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# Land tax is out of step

A SYDNEY man whose land tax bill increased tenfold in four years is further proof the tax needs fixing, the Opposition said yesterday.

Mark Noble lives at Menai in Sydney's southwest but also owns an 85-year-old fisherman's cottage at Wagstaff, on the Central Coast.

In 2003, his land tax bill for the second property was \$287, but this year the bill had increased almost tenfold — to \$2735.

Opposition Leader Peter Debnam said it was beyond belief that people were being hit with rising land tax while the property market was falling.

"We want to say to the Labor Government that you've got another opportunity in the Budget, you've got to relieve the pressure on small business and families across NSW when it comes to land tax," he said.

Premier Morris Iemma said the Government was undertaking a review of land tax but did not want to pre-empt its outcomes.