

First Reading

~~Mr BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (4.17 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 (Mr Furner): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee.~~

Portfolio Committee, Reporting Date


~~Mr BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (4.17 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—~~

~~That under the provisions of standing order 136 the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee report to the House on the Fire and Emergency Services (Smoke Alarms) Amendment Bill by 4 March 2016.~~

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

~~Motion agreed to.~~

CONSTITUTION (FIXED TERM PARLIAMENT) AMENDMENT BILL**ELECTORAL (CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BILL)****Tabling of Bills**

 **Mr WALKER** (Mansfield—LNP) (4.18 pm): In accordance with the resolution of the House on 1 December 2015—yesterday—ordering the division of the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill, as introduced on 17 September 2015, I table the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 and the Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015 and explanatory notes for each bill.


Tabled paper: Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015.

Tabled paper: Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015, explanatory notes.

Tabled paper: Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015.

Tabled paper: Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015, explanatory notes.

Motion


 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (4.18 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That the House accepts the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 and the Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015 presented and circulated to members as complying with the order of the House to divide the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015, introduced on 17 September 2015, and orders that each bill is deemed read a first time and now stands as an order of the day for the second reading to be moved.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

CONSTITUTION (FIXED TERM PARLIAMENT) AMENDMENT BILL**CONSTITUTION (FIXED TERM PARLIAMENT) REFERENDUM BILL****Cognate Debate**

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Leader of the House) (4.19 pm), by leave, without notice, I move—

1. In accordance with Standing Order 172, the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill and the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Referendum Bill be treated as cognate Bills for their remaining stages, as follows:

- (a) second reading debate, with separate questions being put in regard to the second readings;
 - (b) the consideration of the Bills in detail together; and
 - (c) separate questions being put for the third readings and long titles;
2. Standing Order 136(6) be suspended for the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill and the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Referendum Bill, to allow the commencement of the second reading debate despite three calendar months not having elapsed since the tabling of the portfolio committee report.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

~~CRIMINAL LAW (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2)~~

Introduction



Hon. YM D'ATH (Redcliffe ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (4.20 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Criminal Code, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 and the Youth Justice Act 1992, for particular purposes. I table the bill and explanatory notes. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Criminal Law (Domestic Violence) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2015.

Tabled paper: Criminal Law (Domestic Violence) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2015, explanatory notes.

I am pleased to introduce the Criminal Law (Domestic Violence) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2015. This year the Palaszczuk government made a commitment to end domestic violence in Queensland. We have pledged to take action to combat the pervasive culture of domestic and family violence which is at epidemic levels in our community. This is a difficult challenge but the government believes it is achievable. We must all stand united together and say that domestic and family violence in any form and at any level is completely unacceptable. It is a time for optimism as well as action, not just by the government but all members of this parliament and the entire Queensland community. It is time for us all to stand up to the challenge and tackle this problem head on.

On 28 February 2015 the special task force on domestic and family violence in Queensland, chaired by the honourable Quentin Bryce AD CVO, released its report *Not now, not ever. Putting an end to domestic and family violence in Queensland*. The task force made 140 recommendations on how the government and the community of Queensland can better address and reduce domestic and family violence. The Bryce task force report has a strong focus on action to bring about cultural and attitudinal change, the delivery of more integrated services and improving law and justice system responses. This includes reforms to better support those affected by domestic violence, achieve fair and protective outcomes for victims and ensure perpetrators are held to account.

The Palaszczuk government accepted all 121 recommendations directed at government in our response released on 18 August 2015. Importantly, on White Ribbon Day last week, the Premier announced the establishment of the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council to monitor the implementation of recommendations from the Bryce task force report and the Queensland Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy. The council will also champion ongoing implementation of this strategy. The creation of the council addresses the need for an independent oversight body as recommended in the Bryce task force report to maintain momentum and ensure accountable implementation of the report's recommendations. The council will report to the Premier on implementation progress and action taken by the relevant sectors to eliminate domestic and family violence. The council is chaired by the honourable Quentin Bryce AD CVO and includes representation from key sectors in the community.

Over 30 task force recommendations are relevant to my portfolio which are aimed at reforming the law and justice system response to domestic and family violence. Implementation of a number of these recommendations is already well underway. One key initiative has been the establishment of a six-month trial of a specialist domestic and family violence court at Southport Magistrates Court to improve the efficacy of system responses. Funding of \$1.1 million was also provided in 2015-16 to expand Legal Aid Queensland's domestic violence duty lawyer service to 14 locations across the state. In the wake of three very tragic and public deaths that occurred in September, the government also made reforms to establish a new independent Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board. Recruitment of the board is underway.

Further amendments have been made to ensure that criminal offences that occur in a domestic violence context can be clearly noted on the face of an offender's criminal history. Other changes to the