

~~Hon. JP BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (12.56 pm): I move the following amendment—~~

~~11 Long title~~

~~Long title, from 'State'—~~

~~omit, insert—~~

~~State, to request the Parliament of the Commonwealth to enact under section 51(xxxviii) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth an Act in the terms, or substantially in the terms, set out in schedule 1, and to make consequential amendments to other legislation~~

~~Amendment agreed to.~~


~~Question put—That the long title of the bill as amended, be agreed to.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

~~LAND, WATER AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~Resumed from 5 March (see p. 309).~~

~~Second Reading~~

~~ Hon. AP CRIPPS (Hinchinbrook—LNP) (Minister for Natural Resources and Mines) (12.57 pm): I move—~~

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

~~I thank the Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee for its consideration of the Land, Water and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013. I note that the committee tabled its report on 23 April 2013. The committee's report recommends that the bill be passed. I table the government's response to the committee's report.~~

~~Tabled paper: Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee, Report No. 20—Land Water and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, government response.~~

~~I would like to address the recommendations and clarify some points which have been raised in the report. In relation to the amendments pertaining to levees, the committee recommends that the Department of Natural Resources and Mines continue to monitor pre-existing levees which will not be affected by the provisions of the bill to ensure those levees do not endanger landholders and infrastructure. The amendments in this bill are only the first phase of establishing a regulatory framework for levees. The second phase will involve the development of a code against which to assess levees and necessary regulations under the Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009.~~

~~The Queensland government will, as part of the implementation of that regulatory framework, establish a monitoring system for the approval of new levee construction or modification of existing levees. That monitoring system will also include the ability for the Commonwealth government to identify any existing levees that may currently, or as a consequence of their failure, pose a threat to population or potentially have a significant economic impact.~~

~~In relation to the amendments pertaining to riverine protection permits, the committee also recommended that the Queensland government continue to monitor sediment levels, water quality and other environmental impacts on downstream ecosystems. The monitoring of Queensland waterways is a collaborative effort undertaken by government agencies, industry bodies, regional natural resource management groups, landholders, communities and research organisations. I would like to reassure members that the Queensland government has in place appropriate targeted monitoring in high-risk catchments, particularly those adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef. In addition, the Queensland government has recently enhanced monitoring in the Fitzroy Basin through the enhanced Fitzroy Management Program.~~

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

~~Sitting suspended from 1.00 pm to 2.30 pm.~~

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~~<RESTORING FAIRNESS FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS BILL~~

~~Introduction~~


~~ Ms PALASZCZUK (Inala—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.30 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Industrial Relations Act 1999 and the Public Service Act 2008 for particular purposes. I~~

table the bill and explanatory notes. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Restoring Fairness for Government Workers Bill 2013

Tabled paper: Restoring Fairness for Government Workers Bill 2013, explanatory notes.

<The Restoring Fairness for Government Workers >Bill seeks to repair one of the most fundamental breaches of trust perpetrated by the Liberal National Party on government workers in Queensland. On 4 April 2011, soon after becoming leader of the LNP, Campbell Newman declared, 'The Public Service has nothing to fear from me'. However, within six months of winning the election, the Newman LNP government betrayed many government workers by wielding its massive majority and removing a range of employment conditions that helped ensure an impartial Public Service. Those provisions included protections against contracting out, employment security provisions, organisational change provisions and termination, change and redundancy provisions. The Newman government also watered down the independence of the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission.

We now know why the Newman government made those changes. It was to make it easier to sack 14,000 government workers, including front-line staff such as nurses, doctors and teachers, and to slash services. Today, the Newman government did not rule out cutting even more jobs in next month's budget. Last year in this chamber we witnessed the extraordinary situation when, without warning, the Attorney-General introduced a raft of late changes. At the time, the opposition described the move as disgraceful and the passage of time has not at all altered our view.

Those changes were made by the Newman government without consultation or prior notice and were in direct contravention of guarantees made by Campbell Newman prior to the 2012 state election. In the interests of hard-working government staff in this state, the opposition has introduced the Restoring Fairness for Government Workers Bill. This bill seeks to restore the industrial conditions that were negotiated between the state government and public sector employees and their unions before the cold-hearted and callous actions of the Newman government. The bill seeks to restore agreed industrial conditions in enterprise bargaining agreements. There is no fairness in a legislative framework that allows for agreed industrial conditions to be overridden at the stroke of a pen. The bill also makes changes to restore independence to the Industrial Relations Commission.

The Labor opposition's bill will restore the conditions for government workers that were stripped away. Those conditions acknowledge the professionalism of government workers and ensure that the Public Service has the freedom to provide the government with frank and fearless advice. Despite his half-baked attempts to crush unions, the labour movement is alive and well and, right across Queensland, we will march together this Sunday, the real Labor Day, to show the Premier exactly what workers think of his government. I commend the bill to the House. >

First Reading

Ms PALASZCZUK (Inala—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.34 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.

Referral to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mrs Cunningham): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee.

~~<MILK PRICING (FAIR MILK MARK) BILL~~

Introduction

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (2.34 pm): ~~I present a bill for an act to provide for the setting of a fair price to be paid for the production of milk and to establish a fair milk mark to assist consumers to purchase milk for which a fair price has been paid to dairy farmers. >I table the explanatory notes. I nominate the Agriculture, Resources and Environment Committee to consider the bill.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Milk Pricing (Fair Milk Mark) Bill 2013.~~