

~~Electoral Commission no later than 6 pm on the day before the polling day. It introduces a register of special postal voters to automatically receive postal ballot material. It is great to have the member for Gregory in the chamber. His constituency relies very heavily on that. Special postal voters may include silent electors, distance electors, religious electors, overseas electors and voters who need help voting because of disability, motor impairment or insufficient literacy levels. It allows the Electoral Commission to direct a recount of votes. It increases the maximum penalty of one year imprisonment to seven years imprisonment for giving false or misleading information to a returning officer or the Electoral Commission.~~

~~The House has recently passed state electoral reforms which, when combined with this bill, will ensure that Queensland's electoral systems operate with the highest integrity, are systems people can rely on and are modern, up-to-date systems that encourage participation in the political process by all Queenslanders. Unlike the Labor government, which incompetently neglected local government electoral laws when making changes to state laws, this bill seeks to align the two systems and long may that continue so that Queenslanders have one set of rules when they go to exercise their democratic rights.~~

~~The bill adopts the following reforms made recently to the Electoral Act—~~

~~An honourable member interjected:~~

~~Mr CRISAFULLI: I cannot. I am running out of time. Those reforms include: increased access to postal voting, regulation of how to vote cards, electronic voting and proof of identity when voting. The explanatory notes to the bill detail the application of the reforms at the local government level. The introduction of electronic voting and proof of identity requirements will be implemented at the local government level following implementation at the state level. Finally, the bill amends the City of Brisbane Act 2010 and the Local Government Act 2009 to clarify that a councillor who is subject to a suspended sentence is disqualified from being a councillor immediately. Mr Deputy Speaker, you will note that sensible reform is the legacy of this bill. I commend the bill to the House.~~

~~First Reading~~

~~Hon. DF CRISAFULLI (Mundingburra LNP) (Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience) (12.58 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 Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee~~

~~Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Dr Robinson): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee.~~

~~STATE DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE~~

~~Membership~~

~~Mr STEVENS (Mermaid Beach LNP) (Leader of the House) (12.58 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—~~

~~That the member for Pine Rivers, Mr Seath-Holswich, be discharged from the State Development, Infrastructure and Industry Committee and the member for Coomera, Mr Michael Crandon, be appointed to the committee.~~


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

~~Motion agreed to.~~

~~Sitting suspended from 12.59 pm to 2.30 pm.~~

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL

Message from Governor

 **Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade) (2.30 pm): I present a message from Her Excellency the Governor.

The Speaker read the following message—

MESSAGE

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL 2014

Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, PENELOPE ANNE WENSLEY AC, Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intituled—

A Bill for an Act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the consolidated fund for the Legislative Assembly and parliamentary service for the financial years starting 1 July 2014 and 1 July 2015


(Sgd)

GOVERNOR

Date: 3 JUN 2014

Tabled paper: Message, dated 3 June 2014, from her Excellency the Governor recommending the Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2014.

Introduction

 **Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade) (2.31 pm): I present a bill for an act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the Consolidated Fund for the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Service for the financial year starting 1 July 2014 and 1 July 2015 and I table the explanatory notes.

Tabled paper: Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2014.

Tabled paper: Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 2014, explanatory notes.

Following the practice of years past established to ensure the independence of the parliament, the government again this year provides a bill authorising me to pay amounts to the parliament in order to meet the obligations of the parliament to pay members' salaries, look after members' staff, engage electorate office staff and for the running and operations for the parliament for the year ahead.

This year we do incorporate the changes as a result of the Independent Remuneration Tribunal's recommendations. We also take into account the capital outlays, including some further security items that have been requested and approved by the Committee of the Legislative Assembly. We also continue with the work in relation to restoration of stonework for the parliament, bearing in mind that the sesquicentenary of the parliament is rapidly approaching and the desire of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly is to ensure that the building is in its finest and best state as we approach that landmark momentous occasion.

Other details will be found within the legislation and the appropriation bills, and the appropriation for the parliament continues in the normal fashion.

First Reading

Hon. TJ NICHOLLS (Clayfield—LNP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade) (2.32 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.

Madam SPEAKER: The bill is set down for its second reading in accordance with Standing Order 177.

~~BUDGET PAPERS~~

~~**Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade) (2.33 pm): I lay upon the table of the House the following documents: Budget Speech; Appropriation Bills Booklet; Budget Strategy and Outlook; Capital Statement; Budget Measures; Concessions Statement; Queensland State Budget 2014-15 Brochure; Regional Budget Statements; Service Delivery Statements, including~~