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~~ETHICS COMMITTEE~~**Report**

~~Mr CRANDON (Coomera—LNP) (2.30 pm), by leave, without notice: <I table Ethics >Committee report No. 147 titled *Matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 12 February 2014 relating to an alleged failure of a member to declare an interest to the House.*~~

~~Tabled paper: Ethics Committee: Report No. 147—Matter of privilege referred by the Speaker on 12 February 2014 relating to an alleged failure of a member to declare an interest to the House.~~

~~I commend the report and the committee's recommendations to the House.~~

## <DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE PROTECTION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

**Introduction**

**Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.31 pm): <I present a bill for >an act to amend the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012, the Evidence Act 1977, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 and the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009 for particular purposes. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

*Tabled paper:* Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014.

*Tabled paper:* Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2014, explanatory notes.

This bill sends a clear message both to perpetrators and the wider community that domestic and family violence is not acceptable. People who attack their spouses and partners will face increased punishments. It will send a message that those relationships come with a special duty.

The bill achieves three main objectives. It changes the sentencing guidelines to provide that where offences involve domestic or family violence this is considered an aggravating factor at sentencing. It also increases the penalties for offenders who breach domestic violence orders. Finally, it will ensure victims of domestic violence can get better support through the victims of crime assistance scheme.

May is Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month. By introducing this bill, the Labor opposition affirms an historic commitment to see domestic and family violence treated as among the most serious of offences as well as it being a longstanding commitment to reducing these crimes. As a community, domestic violence is one of the most widespread and insidious crimes we face. Let us be clear: this is an issue for men and women, and the impact it has on children and the wider family members. It is an issue that can permeate through entire families, often engulfing generation after generation.

Domestic violence can have long-term psychological and emotional trauma. Some children who witness this horror never recover. Domestic violence does not discriminate by class, wealth, race, age or sexual preference, and we must acknowledge the extent of this problem. The sad fact is that every week in this country a woman is killed by a partner. While these tragedies are occurring each week, the ABS says the rate of victims reporting is less than 20 per cent. The horrific rate of this crime is estimated to cost our economy \$14.6 billion per year. As a community, each and every one of us must accept responsibility to support families in crisis, provide assistance for offenders and victims, and take a stand against violence.

Last month the opposition revealed that police applications for domestic violence increased by 9.5 per cent last year. At the same time breaches of domestic violence orders increased by 11 per cent. This was at the same time the LNP cut funding across the domestic violence sector, and further cuts have been announced by the Abbott government. The Labor Party will continue to build on its previous reforms and will go to the next election with policies to reduce domestic violence and improve people's lives by making additional counselling available for women and children and courses for perpetrators. Women, men, children and families in Queensland should no longer live under the black cloud of fear and violence in their homes. >

**First Reading**

**Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.33 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:** Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee.

## <WEAPONS (DIGITAL 3D AND PRINTED FIREARMS) AMENDMENT BILL

### Introduction

 **Mr JUDGE** (Yeerongpilly—PUP) (2.34 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Weapons Act 1990 for particular purposes. I table the bill and the explanatory notes. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

*Tabled paper:* Weapons (Digital 3D and Printed Firearms) Amendment Bill 2014.

*Tabled paper:* Weapons (Digital 3D and Printed Firearms) Amendment Bill 2014, explanatory notes.

Briefly, the policy objectives of the bill are to create a licensing scheme for persons who make, acquire, possess and/or distribute digital 3D firearms as well as for persons involved in the manufacturing of firearms using an additive manufacturing process; to provide transitional provisions for the licensing scheme; to create offences and punishment provisions for persons who unlawfully make, acquire, possess and/or distribute digital 3D firearms; and to amend the Weapons Act 1990 to include new definitions as necessary.

The bill has been developed in response to technology advancements enabling firearms to be printed using additive manufacturing processes. I table a research brief titled '3D Printed Guns' that has been prepared by the Queensland Parliamentary Library.

*Tabled paper:* Queensland Parliamentary Library research brief, dated 30 April 2014, regarding 3D Printed Guns.

The research brief reveals a very real and increasingly significant risk to our community. We must be cognisant of technology advancements that may, and indeed can, be applied for criminal purposes. Our laws must keep pace with technology to effectively protect our community and all citizens alike. >

### First Reading

**Mr JUDGE** (Yeerongpilly—PUP) (2.36 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:** Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee.

## MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

### <Merrimac State High School

 **Mr STEVENS** (Mermaid Beach—LNP) (2.36 pm): I rise in the House today to report on an exciting event that I attended at the Merrimac State High School in my electorate of Mermaid Beach. It was a great honour to officially be involved in the ceremony to hand over the keys to the exciting new year 7 building that will accommodate those students from 2015 onwards. This state-of-the-art \$4.7 million year 7 building is part of the larger \$7.3 million upgrade of the Merrimac State High School facilities. As of 2015, the year 7 building will have its first intake of 240 students. This brings Merrimac in line with the infrastructure needed for the change of year 7s into high school. It was a