

~~In addition, on 25 September 2014 the member for South Brisbane wrote to me, alleging that the member for Thuringowa deliberately misled the House on 9 September 2014 during the debate on the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Bill 2014 in addressing the same topic. I sought further information from the member for Thuringowa in accordance with standing order 269(5). The member for Thuringowa also disputed the allegations made against him.~~

~~There is obviously a difference of opinion among the members concerned about what the former government intended to do with any dredge spoil as a result of the development at Abbot Point. From the material submitted by the members, the former government appears to have considered a number of options about relocating dredge spoil and did not publicly announce any final decision about the development of Abbot Point prior to the March 2012 election. Accordingly, on the current evidence it is not possible to reach a definitive view about whether the statements made by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the member for South Brisbane or the Deputy Premier and member for Thuringowa's statements are misleading. Standing order 269(4) states—~~

~~In considering whether the matter should be referred to the committee, the Speaker shall take account of the degree of importance of the matter which has been raised and whether an adequate apology or explanation has been made in respect of the matter. No matter should be referred to the Ethics Committee if the matter is technical or trivial and does not warrant the further attention of the House.~~

~~Taking all of the material before me into account, there is an obvious difference of opinion amongst those members concerned about the former government's plans for the development of Abbot Point and each member concerned believes that their point of view is correct. However, in the absence of any publicly announced final decision by the former government about the development at Abbot Point, any potential misleading of the House could, at the least, be a technical one. On this basis, I have decided that none of the matters warrant the further attention of the House via the Ethics Committee and I will not be referring the matters. I also now table all of the associated correspondence.~~

~~Tabled paper: Letter, dated 12 September 2014, from the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and planning, Hon. Jeff Seeney, to Madam Speaker, Hon. Fiona Simpson, regarding matter of privilege.~~

~~Tabled paper: Letter, dated 25 September 2014, from the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Hon. Tim Mulherin MP, to Madam Speaker, Hon. Fiona Simpson, regarding matter of privilege.~~

~~Tabled paper: Letter, dated 25 September 2014, the member for South Brisbane, Ms Jackie Trad MP, to Madam Speaker, Hon. Fiona Simpson, regarding matter of privilege.~~

~~Tabled paper: Letter, dated 25 September 2014, the member for South Brisbane, Ms Jackie Trad MP, to Madam Speaker, Hon. Fiona Simpson, regarding matter of privilege.~~

~~Tabled paper: Letter, dated 3 October 2014, the member for South Brisbane, Ms Jackie Trad MP, to Madam Speaker, Hon. Fiona Simpson, regarding matter of privilege.~~

## **<STRONG ADVERTISING RESTRICTIONS (SAFEGUARDING TAXPAYERS' FUNDS) BILL**

### **Introduction**

**Mrs D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (2.34 pm): <I present a bill for an act to restrict government >advertising in particular circumstances, to codify principles for government advertising and to establish the advertising review committee to review and report on government advertising. I table the bill and explanatory notes. I nominate the Finance and Administration Committee to consider the bill.

*Tabled paper:* Strong Advertising Restrictions (Safeguarding Taxpayers' Funds) Bill 2014.

*Tabled paper:* Strong Advertising Restrictions (Safeguarding Taxpayers' Funds) Bill 2014, explanatory notes.

This Strong Advertising Restrictions (Safeguarding Taxpayers' funds) Bill should not have to be introduced. The people of Queensland should not have to suffer the waste of millions of dollars on political advertising. If we had had an open and trustworthy government, millions of taxpayers' funds would not be spent on political advertising campaigns, but this legislation is required because the Newman government is using taxpayers' money for shameless political advertising. It is using public money for spin to try to sell public assets, change pay and conditions of nurses and mislead Queensland patients about hospital waiting lists.

We are less than six months out from the election, and this government should not be using taxpayers' funds on political advertising for the LNP's political decisions. This legislation imposes the same standards that the LNP claim they are living up to in their own advertising code of conduct. If

they claim they are doing nothing wrong with their current advertising, then they should have no fear about making sure that their own guidelines are actually enforced.

Labor will establish a truly independent committee to ensure that political advertising will not be produced and funded by the people of Queensland. Key elements of Labor's legislation include: adopting the language of the current code and legislating to uphold those standards; appointing a five-person independent committee, the advertising review committee, to approve advertising before taxpayers' funds are spent; ensuring committee members have bipartisan approval and have experience in law, consumer protection, public finance, public administration or media communication; and strict requirements for the period six months prior to an election, with exceptions for legitimate advertising such as preparation for natural disasters or road safety. That six-month period will come into force two years and six months from the last election date, or earlier if an election is called prior to that date and writs are issued. The legislation also imposes penalties for chief executive officers and ministers if advertising proceeds without proper approval.

This is about holding governments to account. The Newman government is wasting tens of millions of dollars of taxpayers' money on blatant political advertising. This Strong Advertising Restrictions Safeguarding Taxpayers' Funds) Bill will help to hold the LNP to their own commitments.>

### First Reading

**Mrs D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (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 Finance and Administration Committee

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

## ~~<PARLIAMENTARY (HEINER AFFAIR AND RELATED MATTERS) COMMISSION OF INQUIRY~~

### ~~Introduction~~

~~**Mrs CUNNINGHAM** (Gladstone—Ind) (2.37 pm): I present a bill for an act pursuant to section 61 of the Constitution of Queensland 2001 to establish the Parliamentary (Heiner Affair and Related Matters) Commission of Inquiry. I table the bill, explanatory notes and supporting material. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Parliamentary (Heiner Affair and Related Matters) Commission of Inquiry Bill 2014.~~

~~*Tabled paper:* Parliamentary (Heiner Affair and Related Matters) Commission of Inquiry Bill 2014, explanatory notes.~~

~~The bill's purpose comes out of a 26 January 2014 public interest disclosure lodged by whistleblower Mr Kevin Lindeberg and the then Crime and Misconduct Commission covering the full scope of what is commonly known as the 'Heiner affair'. In respect of this complaint, on 15 May 2014 the CMC now the CCC accepted the correct position at law that it could not act because of apprehended bias flowing out of its previous involvement as the Criminal Justice Commission in 1990 when Mr Lindeberg first lodged his disclosure and since that time. Given the seriousness of the allegations and the alleged involvement of the judiciary, the then CMC referred the complaint to the Attorney-General to consider.~~

~~The Attorney-General, acting as a sole investigator, determined that in July 2014 all these interconnected matters had been properly ventilated and resolved to take no further action. It could be argued, however, that under section 61 of the Constitution of Queensland 2001 the responsibility and duty of each member of this parliament is to be informed of such serious allegations. The issues dealt with by this bill and the supporting documentation, including the Rolph QC audit, have significant longevity. Since I have been in this House successive parliaments have provided opinions on the events which constitute the Heiner affair.~~