

~~him for his years of service to Queensland as a senator representing the state. I know that Barnaby will do a wonderful job serving both the electorate of New England and this nation as a whole.~~

~~Section 15 of the Australian Constitution requires that, where a senator was the endorsed candidate of a political party when elected to the Senate, the person chosen to fill the vacancy created by that person leaving the Senate before the expiration of their term or any subsequent vacancy must be a member of the same political party. At a meeting in Mackay in May this year the LNP state council selected Mr O'Sullivan as the nominated candidate to fill the Senate vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Barnaby Joyce. This House is duty bound to appoint the candidate duly nominated by the LNP to this Senate vacancy.~~

~~However, today, in the public interest of Queenslanders and in the interests of full transparency, the LNP and Mr O'Sullivan have asked this parliament to adjourn the debate of this Senate vacancy. I table letters from the President of the LNP, Mr Bruce Melver, and Mr Barry O'Sullivan.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 12 September 2013, from Mr Bruce Melver, LNP State President, to the Premier, Hon. Campbell Newman MP, regarding the nomination of Barry O'Sullivan to fill the Senate vacancy.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Letter, dated 12 September 2013, from Mr Barry O'Sullivan to Mr Bruce Melver, LNP State President, regarding the nomination of Barry O'Sullivan to fill the Senate vacancy.~~

~~The LNP and Mr O'Sullivan are aware that Mr O'Sullivan is presently involved in a Crime and Misconduct Commission investigation. To uphold the integrity of the Senate and to ensure that this chamber makes an informed decision, the LNP and Mr O'Sullivan have asked the parliament to move to adjourn the matter until the CMC has completed its investigation.~~

~~Madam Speaker, as you are aware, many people get investigated and are cleared by the CMC and, just like in those cases, Mr O'Sullivan is entitled to the presumption of innocence until investigations are concluded. I trust that this House will respect the request of the LNP and Mr O'Sullivan and acknowledge that it sets a strong example of openness and accountability. I look forward to asking the parliament to formally elect Mr O'Sullivan once these issues are resolved.~~

~~Debate, on motion of Mr Newman, adjourned.→~~

~~SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT~~

~~**Hon. CKT NEWMAN** (Ashgrove LNP) (Premier) (2.35 pm): I move~~


~~That in accordance with standing 290(6) the meeting of the House for the purpose of the election of a Senator be now adjourned until 2.30 pm on Thursday, 17 October 2013.~~

~~Question put That the motion be agreed to.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

<CHILD PROTECTION (OFFENDER REPORTING—PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (2.36 pm): < I present a bill for an act to amend the Child >Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004 and the Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003 to provide for the publication of information about particular offenders. I table the bill and the explanatory notes and I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Child Protection (Offender Reporting—Publication of Information) Amendment Bill 2013.

Tabled paper: Child Protection (Offender Reporting—Publication of Information) Amendment Bill 2013: explanatory notes.

The primary objectives of the Child Protection (Offender Reporting—Publication of Information) Amendment Bill 2013 are to create a means by which the information may be disclosed to the community concerning certain categories of reportable offenders, dangerous sexual offenders and other persons considered to be a risk to the lives or sexual safety of other persons. The bill amends the Child Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004 and the Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003. These amendments will give the Queensland Police Commissioner the power to publish information on Queensland's most dangerous and high-risk sex offenders.

Concerned members of the community will have access to critical information, enabling them to identify reportable offenders in their neighbourhood or who otherwise have access to children in their care. A 'reportable offender' describes a person who a court sentences for a reportable offence. A reportable offence is an offence which comprises of a sexual or serious element involving a child or an incapable person as listed in schedules 1 and 2 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 1978.

A reportable offender can also include offenders who come to reside in Queensland from other jurisdictions and persons who the court has ordered to comply with the act. As well as reportable offenders, this bill will apply to dangerous sexual offenders and other offenders upon the authorisation of the Minister for Police.

Growing community outrage at the number of sexual assaults on children committed by known offenders has resulted in increased sentencing. However, it has been widely acknowledged that monitoring and supervision of offenders post release is inadequate and addressing monitoring deficiencies is costly. This has led to the introduction of registration schemes in many jurisdictions, including Queensland. The effectiveness of offender registration schemes will be strengthened by making information on certain offenders available to the community and empowering community members to assist parole services and the Queensland Police Service to monitor sexual offenders post release. This has already been put in place by the West Australian government and has proven to be very, very successful. It was also implemented by the Clinton government when they acknowledged that there was a big problem in the United States of America.>

First Reading

Mr KNUTH (Dalrymple—KAP) (2.39 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

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

023

~~PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS~~

~~<Meridan State College; Fisher Electorate; Community Liquor Permit~~

 **Hon. JP BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (2.40 pm): I rise today to congratulate the Kawana community on a win for school safety. Students and parents of Meridan State College will no longer be forced to zigzag busy Parklands Boulevard on their way to school after a community campaign claimed a recent victory. I am delighted that a solution has been gained and the green light given, with AV Jennings funding the missing link in the footpath network around the school. This is a real win for community and school safety which has long been campaigned for by the community. It is a vital safety boost. College director, Julie Kornmann, tells me she is over the moon. Motorists too will be over the moon with a new left hand slip lane from Parklands Boulevard to Meridan Way to reduce traffic snarls. This is a win for people power in a community campaign which I first got behind in opposition.

I congratulate Mal Brough on winning in the electorate of Fisher on Saturday. I also congratulate the people of Fisher for showing Peter Slipper the door once and for all. Slipper has snubbed the electorate for far too long. I was surprised to see him show up at a polling booth on Saturday in his last ditch attempt to get votes, if only to see his hopes of another term obliterated at the ballot box. It is only fitting that Slipper will be remembered not only for his scandals but also for fetching the lowest ever result at the polls by an incumbent at a federal election in the history of polling—too little too late. Slipper was missing in action as the local member; too busy travelling the countryside on the taxpayers' expense. Finally this man's ticket is up. The free ride is over. Fisher has spoken and the Slipper has sunk. I have no doubt that the people of Fisher will be only too happy to see Slipper off in the back of a taxi as long as they are now no longer paying for it. I look forward to