

~~Finally, I have taken the opportunity in this Bill to make a number of consequential amendments to legislation in my portfolio.~~

~~The amendment to the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* will correct an anomaly in relation to lessees who own restricted dogs. The amendment reflects the original policy intent of section 103(3) which applies to lessees who own regulated dogs, that is people who are leasing a property and are owners of restricted dogs, declared menacing and declared dangerous dogs.~~

~~Amendments in the Bill to the *Public Trustee Act 1978* and the *State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999*, including the regulation under that Act, will effect necessary changes consequential on the commencement of the *Commonwealth Personal Property Securities Act 2009*.~~

~~The *Public Trustee Act 1978* is being amended to clarify that the Public Trustee can publish online information contained in the Public Trust Office unclaimed moneys register. This had previously been the case however an interpretation of the law has necessitated the legislative recognition of the historical practice. These amendments also provide that money held by the State does not become unclaimed money unless it has been in the State's possession for 2 years.~~

~~These consequential amendments will provide users with up to date laws.~~

~~Mr Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.~~

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

WATER AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

First Reading



Hon. KJ JONES (Ashgrove—ALP) (Minister for Environment and Resource Management) (2.35 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Cape York Peninsula Heritage Act 2007, the River Improvement Trust Act 1940, the Water Act 2000, the Wild Rivers Act 2005, the Water Resource (Gulf) Plan 2007, the Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009, the Water Regulation 2002 and to make consequential or minor amendments to particular water resource plans under the Water Act 2000. 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: Water and Other Legislation Amendment Bill.

Tabled paper: Water and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, explanatory notes.

Second Reading



Hon. KJ JONES (Ashgrove—ALP) (Minister for Environment and Resource Management) (2.35 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

The Water and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2011 provides amendments to a number of acts within my portfolio. These amendments will continue the government's drive to simplify and streamline environmental and natural resource regulation. This bill will integrate the current two-stage water resource planning process and simplify economic development approvals for Indigenous communities in Cape York. It will also make it easier for category 2 water authorities to transfer to alternative structures, entrench the wild river rangers program in legislation and implement the government's commitment to improve Indigenous consultation on future wild river declarations.

This bill will amend the Water Act 2000 to establish a single process for water resource planning. Previously, water resource and operations plans were developed consecutively. Under this new legislation it will be done concurrently. This implements a key recommendation of an independent review of the water resource planning framework conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers. It also responds to the stakeholder feedback received during that review.

These changes are a win for government efficiency and for the wider community. The existing water resource planning process was designed for first-generation plans and assumes a blank canvas. However, plans are now in place across all of the state's major catchments, except the Wet Tropics, where a plan is under development. The process is now being redesigned to ensure efficient reviews of the plans. This will provide significant improvements to community consultation. For the first time the community will be able to comment on changes to strategic catchment-wide goals and see what this means for individual water users.

Changes to community consultation will allow extra community involvement and scrutiny of planning proposals in instances where planning is particularly complex or of high community interest. There is also opportunity for streamlined consultation. This will be most useful in less complex plans where communities want to see work completed quickly, giving certainty to water users. It will also reduce uncertainty for water users by slashing the time taken for water resource plans and resource operations plans to be reviewed by up to two years. These significant time savings will first benefit

communities in the Boyne, Pioneer and Barron water resource plan areas. In the coming few years communities will also benefit from the improved review process in the Warrego, Moonie, Condamine-Balonne, Border, and well as Georgina and Diamantina catchments. Changes to the water resource planning framework have been designed to be consistent with the Commonwealth Water Act 2007 and the National Water Initiative.

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The bill also makes other changes to the Water Act aimed at streamlining processes, including simplifying the notification of works process for works and water use information and making it easier for category 2 water authorities to transfer to local governments or alternative structures. The Water Act will also be amended to allow the Queensland Water Commission to recover government seed funding through the levy on petroleum tenure holders. This will support the vital work the commission is doing to assess and protect groundwater as the coal seam gas industry expands. These amendments are consistent with announcements last year that will ensure that industry pays for the petroleum and gas water functions undertaken by the commission.

This bill also implements a number of crucial wild river initiatives. It amends the Water Act to increase Indigenous economic development and recognise Indigenous access to water in the Gulf of Carpentaria wild rivers. This builds on arrangements currently in place for Indigenous water reserves in Cape York and is a clear example of the government's commitment to realise sustainable economic development in wild river areas. A similar process to that used in the cape has been used to determining sustainable Indigenous water reserves for the gulf wild rivers. Traditional owners have called for these Indigenous water allocations and I am pleased Queensland is leading Australia in this regard. As supporting information for the forthcoming debate on this amendment, I would like to table the gulf resource operations plan amendment.

Tabled paper: Department of Environment and Resource Management: Gulf Resource Operations Plan Amendment.

The bill also amends the Wild Rivers Act 2005 to allow the minister to establish Indigenous reference groups under the Wild Rivers Act. This implements a key reform announced by the government earlier this year and will ensure greater engagement with Indigenous communities in wild river declaration processes. Indigenous reference groups will provide advice on the views of traditional owners and the Indigenous community on the wild rivers program and declaration proposals. This will include feedback on wild river management areas, natural values of the river system and policy options set out in any declaration proposals. They will also provide advice on the future development aspirations of the traditional owners and the Indigenous community, including how those aspirations might interact with a wild river declaration.

The bill also amends the Wild Rivers Act to recognise the 40-strong wild river rangers program in legislation, which is a key government commitment that responds to the request of traditional owners. The bill also amends the Cape York Peninsula Heritage Act to provide for a property development plan under the act to be recognised as a property development plan in a wild river high preservation area. This will make it easier for Indigenous communities to get project approval in wild river areas.

These are crucial changes to the management and planning of water resources in Queensland. They advance the government's agenda of increasing efficiencies in the system and implementing wild rivers policy going forward. I commend the bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Mr Gibson, adjourned.

~~HEALTH AND HOSPITALS NETWORK BILL~~

~~First Reading~~



~~Hon. GJ WILSON (Ferny Grove ALP) (Minister for Health) (2.43 p.m.): I present a bill for an act to provide for the delivery of public sector health services and other health services in Queensland and to make amendments to the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998 for particular purposes and consequential amendments of the acts mentioned in part 15 and schedule 1. 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: Health and Hospitals Network Bill.~~

~~Tabled paper: Health and Hospitals Network Bill, explanatory notes.~~

~~Second Reading~~



~~Hon. GJ WILSON (Ferny Grove ALP) (Minister for Health) (2.43 p.m.): I move~~

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