

~~In addition to all of that, I understand that some areas have not been classified completely for category B and C, but they are able to apply for partial assistance. They are able to do this by contacting their LGAs and calling the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority on 1800623946. Importantly, my department's business and industry website carries a raft of useful and practical information, disaster recovery guides and checklists. Last month there were over 100,000 unique users on the site, an increase of 100 per cent over the same time. Small business undoubtedly underpins the four pillars of our economy, and we are supporting them.~~

### ~~Natural Disasters, Schools~~

~~**Mrs FRECKLINGTON:** My question without notice is to the Minister for Education, Training and Employment. Could the minister please update the House on the progress of schools impacted by severe weather events and whether these have been reopened yet?~~

~~**Madam SPEAKER:** Order! Two minutes.~~

~~**Mr LANGBROEK:** I thank the honourable member for the question. I know that, like every member in this House, she applauds the heroic efforts and the resilience of local school communities including those in her own electorate. I received a message from the honourable member about the Nanango State School on the Sunday of that Australia Day weekend advising me that the teachers were going in there to try to move things to areas that would hopefully not be inundated if the flooding did arrive. Subsequently, the honourable member has advised me that they went back in, as they did in other areas like Brassall, other parts of the Lockyer and Ipswich. Even though they may not have been flooded, they had to put everything back, and I mentioned that in my speech on the motion yesterday.~~

~~It is important to advise the House about the planning that happened to show that the Newman government was proactive and that we worked with communities because, with schools around the state due to open on 29 January, this calamitous weather that we experienced threatened to derail the back-to-school program of communities from the border to Central Queensland. On Sunday at EMQ at Kedron intelligence was gathered from regional directors, from schools and from early childhood centres around the state as principals and teachers and non-teaching staff braved the elements to check on their schools. We ended up with 300 unable to open on the first day of school and seven other sites were handed to the community as evacuation centres, as residents were forced from their homes. But region by region as we had power and water restored, debris cleared and classrooms made safe, schools came back online. All but five were opened by Monday, 4 February. Of course, Bundaberg East State School is a classic example of what a can-do government can get done. Principal Doug Ambrose made a great effort to get them all in by Thursday and Friday of last week. Today Lowmead State School, just north of Bundaberg, remains closed, but we are hopeful that principal Christine Pascoe will be welcoming her students back some time next time.~~

~~**Madam SPEAKER:** Order! The time for questions has expired.~~

## QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL

### Introduction



**Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Mundingburra—LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (4.01 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011 for particular purposes. I table the bill and explanatory notes.

*Tabled paper:* Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013.

*Tabled paper:* Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013, explanatory notes.

As the Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience, I stand in the House today to introduce the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013. In January 2013 ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald and an associated monsoon trough passed over parts of Queensland over a number of days, causing widespread devastation and heartbreak. The government's response to this devastation was immediate, recognising the critical need to ensure Queenslanders in need received crucial and rapid assistance. The recovery and reconstruction of affected communities is the immediate priority for the Queensland government. There will also be a strong focus on building Queensland's resilience to natural disasters by improving the capacity of infrastructure to withstand future disaster events. This bill will amend the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011 to ensure that the government is able to effectively and efficiently respond to the 2013 disaster events which devastated Queensland and to enhance Queensland's resilience to future disasters.

In particular, the bill proposes to amend the definition of 'disaster event' to include storms, floods and tornadoes caused by ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald and associated heavy rains in January and February 2013. This will allow the Queensland Reconstruction Authority to exercise its reconstruction powers for those communities affected by the 2013 disasters. This amendment reflects the widespread and serious damage caused by these recent events and ensures a coordinated approach to recovery in

the affected communities. The bill recognises the role of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and the need to ensure the authority continues its work on the ground. The bill proposes to extend the expiry of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011 until 30 June 2015.

Finally, the bill reflects the government's emphasis on improved disaster resilience in our reconstruction program. The bill provides the Queensland Reconstruction Authority with a stronger focus on community resilience. The government clearly recognises the importance of focusing on resilience and doing what we can to avoid such widespread devastation in the future for our communities. In response to this, the bill ensures that the government's emphasis on disaster resilience is reflected within the purpose of the act and the functions of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority. I wish to recognise the important role which local government plays in not only the initial disaster response but also the community recovery in the weeks, months and even years following a disaster. The Queensland Reconstruction Authority will work with affected local governments and local communities in delivering its reconstruction and resilience program.

It is absolutely essential that this relationship continues, and the bill recognises the expanded role which will exist between the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and local governments in ensuring the improved resilience of our communities. With the passing of this bill, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority will not only focus on the reconstruction of our communities but also ensure their future resilience. Importantly, the bill ensures that Queensland communities affected by the recent 2013 events will receive the recovery assistance they need. This role is an essential one.

### First Reading



**Hon. DF CRISAFULLI** (Mundingburra—LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (4.04 pm): 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.

Debate, on motion of Mr Crisafulli, adjourned.

## ~~COMMONWEALTH GAMES ARRANGEMENTS (BRAND PROTECTION) AMENDMENT BILL~~

### Introduction



~~**Hon. JA STUCKEY** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games) (4.04 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Commonwealth Games Arrangements Act 2011 and the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 for particular purposes. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee to consider the bill.~~

~~Tabled paper: Commonwealth Games Arrangements (Brand Protection) Amendment Bill 2013.~~

~~Tabled paper: Commonwealth Games Arrangements (Brand Protection) Amendment Bill 2013, explanatory notes.~~

~~It gives me great pleasure to introduce this bill, the Commonwealth Games Arrangements (Brand Protection) Amendment Bill 2013, which will insert into the Commonwealth Games Arrangements Act 2011 a framework for the protection of the branding materials and goodwill of the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. This bill is one part of an overall package designed to allow for community ownership and celebration of the games while protecting Commonwealth Games images, references or goodwill from diluting the value of the brand to sponsors. This would compromise sponsorship revenue, which forms a sizeable chunk of the games budget. It is prudent that we take reasonable steps to protect the government's significant investment in the games. The bill provides streamlined procedures for the enforcement of intellectual property associated with the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games—references such as 'Commonwealth Games' and 'Queen's Baton Relay' and images such as the games emblem and mascot. It also prevents people from falsely suggesting that they have a relationship with the games, whether as a sponsor, supplier or any other affiliation. It is critical that we have these fair but speedy enforcement options to give sponsors the confidence that their investment will be protected.~~

~~Australia has a sound legal framework for the protection of intellectual property. However, major sporting events such as the Commonwealth Games tend to attract a considerable number of people or businesses taking advantage of the publicity and goodwill surrounding the event for their own financial gain without sharing the costs as legitimate sponsors. To date, we are already aware of over 20 internet sites set up for commercial gain which imply official links to the games. As I said at the outset, the~~