and by the Union generally in this campaign.

“So I don’t reside from the fact that the Union’s money will be spent on our campaign.”

Mr Elferink said Mr Cranitch clearly does not respect his members who contribute every fortnight to the Union’s coffers.

Mr Cranitch should be ashamed of spending Union member’s funds for his own self-promotion.

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