

~~All of these steps have been undertaken quite properly under the provisions of the Property Agents and Motor Dealers Act. I appreciate the member for Nicklin raising that concern with me quite legitimately on behalf of his constituents, but I would say to the House that we have a responsibility for the reasonable management of taxpayers' money. In this case, this change has been made to ensure that the Department of Transport and Main Roads is getting best value for money on property management.~~

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~~Schools, Infrastructure~~

~~**Mrs KEECH:** My question is to the Minister for Education and Training. In asking the question, I join with the Speaker in welcoming my constituents from Riverbrooke on Coomera. Given that Albert is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia, can the minister outline how the Bligh government is investing in new schools to service Queensland's growing population?~~

~~**Mr WILSON:** I am happy to do so and debunk yet another one. I think it is number 16 of the myths that are being put out by my shadow in this portfolio. The claim was that there are five schools in Wide Bay with 1,900 students attending overcrowded classrooms. What are the facts? The facts are that there is one school with one classroom with one extra student over the target size number and in the other school there is another classroom that has been arranged to cater for the other students. What are the facts? We are building Queensland. We are spending our funds building schools. The amount of \$19 million is being spent at the Norfolk Village State School on the Gold Coast to cover 720 students; at the Highland Reserve State School, \$26 million is being spent on 880 students; at Ormeau Woods, \$26 million is being spent for 480 students; at Coomera Springs stage one, \$12 million is being spent covering ultimately up to 11,000 students; and Bayside State College will receive \$36 million for 800 students. This government is building for the future in education.~~

~~PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT~~

~~COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY (CORRUPTION, CRONYISM AND UNETHICAL BEHAVIOUR) AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~First Reading~~

~~**Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.30 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1950. I present the explanatory notes, and 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.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Commissions of Inquiry (Corruption, Cronyism and Unethical Behaviour) Amendment Bill.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Commissions of Inquiry (Corruption, Cronyism and Unethical Behaviour) Amendment Bill, explanatory notes~~

~~Second Reading~~

~~**Mr LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (11.30 am): I move— That the bill be now read a second time.~~

~~Today I introduce a bill that, if passed, will establish a comprehensive independent commission of inquiry into 11 years of Labor corruption, cronyism and unethical behaviour. Lip service to accountability, spin and buck-passing have got to stop and the only way to properly investigate suspected cronyism, corruption and the unethical behaviour of the Labor government is to have a commission of inquiry that has the powers, resources and mandate to perform such a function.~~

~~The Premier has said there is no need for a royal commission as the Crime and Misconduct Commission is a constituted commission of inquiry. However, the CMC has limited powers and resources. The CMC does not have powers to investigate the suspected misconduct of parliamentarians; the CMC can only investigate allegations that may amount to criminal behaviour. The CMC does not have the power to review ministerial decisions unless there is an allegation of a crime being committed. The CMC does not have the power or resources to investigate the judicial appointments process of this Labor government over the past 11 years. The CMC does not have the power or the resources to examine questionable lobbyist dealings which resulted in exorbitant success fees. In light of the time I seek leave to have the rest of my speech incorporated in *Hansard*.~~

~~Leave granted.~~

The CMC doesn't have the power, or the resources, to forensically examine every financial decision that corrupt former Labor Minister Gordon Nuttall made. The CMC isn't properly able to investigate the allegations made by former Labor staffers turned whistleblowers.

The extent and multitude of allegations of corruption, cronyism and unethical behaviour of this Labor Government over the past 11 years require a dedicated full time Commission of Inquiry that can solely focus on the murky history of the past decade of Labor rule.

The majority of Queenslanders do not trust this Government and no amount of spin will get to the core of the myriad of allegations raised during more than 11 years of Labor rule.

The LNP is not alone in its calls for a Royal Commission—

Queensland Council for Civil Liberties vice-president Terry O'Gorman has said a Royal Commission or expanded CMC inquiry is warranted.

"A combination of a number of events over the last two weeks is starting to lend some credence for a call for a Royal Commission," Mr O'Gorman said—

"Soon the Premier is going to have so many bushfires in parts of her backyard they are going to add into one fire and something will need to be done."

Urban Development Institute of Australia Queensland Chief Executive Brian Stewart said the "system of using lobbyists" needed examining, rather than "any incidences of unlawful conduct".

"I know most of the people who are involved and I don't have any question mark about their integrity," Mr Stewart said.

Mr Stewart went on to say "However, what we do need to avoid is that possibility existing because it doesn't create good circumstances for governance."

It was Tony Fitzgerald himself who said on July 28, 2009, "Ethics are always tested by incumbency. Secrecy was re-established by sham claims that voluminous documents were "Cabinet-in-confidence". Access can now be purchased, patronage is dispensed, mates and supporters are appointed and retired politicians exploit their political connections to obtain "success fees" for deals between business and government.

Queenslanders are now haunted by the ghosts of Nuttall and 11 years of Labor cronyism and allegations of corruption and unethical behaviour. It is time this Government opened the books and opened itself up to a full and independent commission of inquiry.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Mr Fraser, adjourned.

~~PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS~~

~~Cape York Peninsula~~

~~Mr O'BRIEN (Cook—ALP) (11.33 am): One of the great iconic treks that Queenslanders, Australians and people from all over the world undertake is a trip up the Peninsula Development Road to the northern peninsula area to stand at the northernmost point of the Australian continent. I was very disappointed to learn from my parliamentary colleague, Mr Wettenhall, the member for Barron River, that the sign that stands at the northernmost point of the Australian continent has recently been stolen. It is quite a shame. Thousands of people come every year to stand at that point and to have their photograph taken underneath the sign that used to be there. That is why I have undertaken, out of my own electoral allowance, to have the sign replaced. This week I will be in contact with Artcraft, who produces these signs, to order the sign. I will be working in cooperation with the Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council to have the sign replaced.~~

~~This year was a good year for tourists on Cape York Peninsula. Tourism operators reported strong growth in visitors to the region. That is because the road infrastructure has been improved and some of the camping and tourism destinations and hotels have also been improved. There is room for growth. We also want to see the area around the Pajinka site cleaned up and more services put in for the growing number of people who are coming to the tip to enjoy the iconic place—things like toilets and campgrounds and other facilities for the increasing number of people who are making the trek each year. I thank the member for Barron River for coming into my electorate the week before last.~~

~~CRIMINAL CODE (FILMING OR POSSESSING IMAGES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN) AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~First Reading~~

~~Dr FLEGG (Moggill—LNP) (11.35 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Criminal Code in relation to child exploitation material to provide, in particular, for immediate confiscation of devices used for filming or possessing images of violence against children. I present the explanatory notes, and I move—~~

~~That the bill be now read a first time.~~

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