

~~are fair and reasonable for retailers, so as to not create an unreasonable barrier to entry. I commend the bill to the House.~~

~~Debate, on motion of Mr Seeney, adjourned.~~

CHILD CARE AND ANOTHER ACT AMENDMENT BILL

First Reading

Hon. GJ WILSON (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Education and Training) (2.46 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Child Care Act 2002 and the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005 for particular purposes. 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: Child Care and Another Act Amendment Bill.

Tabled paper: Child Care and Another Act Amendment Bill, explanatory notes.

Second Reading

Hon. GJ WILSON (Ferny Grove—ALP) (Minister for Education and Training) (2.47 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

This bill has three objectives: to require licensees of child-care services other than school-age care services to keep compliance history logbooks; to implement a system for testing of persons in literacy, numeracy or science prior to registering them as teachers; and to recognise certain teaching experience for the purposes of teacher registration. The government is committed to openness and transparency and believes it is vital that parents have access to information about the quality of early childhood education and care, ECEC, services. That is why, on 7 October last year, this House passed amendments to the Child Care Act 2002 to enable the Department of Education and Training to publish information on its website about ECEC services that demonstrate serious and repeated noncompliance that is more than minor in nature. Those amendments commenced on 1 February this year.

The introduction of a requirement for licensees to keep logbooks about their compliance history will deliver on the next stage of this government's plan to increase the information available to parents about ECEC services in Queensland. Logbooks will be required to be kept by all licensees of licensed centre based child-care services—for example, long day care services and kindergartens. School-age care services will not be required to keep a logbook; however, this will be explored in the coming months.

024 The amendments will also apply to licensed home based child-care services—that is, family day care services. Licensees will be required to enter information in their logbooks if the chief executive initiates a suspension, urgent suspension, amendment or urgent amendment of their licence. Licensees will also be required to include information about any compliance notices that are issued to them under section 142 of the Child Care Act 2002. Licensees will also be required to update the information in their logbooks to indicate when a suspension has been lifted or when the licensee has taken steps to rectify the contravention.

As I have said in the past, the majority of licensees of child-care services provide quality care and comply with the legislation. However, parents have a right to know when services fall short of meeting their obligations under child-care laws or expose children to serious risks to their safety or wellbeing. Any person, including parents and carers, will be entitled to inspect or obtain a copy of a licensee's logbook at any time. This will provide parents with more information about the quality of an ECEC service so that they are better informed when making decisions about a service that is providing, or will potentially provide, a service to their child.

At the request of the Premier, in 2009 Geoff Masters from the Australian Council for Educational Research conducted an independent review of literacy, numeracy and science in Queensland primary schools. The final review, *A shared challenge: improving literacy, numeracy and science learning in Queensland primary schools*—known as the Masters review—concluded that improved outcomes in literacy, numeracy and science are likely to be facilitated by a number of factors, including access to a well-prepared teaching workforce.

The Masters review recommended that all aspiring primary teachers should be required to demonstrate, through test performances, that they meet threshold knowledge levels about the teaching of literacy, numeracy and science and sound content knowledge in these areas prior to registration as a

teacher. This bill amends the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005 to implement this recommendation by setting up the legislative framework for testing those who apply for registration. This includes giving the Queensland College of Teachers the function of developing and administering the testing program.

The bill specifies that if a person is prescribed under a regulation as being required to take a test for literacy, numeracy or science the person will have to take the test and achieve a result that the college considers satisfactory in order to be eligible for registration as a teacher. The testing requirements will only relate to new applicants for Queensland teacher registration from late 2011, following commencement of this legislation and subsequent amendments to the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Regulation 2005. Anyone who is already registered as a teacher in Queensland will not have to take the test when they apply to renew their registration.

The bill amends the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act to recognise the experience of kindergarten teachers. This government has committed itself to provide a kindergarten program for all children in the year prior to prep as part of the Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland initiative. Queensland has also entered into a bilateral agreement with the Australian government which provides that this commitment is to be met through the delivery of the kindergarten program by a four-year qualified early childhood teacher or a registered teacher with an early childhood qualification. To complement this, the bill ensures that a person's teaching experience in delivering a quality kindergarten program that is based on a Queensland Studies Authority approved or accredited kindergarten guideline is recognised for the purposes of teacher registration.

The bill also recognises the experience of teachers in other non-school type settings where they are delivering curriculum that is based on a syllabus that has been approved or accredited by the Queensland Studies Authority. This will include those who are teaching at TAFE senior colleges. These persons are required to be registered teachers, but until now their teaching experience has not been recognised when it comes to recency of practice requirements for renewing their registration, as distinct from obtaining their first registration. The bill addresses this unintended gap in the legislation.

The bill also recognises the teaching experiences of those dedicated people who take on educational leadership roles but who are not necessarily directly involved in delivering educational programs to students in the classroom. These people include educational advisers who provide classroom teachers with curriculum leadership, guidance and support, and facilitate their professional development. I commend the bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Mr Seeney, adjourned.

~~AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~First Reading~~

~~Hon. TS MULHERIN (Mackay—ALP) (Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland) (2.54 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Agricultural College Act 2005 and the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1936 for particular purposes. 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: Agricultural College and Other Legislation Amendment Bill.~~

~~Tabled paper: Agricultural College and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, explanatory notes.~~

~~Second Reading~~

~~Hon. TS MULHERIN (Mackay—ALP) (Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland) (2.54 pm): I move—~~

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

~~The main purpose of this bill is to amend the Agricultural College Act 2005, principally to broaden the range of matters a skilled board may advise on in relation to the Australian Agricultural College Corporation—AACC—and to enhance corporate governance provisions relating to the board. The amendments to this act concern the operations of the AACC, a corporation sole established in 2005 following the consolidation of the four established agricultural colleges into one college in 2005.~~

~~AACC is tasked with delivering high quality agricultural and rural vocational education and training for Queensland's agricultural industry. This vision is consistent with the Fresh Approach initiative I launched in June 2008 to invest in people, systems and services to build a more client-centric~~