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# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS (PROOF)

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**SESSIONNUMBER SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENTNUMBER  
PARLIAMENT**

**Monday, 8 April 2024**

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## MONDAY, 8 APRIL 2024

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The Legislative Assembly met at 9:30am.

Mr Speaker (Hon. Curtis Pitt, Mulgrave) read prayers and took the chair.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I respectfully acknowledge that we are sitting today on the land of Aboriginal people and pay my respects to elders past and present. I thank them, as First Australians, for their careful custodianship of the land over countless generations. We are very fortunate in this country to have two of the world's oldest continuing living cultures in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples whose lands, winds and waters we all now share.

### QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

What we are facing now is the very real possibility that the LNP could actually get to government and the Leader of the Opposition could be the Premier, so we have to look really seriously at what they might do in education. We know that for them when it comes to balancing the budget schools are in the firing line. When they were in government they actually closed six schools - Fortitude Valley State School, Old Yarranlea State School, Toowoomba South State School, Charlton State School, [Stuart State School, [Nyanda State High School - and they had a hit list of another 50 schools that they were going to cut. We have no word from the opposition leader now on what he is going to do to fix the budget black hole that he is going to create.

We know he is going to support the big shiny new \$3.5 billion stadium. We know he does not support progressive coal royalties, so what is he going to cut? Do you know what the risk is? Schools are just a line item on the budget. You can see them going through the list. Will we cut widget? Yes. Will we cut chairs? Yes. Will we cut trucks? Yes. Will we cut schools across Queensland? Yes. Because they simply do not care. What is he going to say to his schools in Everton? What he is going to say in [Currumbin? What is he going to say in Lockyer?

**Mr SPEAKER:** The member for Everton is warned under the standing orders.

**Ms FARMER:** What is he going to say to the schools in Logan and Mackay? We need him to come clean and say whether he is committed to our kids' futures.

(MR SPEAKER)

#### SPEAKER'S STATEMENT – MATTER OF PRIVILEGE – INSUFFICIENT PARTICULARS

MR SPEAKER: Honourable members,

On 11 March 2024 the member for Kawana wrote to me alleging a contempt of Parliament by the Premier for a statement made on 6 March 2024.

The member for Kawana's letter to me made no attempt to apply the evidence to each element to be proved.

Speakers have long set out the general requirements of seeking a referral of a matter of privilege and the onus on members making a complaint of privilege to provide the Speaker with evidence and analysis of all elements of any allegation of contempt – See Speaker Reynolds 11/10/2007 PD p3430; 8/6/2007 PD pp2089; Speaker Mickel 20/08/2009 PD p1798; Speaker Wellington 28/02/2017 pp 254-5; 22/03/2017 p 710; Speaker Simpson 19/11/2013 PD p3866-8; Speaker Pitt 04/04/2019 pp 1105-06.

Furthermore the member took personal offence at the time and the matter was dealt with at the time.

I am not referring the matter to the Ethics Committee. I am not tabling the correspondence in this matter as it contains unparliamentary language.

### Olympic and Paralympic Games

**Mr BLEIJIE:** My question is to the [Minister for State Development and Infrastructure. The Premier has said the government did not receive any formal legal advice to cancel the games. Did the government receive any non-formal advice to cancel the games?

**Ms GRACE:** Formal. Nonformal. [Whingeing. Whining. Yes. No. You bet. You bet not. Yes, we will. No, we won't. No, we cant. Now I run. Now I walk.

It is embarrassing what you hear from those opposite, and the answer to the question is no.

We came out with a position. We have come out with a strong position to deliver the best games in 2032, and we did it under the new norm. We have done it under the funding envelope which is fifty-fifty from the federal government and the state government. We have also done it with the IOC which we need to liaise with. We also need to talk further with the Commonwealth government in relation to the fantastic arena that we will be building on the new site in Roma Street. We will be upgrading [Suncorp Stadium. We will be upgrading [QSAC, and what a legacy - a legacy that was not left after Rio, London and Tokyo. It will be left here in Queensland.

We hear those athletes say for once a track is not going to be ripped up out of a stadium after the games. It will remain as a legacy for all of those 782,000-plus visits that go to that site. [Suncorp Stadium will be a shiny stadium that Queenslanders love and enjoy. The [Gabba will get the work that it requires as well, as an iconic venue for cricket and AFL in this state.

That is what this side of the House will do. We will also deliver the minor venues - with 50 per cent of them outside of Brisbane. We will deliver them and we getting on with the job.

They keep *talking* about an *independent* delivery authority, and we have said time and time again there will be a bill before this House very soon and we will have it in place by mid this year. That is what we stand for on this side of the House. We are not going to play cheap, [wishy-washy politics with an important event. We want to make sure we get it right. When it comes to delivering on those venues, I say to the Leader of the Opposition that we are going to deliver an Olympic and Paralympic Games that we will be proud of. The venues for the Paralympics we will be doing it in line with the budget, with the IOC, with the federal government. You bet.

Regional Queensland, Mine Rehabilitation 2\ ???

My question is of the Premier. Can the Premier advise how his government is supporting regional communities and the environment this is not in mine clean-up obligations, and is he aware of any alternative measures?

I thank the member for Maryborough for his question. It also gives me a chance to address the interest that the member for Traeger had. There are a lot of things that we disagree with the Katter party on, but one of them we agree on is that [Glencore should absolutely do the right thing by the [workforce in Mount Isa. We are 100 per cent behind those workers and the town of Mount Isa. We share the disappointment of the member for Traeger in their decision to close the copper mine. Our primary concern is for the 1,200 workers who could be affected by that decision in 2025, as well as the impact it could have on the town and the wider region.

While we cannot force [Glencore to keep the mine open, we can invest in those workers and in other opportunities in the region. We know that copper is just one of many critical minerals there in the [North West Minerals Province, and we want to see those resources turned into jobs and investment for Queenslanders, and that is what we will support. We have \$30 million on the table to support that. We have a detailed plan to see critical minerals extracted and processed here. We have the [CopperString project, which is all about connecting Townsville to those renewable resources to the critical minerals in the north-west, and we will continue to invest in those.

With regards to the member for Tregear's interest in the environmental obligations of [Glencore in Mount Isa, I can assure him that we have some of the toughest environmental laws in the world and we will ensure that every single obligation is met. If he sees any evidence that they are not meeting them, then the environment minister and the resources minister will get their agencies immediately to take action.

With regards to [Glencore is a privilege to rise tonight to speak to two vitally important things for my community. The first is the Warrego Highway. I know that infrastructure is important for South-East Queensland to the north and south, but it is equally important to the west. Out to the west, the Warrego Highway is one of the major freight routes that is broken and cut every time it floods. To stop crashes occurring and to stop the flooding, let's see this piece of infrastructure built. I call on the minister to fund it in QTRIP in the next financial year. It will stop the flooding and stop the crashes.

When you go out west along the Warrego Highway and you look to the right and left, you see our

beautiful produce. That is something to 'give a fork' about. Our farmers are really struggling in the

Lockyer; in fact, farmers right across Queensland are really struggling. Growers' input costs have risen

between 30 per cent and 65 per cent over the last three years. Nationally they have increased by 37 per

cent. That is so much. Those input costs, whether they be fertiliser, electricity, diesel or all of the other

costs they are incurring, are just enormous. When you factor in that their production has reduced by a

third, they are spending more to produce less. That again is something to 'give a fork' about.

I pay tribute to the Queensland Fruit and Vegetable Growers and in particular Rachel Chambers,

who has done a wonderful job with her committee to run this beautiful and smart campaign. I have

sought the advice and support of the Speaker to show members a very innovative way to 'give a fork'

that you will see in all of our shops—thank you, Mr Speaker. I urge everyone to tell their kids when they

go to the shops to look for the Australian grown and Queensland grown produce, because if they buy

Queensland grown, if they buy Australian grown, then our farmers will be secure and our families will

be secure.

Every time people avoid buying Queensland grown or Australian grown produce, the threat of

fewer kids going to school in our smaller communities increases. It means fewer people will be working

in the shops in our smaller communities. It is a slide we do not want to see happen. Please, give a fork!

Listen to what the growers are saying and go and buy great Queensland fruit and vegies. Queensland

provides fruit for a third of the Australian market—that is incredible—but we are also the second highest

state in vegetable production. The Lockyer Valley is the food bowl of South-East Queensland. We

provide food to the nation, we provide food to the world, and we want to continue to do that. We need

to ensure our national sovereignty, so please ‘give a fork’ and buy Queensland and Australian grown

produce. proposal to capture carbon emissions in the [Great Artesian Basin, they have applied for an approval to do that - as is their right - and it will go through the appropriate processes, which are very rigorous processes, but of course we are concerned about the potential impact of that project on the water in the basin. It is an incredibly valuable resource for our state and any possible impact on that or our farmers must be avoided. I am very concerned about that project.

Member for Warrego, you are warned under the standing orders. You need to heed my cautions. The period for question time has expired.

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Further Answer to Question, Logan Hospital**

#### Further Answer to Question, Logan Hospital 2\

In relation to questions today asked by the opposition relating to [Logan Hospital, I can confirm and am advised that this internal entry was part of a normal ongoing process of measuring and mitigating potential risk at Queensland hospitals. It is a standard process to ensure our hospitals are as safe as possible. For the benefit of the House, I think it is important to clarify a few points.

This risk entry was first identified not in 2022, but in early 2016. Once again the Leader of the Opposition and the LNP are being slippery with the truth. The entry was first entered in March 2016 - not too long after the brutal sackings of [frontline staff from the LNP **Newman** government, including 299 nurses who lost their job at Logan Hospital. The LNP today are now referencing updates to this internal risk entry from early 2022 - at the height of Queensland battling the [COVID-19 pandemic and floods across Logan. This is the smoking gun that the LNP are spinning to Queenslanders - that our hospitals were under pressure at the time of the pandemic.

**Mr BAILEY:**

Qpma

Qpma

I can also confirm that since 2022 the risk has been downgraded. This is because of the hard work of our clinicians and the investments made by the Labor government. I am going to say that again - it is because of the hard work of our clinicians and the investment of this Labor government to address issues identified in this entry. Yes, there are pressures on our hospital system, including Logan Hospital. As I have said time and time again, we have record presentations to our emergency departments.

**Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women) (11:07):

**Ms Leahy interjected.**

### **Incorporation:Motions:dath**

The Honourable C.W. Pitt MP

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE QLD 4000

I hereby acquaint the Legislative Assembly that the following Bills, having been passed by the Legislative Assembly and having been presented for the Royal Assent, were assented to in the name of His Majesty The King on the date shown:

Date of Assent: 28 March 2024

A bill for an Act to establish the Director of Forensic Science Queensland and for related purposes, and to amend this Act, the Evidence Act 1977, the Medicines and Poisons Act 2019 and the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to regulate ownership, control and operation of pharmacy businesses, and for other purposes, and to repeal the Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2001, and to amend this Act, the Public Sector Act 2022 and the Termination of Pregnancy Act 2018 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Casino Control Act 1982, the Casino Control Regulation 1999, the Gaming Machine Act 1991, the Gaming Machine Regulation 2002, the Keno Act 1996 and the Wagering Act 1998 for particular purposes

A bill for an Act to amend the Safety in Recreational Water Activities Act 2011, the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes

These Bills are hereby transmitted to the Legislative Assembly, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Yours sincerely

Governor

28 March 2024

Two of the biggest contributing factors to these pressures, as noted by staff, is the [skyrocketing demand and the lack of access to primary care.

Since this internal entry in the Logan Hospital system in early 2022, we have put on additional nurses in waiting rooms to provide more care for incoming presentations; we have put on ED flow commanders and a medical commander role, an idea that came straight from our [hardworking doctors and nurses; and we are bringing online hundreds more hospital beds. Our \$1 billion expansion of Logan Hospital is bringing online 318 new beds at the Logan Hospital. We have also refurbished the maternity service with state-of-the-art maternity suites. We are delivering new operating theatres, new endoscopy suites, a new cardiac catheter lab and a new pharmacy. Since 2022, Metro South has hired over 920 additional frontline doctors, nurses,

midwives and allied health professionals. That is what investing in our health system looks like.

Once again, the LNP, and in particular the Leader of the Opposition, have proven themselves to be slippery with the truth and short on detail. This is entirely misleading, Mr Speaker, and I will be writing to you about this matter. Honourable members, since 1860, Speakers have made rulings from the chair which form precedence to be followed into the future. These rulings are often interpretations of the standing orders or sessional orders, but on occasions rulings may deal with novel situations or matters not covered by any source of procedure.

A member may dissent from a ruling of the Speaker. Not every Westminster style parliament allows dissent from a Speaker's ruling. The rationale for dissent is to enable a member who feels aggrieved by a procedural decision an avenue of appeal to a higher authority - the Assembly itself. A dissent motion is in effect an appeal to the Assembly about the decision of the Speaker on a matter of procedure. By way of guidance for members, debate on a motion must be relevant to the decision of the

**Mr SPEAKER:** I call the Minister for State Development.

#### **PAPERS TABLED DURING THE RECESS (SO 31)**

The Clerk informed the House that the following papers, received during the recess, were tabled on the dates indicated—

8 March 2024—

- [335](#) Clean Economy Jobs, Resources and Transport Committee: Report No. 2, 57th Parliament—Land and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2023
- [336](#) Cost of Living and Economics Committee: Report No. 1, 57th Parliament—Pharmacy Business Ownership Bill 2023
- [337](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the former Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Local Government, Infrastructure and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure and Member for Murrumba
- [338](#) Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee: Report No. 2, 57th Parliament—Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023
- [339](#) Letter, dated 7 March 2024, from the Manager of Opposition Business and member for Glass House, Mr Andrew Powell MP, to the Leader of the House and Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs, Hon. Mick de Brenni, regarding nomination of non-government members to the Supermarket Pricing Select Committee
- [340](#) Department of Environment, Science and Innovation: Report titled 'Statutory review of the Reef protection regulations', February 2024

11 March 2024—

- [341](#) Letter, dated 8 March 2024, from the Minister for Police and Community Safety, Hon. Mark Ryan, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, regarding an amended response to Question on Notice No. 1306 of 2023

14 March 2024—

- [342](#) Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [343](#) Magistrates Court of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [344](#) Director of Child Protection Litigation—Annual Report 2022-23
- [345](#) Supreme Court of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23

- [346](#) Queensland Family & Child Commission—Annual Report 2022-23: Deaths of children and young people Queensland
- [347](#) Child Death Review Board—Annual Report 2022-23
- [348](#) Office of the Public Guardian—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [349](#) Public Interest Monitor—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [350](#) District Court of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [351](#) Response from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner), to an ePetition (3999-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 347 petitioners, requesting the House to amend the Agriculture and Fisheries and Other Legislation Amendment Bill with provisions to establish an Animal Management Centre to develop an animal management code
- [352](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to an ePetition (4012-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 2,015 petitioners, requesting the House to publish COVID-19 death data at the same time the department provides this data to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, which is daily and weekly
- [353](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (4008-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 844 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure that the installation of artificial grass in schools and colleges ceases immediately
- [354](#) Response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Linard), to an ePetition (3957-23) sponsored by the member for Maiwar, Mr Berkman, from 2,242 petitioners, requesting the House to protect the health and safety of residents in the Ipswich region and undertake a range of measures in relation to environmental health and air pollution created by the waste industry
- [355](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (3915-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 11,435 petitioners, requesting the House to amend random roadside presumptive testing laws to exempt holders of medicinal cannabis prescriptions
- [356](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (3936-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 437 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure it is a legal requirement for all bus companies providing Translink routes to have a GPS unit fitted with the bus routes
- [357](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (3973-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 323 petitioners, requesting the House to gauge the support of residents of Moggill, Bellbowrie and nearby areas for the construction of a vehicle and pedestrian bridge between Bellbowrie and Riverhills
- [358](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (3979-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,029 petitioners, requesting the House to rename the Cross River Rail Albert Street station to Meanjin station
- [359](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4030-24) presented by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(3), and an ePetition (3990-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 202 and 354 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to alter bus route 723 to provide residents of the two retirement villages serviced by the bus route access to the Helensvale Plaza and the Helensvale Library
- [360](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4002-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,205 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure that the installation of artificial grass on all public and government land ceases immediately
- [361](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4029-24) presented by the member for Glass House, Mr Powell, and an ePetition (4004-23) sponsored by the member for Glass House, Mr Powell, from 6,235 and

4,566 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to terminate the proposed Bruce Highway Western Alternative Stage 4 Transport Corridor and restart the process with an alternative route that is better suited to long term growth and promotes a true alternative for transportation between Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast

- [362](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to an ePetition (4007-23) sponsored by the member for Mirani, Mr Andrew, from 2,846 petitioners, requesting the House to refund all fines and reinstate points issued by camera units positioned in contravention of 6.3.2 of the Police Traffic Manual and undertake a range of measures inquiring into the use of these units
- [363](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Mellish), to a paper petition (4028-24) presented by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(3), from 28 petitioners, requesting the House to investigate the existing noise barriers in the electorate of Thuringowa
- [364](#) Response from the Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts (Hon. Enoch), to an ePetition (4001-23) sponsored by the member for McConnel, Hon. Grace, from 6,391 petitioners, requesting the House to remain committed to the full implementation of the Path to Treaty Act 2023
- [365](#) Response from the Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts (Hon. Enoch), to an ePetition (3974-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 6,051 petitioners, requesting the House to cease all further progression of any action in relation to the Path to Treaty Act 2023
- [366](#) Response from the Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs (Hon. de Brenni), to an ePetition (4009-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 561 petitioners, requesting the House to include the carbon emissions from fossil fuels mined in Queensland and burnt elsewhere in the world when calculating the 75% reduction

15 March 2024—

- [367](#) Community Support and Services Committee: Report No. 40, 57th Parliament—Emergency Services Reform Amendment Bill 2023
- [368](#) Community Support and Services Committee: Report No. 41, 57th Parliament—State Emergency Service Bill 2023
- [369](#) Community Support and Services Committee: Report No. 42, 57th Parliament—Marine Rescue Queensland Bill 2023
- [370](#) Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works—Code of Conduct for Councillors in Queensland, Approved 22 February 2024 [Refer to subordinate legislation No. 14]
- [371](#) City of Brisbane Act 2010, Local Government Act 2009: Local Government Legislation (Councillor Conduct) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 14
- [372](#) City of Brisbane Act 2010, Local Government Act 2009: Local Government Legislation (Councillor Conduct) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 14, explanatory notes
- [373](#) City of Brisbane Act 2010, Local Government Act 2009: Local Government Legislation (Councillor Conduct) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 14, human rights certificate
- [374](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services and Member for Aspley
- [375](#) Response from the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Innovation (Hon. Linard), to a paper petition (4031-24) presented by the member for Hill, Mr Knuth, from 130 petitioners, requesting the House to provide a green waste facility in close proximity to Bramston Beach

18 March 2024—

- [376](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Youth Justice (Hon. Farmer), to an ePetition (3989-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,345 petitioners, requesting the House to require stricter requirements for screening of potential



employees in childcare centres and legislate to ensure day care centres install CCTV to cover black spots where offenders can hide with children

- [377](#) Response from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Linard), to an ePetition (4025-24) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 552 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure its commitment to phase out native hardwood logging within the South East Queensland Regional Plan area, under the South East Region Forest Agreement, by 31 December 2024

## **TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32)**

### **STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS**

The following statutory instruments were tabled by the Clerk—

Aboriginal Land Act 1991:

Aboriginal Land (Endeavour River Resources Reserve) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 12

Aboriginal Land (Endeavour River Resources Reserve) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 12, explanatory notes

Aboriginal Land (Endeavour River Resources Reserve) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 12, human rights certificate

Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994:

Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 13

Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 13, explanatory notes

Rural and Regional Adjustment (Variation of Fisheries Structural Adjustment Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2024, No. 13, human rights certificate

## **REPORT BY THE CLERK**

The following report was tabled by the Clerk—

Report pursuant to Standing Order 169 (Acts to be numbered by the Clerk) and Standing Order 165 (Clerical errors or formal changes to any bill) detailing amendments to certain Bills, made by the Clerk, prior to assent by Her Excellency the Governor, *viz*—

### **Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2023**

Amendments made to Bill

#### **Short title and consequential references to short title—**

*Omit*—

‘Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2023’

*Insert*—

‘Health and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024’

The following honourable member has lodged a paper petition for presentation and an e-petition which is now closed and presented—

#### **Gold Coast Fishermen’s Co-operative**

**Mr Langbroek**, from 2,719 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the Gold Coast Fishermen’s Co-operative retains its current site and current access to waterfront on the Southport Spit.

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the honourable members indicated—

#### **Sexually Explicit Publications**

**Mr Andrew**, from 1,823 petitioners, requesting the House to do all within its power to ensure various prohibitions around sexually explicit publications.

#### **Fire Service Act**

**Mr Bennett**, from 1,532 petitioners, requesting the House to reject the draft amendments to the Fire Service Act 1990.

**Motorcyclists, Protective Clothing**

**Mr Crandon**, from 470 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the usage of protective clothing for motorcyclists and their passengers.

The Clerk presented the following e-petition, sponsored by the Clerk—

**Shark Nets, Removal**

2,493 petitioners, requesting the House to remove shark nets along the coast and focus on smarter technologies.

Petitions received.

## BILLS

### **Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022**

#### **Message from Governor**

**Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (11:11): I present a message from Her Excellency the Governor.

**Mr SPEAKER:** The message from Her Excellency recommends Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. The contents of the message will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the message for the information of members.

[take in message](#)

Tabled paper: \*\*

#### **Introduction**

**Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (11:45): I present a bill for an act to amend the Economic Development Act 2012, the Planning Act 2016 and the Public Sector Act 2022 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee to consider the bill.

I rise to introduce the Economic Development and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. Queensland is growing. It was May 2018 when Queensland's population hit five million. Today, according to the Queensland Government Statistician, our population stands at 5.56 million people. This growth is just shy of relocating the entire population of Tasmania into Queensland, most of them in south-eastern Queensland over a six-year period.

Without a doubt, people are moving to Queensland because it is the place to be due to the economic success and job opportunities this government is delivering. We have restored frontline services cut by the previous LNP government. We protected Queensland from the worst aspects of COVID, both from a health and economic

perspective. Our economy has grown year on year, and we have had record low unemployment and continue to record strong interstate migration into our great state. However, that success also brings its challenges, and one of those challenges is the pressure placed on housing supply. While there have never been so many people in Queensland in good jobs with low unemployment rates, at the same time we see pressures on housing supply and rental increases due in part to recent unprecedented interest rate rises at a national level and, sadly, some people sleeping rough. By 2046, we need around a million new homes to house our growing population.

Through our [Homes for Queenslanders policy, the Miles government has made it clear that every Queenslanders should have a safe, secure and affordable place to call home. All levels of government - federal, state and local—have a role to play in achieving that objective, but so, too, does the private sector, community housing providers and financial services and real estate providers. The factors driving the housing challenges are complex and there is no simple solution to resolving those challenges. The Miles government is committed to using every lever at our disposal to identify solutions and implement them, and this includes all government agencies.

This bill is about the Miles government pulling one of those levers, building on the role of Economic Development Queensland - EDQ - the Queensland government's land use planning and property development agency, and putting it to even better use to deliver more homes for Queenslanders faster.

One of the actions of the historic housing summit was to expand the remit of EDQ, to drive the delivery of social, affordable and diverse housing in the context of urban renewal and precincts, and we are driving this initiative with EDQ-led projects in [Northshore Hamilton, Carseldine and Southport.

EDQ has been charged with leading actions to increase the supply of social and affordable housing. It is all part of our [Homes for Queenslanders plan. Stakeholders from planning, development industry, professional services, community housing and public agency partners have worked with us on exploring ways to do things differently to get more homes built by the state government.

This bill will: increase the supply of quality, social and affordable housing where it is needed across the state; build capacity of government and the housing sector to deliver tailored social and affordable housing outcomes in a flexible manner; leverage government intervention to maximise industry government, alternative delivery models and funding sources; deliver within accelerated time scales; and require developers to deliver on social and affordable targets that are supportive of a broader statewide strategy.

### **Fun, Fancy Facts**

To achieve this, this bill focuses on four key areas: housing supply, affordability and diversity; the introduction of a place renewal framework; EDQ's corporate structure; and operational refinements to existing functions and powers.

The bill is focused on outcomes that will enable EDQ to deliver more homes faster in a way that also delivers thriving communities with jobs, services and everyday facilities close to home.

This bill directly supports two of the key pillars of the Miles government's [Homes for Queenslanders policy - to build more homes faster and to boost our social housing [Big Build.

EDQ has achieved much, from land sales that translated into major private sector investment, to the creation of thousands of jobs for Queenslanders, to helping industry by [master planning communities and streamlining approvals processes. Northshore Hamilton, for example, is Queensland's largest waterfront urban renewal development where over 3,000 homes have already been delivered.

EDQ has been pivotal in working towards building a sustainable, connected precinct that will ultimately house more than 25,000 people in 14,000 homes.

### **Planning**

PDA's are parcels of land within Queensland identified for development to deliver significant benefits to the community. Northshore is one of 35 priority development areas that have been declared across the state to unlock land supply. Caloundra South PDA on the Sunshine Coast is another. EDQ has been instrumental in supporting development of this new greenfield community and has already approved over 20,000 lots for homes, with 7,000 already delivered, and a further 13,000 either approved for development or under construction. This development has proved especially popular for first home buyers and workers in essential services with half of the lots sold in 2023 purchased by these groups. In just the first half of 2023-24, almost 2,400 residential lots and over 1,900 apartment dwellings were approved for development in priority development areas.

This is on top of the more than 2,700 residential lots and 750 apartment dwellings approved in 2022-23. As well as enabling housing development, these streamlined approvals will facilitate \$736 million of private sector investment and support 2,380 jobs.

[EDQ is hundreds of new homes on urban renewal precincts like Songbird Oxley, Parkside [Yeronga and Carseldine Village which has delivered 100 per cent net zero energy emissions terrace homes in greenfield precincts like Greater Flagstone, [Ripley Valley and [Yarrabilba to name a few. They are co-investing with councils, developers and utility providers in critical infrastructure like water and roads to unlock residential lots, like at Oonoonba in the [Far North and [Yarrabilba in the south.

We are finding places for businesses to grow and creating new jobs for Queenslanders. For example, from the delivery by EDQ of more industrial land at the Sunshine Coast and Coolum Eco Industrial Parks, and business innovation parks like the EDQ-led Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct, Lumina. In Bowen Hills, great outcomes have been achieved, including the delivery of more homes and businesses and the redevelopment of the RNA Showgrounds. But there are parts of

the Bowen Hills PDA where greater coordination would create more homes and places that the community can enjoy. This bill will help to do that.

This bill will support EDQ to deliver an additional 1,300 dwellings over the next five years, as well as approve a further 15,000 homes in priority development areas, effectively doubling the amount that is currently forecast. The bill also enables EDQ to play a more meaningful role in the provision of social and affordable housing.

Queensland's growth means that we need to ensure there is enough housing, and the right housing, for everyone. The bill includes amendments to the main purpose of the act to specifically include the provision of diverse housing, including social and affordable housing. This amendment is not only important from a practical perspective, but it also sends an important signal. It reinforces the role that EDQ plays in driving new housing supply across the state.

The bill will enable the minister for Economic Development Queensland to enter directly into agreements with third parties, like community housing providers, to deliver social and affordable housing projects. This will make it easier for EDQ to lead the delivery in partnership with the housing portfolio of new social housing projects like the proposed new West Tower development at Southport. This supportive housing project will provide a home to hundreds of vulnerable Queenslanders, with access to on-site health and employment services. These new powers will complement the powers of the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works by providing additional capacity across government to respond to the housing challenge. EDQ already sets targets for social and affordable housing within PDAs. The bill will improve the government's ability to plan the location and require delivery of these targets, while giving EDQ and industry more flexibility for how these obligations are conditioned and met to ensure the right type of housing is delivered when and where it is needed.

The bill acknowledges the role of EDQ in delivering commercial and industrial land to market which will help ensure we are building jobs, as well as homes for Queenslanders. Our next focus area for these amendments is called 'place renewal areas'. It is a chance to bring more coordinated renewals sooner to some of Queensland's greatest development opportunities. In some of our PDAs, there are multiple parties developing complex infrastructure and development projects where a more coordinated and collaborative approach will deliver a better outcome faster, in particular, where there are multiple landowners and fragmented ownership. For example, the Bowen Hills priority development area is a key inner urban site that has significant government and private sector investment. It includes major precincts like the RNA and it is a transport hub thanks to the Bowen Hills railway station and the new Exhibition Cross River Rail station. But there are areas within Bowen Hills where multiple development and infrastructure projects are proposed that are not progressing, for different reasons, and that would benefit from stronger coordination between government and the private sector.

This bill enables the minister for Economic Development Queensland to declare a place renewal area within a priority development area. This will give the minister broad coordination powers to drive better outcomes. This is about finding new ways to work across industry and government, to respond to challenges and to seize opportunities and it is another example of EDQ demonstrating innovation. The framework will set out the vision, purpose and outcomes of the precinct and will be prepared in a collaborative way with government, community and industry stakeholders to deliver

increased value and a better place-based outcome for the precinct. In addition, the bill allows the minister for Economic Development Queensland to acquire land in a place renewal area where there is a barrier to progressing critical development and all other options have been exhausted.

Our final focus area is improving EDQ's corporate structure, accountability and governance and improving the effective and efficient function of EDQ. For example, the bill includes expanding the minister's existing directions power to include distributor retailers and provides EDQ with similar land acquisition powers for the delivery of critical infrastructure within PDAs that are provided to other similar planning authorities like local governments and the Coordinator-General.

The bill will also require distributor retailers and local governments to inform the minister for Economic Development Queensland of certain infrastructure charges they have collected within a PDA and, in some cases, provide those charges to the minister so they can ensure those funds are spent on infrastructure within the area they are collected. Amendments are included in the bill to provide flexibility around planning instruments. This includes, for example, if there has been a significant weather event within a priority development area, the ability for a temporary planning instrument to be put in place quickly to assist.

Regarding EDQ's structure, it will continue to be accountable for the minister for Economic Development Queensland but it will no longer sit within a government department. This will create a more agile and more responsive organisation that can scale up to respond to key government priorities, as required, and allow for approvals and processes to be further streamlined. A chief executive officer will be appointed and a new EDQ employing office will be established. EDQ staff will become employees of the employing office and all the remaining and future staff will be employed under the Public Sector Act 2022, with all their rights and entitlements under it retained.

A new eight-member skill-based board that is accountable to the MEDQ will be appointed. The board will include two government board members, the chief executive of the minister's department and the under-treasurer but, for the first time, the board will also include external experts, including an independent chair. The MEDQ's regulatory functions, such as approving development applications or declaring new PDAs, will remain with the minister but for development projects and day-to-day operations, this will give EDQ greater direct access to development industry expertise for strategic leadership.

*Tabled paper:* Extracts, dated 12 March 2024 and 19 March 2024, from various newspapers, depicting the member for Caloundra, Mr Jason Hunt MP, the member for Cairns, Hon. Michael Healy, and the member for Barron River, Mr Craig Crawford M

### **Test heading**

Delivering more diverse and affordable housing in an accelerated time frame is vital for our state and it is in line with our Homes for Queenslanders plan and is in direct response to the Housing Summit. EDQ will be given the powers and abilities to deliver the outcomes that are needed for Queensland. By implementing the changes in this bill EDQ will be better placed to fast track sustainable and affordable places that people can call home. I commend the bill to the House.

### **First Reading**

**Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Infrastructure, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (12:10): I move—

That the bill be now read a first time.

Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Housing, Big Build and Manufacturing Committee.

*This early draft is automatically published - it is not yet complete and reviewed.*