

~~The supervisor will be required to hold or be actively working towards a 2-year Diploma-level qualification in a course related to early childhood education and care. Currently under the Child Care Act the Director usually holds a 3-year Advanced Diploma in Children's Services.~~

~~The supervisor will be required to be present at prescribed times during the day. This requirement will not apply to services with a licensed capacity of 30 places or less and school age care services, consistent with the approach currently taken in the Child Care Act. This recognises that for services with a capacity of 30 places or less and school age care services, a requirement for the supervisor to be present at prescribed times is not practicable.~~

~~The Bill also provides for the maintenance and publication of registers of Queensland approved providers and services. The Child Care Act requires a register of licensed services to be kept but does not require that it be published online. This Bill adopts the national law approach of having registers available online to increase parents' access to information about services. This is also consistent with the Queensland Government's policy of providing open access to data.~~

~~The Bill provides for a regulation to prescribe the requirements for qualifications of staff, staffing levels and physical space.~~

~~The Bill continues the approach to the regulation of stand-alone services set out in the Child Care Act. Stand-alone services care for six children or less, of whom no more than four can be under school age. These services can operate from a person's home or from another location. The Department of Education, Training and Employment does not license these services. If a person wishes to operate a stand-alone service they are required to hold a blue card and have adequate insurance cover, as prescribed under regulation. Finally, the Bill includes detailed transitional provisions to ensure that existing services are seamlessly transferred to the new regulatory framework without having to make applications.~~

~~This Bill will provide clear benefits for education and care services, families accessing these services and for officers regulating these services. In addition to reducing red tape and providing savings through the perpetual Queensland provider and Queensland service approvals, services will be able to organise their staffing and physical environments to maximise efficiencies while also ensuring high quality education and care is being provided.~~

~~Furthermore, the high quality of education and care is only expected to increase with a higher number of educators holding or actively working towards a Diploma level qualification, and ensuring services have educators who are competent in first aid as well as asthma and anaphylaxis management.~~

~~I commend this Bill to the House.>~~

### **First Reading**

~~**Hon. JH LANGBROEK** (Surfers Paradise LNP) (Minister for Education, Training and Employment) (3.37 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 Education and Innovation Committee**

~~**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Dr Robinson): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Education and Innovation Committee.~~

## **<ENERGY AND WATER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

### **Introduction**

 **Hon. MF McARDLE** (Caloundra—LNP) (Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (3.37 pm): <I present a bill for an act to amend the [Electricity Act 1994, the [Energy and Water Ombudsman Act 2006 >and the [South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009 for particular purposes and to repeal the [Clean Energy Act 2008. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee to consider the bill.

*Tabled paper:* Energy and Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2013.

*Tabled paper:* Energy and Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2013, explanatory notes.

This bill cuts red tape from Queensland's energy sector to meet the government's commitment to reduce costs for business and the community. Removing programs duplicated by the Commonwealth government's carbon price will ease pressures on electricity costs.

On 8 March 2013, I announced the government's decision to cease the Queensland Gas Scheme and the Smart Energy Savings Program—or SESP—to cut red tape from the state's energy sector. The Gas Scheme requires electricity retailers to source 15 per cent of their electricity from gas fired generators, to encourage investment in gas fired electricity generation and boost gas production

across the state. The Gas Scheme has served its purpose, with nearly 20 per cent of electricity currently being sourced from gas fired generators. The continued application of the Gas Scheme in its present form, combined with the effect of the carbon price, would likely result in a duplication of costs to Queensland's electricity providers, which would be passed on to consumers.

The proposed amendments to the Electricity Act clarify that 2013 will be the final liable year for the Gas Scheme. Additionally, these amendments provide clarity to Gas Scheme participants that no annual fees will be charged for the 2014 calendar year. The Gas Scheme will operate with normal administration procedures for the 2013 liable year. To ensure participants comply with their legal commitments for the 2013 liable year, appropriate monitoring and enforcement powers will remain in place until 30 June 2014.

011 Part 9 of the Electricity Act will be amended to include transitional provisions to allow for the expiry of the gas scheme. The gas scheme will expire on 30 June 2014. Beyond this date, all relevant registrations, accreditations and exemptions will expire. Similarly, all unexpired gas electricity certificates will expire on 30 June 2014. The amendments additionally make it clear that gas electricity certificates hold no value beyond 30 June 2014. I seek leave to have the remainder of my speech incorporated in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

The Smart Energy Savings Program requires businesses with energy use above specified thresholds to undertake energy audits and report their energy saving strategies to the government. The government believes that as part of prudent management, businesses will be incentivised to identify energy savings to boost their bottom line. Forcing businesses to identify these savings and then report on them adds red tape for no reason.

Consistent with the platform of red tape reduction, the government decided to cease the SESP and repeal the Clean Energy Act 2008. Ceasing the operation of the gas scheme and the SESP will reduce the administrative burden and complexity for government and industry. This will decrease pressure on electricity costs to consumers and remove programs duplicated by the Commonwealth Government's Carbon Price.

The repeal of the Clean Energy Act, legal amendments to the Electricity Act and transitional provisions proposed in this bill meet the government's commitment to reduce red tape on business and the community.

The deamalgamation of Noosa from the Sunshine Coast Regional Council will take effect on 1 January 2014.

Amending the South East Queensland (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009 will enable Unitywater, the Northern Distributor-Retailer Authority in South-east Queensland, to continue to provide the Noosa Shire Council area with water and sewerage services.

The proposed amendment enables the new Noosa Council to become a participating local government in the retail-distribution business Unitywater, which will then be able to continue to supply water and sewerage services to the area.

In order for this to occur the Bill will add Noosa Council to the list of participating councils for Unitywater from 1 January 2014.

Madam Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House. >

## First Reading

**Hon. MF McARDLE** (Caloundra—LNP) (Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (3.41 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 State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Dr Robinson): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee.

## ~~<QUEENSLAND BUILDING SERVICES AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL~~

### ~~Introduction~~

~~**Hon. TL MANDER** (Everton—LNP) (Minister for Housing and Public Works) (3.41 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Queensland Building Services Authority Act 1991 to replace the Queensland Building Services Authority with a new commission, and to make~~