

~~On a final note, I draw the attention of the House to the inclusion of a sunset and a review provision. First, the bill includes a sunset clause which will bring about the expiration of part 6A of the Disability Services Act on 30 June 2019. Second, the Minister for Disability Services will be required to conduct a full review of the act in light of the amendments made by this bill. This review must be completed by 30 June 2019. The timing of this review is so that Queensland can consider the status of the national NDIS quality and safeguards framework.~~

~~Keeping Queenslanders with disability safe and ensuring they can uphold their rights are matters of critical importance to this government. We are committed to improving the lives of people with disability and maximising the opportunities that the NDIS will offer to thousands of Queenslanders. This bill will ensure the robust safeguards provided under Queensland legislation will continue to operate throughout the NDIS transition period. I commend the bill to the House.~~

First Reading

~~Hon. CJ O'ROURKE (Mundingburra—ALP) (Minister for Disability Services, Minister for Seniors and Minister Assisting the Premier on North Queensland) (2.59 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 Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

~~Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Grace): Order! In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee.~~

~~Debate, on motion of Mrs O'Rourke, adjourned.~~

CONSTITUTION (FIXED TERM PARLIAMENT) AMENDMENT BILL

Division of Bill

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Leader of the House) (3.00 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—

That so much of Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended so as to permit—

- (1) The Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 being divided into two Bills—
 - (a) A Bill for an Act to amend the Constitution of Queensland 2001 to provide for fixed terms for the Legislative Assembly and to amend the Constitution Act Amendment Act 1934 for particular purposes, and to repeal the Constitution Act Amendment Act 1890 to be known as the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015.
 - (b) A Bill for an Act to amend the Electoral Act 1992 for particular purposes to be known as the Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015.
- (2) The Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 will incorporate:
 - the title (an Act to amend the Constitution of Queensland 2001 to provide for fixed terms for the Legislative Assembly and to amend the Constitution Act Amendment Act 1934 for particular purposes, and to repeal the Constitution Act Amendment Act 1890);
 - the enacting words “The Parliament of Queensland with the consent of the electors of Queensland enacts”;
 - clauses 1—10 and 17 of the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 introduced on 17 September 2015;
 - any consequential and necessary amendments to reflect this order, including renumbering.
- (3) The Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015 will incorporate:
 - the title (an Act to amend the Electoral Act 1992 for particular purposes);
 - the enacting words “The Parliament of Queensland enacts”;
 - a clause incorporating the short title (the Act to be cited as the Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Act 2015);
 - clauses 11—16 of the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 introduced on 17 September 2015;

- any consequential and necessary amendments to reflect this order, including renumbering.
- (4) If the question that the Bill be divided as proposed in paragraphs (1)-(3) is agreed to, then further consideration of the debate stands adjourned as an Order of the Day until copies of the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 and the Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015 in accordance with paragraphs (1)-(3) are presented and copies supplied to members.
- (5) Once presented and copies of the Constitution (Fixed Term Parliament) Amendment Bill 2015 and the Electoral (Constitutional) Amendment Bill 2015 have been supplied to Members, the question before the Chair will be:
- “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.

~~FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~Resumed from 13 October (see p. 2081).~~

~~Second Reading~~



~~Hon. CW PITT (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) (3.04 pm): I move—~~

~~That the bill be now read a second time.~~

~~I thank the Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee for its consideration of the Family Responsibilities Commission Amendment Bill 2015. I note that the committee tabled its report on 6 November and it recommended that the bill be passed. The committee has made five recommendations and I intend to deal with all of them in turn. At the outset, however, I would like to make some general comments about the content and intent of this bill.~~

~~The bill seeks to amend the provisions of the Family Responsibilities Commission Act or the act so that the Family Responsibilities Commission, known as the FRC, can operate more effectively and, most significantly, address incidents of domestic violence in the welfare reform community areas of Aurukun, Cohen, Hope Vale, Mossman Gorge and Doomadgee. The FRC is an independent statutory authority established under the act and is a key mechanism for supporting the welfare reform program.~~

~~Welfare reform operates in partnership with the Commonwealth government and the Cape York Institute. Part of the Queensland government's commitment is to work with identified communities to: restore social norms and local authority; change behaviours in response to chronic levels of welfare dependency, social dysfunction and economic exclusion; and provide alcohol and treatment support, improved educational opportunities, better health services, economic development and income management support. As part of this program, as stated in the act, the FRC is designed to: support the restoration of socially responsible standards of behaviour and local authority in welfare reform community areas; and help people in welfare reform community areas to resume primary responsibility for the wellbeing of their community and the individuals and families of the community.~~

~~The FRC includes the commissioner, a deputy commissioner and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander local commissioners. The local commissioners themselves come from the communities in which they sit when they constitute the FRC. The way that the FRC achieves the act's stated aims is by holding conferences with community residents who are in receipt of welfare payments and who are the subject of an agency notice provided to the FRC. An agency notice is provided by a relevant Queensland government agency when a community resident breaches a trigger. The current 'triggers' are: non-attendance or non-enrolment of a child in school; alleged harm or alleged risk of harm to a child; conviction of an offence before a court, including the Children's Court; or breach of a residential tenancy agreement or use of premises for an illegal purpose.~~

~~The purpose of the FRC's conference with the community member who is the subject of an agency notice is to address the behaviour and issues that gave rise to the trigger being breached. A conference, organised by the FRC and held with the community member can result in: referring individuals to community support services to assist them to address their behaviours; entering into agreements with people to set standards of behaviour; and directing the person's income to be managed by Centrelink to pay for the priority needs of their family—this is referred to as conditional~~