



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

Tuesday, 10 October 2023

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TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2023

The Legislative Assembly met at 9.30 am.

Mr Speaker (Hon. Curtis Pitt, Mulgrave) read prayers and took the chair.



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I respectfully acknowledge that we are sitting today on the land of Aboriginal people and pay my respects to elders past and present. I thank them, as First Australians, for their careful custodianship of the land over countless generations. We are very fortunate in this country to have two of the world's oldest continuing living cultures in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples whose lands, winds and waters we all now share.

ASSENT TO BILLS



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have to report that I have received from Her Excellency the Governor a letter in respect of assent to certain bills. The contents of the letter will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the letter for the information of members.

The Honourable C.W. Pitt MP
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

I hereby acquaint the Legislative Assembly that the following Bills, having been passed by the Legislative Assembly and having been presented for the Royal Assent, were assented to in the name of His Majesty The King on the date shown:

Date of Assent: 20 September 2023

A Bill for an Act to amend the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 for particular purposes

A Bill for an Act to amend the Acts Interpretation Act 1954, the Appeal Costs Fund Act 1973, the Attorney-General Act 1999, the Civil Liability Act 2003, the Civil Proceedings Act 2011, the Cremations Act 2003, the Criminal Code, the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 1978, the District Court of Queensland Act 1967, the Electoral Act 1992, the Funeral Benefit Business Act 1982, the Human Rights Act 2019, the Justices of the Peace and Commissioners for Declarations Act 1991, the Justices Regulation 2014, the Legal Profession Act 2007, the Legal Profession Regulation 2017, the Limitation of Actions Act 1974, the Magistrates Act 1991, the Magistrates Courts Act 1921, the Motor Accident Insurance Act 1994, the Oaths Act 1867, the Oaths Regulation 2022, the Ombudsman Act 2001, the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992, the Personal Injuries Proceedings Act 2002, the Public Guardian Act 2014, the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009, the Referendums Act 1997, the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, the Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991, the Trust Accounts Act 1973, the Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2019, the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009, the Youth Justice Act 1992 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes, and to repeal the Court Funds Act 1973

A Bill for an Act to amend the South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act 2009, the Water Act 2000, the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes

These Bills are hereby transmitted to the Legislative Assembly, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Yours sincerely

Governor

20 September 2023

Tabled paper: Letter, dated 20 September 2023, from Her Excellency the Governor to the Speaker advising of assent to certain bills on 20 September 2023 [\[1595\]](#).

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

Absence of Members



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I have received advice that the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and member for Redcliffe, Hon. Yvette D'Ath MP, will be absent for this week's sittings of the House. I have also received advice that the member for Rockhampton, Mr Barry O'Rourke, will be absent for the period 25 September to 29 October 2023 inclusive. Both members' notifications comply with standing order 263A.

PRIVILEGE

Speaker's Rulings, Alleged Deliberate Misleading of the House



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, on 15 September 2023 I tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the member for Surfers Paradise alleging that the Minister for Employment and Small Business, Minister for Training and Skills Development and Minister for Youth Justice, when acting in her capacity as Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development, deliberately misled the House on 18 April 2023 in a statement made during matters of public interest.

On 15 September 2023 I tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the Manager of Opposition Business and member for Glass House alleging that the Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment deliberately misled the House on 10 May 2023 in an answer provided during question time.

On 15 September 2023 I tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the Leader of the House, Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence alleging that the member for Clayfield deliberately misled the House on 23 May 2023 in a statement made during matters of public interest.

Also on 15 September 2023 I tabled a ruling regarding a matter of privilege relating to a complaint by the Manager of Opposition Business and member for Glass House that the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure deliberately misled the House on 15 March 2023 in an answer provided in question time.

Honourable members, I ruled that these matters did not warrant the further attention of the House by the Ethics Committee. I now refer to these matters so that if any member wishes to exercise their rights in respect of these matters under the standing orders they should do so immediately.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Heart Health



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, tomorrow morning the Heart Foundation will visit the parliamentary precinct to conduct free heart health checks for members and staff. There will be an opportunity to have individual conversations about reducing the burden that cardiovascular disease has on our state with the Heart Foundation's national CEO, David Lloyd, and Public and Local Affairs Manager, Peter Thomas. The Heart Foundation has been a leading advocate for improved heart health throughout Australia since 1959. In Queensland, around 246 people are hospitalised with heart disease every day and, sadly, 14 will lose their lives. Information has been emailed to members, and I encourage members to make a booking or pop in while the Heart Foundation is visiting.

Visitors to Public Gallery



Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise that this morning we are joined in the gallery by Edgardo Mulato MP. Mr Mulato is visiting from the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador.

Honourable members: Hear, hear!

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, I wish to advise that we will be visited in the gallery this morning by students and teachers from Wynnum State School in the electorate of Lytton.

PETITIONS

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the honourable members indicated—

Gabba Redevelopment

Dr MacMahon, from 3,909 petitioners, requesting the House to protect Raymond Park and East Brisbane State School and scrap the Gabba redevelopment [[1586](#)].

South Brisbane Electorate, School

Dr MacMahon, from 3,069 petitioners, requesting the House to plan for a school in East Brisbane and Kangaroo Point to create a lasting positive legacy for this community [[1587](#)].

Youth Crime

Mr Boothman, from 3,885 petitioners, requesting the House to implement a range of measures to address youth crime [\[1588\]](#).

The Clerk presented the following e-petitions, sponsored by the Clerk—

Cross Indigenous Corporation (Campfire Healing) Group

333 petitioners, requesting the House to assist the Message of the Cross Indigenous Corporation (Campfire Healing) group continue to operate [\[1589\]](#).

Housing

5,373 petitioners, requesting the House to recognise buses, tiny homes on wheels and caravans as permanent housing choices and allow rural land owners to host tiny housing [\[1590\]](#).

Queensland Development Code

246 petitioners, requesting the House to review and amend the draft Queensland Development Code MP 4.1 version 1.14 [\[1591\]](#).

Driver's Licence, First Aid Training

941 petitioners, requesting the House to make first aid training a compulsory part of gaining a driver's license in Queensland at no extra cost to the license holder [\[1592\]](#).

Petitions received.

TABLED PAPERS

PAPERS TABLED DURING THE RECESS (SO 31)

The Clerk informed the House that the following papers, received during the recess, were tabled on the dates indicated—

15 September 2023—

- [1346](#) Legal Affairs and Safety Committee: Report No. 55, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 24 May 2023 and 13 June 2023
- [1347](#) Department of Environment and Science—Queensland Multicultural Policy: Second Progress Report 2019-2022
- [1348](#) Jobs Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1349](#) State Development and Regional Industries Committee: Report No. 45, 57th Parliament—Queensland Climate Transition Bill 2023
- [1350](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Minister for Employment and Small Business, Minister for Training and Skills Development and Minister for Youth Justice
- [1351](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment
- [1352](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Member for Clayfield
- [1353](#) Ruling by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Curtis Pitt—Alleged contempt of Parliament by the Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure
- [1354](#) Community Support and Services Committee: Report No. 34, 57th Parliament—The progress of social housing provision in South East Queensland 2023
- [1355](#) Response from the Minister for Resources (Hon. Stewart), to an ePetition (3917-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 5,665 petitioners, requesting the House to remove the consideration of changing the name of the city of Brisbane
- [1356](#) Queensland Independent Remuneration Tribunal—Annual Report 2022-2023

18 September 2023—

- [1357](#) Queensland Government: First Progress Report titled 'Delivery of Recommendations: Commission of Inquiry into Forensic DNA Testing in Queensland'
- [1358](#) Office of the Information Commissioner—Annual Report 2022-23: Building trust through transparency

20 September 2023—

- [1359](#) Health and Environment Committee: Report No. 39, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 19 April 2023 and 23 May 2023
- [1360](#) Health and Environment Committee: Report No. 40, 57th Parliament—Subordinate legislation tabled between 24 May 2023 and 13 June 2023

21 September 2023—

- [1361](#) Response from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner), to an ePetition (3935-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 909 petitioners, requesting the House to stop the logging of Deongwar State Forest

- [1362](#) Response from the Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure (Hon. Dr Miles), to an ePetition (3868-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,104 petitioners, requesting the House to legislate the Guideline on Equity and Fairness in Rating for Queensland local governments to ensure all Queensland councils are bound by its principles
- [1363](#) Response from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (Hon. D'Ath), to a paper petition (3941-23) presented by the member for Callide, Mr Head, and an ePetition (3923-23) sponsored by the member for Callide, Mr Head, from 472 and 1,345 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to support truth in sentencing principles whereby the perpetrator serves the full sentence imposed reflecting the severity of the action
- [1364](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to an ePetition (3882-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 438 petitioners, requesting the House to provide local renal and urological specialist services to the Hervey Bay area
- [1365](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to a paper petition (3939-23) presented by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, and an ePetition (3885-23) sponsored by the member for Hinchinbrook, Mr Dametto, from 690 and 1,205 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to provide permanent rural Medical Practitioners in Cardwell, Ingham, Tully, Mission Beach and in all rural medical practices in Queensland
- [1366](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to an ePetition (3894-23) sponsored by the member for Mirani, Mr Andrew, from 2,181 petitioners, requesting the House to increase the Patient Travel Subsidy for fuel, travel and accommodation as a commitment to breaking down the barriers for rural patients' access to healthcare
- [1367](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3859-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 544 petitioners, requesting the House to fit safety barriers in all buses in Queensland and declare all buses un-roadworthy until barriers are fitted
- [1368](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3886-23) sponsored by the member for Warrego, Ms Leahy, from 918 petitioners, requesting the House to restore the Dogwood Creek Bridge at Miles to full capacity; commence a business plan to replace the bridge; and ensure the rehabilitation and widening of the narrow sections of the Roma Condamine Road
- [1369](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3889-23) sponsored by the member for Theodore, Mr Boothman, from 1,002 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure that as part of the Coomera Connection Project, all new sound barriers incorporate "caps" to further mitigate noise from the roadway
- [1370](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3891-23) sponsored by the member for Theodore, Mr Boothman, from 472 petitioners, requesting the House to provide bus services for residents living in the estates off Maudsland Road, Maudsland
- [1371](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3896-23) sponsored by the member for Toowoomba North, Mr Watts, from 547 petitioners, requesting the House to conduct a full traffic safety assessment to ensure the safety of those travelling to and from the Toowoomba Christian College using the New England Highway between Toowoomba and Highfields
- [1372](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3904-23) sponsored by the member for South Brisbane, Dr MacMahon, from 3,596 petitioners, requesting the House to establish a parliamentary inquiry into the impact of Brisbane's flight paths
- [1373](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3906-23) sponsored by the member for Burnett, Mr Bennett, from 1,031 petitioners, requesting the House to ensure the replacement of each lost return tilt train service between Bundaberg, Maryborough, Hervey Bay and Brisbane with wheelchair accessible buses
- [1374](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3907-23) sponsored by the member for Toowoomba North, Mr Watts, from 877 petitioners, requesting the House to halt the introduction of the Department of Transport and Main Roads new roadworthy scheme until TMR conducts a comprehensive review of the system
- [1375](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3911-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 1,505 petitioners, requesting the House to ban electric vehicles from our roads unless the owner can demonstrate they are charged from a source other than the electricity grid
- [1376](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to an ePetition (3914-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 691 petitioners, requesting the House to cause the refusal of the application for compulsory acquisition for 15 Oval Avenue, Caloundra
- [1377](#) Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services (Hon. Bailey), to a paper petition (3940-23) presented by the member for Toowoomba North, Mr Watts, and an ePetition (3924-23) sponsored by the member for Toowoomba North, Mr Watts, from 495 and 9,865 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to terminate the current proposed Toowoomba North South transport corridor route and restart the entire process in direct and visible consultation with the impacted Darling Downs communities

22 September 2023—

- [1378](#) Stadiums Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1379](#) Tourism and Events Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1380](#) Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1381](#) Response from the Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Hon. Grace), to an ePetition (3916-23) sponsored by the Clerk under the provisions of Standing Order 119(4), from 668 petitioners, requesting the House to support 'first responder' or 'eligible employees' as defined in the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 2003 who are diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorders
- [1382](#) Sunwater—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1383](#) Sunwater—Statement of Corporate Intent 2022-23
- [1384](#) Gladstone Area Water Board—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1385](#) Urban Utilities—Annual Report 2022-23: Enriching the Quality of Life
- [1386](#) Unitywater—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1387](#) Seqwater—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1388](#) Seqwater—Operational Plan 2022-23

25 September 2023—

- [1389](#) Response from the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women (Hon. Fentiman), to a paper petition (3942-23) presented by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, and an ePetition (3908-23) sponsored by the member for Traeger, Mr Katter, from 1,248 and 960 petitioners respectively, requesting the House to construct a new hospital in Charters Towers
- [1390](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities (Hon. Furner), pursuant to section 10(3) of Schedule 50 of the Rural and Regional Adjustment Regulation 2011, regarding an extension to the closing date of the Flood Affected Livestock Grants Scheme
- [1391](#) Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1392](#) Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1393](#) Mount Isa Water Board—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1394](#) Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1395](#) Office of the Independent Assessor—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1396](#) Queensland Reconstruction Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1397](#) South Bank Corporation—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1398](#) Department of Child Safety, Seniors and Disability Services—Annual Report 2022-23

26 September 2023—

- [1399](#) Annual Report of Electorate and Communication Allowance Expenditure by Members of the Legislative Assembly—1 July 2022-30 June 2023
- [1400](#) Annual Report of General Travel Allocation Expenditure by Members of the Legislative Assembly—1 July 2022-30 June 2023
- [1401](#) Annual Report of Air Warrant and Alternate Travel Expenditure by Members of the Legislative Assembly—1 July 2022-30 June 2023
- [1402](#) Queensland Performing Arts Trust—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1403](#) Board of the Queensland Museum—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1404](#) Queensland Art Gallery Board of Trustees—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1405](#) Library Board of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1406](#) Parole Board of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1407](#) Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1408](#) Queensland Fire and Emergency Services—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1409](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services (Hon. Ryan) pursuant to section 56A of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding the Building Fire Safety Regulation 2008 and Fire and Emergency Services Regulation 2011

27 September 2023—

- [1410](#) Mental Health Court—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1411](#) Mental Health Review Tribunal—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1412](#) Queensland Training Ombudsman—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1413](#) Queensland Small Business Commissioner—Annual Report 2022-23

- [1414](#) Urban Utilities—Annual Report 2022-23: Enriching the Quality of Life: Erratum
- [1415](#) Department of Youth Justice, Employment, Small Business and Training—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1416](#) Newstead House Board of Trustees—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1417](#) Department of Environment and Science—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1418](#) Central Queensland Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1419](#) Bundaberg Health Services Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1420](#) Children's Hospital Foundation Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1421](#) Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1422](#) Gold Coast Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1423](#) Ipswich Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1424](#) Mackay Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1425](#) PA Research Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1426](#) Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1427](#) Sunshine Coast Health Foundation (Wishlist)—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1428](#) The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1429](#) Toowoomba Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1430](#) Townsville Hospital Foundation—Annual Report 2022-2023
- 28 September 2023—
- [1431](#) Department of Housing—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1432](#) Residential Tenancies Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1433](#) National Electricity (South Australia) (Ministerial Reliability Instrument) Amendment Act 2023 (SA) which received Royal Assent on 23 March 2023
- [1434](#) Department of Energy and Public Works—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1435](#) Queensland Building and Construction Commission—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1436](#) Board of Architects of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1437](#) Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1438](#) Energy & Water Ombudsman Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1439](#) Queensland Hydro Pty Ltd—Annual Report for the period 3 August 2022 to 30 June 2023
- [1440](#) Queensland Treasury—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1441](#) Queensland Treasury Corporation—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1442](#) Motor Accident Insurance Commission—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1443](#) National Injury Insurance Agency Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1444](#) Queensland Competition Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1445](#) Trade and Investment Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1446](#) Affirmation of appointment as Ombudsman and the Inspector of Detention Services of Queensland of Mr Anthony Reilly, dated 28 September 2023
- [1447](#) Department of Education—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1448](#) Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1449](#) Contract Cleaning Industry (Portable Long Service Leave) Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1450](#) Community Services Industry (Portable Long Service Leave) Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1451](#) Building and Construction Industry (Portable Long Service Leave) Authority—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1452](#) Non-State Schools Accreditation Board—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1453](#) Racing Queensland—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1454](#) Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1455](#) Queensland Parliamentary Service—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1456](#) Office of the Chief Psychiatrist—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1457](#) Queensland Mental Health Commission—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1458](#) Office of the Health Ombudsman—Annual Report 2022-2023
- [1459](#) WorkCover Queensland—Annual Report 2022-2023

- [1460](#) Port of Townsville Limited—Annual Report 2022-23
- [1461](#) Port of Townsville Limited—Statement of Corporate Intent 2022-2023
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- [1507](#) Queensland Investment Corporation—Annual Report 2022-23
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- [1545](#) Queensland Corrective Services—Annual Report 2022-23
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3 October 2023—

- [1547](#) Letter, dated 3 October 2023, from the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Hon. Yvette D'Ath, to the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Neil Laurie, enclosing Legal Affairs and Safety Committee: Report No. 49, 57th Parliament—Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023, government response

4 October 2023—

- [1548](#) Report to the Legislative Assembly from the Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing (Hon. Grace) pursuant to section 56A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1992, regarding Safety in Recreational Water Activities Regulation 2011

5 October 2023—

- [1549](#) Review of the Operation of the Queensland Workers' Compensation Scheme—Final Report, 2023
- [1550](#) Queensland Independent Remuneration Tribunal—Remuneration Determination: Electorate and Communication Allowance Band Adjustment 2023—Determination 28/2023, 5 October 2023

6 October 2023—

[1551](#) Legal Affairs and Safety Committee: Report No. 56, 57th Parliament—Inquiry into the Body Corporate and Community Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023

[1552](#) Overseas Travel Report: Report on visit to United Kingdom and Spain by the Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement, Hon. Mick de Brenni, 2-10 September 2023

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS (SO 32)

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

The following statutory instruments were tabled by the Clerk—

Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Act 1992:

[1553](#) Mutual Recognition (Queensland) (Tasmanian Container Deposit Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 129

[1554](#) Mutual Recognition (Queensland) (Tasmanian Container Deposit Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 129, explanatory notes

[1555](#) Mutual Recognition (Queensland) (Tasmanian Container Deposit Scheme) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 129, human rights certificate

Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Queensland) Act 2003:

[1556](#) Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Queensland) (NT and Tasmanian Container Deposit Schemes) Notice 2023, No. 130

[1557](#) Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Queensland) (NT and Tasmanian Container Deposit Schemes) Notice 2023, No. 130, explanatory notes

[1558](#) Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Queensland) (NT and Tasmanian Container Deposit Schemes) Notice 2023, No. 130, human rights certificate

Supreme Court of Queensland Act 1991:

[1559](#) Criminal Practice Amendment Rule (No. 2) 2023, No. 133

[1560](#) Criminal Practice Amendment Rule (No. 2) 2023, No. 133, explanatory notes

[1561](#) Criminal Practice Amendment Rule (No. 2) 2023, No. 133, human rights certificate

Local Government Act 2009:

[1562](#) Local Government (Gold Coast City Council—Suspension of Councillor) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 134

[1563](#) Local Government (Gold Coast City Council—Suspension of Councillor) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 134, explanatory notes

[1564](#) Local Government (Gold Coast City Council—Suspension of Councillor) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 134, human rights certificate

Economic Development Act 2012, State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971:

[1565](#) Economic Development and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 135

[1566](#) Economic Development and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 135, explanatory notes

[1567](#) Economic Development and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 135, human rights certificate

Building Act 1975:

[1568](#) Building (Queensland Development Code) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 136

[1569](#) Building (Queensland Development Code) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 136, explanatory notes

[1570](#) Building (Queensland Development Code) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 136, human rights certificate

Education and Care Services Act 2013, Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005:

[1571](#) Education Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 137

[1572](#) Education Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 137, explanatory notes

[1573](#) Education Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 137, human rights certificate

Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 2023:

[1574](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 138

[1575](#) Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 138, explanatory notes

Liquor Act 1992:

[1576](#) Liquor (Morningside) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 139

[1577](#) Liquor (Morningside) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 139, explanatory notes

[1578](#) Liquor (Morningside) Amendment Regulation 2023, No. 139, human rights certificate

Environmental Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023:

[1579](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 140

[1580](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 140, explanatory notes

Nature Conservation and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022:

[1581](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 141

[1582](#) Proclamation commencing certain provisions, No. 141, explanatory notes

Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993:

[1583](#) Wet Tropics (Consequential Amendments) Amendment Management Plan 2023, No. 142

[1584](#) Wet Tropics (Consequential Amendments) Amendment Management Plan 2023, No. 142, explanatory notes

[1585](#) Wet Tropics (Consequential Amendments) Amendment Management Plan 2023, No. 142, human rights certificate

REPORT BY THE CLERK

The following report was tabled by the Clerk—

[1593](#) Report pursuant to Standing Order 169 (Acts to be numbered by the Clerk) and Standing Order 165 (Clerical errors or formal changes to any bill) detailing amendments to certain Bills, made by the Clerk, prior to assent by Her Excellency the Governor, viz—

Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

Amendments made to Bill

Short title and consequential references to short title—

Omit—

'Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2022'

Insert—

'Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2023'

MEMBER'S PAPER


The following member's paper was tabled by the Clerk—

Member for Cairns (Mr Michael Healy)—


[1594](#) Overseas Travel Report: Report to Parliament on official visit to Hong Kong by the member for Cairns, Mr Michael Healy MP, 12-17 August 2023

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Israel

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.36 am): The Queensland government condemns in the strongest possible terms the horrendous Hamas attack on Israel. Our government denounces acts of terrorism and the invasion was an act of terror. The killing of civilians—men, women and children—and the taking of hostages is abhorrent. I think everyone would share with me my deep concern about the images that have been broadcast on our television sets. As the Prime Minister said, there is nothing to justify the targeting of civilians. As the Prime Minister and the foreign minister, Penny Wong, have said, this was an horrific attack and Israel has the right to defend itself.

Water Security

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.37 am): Thanks to the decisions and investments of Queensland Labor governments, South-East Queensland has a resilient water supply system. This includes 12 dams and the SEQ Water Grid, which can transport water between the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast to where it is needed most. We also have the Gold Coast Desalination Plant. The Gold Coast Desalination Plant can produce 133 million litres a day of drinking water, or 50 Olympic-size swimming pools. During the 2022 floods the desalination plant ensured we could maintain a supply of safe drinking water when other infrastructure was damaged. The Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme can produce another 180 million litres of water a day in times of severe drought and support industry and agriculture.

Today I can announce that cabinet has endorsed the Water Security Program 2023 developed by Seqwater. This program recognises the strong population growth we are expecting, as outlined in the South East Queensland Regional Plan, and it recognises the impacts climate change is having on the reliability of water from our dams. This plan firmly focuses on desalination because it goes directly


into the water grid and is not lost to evaporation during droughts. Desalination leaves a greater flood buffer in Wivenhoe Dam at the end of a drought, and desalination secures the water grid during flood events when water treatment plants are being impacted by debris.

We have a plan for continued water security for the south-east of our state. It includes: immediately ramping up operations at the Gold Coast Desalination Plant, with plans to expand the facility by 2033; connecting Wyaralong Dam to the SEQ Water Grid; building a new water treatment plant by 2023; and building a new desalination plant in South-East Queensland by 2035. A detailed business case with costs for the connection of Wyaralong Dam to the water grid is expected to be completed next year. A detailed business case for the new desalination plant will be completed for budget consideration in 2025. The precise location of a new desalination plant is yet to be determined and will be reliant on the business case.

The Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme will remain as an insurance policy. This is an insurance policy for an extreme drought scenario where the water grid levels drop below 40 per cent. This is the existing policy. Since the water grid was built, there has already been a drought that was only one year short of the millennium drought. Due to the resilience of the water grid, combined levels did not drop below 50 per cent. Recycled water is already used to supply industry, taking pressure off Wivenhoe Dam. Under the plan it will be better used for other purposes such as agriculture and the emerging hydrogen industry.

While South-East Queensland's dam levels sit at a combined level of just under 70 per cent of capacity, it is important to have a plan for the future. That is what the 30-year plan developed by Seqwater delivers.


Victims of Crime

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.40 am): The impacts of crime go well beyond any property loss or damage. The trauma can live with an individual, their family and their community for life. That is why our government announced our plan to increase support for victims of crime, boosting the hands-on community recovery people need. We have listened. I want to thank the ministers who have been personally involved in meeting with a number of organisations, and I want to thank people who have taken the time to meet with me.

We know that government needs to do more and that victims need to be front and centre. Later today the police minister will introduce amendments to reflect this important uplift into the Victims of Crime Assistance Act. We are putting \$185 million towards resetting the upper cap for financial assistance from \$75,000 to \$120,000 and increasing the range of payments available for offences, including funeral expenses and distress payments. Additionally, we are investing \$18 million to establish our Victims' Commissioner office. Victims must be front and centre when we are talking about these very complex issues.

Today I can announce that our government is also increasing payments to victims of domestic and family violence. Under proposed changes that will be introduced today, special assistance payments for domestic and family violence victims will increase from \$1,000 to \$9,000. Sometimes these families are escaping violent situations with just the clothes on their backs, so we must do whatever we can to make life a lot better for these women and their children.

Economy

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.42 am): It is this Labor government that safely guided Queenslanders through COVID, and now it is this Labor government that is building back our economy. There are 276,600 more jobs in Queensland than in March 2020. Our economy is set to grow at three per cent this financial year, or twice as fast as the nation. We have lower debt than our southern neighbours, taxes are \$551 lower per person, and business investment is up 5.6 per cent. In further good news, unemployment has fallen across regional Queensland. That means people across regional Queensland have the dignity of a job.

It was my great pleasure to announce during my CEDA address last week that this government is creating jobs in even more industries. Queensland scientists have always been trailblazers. It was our experts who were first to develop a vaccine for cervical cancer. We have produced some of the best in repairing damaged spinal cords and in environmental science. These are all areas in which Queenslanders lead the world.

However, there is another field in which Queensland scientists and universities have quietly gained the lead—that is quantum, an area of science widely recognised as the new frontier. We use quantum every day in computers, medical imaging and mobile phones, but the power in those machines has not improved much since last century. That, too, is about to change. Our government is investing \$76 million to support the commercialisation of Queensland's world-leading research of quantum technologies. Just as we started preparing primary school students for the future by introducing coding to the curriculum, we will partner with industry and universities to embark on regional job expos to encourage the study of maths and science to prepare for quantum.

Mr Bleijie interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Kawana, you are warned under the standing orders.

Ms PALASZCZUK: Our quantum strategy is just one more example of our government planning for the future. It is predicted that quantum alone will generate 50,000 jobs over the next 20 years. I want these jobs in Queensland and I want our children to have the very best opportunity.

Firefighters Remembrance Day



Hon. A PALASZCZUK (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games) (9.44 am): Today is Firefighters Remembrance Day—a day to remember and honour firefighters who have sadly lost their life in the line of duty. This year in particular we remember Izzy Nash, who lost her life in May. Her passing is a reminder of the dangers our frontline staff face daily in ensuring our safety. I want to thank our firefighters on behalf of all Queenslanders for the job they do protecting our communities. I pay tribute to all the families and friends of those we have lost.

Get Ready Queensland



Hon. SJ MILES (Murrumba—ALP) (Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure) (9.44 am): This week is Get Ready Queensland Week. Queensland has the unenviable title of the most disaster-affected state in Australia. We have experienced more than 100 natural disasters in Queensland since 2011, but by getting ready Queensland can also be the most disaster resilient state. Research shows that being prepared for a disaster not only protects individuals and their households but also helps them recover more quickly.

Yesterday I joined the Premier, students from St William's Grovely primary school, Ithaca Creek primary school and Rugby League great Johnathan Thurston to launch the start of Get Ready Queensland Week. Through the Get Ready program, \$2 million is being made available for councils to share on disaster preparedness measures like equipment for evacuation centres, disaster dashboards and community education. Analysis of the campaign shows that 60 per cent of respondents recognise the Get Ready Queensland campaign and roughly 90 per cent said that the program helps them become more disaster prepared. Almost 80 per cent said they would now prepare a disaster kit, while more than 70 per cent will make a disaster plan.

Just like many members in this House, I have seen firsthand the terrible toll natural disasters have taken on our state. Since 2011, natural disasters have left us a reconstruction and recovery bill totalling more than \$22 billion. The 2022-23 disaster season has an estimated public damage bill of around \$700 million, and this cost will likely rise. Right now, the Queensland Reconstruction Authority is managing an active reconstruction program estimated at more than \$7.2 billion. This comprises works from 32 events across the 2019-20 to 2022-23 disaster seasons.

While the loss of property and infrastructure is devastating, the impacts on people are profound—lives turned upside down and a lifetime of work and memories suddenly gone. After a relatively mild winter here at home, we now face the prospect of a long, hot summer fuelled by the El Nino weather pattern. From bushfires and flooding to cyclones and severe storms, we experience it all. While we cannot control the weather, we can always get ready and ensure we are prepared.

Mental Health Services



Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (9.47 am): There is no better time to acknowledge the importance of positive mental health and wellbeing than during Mental Health Awareness Week. It is why the Palaszczuk Labor government is delivering a record investment in mental health services and support. That record investment is supported by our

mental health payroll tax levy. This payroll tax levy applies only to the largest one per cent of Queensland businesses—those with an annual payroll of more than \$10 million. In the first six months of its operation the levy has collected \$183 million. By 2026-27, the strength of the Queensland economy means collections for the mental health levy are forecast to grow to \$466 million. Every dollar of that revenue will be used to invest in mental health and alcohol and drug services, and every dollar will make a positive difference for mental health patients and their families.

Our mental health levy is enabling the delivery of Better Care Together—the Palaszczuk Labor government's five-year mental health, alcohol and other drugs plan. We are investing tens of millions of dollars to ensure more people get the help they need sooner, with better integrated care. Through Better Care Together, we are expanding the mental health care co-responder model with the Queensland Ambulance Service; we are expanding new crisis support spaces, creating home-like environments to support Queenslanders experiencing mental distress at 11 additional hospitals; we are investing more in clinical inreach services to headspace centres to provide free health services for young people; and we are ensuring more mental health beds are available closer to people's homes.

Through the budget I delivered in June we are investing \$150 million for a new mental health facility for Redland Hospital, increasing capacity by 20 beds. We have committed \$92 million for the refurbishment and expansion of the Rockhampton Mental Health Unit which will deliver a new 32-bed mental health facility. We can only make these investments because of the mental health payroll levy that our government introduced and, in doing so, we know we can take steps that will improve the quality of life for thousands of Queenslanders.

Artificial Intelligence



Hon. G GRACE (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.49 am): Our world-class education system is preparing our students to be active and informed citizens, ready to take on the many challenges and opportunities that will be thrown at them. Just last week the Premier announced the new \$76 million Quantum and Advanced Technologies Strategy, which will provide incredible opportunities for students' futures. Artificial intelligence, or AI, will be part of that future, whether we like it or not. Like calculators and the internet before it, it is going to change the way we teach and learn. While teachers will always remain at the centre of classroom teaching and learning, future focused learning practices such as the use of AI can play a vital role in helping improve educational outcomes.

I am delighted, therefore, to update the House on two key developments in response to the advent of AI in schools. First, at the national level, in Hobart last week education ministers from around the country signed off on the Australian Framework for Generative Artificial Intelligence in Schools. The framework will build around six principles: privacy, security and safety; human and social wellbeing; teaching and learning; transparency; fairness; and accountability. Together these principles recognise that, while we want to take advantage of the opportunities, we need the right safeguards, too. We cannot have a situation where private data is sold off, where academic integrity is compromised or where AI is used to bully students or target teachers.

Second, in line with the nationally agreed principles, we are embarking on a trial of AI educational tools in Queensland state schools. The trial will involve 500 students and 25 teachers from 10 Queensland state schools using an artificial intelligence teaching and learning tool called Cerego. Cerego is an adaptive learning platform that uses generative AI learning to provide quiz-based study that quickly adjusts to the needs of individual students. Teachers provide Cerego with the parameters of the quiz design to specifically target the needs of their students. Using machine learning based on the students' answers, Cerego then provides a personalised, tailored learning experience for the student to progress through the content. This is leading the nation.

While applications like ChatGPT are open source, which can lead to issues of accuracy, Cerego's source information can be provided directly. In this case, it is a digitised version of the full curriculum used in Queensland state schools. Students taking part are in classes from year 5 to year 12 and are studying in a wide range of subjects including English, physics, science, health and humanities, and accounting—and in the future imagine quantum technologies, too. Learnings from the trial will be used to develop resources providing information and guidance to all state schools about the use of AI in schools in 2024. This is just another way the Palaszczuk government is backing our students and our teachers and setting up Queensland students for a bright future.

Water Security



Hon. GJ BUTCHER (Gladstone—ALP) (Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water) (9.53 am): South-East Queensland has a safe and secure water supply grid, thanks to the foresight of Labor governments in the past and now. We can transport water around the region to where it is needed most, particularly when variable rainfall leaves some catchments with more water than others. We saw that during the most recent drought, which ran from 2015 and ended in the 2022 flood event. It was one year shorter than the millennial drought, yet the grid only dropped to around 55 per cent and water restrictions were not necessary after that time.

We know that people want to move to Queensland and we also know that climate change will continue to challenge us here in Queensland. That is why it is important that we continue to plan for future growth. Here in South-East Queensland, our publicly owned water entity, Seqwater, is responsible for providing safe, reliable and affordable drinking water. Seqwater's plan for meeting these important needs is set out in our Water Security Program. It is a 30-year plan that considers population growth, projected rainfall and climate change to determine what new water infrastructure is needed and when we will need it. Seqwater's updated program proposes to connect Wyaralong Dam, north-west of Beaudesert, to the grid and expand the existing Gold Coast Desalination Plant by 2033.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Members to my left will cease their interjections. Member for Coomera, you started it all. Be careful.

Mr BUTCHER: Considering the dual challenges of creating a resilient water supply and meeting demands from population growth here in Queensland, Seqwater will also undertake a detailed business case for a new desalination plant in South-East Queensland. While Seqwater's modelling shows that this proposed new asset is not needed until the mid-2030s, we know that it is important to start planning for it now. More people want to call South-East Queensland home, so it is important that we continue to deliver the infrastructure that is needed to support this great Queensland lifestyle.

Unlike water from dams and purified recycled water, desalination water is pumped directly into the water grid. During the 2022 flood event when our main water treatment plants were impacted by debris and turbidity, the Gold Coast Desalination Plant was ramped up to supplement the grid so water supply was not interrupted during that time. We also know that, because of climate change, we lose hundreds of thousands of megalitres of water off our dams each year through evaporation. Climate-resilient assets like desalination therefore deliver for Queenslanders during floods, droughts and everything in between. The Gold Coast Desalination Plant is providing water to the grid right now, and purified recycled water is being used by industry right now. Seqwater is investigating further uses for purified recycled water, including for agriculture and emerging industries like hydrogen. All of this reduces the drawdown on Wivenhoe Dam here in South-East Queensland. Whether it is—

Mrs Frecklington interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Nanango is warned under the standing orders.

Mr BUTCHER: Whether it is the \$5.2 billion in water infrastructure already delivered by the Palaszczuk Labor government since 2015 or the planning work that is underway right across the state, Queenslanders can be certain that this government will deliver infrastructure needed not only now but also into the future.

Homelessness Services




Hon. MAJ SCANLON (Gaven—ALP) (Minister for Housing) (9.56 am): The Palaszczuk government's focus is not only on building homes but also on building lives and supporting people who are doing it tough in their most challenging moments. One of the ways we do that is through investing in supported accommodation which provides wraparound help for people who would otherwise find it difficult to live independently. Today I am pleased to announce that we are providing \$1.4 million to establish a supported accommodation service for young people at risk of homelessness on the Sunshine Coast. A disused church in Nambour has been transformed to help young people who are vulnerable and struggling. It includes 22 fully furnished rooms, complete with an en suite and study area. The Integrated Family and Youth Service, which will run the facility, will provide an onsite caretaker to make sure these young people get extra support to change their lives for the better. This is the first temporary supported accommodation service specifically targeted at young people in the

area. Investments like this are important because we know that more than 21 per cent of people supported by the Palaszczuk government's specialist homelessness services on the Sunshine Coast are young people aged between 15 and 24 years.

Today is World Homelessness Day, a day that calls on us all to work to prevent and end homelessness and alleviate the suffering of those experiencing it. We know that homelessness can affect anyone. Everyone's story is different. For some it is fleeing domestic and family violence—the monster in the kitchen. For some it is reaching retirement age after years of unpaid or low-wage work and not having enough super to afford housing. For others it can be battling a whole range of often complex factors that make it hard to hold down a job and make ends meet. Whatever it is, everyone deserves a secure place to call home. That is why we are funding 13,500 new social homes as part of our Big Build. It is why we provide rental grants to help fill the gap when things get tough. It is why we fund 194 specialist homelessness services across the state to deliver outreach and support for people who are experiencing homelessness. I can update the House that in the last year alone those services have helped over 45,000 Queenslanders doing it tough and, in partnership with the Queensland government, they have provided over 1.6 million nights of accommodation. We do this because Labor governments believe that nobody should be left behind.

Mental Health Services

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women) (9.59 am): Today on World Mental Health Day I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge and pay tribute to the people in Queensland and around the world who grapple with their mental health every single day. I want to acknowledge the mental health professionals who spend their life improving the lives of those around them. To those people with lived experience, their families, carers and significant others, I say thank you. Their invaluable contribution is now driving reform to make our systems more responsive and person centred.

I want to pay tribute today to those struggling with alcohol and substance misuse. We know that poor mental health and problematic alcohol and substance use can have a profound impact on families, workplaces and communities. Our mental health, alcohol and other drugs systems must be supported to ensure they provide the highest quality of care to those who need it most. That is why this Mental Health Week I will be announcing a series of initiatives being rolled out across Queensland by the Palaszczuk government that are possible thanks to our mental health levy and our \$1.64 billion Better Care Together plan.

Our unprecedented sustainably funded investment in mental health and wellbeing is delivering better outcomes for people right across the state, and today I am proud to announce we will continue to work to strengthen our systems. When people are ready to seek help for their problematic alcohol and substance use, they need to know where to find a service and that they will be readily available. I can announce today that this year our government will invest \$47.9 million into boosting residential rehabilitation and withdrawal management services to deliver safer, person centred, contemporary models of care. This funding will also support the expansion of the drug and alcohol brief intervention teams in hospital emergency departments and inpatient specialists to better support people presenting with substance use issues and support our hospital workforces.

We are continuing to boost the capacity of ADIS, our statewide 24/7 drug and alcohol support service, to deliver tailored phone and online support for anyone concerned about their own or someone else's substance use. We will continue to ensure those with lived experience inform our policy, planning and service improvement. This almost \$50 million investment will go towards hiring a further 41 frontline staff across alcohol and other drug treatment services. In addition, we are investing a further \$1 million into the 'Keep an eye on your drinking' social marketing campaign, which aims to reduce risky alcohol consumption among Queenslanders.

Building awareness and supporting the community to understand problematic substance use as a complex social and health issue is critical to reducing stigma and discrimination. Last year one in three Queenslanders—that is one and a half million people—exceeded the risky drinking guideline. This phase of the campaign will expand the message across a wider range of social media platforms, help increase community understanding of the risks of excessive alcohol consumption and drive a cultural shift towards healthier behaviours. Together, each of us can help create a Queensland that is better attuned to the needs of the mental health of our communities, particularly when it comes to alcohol and other drug treatment and support.

Road Safety



Hon. MC BAILEY (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (10.03 am): The weekend before last we saw 10 people lose their lives on Queensland roads. Sadly, they now join the 222 people who have been killed in road fatalities over the past 12 months in Queensland. These are everyday people whose lives have been cut short and whose family and friends miss them dearly. Tragically, many of these were, in fact, avoidable.

Earlier this year the Palaszczuk government committed to bringing down the number of lives lost on our roads. We want to see no deaths on our roads. We also committed an investment of \$1.8 billion in road safety over the next four years. We got tough on penalties and enforcement, and we make no apologies for that, but we cannot do that alone. Road safety and protecting people on Queensland roads is certainly above politics.

Just last week I met with two families, Kent and Kylie Payne and Troy and Adam Postle, who had lost children and siblings, Harrison Payne and Alyssa Postle, in separate incidents where they were both passengers. Both families have been profoundly affected by their loss but have a strong desire and determination to change the culture of safety on our roads and our beaches. I look forward to working with them via their organisations the Harrison Payne Initiative and Live4Lyss.

As members of this parliament, we should take the time to reflect on how we can all make our Queensland roads safer. As the Minister for Transport and Main Roads, I receive correspondence from members from time to time requesting the department to review their constituents' fines for speeding, lack of seatbelt use and illegal phone use and lost licences. Can I say that fines are entirely avoidable. If people do the safe and responsible thing when driving on our roads, not only are they making the roads safer but they will not get fined themselves.

We use road safety cameras to promote safe driving and save lives by stopping speeding, distraction and not wearing a seatbelt—all killers on our roads. It is a tragic fact that both our regions and motorcycle riders have continued to be overrepresented in fatalities throughout this year and, in fact, every year. Every single person who is driving dangerously on our roads is putting the lives of Queenslanders at risk as well as their passengers and themselves. We must have the courage to be active against the fatal five: speeding, drink and drug driving, failing to wear seatbelts, driving while fatigued and, of course, distracted driving.

Over the next week I will be writing to each member of this House asking them to actively promote road safety in the media and on social media. I will certainly provide each member of this parliament with the resources to do that. As members, we have a duty to make sure that every Queenslanders can get home safely every time they are on our roads.

Firefighters Remembrance Day; Police Service, Recruitment; Ministerial Advisory Council



Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (10.06 am): At the 10th hour on the 10th day of the 10th month we commemorate Firefighters Remembrance Day. Today we remember the firefighters who have tragically lost their life in the line of duty. We recognise their contributions and pay tribute to the families and friends of the fallen. Since 1877, 60 Queensland firefighters have tragically lost their life in the line of duty. It is with great sadness that we again reflect on the passing of firefighter Izzy Nash, who lost her life in the line of duty on 2 May this year. She, along with all those other brave firefighters, will always be remembered as always being ready for duty.


Queensland's frontline responders do a remarkable job for the community. I want to commend the Queensland Police Service for undertaking the biggest recruitment campaign in the service's history. Within a matter of weeks there will be more than 600 recruits undergoing training in our two police academies with more than 500 of those recruits at the Oxley police academy. This year the Queensland Police Service has received approximately 3,000 applications to join the service and I am advised that right now there are 1,400 applicants in the applicant pipeline. They include 180 applicants with previous policing experience from Australia and New Zealand and 330 applicants with international policing experience.

Those numbers reflect the success of the recruitment campaigns interstate and overseas by the Queensland Police Service, and the financial incentives provided by this government to relocate, the financial incentives for tertiary graduates and a cost-of-living allowance for recruits while training are all having an impact on this recruitment drive. This is happening because the government has made the biggest investment in police recruitment in more than 30 years and that investment reflects the

government's commitment to supporting community safety. We are putting more boots on the ground because we know that makes a difference when it comes to preventing, disrupting and responding to crime.

I will conclude today by announcing, on behalf of the Attorney-General, that from later today expressions of interest are being sought for a new independent ministerial advisory council. The council will provide the ability to examine crime related issues and make recommendations on the justice system and victim reform. I encourage victims of crime, First Nations representatives, peak advocacy bodies and representatives from the legal sector from across the state to apply. Further details will be provided publicly later today.


Energy and Jobs Plan

 **Hon. MC de BRENNI** (Springwood—ALP) (Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement) (10.09 am): I, too, acknowledge Firefighters Remembrance Day and the sacrifice made by brave Queenslanders in the line of duty. We are now 12 months into the most comprehensive, accountable, realistic, transparent and effective plan for a climate and energy transition not just in Australia but quite possibly the world—that is, the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. Through it, we are not just taking real action on climate change but also cutting the cost of living and delivering local energy security. As the Premier declared in her CEDA State of the State address last week, 'The Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan is going to set up our regional economies for the next century.'

I advise the House that there were some big announcements on our Big Build of the Queensland SuperGrid. Top of the list for many regional Queenslanders was a \$250 million investment to support a 100-fold increase in internet speeds in key parts of the state through the Queensland SuperGrid. Up in Townsville, 40 works packages have been released for expressions of interest on CopperString 2032. This includes works on stringing and installation through to camp and bus services. In Central Queensland, the Callide clean energy hub is starting to take shape, with the 50 per cent owned 100 per cent offtake agreement with CS Energy on the Boulder Creek Wind Farm. In Wide Bay, publicly owned Stanwell and Energy Storage Industries are working towards having a 150-megawatt iron flow battery in commercial operation by 2029. That will be supported by the establishment of a \$70 million manufacturing facility in Maryborough, with support from the Palaszczuk government. Out west, the nation's largest solar farm, the Western Downs Green Power Hub, and the Dulacca Wind Farm have both been connected to the Queensland SuperGrid.

When it comes to a brighter future for Queensland, we are only just getting started. Queensland is the only state in the nation with a pipeline of renewable energy projects strong enough to meet our renewable energy targets. I am advised that that pipeline now exceeds 80 gigawatts—\$162 billion worth of investment in new wind, solar PV and batteries. Since the plan was announced, and according to the Australian Energy Market Operator, a further 18 new wind and solar projects—totalling 8.4 gigawatts—have been proposed in Queensland. The Palaszczuk government is focused on delivering, not delaying. We are focused on driving, not denying. These are real solutions that matter to Queenslanders as we grow Queensland's clean economy.

Get Ready Queensland


 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algeria—ALP) (Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts) (10.12 am): We know that Queensland is frequently affected by extreme weather events, from floods and cyclones to heatwaves and bushfires. That is why we need to be prepared. This week, from 9 to 15 October, is Get Ready Queensland Week. This important campaign educates Queenslanders about the upcoming storm and cyclone season and helps us all to prepare our families and homes for a natural disaster. Ensuring Queenslanders have the necessary resources and are prepared before disaster season can help to save lives and build resilience.

Our highly experienced community recovery teams are ready to support Queenslanders during the upcoming disaster season, with extensive planning and preparation occurring throughout the year. If a disaster strikes, community recovery will be there to assist with emotional support, financial assistance, material aid and other support services. Over the years I have met with many community recovery staff across a range of community recovery operations and I have seen the incredible support that they provide to those in need and their commitment to looking after Queenslanders who have been

impacted by disasters. In the last two years alone, community recovery teams have been deployed across six separate natural disasters, and a total of \$36.5 million in financial support has been paid to more than 113,000 people.

One of the strengths of our model is the ready reserve—a workforce of public servants from across the Queensland government who volunteer to be deployed to disaster areas across the state. They are dedicated support personnel on the ground when it matters most, assessing and responding to the needs of communities. I would like to thank each and every one of them for spending time away from their communities and their families to do this important work. You might see them out and about this week, in fact. Some of our community recovery team will be attending the Brisbane Emergency Services Expo this Saturday, 14 October from 10 am to 3 pm at Victoria Park. The expo is a great day out to meet responders and recovery workers, including some of our ready reserves. Families will be able to explore emergency response vehicles up close, experience demonstrations and workshops, and learn some valuable tips and tricks to prepare their home and make plans on how to stay safe before, during and after severe weather events. My department is also hosting a briefing for members on Thursday, from 1 pm to 2 pm, to ensure members can best support their own communities during the upcoming disaster season. Now is the time to get ready and be prepared.


ABSENCE OF MINISTER

 **Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE** (Sandgate—ALP) (Acting Leader of the House) (10.14 am): Mr Speaker, further to your statement about the absence of the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, I advise the House that the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women will take questions during question time this week on the Attorney-General's behalf, and I will act as Leader of the House.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, question time will conclude today at 11.15 am.

Sexual Assault Services

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (10.15 am): My question is to the Premier. In May, the health minister committed that new rape kits would be in extensive use by July across all 16 health regions. Has the government delivered on the promise to make sexual assault examinations available around the clock?

Ms PALASZCZUK: We acknowledge that that is a very important issue and one that needed to be addressed. We are absolutely committed to ensuring we create a trauma informed, victim-centric system for victims of sexual assault. It is something that we are deeply committed to. I know that the Attorney-General and the Minister for Health are committed to that as well. That is why this government established the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce, which made a whole range of recommendations—something that had never happened before in this state. Victims of sexual assault were put front and centre. It also looked at women's interaction with the criminal justice system. It was a very comprehensive process which gave due consideration to the recommendations.

I am advised that hospital and health services are currently funded to provide 24-hour access to sexual assault support services. They are required to offer forensic examinations with police involvement or to collect and store forensic examinations if the person is still considering the formal involvement of the police. We have also accepted the recommendation to update and review the sexual assault investigation kits. I am advised that all hospital and health services are now using the updated forensic medical examination kits and associated forensic medical examination records. In addition, statewide training of both doctors and sexual assault nurse examiners is being coordinated by Forensic Medicine Queensland.

Sexual Assault Services

Mr CRISAFULLI: My question is to the Minister for Health. The opposition has been advised that the delayed rollout of new rape kits triggered the government to engage a big four consultant to conduct a review. Why have the details of this review never been made public?

Ms FENTIMAN: I thank the member for the question. As the Premier has said, our government has an absolute commitment to supporting women and victims of sexual assault. This is why we called the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce, headed by Margaret McMurdo and a range of experts. They provided hundreds of recommendations—not only around domestic and family violence and the

standalone offence of coercive control but also to radically change the way our systems interact with victims to put victims at the centre. That includes when women come forward, after experiencing probably the most horrific and traumatic experience of their life, to a hospital for testing. Having sat on the board of the Centre Against Sexual Violence in Logan for 10 years and having advocated for better responses to women when they show up at that hospital, I can say that our government is absolutely committed to providing every health and hospital service with the equipment they need. This includes new rape-testing kits, which was a recommendation of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce.

I will tell members what else is critical when women come forward: not just that we have appropriate state-of-the-art testing kits but that we have clinicians trained not only in how to undertake that very important test, which is then used in criminal proceedings, but also in how to present in a trauma informed way. When we think about this experience for a woman and what she has just undergone, we need to make sure that not only we have the kits and we have very experienced clinicians who know clinically how to perform these tests but also they have done the training to understand the trauma that these women have been through. That is what we have committed to, that is what we have funded and that is what all of our clinicians right across Queensland have participated in. I make no apologies for having a Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce—

Mr POWELL: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance under standing order 118(b). The question was regarding a big four consultant review into this matter and why those details have not been made public.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, Manager of Opposition Business. The question had two parts, including, I think, matters that the minister has been dealing with, but I will ask the minister to try to address that component of the question.

Ms FENTIMAN: In fact, the first part of the question dealt with a delay in the rollout, and what I am saying to every member of this parliament is that every clinician right across Queensland has now undertaken the training. The kits are available at hospitals. I make no apologies for making sure that we have external consultants ensuring that everything we said we were going to do is being done. If there is anything else this government needs to do to support women victims of sexual assault, you better believe we will do it. That is why we had the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce. That is why we have absolutely implemented all of its recommendations. Those opposite cut funding to sexual assault services. Shame on them!

(Time expired)

Cost of Living, Relief

Ms PEASE: My question is of the Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Can the Premier please update the House on how the government is delivering cost-of-living relief across Queensland?

Ms PALASZCZUK: I thank the member for Lytton for the question. The member for Lytton would also share my views and the views of all Queenslanders that we do recognise and appreciate that there are families out there who are experiencing tough times with the rising cost of living, whether that is paying for petrol, whether that is the cost of groceries, paying for rent or paying a mortgage. A lot of those issues we do not control, but what we can do and what our government is doing is providing cost-of-living relief to help those families in need. It is very targeted, very direct and very purposeful.

In relation to that cost-of-living relief, with over \$8 billion this is the largest cost-of-living package anywhere in Australia and we are proud of that. It is a Labor government that recognises there are issues out there. We are listening to people and we are responding. That is why we are giving \$550 for families for the electricity rebate and up to \$1,000 for pensioners, and of course next year we will be offering free kindy. How wonderful is that for families—free kindy—to ensure that young children across Queensland get an equal start before they go into prep? That has been very well received across Queensland and we are looking forward to that rollout. We also put in place \$44 million for rebates on electrical appliances if they are energy efficient. That is an outstanding success across Queensland. Today I am putting a shout-out as well to regional Queensland families. At the moment more families from South-East Queensland are applying. I would like to see more regional families apply for that rebate. It is very simple and there is a website that people can be directed to.

In contrast, what do we hear from those opposite? There are no plans and there are no policies. We are coming up to a year to the election and still we are not seeing any comprehensive plans from those opposite. There might be some secret plans, but we know about those. Do not take it from me: someone has called the current members of the LNP a whingeing—I have said that—weary, policy-vacant bunch of ageing, grumpy individuals.

(Time expired)

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order, members! Member for Toowoomba South, you are warned under the standing orders.

Sexual Assault Services

Ms BATES: My question is to the Minister for Health. A whistleblower has told the opposition a rape victim presented to hospital in August. She could not be examined due to a lack of trained staff. She was transferred to another hospital, only to be ramped for a further eight hours. Given Queensland rape victims are waiting hours on an ambulance ramp, how can women believe the minister is ensuring every victim of sexual assault has access to timely and high-quality forensic examination no matter the time of day or where they live?

Ms FENTIMAN: I thank the member for the question. If there is a woman who has had to wait, then that is incredibly distressing and I would urge the member for Mudgeeraba to please contact my office so that I can get to the bottom of what happened. As I have made very clear, this is a government that absolutely is committed to making sure that survivors of sexual violence are at the heart of our criminal justice system and our health system. That is why hundreds of clinicians have undertaken that all-important training in not just how to use these rape kits but how to understand the trauma that a victim has been through.

I urge the opposition: if there are instances where women have not been seen in a timely way—because that is absolutely what our government expects—then please immediately contact me or my office so that we can help fix what happened in that particular case rather than walk in here and ask a question. Surely the health and wellbeing of a victim of rape and sexual assault should be above politics. This government absolutely puts women front and centre and I absolutely take issue with the member for Mudgeeraba, who was a cabinet minister in the Newman government when it cut funding to her own Gold Coast sexual assault service.

If there are issues where women are not being seen in a timely way, we absolutely want to know about it and we absolutely want to fix it. What I can say is that this government's track record on improving the sexual assault system and the criminal justice system is absolutely leading the nation. Not only have we provided further funding for every sexual assault service in the state of Queensland; we have also made it easier for victims to come forward to report. We have also made significant changes to our criminal justice system, and very soon we will have very good news for the women of Queensland when it comes to further progressive law reform criminalising coercive control and introducing affirmative consent to make it easier for victims of sexual violence.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: Before calling the next questioner, I remind all members—those asking questions, those interjecting and also ministers responding—that you will direct your comments through the chair for the dignity of the House.

Health System

Mr KING: My question is to the Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Can the Premier please update the House on how the Palaszczuk government is delivering better healthcare outcomes for Queenslanders?

Ms PALASZCZUK: I thank the member for Kurwongbah. I know how passionate he is about making sure that families in his community have access to quality health care, with a new satellite hospital due to be completed very shortly. I look forward to joining the members out there for that opening. There is proof that satellite hospitals are taking pressure off our emergency departments. This is an issue that was raised at a meeting with the premiers on Friday. Health will be front and centre of National Cabinet when it meets sometime in November. We are very proud of the satellite hospitals. In conjunction with the federal government's urgent care clinics, we are seeing that they are taking some pressure off of our emergency departments.

We know that those opposite would absolutely decimate the health system if they were in office. We know that because the shadow health minister has said so. What did the shadow health minister say? She insisted that the Newman government's record on health is something she would again aspire to. The sacking of 4,500 health workers is something the member for Mudgeeraba would aspire to; cutting \$1.6 billion from the Queensland health budget is something she would aspire to; regional health cuts is something she would aspire to; and the removal of \$120 million in funding to community organisations—organisations such as Deaf Services Queensland, Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service, the Queensland AIDS Council and child and family therapy services—is something she would aspire to. It is there in black and white. The member for Mudgeeraba sat down for the interview about what she would do with the health system and, as we know, it is back to the future we go—back to where the savage cuts happened, back to where health workers were cut across Queensland, back where there were no plans. Let us not forget that the member for Mudgeeraba called regional health workers duds. It is absolutely disgraceful!

Sexual Assault Services

Ms CAMM: My question is to the Minister for Health. A whistleblower has told the opposition that another woman attended a hospital in August only to be told that they had no rape kits, to come back the next day and to take a photo of her injuries. Given the minister said that no victim requesting a forensic medical examination should ever be turned away from a hospital, why under this Labor government is justice being denied, with rape victims being sent home and told to collect their own evidence?

Mr SPEAKER: That was a reasonably lengthy preamble. I remind all members to ensure preambles are not too lengthy.

Ms FENTIMAN: Again I would say that that is completely unacceptable, and if the member would please—

Opposition members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Members to my left, the minister has just started her contribution and is also being relevant, as I hear, to the question asked. I would like to hear the answer.

Ms FENTIMAN: If the member would please forward the information to me—

Mr Crisafulli: Fix the system!

Ms FENTIMAN: I will absolutely fix the system, but I cannot do that unless the opposition refers matters to me to fix it. I am absolutely determined to make sure that women are seen in a timely way. If that is not happening, I want to know. I want to know as soon as the opposition knows.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! One person has the call and that is the Minister for Health. We will hear her response.

Ms FENTIMAN: If the opposition could please forward these concerns to me—

Mr Purdie interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Ninderry, you are warned under the standing orders. I have just called the House to order. It was not an invitation to jump in and fill the gap.

Ms FENTIMAN: As the minister, I give you my assurance I will fix it, but I have to know when it is happening. The Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce outlined that women were waiting too long, that we did not have the appropriate sexual assault kits and that we needed to do further training. We have implemented all of those recommendations and we have funded our health and hospital services to provide those kits, to get clinicians trained and to make sure that the most vulnerable people presenting at our emergency departments—that is, women who have experienced sexual assault and rape—are dealt with in a timely way and a trauma informed way. That is what I expect as the health minister, and it is what our government expects.

I will work each and every day to make sure that these women get a better response. I have worked my entire career with the sexual assault services of Queensland and I will not stop now as the health minister. I am proud that our government was the first government in Queensland to fund the Queensland Sexual Assault Network, which has been lobbying to improve systems for women. I will not stop working with them and the victims I meet with each and every day.

Mr Powell interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Glass House is warned under the standing orders.

Ms FENTIMAN: I say again with respect: if these issues do arise, please let me know urgently so that we can fix them.

Infrastructure Projects

Mr HARPER: My question is to the Deputy Premier. Could the Deputy Premier advise the House how the Palaszczuk government's Big Build is delivering for Queensland, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any alternative approaches?

Dr MILES: I thank the member for Thuringowa for his question. I know that he knows that it is Labor governments that build this great state. The Palaszczuk government, through our Big Build, is delivering the infrastructure that Queensland needs. There is a massive 10-year program of infrastructure—\$89 billion in the current budget—creating jobs now and jobs in the future; protecting our lifestyle here in the south-east but also in the regions like North Queensland; and delivering the infrastructure that will allow us to build the homes that our growing population will need and that will help people to get around from those homes to their work and to their school.

The member for Thuringowa knows only too well that the Big Build is not just big in Townsville; the Big Build is huge in Townsville. It includes CopperString 2032, which will unlock the minerals and the renewables of the north-west and bring them to Townsville for processing into things like batteries, including at the Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct. Also in Townsville it means a bigger and better Townsville University Hospital; it means expanded services at the Kirwan healthcare centre, which allows it to deliver more and better health care closer to people's homes; and it means a new Burdell Ambulance Station. The member and I turned the first sod on that new ambulance station recently.

All of those healthcare projects in Townsville are on the list of projects the Leader of the Opposition has said he would cut if he got the chance. That is the list they tell us about; it is not the secret list that the member for Chatsworth told us they had. There is the list we know about and there is the secret list. Then there is the plan to cut nurses' wages that the member for Burnett has been out there talking about, and now the shadow health minister has outlined her vision for Queensland Health. She aspires to do to Queensland Health what Campbell Newman did to Queensland Health: to sack 4,400 workers and to close the Barrett Adolescent Centre. Lives were lost. That is what the shadow health minister aspires to do. She says that health workers have nothing to fear. They have all heard that before. She says that they are all on notice. That is the LNP's plan for Queensland Health—the cuts they will tell you about, the cuts they will keep secret, the cuts to nurses' wages and the cuts to nursing jobs.

Sexual Assault Services

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: My question is to the Minister for Health. Whistleblowers have told the opposition that across greater Brisbane rape kits are available in only two hospitals while police are often told that the RBWH has no weekend capacity to attend victims and to come back on Monday. How many women are turned away or sent home and told to come back because the minister has failed to deliver her commitment?

Ms FENTIMAN: I thank the member for the question. As the Premier advised and I can advise, all HHSs now have rape kits available. Again, if there were some issue where they were not available then I want to know about it and I want to know why they were not available, because every HHS has now been funded to provide those kits.

Mrs Gerber interjected.

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Currumbin is warned under the standing orders and the member for Everton will cease his interjections.

Ms FENTIMAN: The other thing that I would like to say on the reforms we are making to the sexual assault sector, the health system and the criminal justice system is that we are expanding the very successful SART model in Townsville where sexual assault workers are funded to work with the police, the DPP and health to provide wraparound services for victims as soon as they report. We are also funding the Queensland Sexual Assault Network for the first time in its history so that it can continue to advocate on behalf of women.

Very soon we will have landmark legislation before this parliament around affirmative consent and stealthing because that is what this government is absolutely committed to. We believe that when women come forward they should be believed. Not only do our systems need to be set up to put those women at the centre; we need to have our laws properly reflect what the community needs to know around sexual assault and consent. I was privileged to work with Chanel Contos—

Mr POWELL: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance under standing order 118(b). The question was about the availability of rape kits in Brisbane hospitals and how many women have been turned away.

Mr SPEAKER: I have said before, there was a lengthy preamble that cut to many of the issues that the minister is responding to. I will ask the minister to address that particular component but the minister, as I hear her so far, is being relevant.

Ms FENTIMAN: As I said, we are working very closely with tremendous advocates to change the laws in this state to make it easier for victims of sexual assault to come forward and seek justice because that is what this government absolutely believes in. Those opposite have a pretty tragic track record when it comes to funding sexual assault services. It includes cutting funding to Bravehearts of \$45,000, cutting funding to DVConnect—

Ms BATES: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order, again on relevance under standing order 118(b). The minister was asked—

Mr SPEAKER: No, thank you.

Ms Bates interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: You are not to repeat the question, member.

Ms Bates interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member! Member for Mudgeeraba, you can leave the chamber under standing order 253. That is disorderly conduct. I called you to order. I gave you plenty of options.

Whereupon the honourable member for Mudgeeraba withdrew from the chamber at 10.42 am.

Mr SPEAKER: Minister, you still have 55 seconds remaining. Would you like to use that time?

Ms FENTIMAN: As I was saying, the LNP government cut funding to Bravehearts of \$45,000, they cut funding to the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Prevention Centre of \$140,000, they cut funding to the Gold Coast Centre Against Sexual Violence of \$34,000, they cut funding to the Wide Bay Sexual Assault Services of \$29,000—

Mr POWELL: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order on relevance under standing order 118(b).

Honourable members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, members. I will hear the point of order in silence.

Mr POWELL: The point of order is on relevance under standing order 118(b).

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you. I have a very good handle on what is relevant and what is not relevant. I do not believe there is a point of order.

Ms FENTIMAN: We have one service that supports women with a disability—

Ms Simpson interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Maroochydore, you are warned under the standing orders.

Ms FENTIMAN:—when they experience sexual assault. That one service had their funding cut by the LNP government, of which the Leader of the Opposition was a cabinet minister. They cut funding to every dedicated sexual assault service under their government. We are rebuilding them. We are refunding them.

(Time expired)

Health System

Mrs GILBERT: My question is of the Treasurer. Will the Treasurer update the House on how the Palaszczuk government is investing in the health of all Queenslanders and is the Treasurer aware of any alternative approach?

Mr DICK: I thank the member for Mackay for her question. In the budget that I delivered in June, our government delivered \$1.6 billion this financial year for our health capital works program. That means new hospitals in Bundaberg, Toowoomba and Coomera and expansions to hospitals in Cairns, Townsville, Robina, Redcliffe, Ipswich, Hervey Bay and, as the assistant minister knows, also in her

home community of Mackay. We will spend nearly \$10 billion on health infrastructure over six years to deliver 2,200 additional overnight beds. Our government can do that for one reason and that is progressive coal royalties—royalties that are under threat from the LNP.

Just last month, Stephanie Bennett in the *Courier-Mail* and Lydia Lynch in the *Australian* put the question to the Leader of the Opposition and, of course, he refused to say that he would keep progressive coal royalties in this state. Days later we saw the Leader of the Opposition posting on Facebook with his mentor, the cheerleader and principal lobbyist for the coal industry, Ian Macfarlane. The reason he did that was the deal is done. We know the LNP wants to kick the door open for all of the money that they want to raise from the coal lobby. That is why he has done it. That is why the Leader of the Opposition has refused to commit to progressive coal royalties and wants to cut them.

That leaves us with one question: how will you fill a \$7 billion black hole, which is what they have opened up in the budget? You do not have to look to my answers because the member for Mudgeeraba has given the answer. She has let the cat out of the bag. She is absolutely insistent that the health system that Campbell Newman and the Leader of the Opposition ran when in government is something that she aspires to. We know what that means: savage cuts to health care.

On World Mental Health Day, let us look at the mental healthcare system that the Leader of the Opposition presided over when he was a cabinet minister. They closed the principal adolescent mental health centre in this state without replacement and there were tragic consequences. That is something that the Leader of the Opposition did. The mental health system suffered its biggest cut in history when the Leader of the Opposition was a cabinet minister. Of course, for the first time ever they reduced spending on mental health in this state. That is the sort of health system that the Leader of the Opposition aspires to. I will say it very clearly in the parliament and I will say it very clearly to the people of Queensland: we will protect Queenslanders from LNP cuts, we will protect progressive coal royalties, we will protect our mental health system and we will spend every day protecting Queenslanders from David Crisafulli and LNP cuts.

Mr SPEAKER: Before calling the member for Currumbin, Treasurer, I remind you that we should be using members' correct titles and not their names in the chamber.

Sexual Assault Services

Mrs GERBER: My question is to the Minister for Health. The opposition has learnt that rape victims in Brisbane are also being told to go home, do not wash and come back tomorrow because of the lack of rape kits and trained staff. Given the minister said that no victim requesting a forensic medical examination should ever be turned away from a hospital, will the minister explain how bad this shortage has become under her watch and why she has failed to deliver on her promise?

Mr SPEAKER: Member, I believe there are some imputations directed at the minister. I ask you to rephrase the question without the imputations.

Mrs GERBER: The opposition has learnt that rape victims in Brisbane are also being told to go home, do not wash and come back tomorrow because of the lack of rape kits and trained staff. Given the minister said that no victims requesting a forensic medical examination should ever be turned away from a hospital, will the minister explain this shortage under her watch and why she has not delivered on her promise?

Mr SPEAKER: The question has been modified. I will allow the minister to answer, but I will give her some free movement on that.

Ms FENTIMAN: As I have said, if any women have had these comments made to them—it is unacceptable—I want to know about it so that we can fix it. Please let me know and we will fix it. It is absolutely not okay. We have provided all of the kits to every hospital. Hundreds of staff have now undergone the training. I just want to say that it is absolutely unacceptable, and if the member would please forward the details I will look into it.

Student Wellbeing Package

Mr MELLISH: My question is of the Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing. With today being World Mental Health Day, can the minister update the House on the progress of the Palaszczuk government's student wellbeing program, and is the minister aware of any alternative approaches?

Ms GRACE: I thank the member for Aspley for the question. It is World Mental Health Day, and it is so important. The member is a great advocate of student wellbeing in his schools. He is very proud of the fact that three schools within his electorate—Aspley State High School, the state school and the special school—have a psychologist in place helping students with their mental health and wellbeing.

We know that school can be a wonderful time for many students, but students often face challenges as well, particularly when it comes to their mental health and wellbeing. The research shows that there is a clear connection between student health and wellbeing and their results at school. That is why it is vitally important that we have in our schools services that are free, accessible and delivered in a safe environment. We went to the last election with a student wellbeing package of around \$110 million. We have a new Respectful Relationships curriculum in our schools and we are leading the nation on preventing bullying in our schools. We are also banning mobile phones next year, although they are pretty much banned already.

I am pleased to update the House on the progress of that policy position. We went to the election wanting to employ 464 mental health and wellbeing professionals. We are now at 450, and we have 12 months to go. We have 158 psychologists, 181 social workers, 105 guidance officers—that is an extra—and 50 GPs in schools. We went to the election with 20; we now have 50 GPs in schools. That makes 500 mental health and wellbeing professionals in our schools.

In terms of alternative policies, do members know how many those opposite had when we came to government? They had—wait for it—11. We have 500; they had 11 when we came in. A Redlynch State College student said—

Having a psychologist at school has helped me to learn how to communicate with people better. I am not getting into trouble as much now, which is awesome.

These are the results we are getting. When I think about alternative policies, it saddens me that there is an absolute vacuum opposite. Talk about a lazy opposition! In the words of Jann Stuckey, 'apathy, laziness, indifference and mediocrity'. That is what we are getting from those opposite. What do we hear from them? They aspire to return to the Newman days, just as the Leader of the Opposition aspires to return to the Newman days. We in this House are faced with constant whingeing from a weary, policy-vacant bunch of ageing, grumpy individuals who wear being thrown out of question time as a badge of honour. Jann Stuckey said that, too.

Hospitals, Mental Health Services

Mr BLEIJIE: My question is to the health minister.

A government member interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Mansfield, Mr Speaker.

Government members interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! I ask members to my right—

Ms Palaszczuk interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Thank you, Premier. I have asked repeatedly for questions to be asked in silence. I will allow the member to start his question again. I issue a general warning to members: I have heard some language today broadly that has been unparliamentary. Whilst I have not necessarily seen the members using that language, I ask again, for the dignity of the House, for the use of that sort of language to cease.

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence at the Premier's comments about my reading glasses and I ask her to withdraw. I cannot help my eye condition.

Mr SPEAKER: Premier, will you withdraw?

Ms PALASZCZUK: I withdraw.

Mr Mander interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Everton, we do not need anything more said.

Mr BLEIJIE: My question is to the Minister for Health. A Queensland Health clinical nurse, Nat Karmichael, has today spoken out about chronic bed shortages happening on this government's watch, with mental health patients waiting eight days for care, sleeping on the floor or couches and crammed into inappropriate wards. After nearly a decade in power, does the minister acknowledge that the Labor government's failure to properly resource our hospitals has failed mental health patients in Queensland?

Ms FENTIMAN: After the comments made by the Treasurer and me today, World Mental Health Day, about the huge investment in mental health—the biggest in Queensland’s history—I find it really strange that the deputy opposition leader would want to ask a question about mental health. Mr Karmichael has contacted my office and wants to meet. I am meeting with him today. I absolutely appreciate any hardworking nurse unit manager who wants to meet with me about their concerns. What will not help emergency departments and patients seeking treatment for mental health is abolishing the mental health payroll levy. At the time we introduced the levy we saw the headline ‘David Crisafulli hits out at Palaszczuk government’s new mental health levy’. I table that for the record.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Courier-Mail*, dated 23 June 2022, titled ‘David Crisafulli hits out at Palaszczuk government’s new mental health levy’ [[1596](#)].

If you do not have \$1.6 billion going into more beds, more staff and more support in the community, more people are going to struggle with their mental health. Today, on World Mental Health Day, I call on the Leader of the Opposition to guarantee that he will not cut the payroll tax levy.

Mr Mellish interjected.

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Aspley and Leader of the Opposition, you both are warned under the standing orders. Quarrelling across the chamber is simply unacceptable.

Ms FENTIMAN: We know that they have a secret plan. We have heard it before. The member for Burnett let the cat out of the bag when he said that they were going to get rid of wages and conditions for nurses. We have the member for Mudgeeraba aspiring back to the Newman years—to the cuts, the crisis and the sacking.

Of course, the Leader of the Opposition refuses to say whether he will cut the mental health levy. If we do not have that \$1.6 billion investment into mental health, there will be many more pressures on our emergency departments. We will have a lack of mental health clinicians and a lack of mental health beds. We know the track record of those opposite. They had not one health infrastructure policy when they were in government, but they did cut the Barrett Adolescent Centre. The Leader of the Opposition, who sat around the cabinet table when that decision was made, has not apologised to those families—those families with lived experience who worked with us to put in place a beautiful new centre, Jacaranda Place. The Leader of the Opposition has still not apologised. We know that those opposite aspire to Campbell Newman’s health record and we know that Campbell Newman was the opposition leader’s mentor. They have a secret plan for cuts, including mental health cuts.

Mr SPEAKER: Before calling the next question, I wish to ensure there is clarity for the House in terms of the member for Mudgeeraba. I excluded the member under standing order 253. That is, for the remainder of the day she will be withdrawn from the chamber except for divisions.

Health Workforce

Mr TANTARI: My question is of the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women. Can the minister update the House on initiatives the Palaszczuk government has introduced to better support frontline health staff, and is the minister aware of any alternative approaches?

Ms FENTIMAN: I thank the member for his question. He is a tremendous advocate for health services in his region and I am looking forward to coming up soon and opening the brand new mental health unit at Hervey Bay Hospital. Won’t that be wonderful? That will be wonderful. I am looking forward to that.

It is a privilege to travel the length and breadth of Queensland to meet with hardworking frontline health staff and to meet with patients and their loving families. They all deserve our support and gratitude. Our frontline health heroes work hard every day to care for us when we need it most, and this government wants to care for them. That is why over the last eight years we have been rebuilding in health after the destruction of the Campbell Newman cuts and chaos. After the LNP cut 4,400 health workers, including 1,800 nurses and midwives, we have hired them all back. In fact, we have hired over 18,000 more frontline workers since 2015, including 10,000 nurses. Member for Burnett, they deserve every cent they get every day!

The Newman LNP government failed to build one health infrastructure project—not one. In fact, as we have discussed, they shut the Barrett Adolescent Centre. It is probably time to ask what the LNP’s plan for health is if they are elected. We know that the member for Mudgeeraba, in her exclusive

sit-down interview with the *Courier-Mail*, told us all what the plan was: to aspire back to the Newman years; to go back to sacking those 4,000 health workers; to go back to not having one infrastructure project and no more beds; and to go back to shutting down important mental health services. On the one hand, she promised to put everyone from top bureaucrats to hospital workers on notice.

Mr Watts interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Toowoomba North is warned under the standing orders.

Ms FENTIMAN: On the other hand, she insists that doctors and nurses have nothing to fear under an LNP government. Oh, we have heard that before! Then Jann Stuckey, a former colleague, decided to weigh in. She said, 'Comments from Ros Bates that she's match fit because she's finally given up smoking are interesting. I am sure the people of Queensland would rather hear about her health policies. Does she have any?' That is a really good point, Jann! The fact is they have one secret plan: cuts. That is their only plan. The member for Burnett and the member for Mudgeeraba have—

(Time expired)

South Brisbane Electorate, Bike Lanes

Dr MacMAHON: My question is for the Minister for Transport and Main Roads. The Labor government promised new bike lanes for South Brisbane in 2020. Residents have been waiting for over three years. How much longer will we have to wait for something as simple as bike lanes?

Mr BAILEY: I thank the honourable member for the question on active transport—a topic which I am very enthusiastic about, as is well known. At the last election we made a \$30 million commitment to improve active transport in the electorate of South Brisbane, and we remain absolutely committed to doing that. Most of the active transport network in the electorate of South Brisbane is on local government roads; nonetheless, it is important in terms of people being able to access not just their communities but also in and out of the CBD. We have been working with the Brisbane City Council around the form of that. There is still ongoing work. It is getting fairly advanced now, so there will be something that comes out relatively soon. As a key stakeholder in the Brisbane City Council, we are working with them to finalise that. Of course the community will need to be consulted on such a step forward.

When you look at our active transport commitment not just here in Brisbane but right across the state there is a very strong commitment to make sure we have a balanced transport network. While road and rail is important, wherever you can you also have to build active transport to give people the alternative. Every person who switches to riding a bike to work in the morning is one less car, one less contribution to traffic. Whether it is big road and rail projects such as the M1 and the Moreton Bay Rail Link, we build active transport. We find that when they build them they are incredibly popular. They are well used and people find them very quickly. We are augmenting the veloway as well, which is basically a bicycle freeway in from Springwood. The member for Springwood has been very strongly supportive of that. We are doing work on Moggill Road in terms of connecting to the Centenary Cycleway. We are upgrading the cycleway across the Centenary Bridge as part of the bridge duplication, which I know the member for Mount Ommaney is a very strong supporter of.

As part of the Edmonton to Gordonvale project there will be a full active transport separation. In terms of active transport, it is right across the state and in regional Queensland as well. We have hundreds of cycleways that have already been built because we restored the fifty-fifty funding project and model with local government that was cut by the Newman government. Since we have been in power we have seen active transport all over regional Queensland as well as South-East Queensland, giving people that option. We will see a better active transport network in South Brisbane because of the Palaszczuk Labor government's commitment. We do not just talk about it; we do it. We will see more come out on that in the near future.

Organised Crime

Mrs McMAHON: My question is to the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services. Will the minister update the House on the regime the government has put in place to disrupt and dismantle organised crime groups, and is the minister aware of any alternative approaches?

Mr RYAN: I thank the member for the question. Everyone knows that here in Queensland under the Palaszczuk government we have the strongest, toughest, most comprehensive anti-organised crime legislation in the nation. It is delivering results for community safety and ensuring that those

members of outlaw motorcycle gangs and other organised crime gang groups are held accountable for the crimes they commit. It is not just me who says that. I see that Mark Lauchs, associate professor at the school of justice at Queensland Griffith University, said that the subsequent anti-bikie laws brought in by the Palaszczuk government in 2016 were 'even tougher' and 'probably overly onerous' on members of organised crime gangs. To that I say 'good', because holding members of organised crime gang groups to account is important.

Workable laws, strong police powers and tough penalties are delivering results for the community. Since our laws came in, over 200 fully patched outlaw motorcycle gang members have disaffiliated and over 3,300 outlaw motorcycle gang participants have been charged with over 16,000 charges. Many of them have been charged with a circumstance of aggravation, many have been given official warnings, and many have been charged with carrying or wearing prohibited items. I am reliably informed by the Queensland Police Service that because of our strong laws, particularly around prohibiting the establishment of clubhouses, there are no clubhouses for outlaw motorcycle gangs in Queensland. We have strong, workable laws that are used for the purpose for which they were intended.

There was an alternative, and recently we have seen one of the architects of that alternative express regret. Campbell Newman came out and said, 'I made a mistake when it came to those laws,' but in true Newman style he never accepted responsibility. Whom did he blame? Jarrod; he blamed the member for Kawana. He says that he has regrets about the controversial laws designed by then attorney-general Jarrod Bleijie, the member for Kawana. It was the member for Kawana's fault they had unworkable laws. It was the member for Kawana's fault they did not have the strong police powers that are contained in our laws or the tough consequences that are contained in our laws. The member for Kawana was the architect blamed by Campbell Newman, but Campbell Newman went further. He also blamed the police for enforcing his unworkable laws. We have strong, tough, comprehensive laws, and they are helping to keep the community safe.

Bushfire Preparedness

Ms BOLTON: My question is to the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services. With the prediction of extreme fire conditions for the next seven months and Rural Fire Service Queensland now only reportedly having 28,000 volunteers compared to New South Wales with 73,000, what is being urgently implemented to secure additional volunteers and improve the service's capabilities?

Mr RYAN: On this Firefighters Remembrance Day, I again acknowledge the outstanding contribution of all of our firefighters—whether they are in the Rural Fire Service, the Fire and Rescue Service or other agencies that contribute to bushfire mitigation and bushfire response, whether that is the Parks and Wildlife Service or some of the corporate partners—

Ms Leahy interjected.

Mr RYAN: Sorry?

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Warrego, cease your interjections.

Mr RYAN:—like HQPlantations, contributing to community safety through bushfire mitigation and bushfire response.

There are a couple of big things that this government has done in the last few months to boost the capability of our emergency services. The first, which we announced in the budget, was to increase substantially the funding for our aerial firefighting fleet. That is making a huge difference already. The LAT is back—it is at Bundaberg—and it is joined by a Black Hawk water-bombing helicopter, which has been used extensively over the last month or so to provide support and response to bushfire incidents across the state. That additional boost in resourcing is providing significant support to the front line in response to those bushfire incidents.

We are also ensuring that our Queensland Fire and Emergency Services agencies are fit for purpose for the future. We announced 12 months ago the reform of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, establishing the Queensland fire department in its own right with the Rural Fire Service as a recognised single entity within that fire department. We have more staff as a result of that, with over 100 extra staff for the Rural Fire Service. There is also tens of millions of dollars, with this year's Rural Fire Service budget being over \$100 million, for the first time ever, to ensure more equipment, more vehicles and more staff for the Rural Fire Service. That in turn will support a growing volunteer capability, because if you have more support through paid staff supporting the volunteer front line you

are able to better support people onboarding into the Rural Fire Service and retain them longer. This is a significant investment by this government in the front line. It recognises that our volunteer Rural Fire Service members, firefighters and contributors do an outstanding job.

Bushfire response, though, is not the exclusive responsibility of the Rural Fire Service. There are many agencies that contribute to bushfire response. It is the career firefighters in the Fire and Rescue Service who contribute; it is the members of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service who contribute; it is those who are in the aerial firefighting fleet assets who contribute. All of them work together to keep the community safe, and we owe them a debt of gratitude for their efforts.

Housing Investment Fund

Mr SULLIVAN: My question is of the Minister for Housing. Can the minister please update the House on the Housing Investment Fund and any alternative approaches?

Ms SCANLON: I thank the member for Stafford for the question. I know that he is very passionate about the Housing Investment Fund. There are a number of projects in his electorate for which I have had the privilege of attending the sod turn with him. This is a new policy developed by our Queensland Labor government to work with super funds, community housing providers and developers to build more housing—on top of our traditional public housing investment. It is one of the many new policies and initiatives we have brought in as a government to deliver more housing supply across the state. We are delivering tiny houses to places like Gympie. We are also doing work on prefabricated homes to try to make sure we can speed up the construction of homes and deliver them to regional Queensland. There are new ideas and new policies coming from this side of the House.

That is absent, though, from those opposite. Members do not need to take my word for it. As a number of other people have said today, there was a frank and fearless opinion piece from the former member for Currumbin in the *Gold Coast Bulletin* recently. She laid bare the problem with the LNP: she called them whingeing, weary and policy vacant. Nowhere is that clearer than on their housing policy. We see the former Newman government minister for housing reappointed to the shadow cabinet. He continually gets up and spruiks how fantastic their record in government was—that illustrious record that sent social housing backwards by 428 homes. It occurred to me that maybe that is because they just do not have any policy, or no policy they want to tell us about. We heard on the radio last week the Deputy Leader of the Opposition let the cat out of the bag when he started spruiking one of the former Newman government policies—

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr SPEAKER: The member for Coomera is warned under the standing orders.

Ms SCANLON: It was a policy that would have seen housing staff cut and outsourced. He is spruiking that very same policy all over again. In the absence of any new policy, all we have to go on is what they did last time. We also have comments from many other members of the shadow cabinet—from the member for Burnett, who said that they want to erode the pay and conditions of hardworking public servants; from the member for Chatsworth, who said that they already have a cuts list; and from the member for Mudgeeraba, who has again said that they should aspire to the Newman government record.

We saw none of those opposite advocate to their federal colleagues when they were opposing investment in social housing—the 30,000 homes that every single LNP member in this state voted against. All we have heard from them is reheated, old policies from the Newman government. I agree with the former member for Currumbin's quote: 'People want a contest of ideas—they want to know what the LNP stands for'. The reason the Leader of the Opposition will not tell anyone is that he knows exactly how people will vote.

(Time expired)

Mr SPEAKER: The period for question time has expired.

MOTION

Business Program



Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE (Sandgate—ALP) (Acting Leader of the House) (11.16 am): I move—

1. That the following business will be considered this sitting week, with the nominated maximum periods of time as specified:
 - (a) the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill, a maximum of 4 hours;

- (b) the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, to complete all stages by 5.55 pm on Thursday, 12 October 2023;
 - (c) the notice of motion—revocation and dedication of protected areas—standing in the name of the Minister for Housing, a maximum of 50 minutes.
2. The following time limits for the bills listed in 1. apply:
- (a) the minister to be called on in reply:
 - (i) for the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill, 20 minutes before the expiry of the maximum hours for that bill; and
 - (ii) for the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill, by 5.25 pm on Thursday, 12 October 2023.
3. If all stages of the bills listed in 1. have not been completed by the specified times in 2. respectively, Mr Speaker:
- (a) shall call on a minister to table any explanatory notes to their circulated amendments, any statement of compatibility with human rights or any statement relating to an override declaration,
 - (b) shall put all remaining questions necessary to either pass that stage or pass the bill without further debate,
 - (c) may interrupt non-specified business or debate on a bill or motion to complete the requirements of the motion,
 - (d) will complete all stages required by this motion notwithstanding anything contained in standing and sessional orders.

The motion before the House is pretty straightforward. It contains time frames for the following: the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill; the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill; and the revocation motion under the Nature Conservation Act to be moved by Minister Linard. The gas supply bill has been allocated up to four hours in total and the Criminal Code bill has been allocated the remainder of the week, with the revocation motion to be debated for up to 50 minutes. All of these are sensible time frames to enable members to have their say on these pieces of legislation.

In addition to the legislation outlined, the House will also consider the usual matters. This evening the House will recommence debate on the private member's bill introduced by the member for Hinchinbrook, the Liquid Fuel Supply (Minimum Biobased Petrol Content) Amendment Bill. Members might remember that debate had already commenced on this private member's bill in a previous sitting of the parliament; however, it was postponed during the last sitting at the request of the member for Hinchinbrook.

The chamber will also come together on Thursday to contribute to a condolence motion in respect of the late former premier Mike Ahern and pause to reflect on his life and his service to this state, this parliament and the people of Queensland. Government ministers will also be introducing a number of important pieces of legislation across a number of portfolios which will support good jobs, better services and a great lifestyle for Queenslanders.

This motion to establish the business program is something that is part of that good management of the state. It is part of the way in which parliaments throughout the Western world manage their affairs to deliver good, sensible outcomes, operating at good, sensible times of the day. This is something that we have committed to here in the 57th Parliament and previously, and it has delivered good outcomes for Queensland. I know that we are going to hear yet again the usual braying, whining and whingeing from those opposite about how there is not enough time for people to comment on and contribute to debate. We all know that every parliament in the Western world that considers things sensibly and appropriately uses approaches like the business program that allow us to manage the business of the House in an appropriate way.

I have been absent from this debate for a little while, but I am forecasting and predicting that I suspect we will hear some protestations about how this is an attack on democracy and an abrogation of the traditions of the parliament. Here we stand quite proudly in a parliament that draws heavily on the Westminster traditions. Where do we find a parliament that has a business program that sets things up like this and makes an arrangement where things are debated in a timely and managed way?

Mr Power: Is it in London?

Mr HINCHLIFFE: I take that interjection from the member for Logan. Yes, it might be in London. It might be in a place called the Palace of Westminster. It might be the home of parliamentary democracies like our own. Let us not hear this false braying and observations from those opposite.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: I hear the interjections from those opposite, including the member for Toowoomba North, who I do note is on a warning, but I equally want to acknowledge, for the member for Toowoomba North's benefit, that if he is advocating for a return of an unelected upper house as we had here, and they have in the United Kingdom, then that is a policy he should be taking to—


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): I bring the speaker back to the substance of the motion.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Pause the clock. The House will come to order. Before we stray into broad-ranging debates on parliamentary process and structure, let us stick to the motion before us.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Deputy Speaker, I thank you for your wise guidance. I conclude by appealing to all members of the House to support the business program motion because the business program provides for the ability to deliver good, sensible outcomes at good, sensible times of the day.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call the next speaker, I remind members of those members who are on a warning. They are the members for Kawana, Nanango, Toowoomba South, Ninderry, Glass House, Currumbin, Mudgeeraba, Maroochydore, Broadwater, Aspley, Toowoomba North and Coomera.

 **Mr POWELL** (Glass House—LNP) (11.21 am): Far be it from me to disappoint the member for Sandgate and not oppose this motion. In doing so, I want to reflect on some of the comments made by the member for Sandgate around this motion being straightforward. It well may be, but that does not then correlate with it necessarily being sensible. Nor does it correlate with it being appropriate, and nor does it correlate with it being good management. I want to use a couple of examples here. Yes, there is no doubt and I suspect that it will be Labor members themselves who will be guillotined when we conclude the debate on the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill at 5.25 pm on Thursday. It will be members of the Labor government, whom I suspect will be wanting to speak extensively on that bill, who will be guillotined.

Let me point out a couple of other things here. What we are seeing in this motion is something we have not seen in previous motions. Regardless of whether an opposition is opposing or supporting a piece of legislation, the opposition should have the opportunity to put questions to a minister on the clauses during consideration in detail of a bill. What we are seeing with the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill is a maximum of four hours, during which we pull up stumps just 20 minutes before the expiry of that time, only allowing the minister himself to respond and basically negating any consideration in detail whatsoever. Again, I reiterate, the opposition may well support that legislation, but that does not mean the opposition does not have questions on specific clauses that need to be raised with the minister. What that means then is—

Mr Hinchliffe: In committee you had a chance to say these things and you did not.


Mr POWELL: I take that interjection. The suggestion that because questions were not raised in committee that questions do not subsequently get raised in consideration in detail is a very foolish suggestion and a very non-democratic suggestion. Again, allowing the opposition and the crossbenchers to put questions in consideration in detail should be part of any business program motion that is put before this House. I also want to point out the ability to negotiate outcomes in terms of this business program motion as the Manager of Opposition Business.

We have as part of the motion here today a revocation. Yes, it is rare for those in the opposition to oppose a revocation. We all know the importance of our national parks. We also all know the benefits of sometimes having to revoke parts of a national park. This one, though, is considerable. If I recall correctly, it is some 17 pages of maps and detail across some 20 different state forests and national parks which impact on a broad number of members here in this chamber. The original proposal put to me as Manager of Opposition Business was 40 minutes. I suggested a sensible allowance of maybe an hour. The negotiated outcome was 50 minutes—50 minutes to consider significant revocations of national parks around the state. I suspect the Leader of the House, rather than the Acting Leader of the House, may have been far more generous if she had been present. I noticed a tiredness from the Acting Leader of the House that is not normally present in those meetings.

I do acknowledge—and again it points out that I think we will be finding our debate on these pieces of legislation significantly curtailed—that there are going to be many introductions this week. Again, that is because those opposite have an inability to manage the *Notice Paper*. It would not take a rocket scientist to look at the *Notice Paper* and realise that we are going to run out of bills before the end of this parliamentary year and that the government does need to quickly rush in a number of pieces of legislation and that is not even considering what we would be debating when we return in 2024.


Again, why they are stacking a sitting week with all of these introductions, rather than pacing them out over a number of sitting weeks, is beyond me. That does not suggest good management. That suggests mismanagement.

I do also acknowledge that there is a condolence motion for former premier Mike Ahern, a member who represented the area that I now represent as the member for Glass House. I accept and rightly understand that that condolence motion will take considerable time. Again, I anticipate that there will be members on both sides of this chamber and the crossbench who, because of the guillotine, will not be able to make contributions come 5.25 pm on Thursday afternoon whilst we are still in the middle of the serious vilification and hate crimes legislation. The opposition cannot and will not support this motion.

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (11.26 am): On this discussion or debate, the Manager of Opposition Business has spoken twice now in his contribution about making the incredible, insightful observation that when we have an order of business that it is members of the government who also have to prioritise when they speak. That has been the point of this from the very beginning. All parties have to prioritise their speakers to ensure that we do not get tedious repetition and a lot of the time of this valuable parliament taken up by the same lines and the same paragraphs from the usual suspects. That is not having respect for this parliament and the process of democracy—quite the opposite.

In his incredible contribution here, the member for Glass House has pointed out something that has seemingly escaped him to this point. That is that this government prioritises speakers when it comes to the orderly management of this House, just like every other party has to do. What we have here again is another arcane procedural contribution from the member for Glass House on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition—one might say a whingeing, whining, policy-vacant contribution, not something that anyone should aspire to, I would suggest. Perhaps they might like to prune their contribution on arcane procedural motions so that we can get more debating time on bills. That bit of pruning on that side might be something that is a positive thing rather than the usual policy cuts and infrastructure cuts that we get from those opposite.

I am not going to take up the time of the House any longer and take up my full allotment. We should get on with the business of this House and stop wasting its time with arcane procedural debates that the opposition seem to be obsessed about, when this is the way that democratic houses are ordinarily organised, appropriately, depending on the bills, depending on the condolence motions, depending on the revocations in any parliamentary session. This is the normal process and the opposition is wasting the time of the House once again with an arcane debate.

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (11.28 am): I will be opposing this motion for good reason. I was sitting here thinking about whether we really need to speak on it, but after the two government ministers talked about the fact that it is just the normal process of the House, I would like to remind them that it should not be the normal process of the House which is exactly why we have this motion every sitting week. The one point I really want to talk about this week, because I think it is most upsetting, is that there are 10 sites across Queensland that are the subject of a revocation motion to be moved in this House. The Manager of Opposition Business, I understand, went into that committee meeting in good faith to request more time than the 40 minutes that have been granted in the name of democracy to the opposition. I mean, it has to be granted to us; it is not like we have been duly elected by our constituents to be in this place!

We have been granted 40 minutes to speak on a matter, and the Manager of Opposition Business rightfully argued that more time needs to be given for that debate. There are 10 revocation sites across Queensland and yet the government granted only an extra 10 minutes. I put it to this House that that simply is not enough time considering that in this House this week we will be honouring the legacy of a former premier, Mike Ahern, with a condolence motion. Those two issues that the minister just spoke about of course will delay debate on the bills that are before the House. As the Manager of Opposition Business spoke about, after we debate bills in this House there are always questions that should be asked within consideration in detail. However, the government consistently guillotines the debate, knocking its own members off the list, knocking our members off the list and not allowing enough time for that consideration in detail.

With that short contribution, I again plead with the House to have some consideration for the people who did elect us to this great House and give us the ability to be what we are meant to be right now, which is an opposition—

Mr Power interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I take that interjection from the member for Logan. Whilst I was about to sit down, I do have another two minutes and 13 seconds to use. The member for Logan just accused me of using this speech in the last couple of weeks. I would like to remind the member for Logan—and I will have to correct the record—that I do not think I spoke on this motion last sitting week. In the one I did speak on—the time before—I certainly did not speak about the issue of 10 revocations across the state because it was not put before the House in that business program motion debate. However, it is in this motion this week. The shadow environment minister is sitting there madly typing away trying to work out how he is going to do all of that within the short period of time that has been granted to us, yet the member for Logan wishes to extend this debate. I am happy to oblige.

We know that democracy has been hard fought for and it is incumbent upon all of us to represent our constituents in the best way possible. That is why I will not be supporting the government's motion today.

Division: Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

AYES, 49:

ALP, 49—Bailey, Boyd, Brown, Bush, Butcher, Crawford, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Gilbert, Grace, Harper, Healy, Hinchliffe, Howard, Hunt, Kelly, A. King, S. King, Lauga, Linard, Lui, Madden, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Palaszczuk, Pease, Power, Pugh, Richards, Russo, Ryan, Saunders, Scanlon, Skelton, Smith, Stewart, Sullivan, Tantari, Walker, Whiting.

NOES, 34:

LNP, 32—Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Frecklington, Gerber, Hart, Head, Janetzki, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Mander, McDonald, Mickelberg, Millar, Minnikin, Molhoek, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Watts, Weir.

Grn, 2—Berkman, MacMahon.

Pairs: D'Ath, Robinson; O'Rourke, Lister.

Resolved in the affirmative.

APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2)

Message from Deputy Governor



Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (11.37 am): I present a message from the Deputy Governor.

Mr SPEAKER: The message from the Deputy Governor recommends the Appropriation Bill (No. 2). The contents of the message will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the message for the information of members.

MESSAGE

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2) 2023

Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, HELEN PATRICIA BOWSKILL, Deputy 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 particular departments for the financial year starting 1 July 2022

DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Date: 10 October 2023

Tabled paper: Message, dated 10 October 2023, from the Deputy Governor, recommending the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2023 [1597].

Introduction



Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (11.38 am): I present a bill for an act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the Consolidated Fund for particular departments for the financial year starting 1 July 2022. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Economics and Governance Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2023 [1598].

Tabled paper: Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2023, explanatory notes [1599].

Tabled paper: Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2023, statement of compatibility with human rights [1600].

I am pleased to introduce the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2023. The objective of the bill is to seek supplementary appropriation for the 2022-23 financial year for unforeseen expenditure of \$1,243,941,000 for 10 departments. Unforeseen expenditure represents the portion of expenditure from the Consolidated Fund by individual departments that exceeds the amount approved for those departments in previous appropriation acts. Pursuant to section 35 of the Financial Accountability Act 2009, unforeseen expenditure, on my recommendation as Treasurer, may be authorised by the Governor in Council within four weeks of the end of the financial year. Unforeseen expenditure must also be formally approved by parliament via appropriation bills.

On 6 July 2023, the Governor in Council authorised unforeseen expenditure incurred during the 2022-23 financial year of \$1,243,941,000. Parliamentary approval for the unforeseen expenditure is now being sought. In this instance I am referring to expenditure that was not foreseen when the appropriation acts were passed for last year's budget, more than one year ago. The introduction of this bill is consistent with the revised approach to unforeseen expenditure that I outlined in my budget speech. The Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2023 includes the additional unforeseen expenditure, particularly decisions made in the context of budget deliberations in May and June where those decisions authorised expenditure to occur prior to 30 June 2023.

I conclude by saying that our government will not apologise for investing to support Queenslanders as and when they need it the most. This stands in contrast to the Newman LNP government when the member for Clayfield, as the then Queensland treasurer, bragged about low levels of unforeseen expenditure at the same time as he and the LNP were refusing to pay household electricity rebates. The Newman LNP government in which the member for Broadwater, the Leader of the LNP, proudly served was a government that was mired in budget deficits and increasing debt to pay for redundancies. The LNP increased debt to advertise privatisation at the same time they were bragging about how little they were spending on things that actually mattered to Queenslanders.

The Palaszczuk Labor government will continue to invest in health, housing and community safety while helping Queenslanders tackle cost-of-living challenges. Our government makes no apology for doing so. This bill fulfils a formal statutory and constitutional requirement that all payments from the Consolidated Fund be authorised by the parliament in a timely manner. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (11.41 am): 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 Economics and Governance Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Economics and Governance Committee.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Message from Deputy Governor



Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (11.42 am): I present a message from the Deputy Governor.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): The message from the Deputy Governor recommends the Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill. The contents of the message will be incorporated in the *Record of Proceedings*. I table the message for the information of members.

MESSAGE

VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2023

Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, HELEN PATRICIA BOWSKILL, Deputy Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intituled—

A Bill for an Act to amend the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 and the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009 for particular purposes

DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Date: 10 October 2023

Tabled paper: Message, dated 10 October 2023, from the Deputy Governor, recommending the Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 [\[1601\]](#).**Introduction**

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (11.42 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 and the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009 and the for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights.

Tabled paper: Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 [\[1602\]](#).*Tabled paper:* Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023, explanatory notes [\[1603\]](#).*Tabled paper:* Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023, statement of compatibility with human rights [\[1604\]](#).

On 28 September 2023, the Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence announced a significant increase in funding to support victims of crime, including \$185 million to support the increase in the maximum amounts of financial assistance that can be paid to victims of crime.

The bill will make critical amendments to the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009 to increase the financial assistance for victims of crime by increasing the maximum amounts of financial assistance that can be claimed under the financial assistance scheme. The financial assistance scheme is established and administered under the Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009. The scheme is intended to assist victims who are injured by an act of violence committed in Queensland in their recovery. The scheme is administered by Victims Assist Queensland, which is located within the Department of Justice and Attorney-General. A victim may apply to Victims Assist Queensland for financial assistance for expenses incurred as a result of the act of violence, with applications assessed and approved by appointed government assessors. The amount of assistance will depend on the type of victim, the crime committed against the victim and the injuries suffered. Financial assistance may include: expenses incurred in helping the victim recover—for example, medical, counselling or legal expenses or costs of relocation; funeral expenses for a person who was killed by an act of violence; or a one-off special assistance payment.

The bill will increase the maximum financial assistance for primary victims from \$75,000 to \$120,000. A primary victim is a person who is directly injured by an act of violence. Under the bill, maximum financial assistance for parents, secondary victims, witness secondary victims for more serious acts of violence and related victims will be increased to \$75,000. For witness secondary victims for less serious acts of violence maximum financial assistance will be increased to \$20,000. A parent secondary victim is a parent of a child who is the primary victim and a witness secondary victim is a person who sustains an injury through seeing or hearing an act of violence being committed against someone else. A related victim is a close family member or financial dependent of a person who was killed by an act of violence. The bill also increases the amount of special assistance that is available to victims for all categories of acts of violence. Special assistance payments are available to victims to represent a symbolic expression by the state of the community's recognition of the injuries suffered by a victim from an act of violence.

Special assistance payments are made to a victim where the victim has experienced a particular act of violence, with acts categorised by seriousness. The bill will increase category A special assistance payments from \$10,000 to \$15,000; category B payments from \$3,500 to \$9,000; category

C payments from \$2,000 to \$6,000; and category D payments from \$1,000 to \$3,000. In addition to these increases, the bill will increase maximum payments for funeral expenses from \$8,000 to \$15,000 and for distress payments from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The bill will change the categorisation of acts of domestic and family violence for the purposes of the special assistance payment from a category D act of violence to a category B act of violence. This will significantly increase the amount that is paid to victims of domestic and family violence as a special assistance payment from \$1,000 to \$9,000.

These amendments are intended to better recognise the serious and detrimental effect of domestic and family violence on victim-survivors and ensure they can receive increased financial assistance to support them in their recovery. These amendments have been well received by the specialist support service DVConnect, which stated—

This change would be a compassionate and respectful decision and will go a long way to ensuring that victims of serious crime, which include Domestic and Family Violence, will have an opportunity to heal and recover with dignity, as they should expect.

The amendments in the bill are part of the Palaszczuk government's ongoing commitment to ensure victims receive the most appropriate and effective supports available to assist them to recover from crimes committed against them. Separate to the bill, the Palaszczuk government is committed to continuing to implement significant reforms recommended by independent reviews, including the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce and the Independent Commission of Inquiry into the Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence, to further support and improve assistance for victims of crime. These reforms include implementing the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee's recommendation to undertake a fulsome review of the entire financial assistance scheme under the Victims of Crime Assistance Act to ensure it is achieving its objectives and to assess the effectiveness of the current financial assistance scheme.

An independent review of the financial assistance scheme has commenced. It is intended the review will include identifying potential opportunities for greater collaboration with the broader victim's sector to provide better access to services and financial assistance and to explore options for delivering improved services and supports for victims of crime. The Queensland government is committed to ensuring greater representation of victims of crime in the criminal justice system and in key positions within the public sector to advise governments on matters impacting victims of crime.

In September the Queensland government announced the appointment of Jon Rouse as the interim Victims' Commissioner. In addition to the appointment of the interim Victims' Commissioner, we also commit to ensuring victims' representation on the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council. The bill seeks to implement this commitment by expanding the membership of the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council from 12 members to 14 members to enable the appointment of a member with lived experience and another person, both to be appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Attorney-General. The reforms contained in the bill will provide immediate and targeted action to support victims of crime while other significant reforms continue to be implemented. The voices of victims and their families, as well as victim support organisations and advocacy groups, continue to have an important role in helping to shape these reforms and ensure victims of crime and their families have the support they need to recover and rebuild their lives. On behalf of the Attorney-General, I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. MT RYAN (Morayfield—ALP) (Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services) (11.50 am): 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 Legal Affairs and Safety Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee.

GAS SUPPLY AND OTHER LEGISLATION (HYDROGEN INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT BILL

Resumed from 9 May (see p. 1228).

Second Reading



Hon. MC de BRENNI (Springwood—ALP) (Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement) (11.51 am): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

The world is continuing to feel the impacts of climate change. Globally, unprecedented high temperatures are becoming more frequent. Australia recorded its warmest winter since national observations began in 1910 and experts are predicting that 2023 could become the world's hottest year on record. In fact, the World Meteorological Organisation is saying that global temperatures could break 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels as soon as 2028. That is hard news to hear for the Great Barrier Reef, its marine life and the Queenslanders whose jobs in tourism rely on it. It is hard news to hear for Queensland's farmers staring down the barrel of more prolonged droughts, along with households and export markets globally that rely on our agricultural food bowls, and for coastal areas, particularly the Torres Strait, which is disproportionately exposed to rising sea levels. It is hard news to hear for vulnerable Queenslanders like our elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions and it is even more concerning for the rich biodiversity spread across our many regions.

Burning coal, gas and oil for our energy use is spewing toxic greenhouse gases into a fragile atmosphere, fuelling the catastrophic inferno of climate change—one that threatens to irrevocably damage our planet. They have caused the global warming that is the culprit behind what has been described as the earth's sixth mass extinction. It is estimated that one-third of coral reefs, freshwater molluscs, sharks and rays; one-fourth of all mammals; one-fifth of all reptiles; and one-sixth of all birds will head, without clear intervention, towards extinction—something our continent is especially vulnerable to with the loss of the Bramble Cay melomys, earning our continent the unwanted claim to the first mammal extinction caused by climate change. There can be no room for denial and no room for delay in urgently transitioning to clean, sustainable energy sources. The importance of transforming our global economy to net zero is evident now more than ever. The time to act is now because we do not have a day to waste.

While the renewable energy of our Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan will decarbonise our highest emitting sector, electricity, it is green hydrogen that will be a game changer for our second highest emitting sector, transport, specifically in heavy haulage, shipping and aviation. Accounting for 20.9 per cent of Australia's emissions, the decarbonisation of transport is one of the clearest routes we can take as we travel towards our 2050 net zero emissions target. Each year in Australia 32,109 megalitres of diesel is consumed, producing up to 86.7 megatons of carbon emissions. Hydrogen in the heavy vehicle network offers benefits in terms of range, large payloads and fast refuelling times, and here in Queensland we are ready to go. With vast renewable resources available and clear policy direction, Queensland has opened the door to the unprecedented opportunities renewable hydrogen will bring. In August I attended the official opening of Queensland's first-ever hydrogen refuelling station at a publicly accessible petrol station.

Ms Pease: In Lytton. Well done!

Mr de BRENNI: I take the interjection from the member for Lytton—the first-ever hydrogen refuelling station at a publicly accessible petrol station, in the electorate of Lytton. I thank the member for Lytton for her leadership and advocacy as we head towards a clean energy future for Queensland, the nation and the planet. This followed the launch in June of the Hydrogen Flight Alliance with Skytrans Airlines, part owned by Queensland legend Johnathan Thurston. The alliance is on target to launch Australia's first commercial emission-free hydrogen powered flight between Brisbane and Gladstone in 2026. Our international partners including Iwatani Corporation, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Kansai Electric Power Co., Marubeni, Sumitomo, Total Eren, Vena Energy, Korea Zinc, Idemitsu, Eneos, Sojitz, PepsiCo and Keppel from nations including Japan, Korea, Singapore and those in the European Union are increasingly looking to Queensland as an ideal location to invest in our transformation to a renewable energy powerhouse.

In July, Sumitomo Corporation and Rio Tinto announced they would build the world's first pilot plant in Central Queensland in Gladstone to trial the use of hydrogen to replace natural gas in the alumina refining process. Once operational, converting the entire plant to renewable hydrogen could

save over 500,000 tonnes of carbon emissions per year—the equivalent of powering over 100,000 motor vehicles with clean fuel. More importantly, it could demonstrate the viability of hydrogen in the calcination process and shape the way for widespread adoption for industry not just here but also globally. Just yesterday we heard Andrew Forrest's Fortescue Future Industries confirm its 550-megawatt Gibson Island green hydrogen and ammonia plant is on track as FFI announce an imminent deal with Genex to supply renewable energy to this world-leading project right here in Brisbane.

Queensland's green hydrogen industry is the next frontier in a world hungry for renewables and it is our greatest climate, jobs and economic opportunity in a generation. Globally, nations are recognising this and are looking to green hydrogen to help meet their very own decarbonisation targets. Importantly, they are turning to Queensland. They are turning to our state to help get them there. The certainty and the clear direction delivered by the Palaszczuk government's policy have shown to the world that we are committed to supporting the renewable hydrogen industry here.

During her recent visit to Korea in July, the Premier witnessed the Han-Ho Korea-Australia consortium partners Ark Energy, Korea Zinc, Hanwha Impact and SK Gas sign a heads of agreement for the project centred around Collinsville. If successful, this project will mean the export of up to 1.8 million tonnes of green ammonia per annum to Korea by 2032. It is another big step towards accelerating the progress of our green hydrogen industry and advancing our green energy exports to Korea, one of Queensland's largest trading partners.

Queensland is also home to one of the global top 10 renewable hydrogen projects at the pre-final investment decision stage. Since the introduction of this bill in May, a \$117 million front-end engineering and design study has commenced, funded by this government, for the publicly-led Stanwell CQ-H2 project backed by us and the Albanese government—the largest investment in a Queensland renewable hydrogen project of its kind. At its peak, the CQ-H2 project will support almost 9,000 decent, secure Queensland jobs in our regions and it will deliver \$17.2 billion in hydrogen exports and \$12.4 billion to Queensland's gross state product forecast over the next three decades. Because the project is being led by publicly owned corporation Stanwell, revenues will be shared by the people of Queensland.

To ensure the continued feasibility and success of these projects, as well as 50 other projects currently underway across Queensland, we need to ensure our regulatory settings are right. We know that pipeline licensing is seen as a critical area for reform by industry. For hydrogen to play a key role in decarbonising the world, it needs to be able to be transported safely from production facilities to export terminals. The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 will ensure that Queensland has fit-for-purpose policy settings to enable the construction, operation and safe management of hydrogen and other renewable gas pipelines.

In Queensland, the Gas Supply Act 2003 and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 provide the regulatory frameworks for proponents seeking to transport petroleum and gas through our pipelines. The bill amends these acts to create a clear regulatory pathway for the transportation and use of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers by extending the established frameworks within them. We have heard from submissions to the Transport and Resources Committee—I acknowledge the committee and thank them for their work—as well as from earlier consultation on the bill, that there is strong support for the approach that we have taken in this legislative reform. This provides industry with a fit-for-purpose framework to support the development of our hydrogen industry and creates a tested process for the licensing of hydrogen pipelines and consideration of safety.

I will now turn to the specifics of the amendments to these acts. Firstly, I turn to the Gas Supply Act 2003. The bill extends the remit of the Gas Supply Act 2003 from processed natural gas to hydrogen and other covered gases. The intent is to enable the distribution of hydrogen and other renewable gases to consumers in Queensland through distribution pipelines and ensure that the existing regulatory requirements under the act remain. A 'covered gas' is defined in the bill as a primary gas, which consists of processed natural gas, hydrogen, biomethane and synthetic methane, as well as blends of these gases. To provide flexibility to prescribe new gases and hydrogen carriers as technology advances, a regulation-making power has also been provided to add new renewable gases to the definition of 'covered gas'. These amendments aim to also provide consistency with changes being made nationally to the national gas law and the national energy retail law.

Secondly, I turn to the amendments to the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act. Amendments to this act will provide a clear and effective regulatory pathway for a proponent to apply for a pipeline licence for the transportation of hydrogen and other hydrogen carriers. The bill aims to provide certainty to investors and to industry that there is a framework in place to facilitate and regulate hydrogen pipelines in a safe, effective and efficient way. To enable this, the bill will amend the definition

of 'fuel gas' to include hydrogen or a hydrogen gas blend used or intended to be used as a fuel to produce heat, light or power. Hydrogen that is used or intended to be used as a fuel is already included under the Petroleum and Gas (General Provisions) Regulation 2017. However, elevating this definition to the act provides greater clarity about the regulation of hydrogen in Queensland.

The bill also inserts a new definition of 'regulated hydrogen' into the act, which includes hydrogen, a hydrogen gas blend or another substance prescribed under a regulation that is related to the storage or transport of hydrogen. These are known as 'hydrogen carriers'. The ability to prescribe another substance via regulation provides the pipeline framework with the flexibility to adapt as technology and industry knowledge about regulated hydrogen grows and develops. At this stage, ammonia, methanol, methylcyclohexane, dimethyl-ether and toluene are the substances intended to be prescribed. Applying the pipeline licensing framework under the act to regulated hydrogen will change existing approval processes, whereby a state assessment and referral agency process and subsequent safety assessment will not be triggered. To ensure that there is no diminution of safety, the bill provides for safety considerations, including the requirement for safety to be a mandatory consideration when deciding whether to grant a pipeline licence. This will ensure the safe and competent management in relation to the location, design, construction and operation of a pipeline for all regulated substances.

The bill will also expand existing pre-construction notification requirements to require a licence holder to give notice to the chief inspector prior to the start of a safety management study. This will be a key mandatory condition for a pipeline licence and will ensure appropriate safety considerations are adopted prior to the construction of a pipeline. A safety management study is required to be carried out before construction starts to identify, and apply controls, to threats to the safety and integrity of the pipeline. Introducing a notification requirement will enable an assessment to be undertaken of the matters being considered within the study and ensure appropriate safety measures are being applied prior to construction commensurate with the risk and the nature of the substance carried by the pipeline. The bill also includes a range of minor and consequential amendments to the Gas Supply Act and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank stakeholders who have provided input into the bill. A draft bill and information paper were released on 6 March 2023 for public comment by 3 April 2023. The website had 705 unique visits during this period. More than 125 stakeholders from industry, local government, the agricultural, resource and environmental sectors and community groups were also asked to provide feedback. Online and in-person briefing sessions were held. I would like to acknowledge the work of the Department of Energy and Public Works in conducting that consultation. A total of 10 submissions were received on the draft bill and indicated broad support for our approach. The Australian Hydrogen Council stated that it 'supports the amendments ... to include and regulate hydrogen as a covered gas', and 'to extend licensing to incorporate transmission pipelines for hydrogen and renewable gases'. The Australian Gas Infrastructure Group stated that 'the draft bill represents a positive step towards the decarbonisation of Queensland's energy system'. The Australian Pipelines and Gas Association stated that it 'particularly approves of the Queensland government's approach to extending the existing licensing scheme to renewable gas transmission pipelines ... rather than creating a bespoke scheme'. The inputs from this engagement helped refine the bill that is currently before the House and I again acknowledge the contributions of those stakeholders.

I turn now to the committee's consideration of the bill and acknowledge the chair of the Transport and Resources Committee, the member for Kurwongbah, and his fellow committee members who undertook a thorough examination of the bill. I acknowledge as well the staff who support the committee in its important work. I also thank those who attended the committee's public hearing for the bill, in particular the Queensland Law Society; AgForce; the First Nations Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body Corporate; and industry representatives who made invaluable submissions for consideration. Submissions to the committee indicated support for the intent of the bill. For example, the Queensland Law Society submission notes that it 'broadly supports the proposed approach and recognises the substantial benefit and efficacy to the existing and expanding hydrogen industry in amendment the proposed legislation to capture hydrogen and hydrogen related substances', and that 'the Bill provides for straight forward and sensible amendments'. In its submission, the APA Group noted that they 'support the Queensland Government's proposal to amend the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to extend the existing licensing pathway to include transmission pipelines for hydrogen.'

While the scope of the bill focused on pipelines for hydrogen, points were raised in submissions to the committee that fell outside of the bill's remit or that relate to the hydrogen industry more broadly. For example, the Queensland Law Society suggested consideration of the merits of extending bill

provisions to the licensing of water pipelines for hydrogen. As noted by the committee, all submissions have been closely considered and, where appropriate, will be subject to further assessment as part of the broad regulatory framework review being conducted by the Department of Energy and Public Works across the entire hydrogen value chain.

As I mentioned, the Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People Aboriginal Corporation Registered Native Title Body Corporate submission, made on behalf of the traditional owners of the Gladstone, Bundaberg and North Burnett regions, raised an important point about consultation and consideration of cultural heritage rights under the Human Rights Act 2019. While the bill was released publicly for feedback earlier this year and the department sought feedback from First Nations stakeholders, I have requested that the prescribed body corporate is directly consulted during the next phase of our hydrogen regulatory review.

Following consideration of the submissions and the department's response to the submissions, I am pleased to say that the committee had just one recommendation: that the bill be passed. In commenting on the bill, the committee noted the department's commitment to further considering stakeholder feedback on matters such as hydrogen water and land access as part of the broader regulatory review. They noted satisfaction that the bill sufficiently subjects the exercise of delegated legislative power to the scrutiny of this place, the Queensland parliament, and noted that the potential limitations on human rights were both reasonable and justifiable.

I also note matters discussed in the statement of reservation on the bill. First, the statement notes the LNP members' support for the intent of the bill, and I welcome that. It notes their belief that it will assist in the development of a hydrogen and hydrogen carrier industry in Queensland. It also reiterates the importance of compulsory acquisition powers. I thank them for their support. It reiterates that, when used fairly and with due process, as outlined in the bill, these compulsory acquisition powers for nation-building and strategic projects are positive for the nation. The Queensland Liberals and Nationals have indicated that they support green hydrogen, and we on this side of the House welcome that. However, at the same time, they have started a war against clean, cheap renewable energy. Members will be aware that those opposite have pushed for a moratorium on the renewable energy sector in this state. They have pressed for projects to be cancelled, all the while on paper supporting green hydrogen. I put it to the LNP that they cannot have their cake and eat it too.

The facts are simple and they are these: renewable energy is required to unlock the power of green hydrogen. Without the power of our sun, wind and water, the green hydrogen industry and the billions in exports it will generate cannot exist. Therefore, the hypocrisy of the Liberal and National Party shows that their energy plan is nothing but an excuse to keep coal-fired power going for longer and longer. We can be sure that under the LNP the hydrogen industry would not be green; in fact, it would be fossil fuel black.


Clearly, the Leader of the Opposition is in hiding on climate change and energy. However, if he is a real leader, what he must do is come clean with our international partners—those that are counting on this state's leadership to decarbonise their economies—and with domestic industries that are relying on green hydrogen to support manufacturing and transport. Here is the first test for the LNP today: let us see if the LNP opposition spokesperson on energy will mislead the House today when he both backs in our green hydrogen industry and continues to reject new clean renewable generation in this state. Let us see what he does today.

The Palaszczuk Labor government, on the other hand, understands the importance of leadership in supporting our emerging hydrogen industry, in backing the renewable wind and solar power needed to make it green and in supporting our regions that are poised to take advantage of this new industry. That is why, within the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, the government committed \$15 million over three years to supercharge, coordinate and further plan for renewable hydrogen hubs in key locations across the state. On this side of the House we understand and know the benefits of co-locating key infrastructure needs to reduce duplication and lessen the footprint for the industries that support them. Our government is already supporting the development of critical enabling infrastructure projects including the \$5 billion CopperString project—not supported by those opposite—that will connect the North Queensland Renewable Energy Zone to Townsville; and the \$1 billion Fitzroy to Gladstone pipeline to deliver water security to the region. That is a real water project and one that supports our hydrogen proponents.

Queensland is at the dawn of the most significant transformation of our economy since the industrial revolution. Our green hydrogen industry is the greatest climate, economic and jobs opportunity in a generation. By 2040 it could support 10,000 jobs and generate over \$33 billion in

economic activity, all unlocked by the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan and our 80 per cent renewable energy target by 2035, delivering real action on climate change and cheaper energy and creating thousands of good jobs for Queenslanders. Proactive government policy has already positioned Queensland as the ideal place to invest in green hydrogen, and today is a crucial beacon on that charted course to delivering a world-leading industry. We are working to slash emissions. We are working to help tackle climate change. We are working to safeguard our natural wonders for generations to come.

I again thank the committee for its considerate examination of the bill and support for its intent and the value this will have on the development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland. I truly look forward to hearing other members' contributions to this debate. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr WEIR** (Condamine—LNP) (12.15 pm): I rise to speak to the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 in my role as shadow minister for natural resources, mines and energy. The explanatory notes state that the objective of the bill is to provide a regulatory approval process to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen, hydrogen blends and hydrogen carriers as well as other gases in Queensland. To achieve this objective, the bill proposes to amend the Gas Supply Act 2003 in order to expand its jurisdiction to hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other gases; and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 in order to provide a clear and effective regulatory pathway for a proponent to apply for a pipeline licence for the transmission of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers.

Queensland's developing hydrogen industry requires a regulatory framework to support its growth. This was noted in the 2032 Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, which includes an action item for the Department of Energy and Public Works to 'prepare legislation to support effective regulation of hydrogen development and use'. While the scope of the bill is narrow, the DEPW advised the committee that they are 'leading a broad review of Queensland's regulatory framework to ensure all elements of the hydrogen value chain have an effective regulatory framework in place'.

In Queensland, the Gas Supply Act 2003 and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 provide the existing regulatory framework for proponents to transport petroleum and gas through pipelines. The bill aims to provide the regulatory approval process to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen, hydrogen blends and hydrogen carriers as well as other gases in Queensland by amending the Gas Supply Act and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004. The proposed amendments to the Gas Supply Act and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 also aim to provide consistency with changes being progressed nationally to the national gas law and the national energy retail law with regard to hydrogen and other renewable gases.

The bill proposes to expand the Gas Supply Act's remit from processed natural gas to include hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other covered gases. Clause 5 of the bill amends section 3 of the Gas Supply Act to extend its main purposes from the regulation of the distribution of processed natural gas to the regulation of covered gases. The term 'covered gas' is defined in clause 7. This change reflects the intention for the Gas Supply Act to apply to hydrogen and other renewable gases in addition to processed natural gas.

Section 4 of the bill provides clear limits on the scope of the Gas Supply Act; for example, by expressly excluding matters such as safety and quality from its jurisdiction. The amendment to section 4 is necessary to ensure these excluded matters remain unaffected by the addition of covered gases in the Gas Supply Act. A covered gas is defined in the bill as a primary gas or a gas blend. A primary gas is processed natural gas as well as hydrogen, biomethane, synthetic methane or a substance prescribed by regulation that is suitable for consumption. The term 'gas blend' is defined in the bill as meaning primary gases that have been blended together and are suitable for consumption.

Under the Gas Supply Act, a distribution authority authorises its holder to transport processed natural gas through a distribution pipeline or system within the stated area or distribution area and to provide customer connection services to premises in the area. Clause 9 of the bill amends section 29(2)(a) of the Gas Supply Act to add a further requirement to the notice the regulator must publish before deciding an application for a distribution authority. In particular, the regulator must publish details about the type of covered gas for the distribution authority prior to the regulator considering submissions and making a decision about the application. However, hydrogen, while prescribed as a fuel gas under the Petroleum and Gas (General Provisions) Regulation 2017, is not expressly listed as a substance that can be transported under a pipeline licence. The proposed amendments to the petroleum and gas act would enable licensing and operation of transmission pipelines to transport hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. These proposed amendments include the requirement for safety to be a mandatory consideration when deciding whether to grant a pipeline licence.

Clause 12 of the bill amends section 3A of the petroleum and gas act. The amendment broadens the existing secondary purposes of the act to include the construction and operation of pipelines for regulated hydrogen. The amendments provide certainty to industry and community stakeholders that there is a framework in place that will regulate hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in pipelines in a way that is safe, effective and efficient.

The Transport and Resources Committee completed its report into this bill in July this year. I would like to acknowledge the committee and the committee secretariat for their diligence in putting this report together. I would like to acknowledge my colleagues on that committee, the members for Gregory and Toowoomba North. The committee made one recommendation in the report: that the bill be passed.

I would like to commend the energy minister on what I believe to be his first energy bill in this term of parliament. It is somewhat concerning, in what is such a critical portfolio, that this is the first piece of legislation that we have seen from this minister in this term. It begs the question: what is the legislative agenda?

The LNP broadly supports the intent of the bill; however, as noted in the LNP's statement of reservation to the committee report, there are some concerns we wish to ensure are put on the public record. We have pointed out that there are opportunities for better leadership around the ongoing number of projects that may be subject to compulsory acquisition. Unnecessary angst has been caused over the years through projects that have gone through a process for compulsory acquisition, only for the project to not proceed. One example that comes to mind is the government's complete failure with Traveston Dam, something my colleague the member for Gympie fought strongly against. Compulsory acquisition powers must be treated with the utmost importance and used fairly and with due process. Pipeline and similar projects can bring community benefits, but they also bring significant impacts to landowners and those near the project. By the department's own admission, the notification process can be improved for these affected communities. The government could have used this bill as an opportunity to improve and modernise the notification process but has failed to do so.

The LNP also welcomes the department's comments in relation to encouraging common user infrastructure; however, there are different hydrogen products that need varying methods of transportation and storage, so there may be limitations as to who can benefit and utilise this infrastructure. It is clear that government leadership in this regard would go a long way to reducing wider impacts on communities. I would urge the minister to acknowledge this.

A number of submissions were received by the committee. I wish to refer to some of them as part of my contribution today. Glencore's submission to the committee proposed that the bill be broadened to prescribe ammonia for the purposes of new section 11A of the petroleum and gas act. Glencore suggest that there are opportunities to supply low-emission, low-carbon ammonia as a feedstock to industrial processes, both internationally and domestically. However, the department advised that the intent of the amendments is to provide a regulatory assessment pathway to authorise the construction and operation of transmission pipelines for hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in Queensland. The amendments were not intended to allow for the transportation of a substance prescribed by regulation that is used for a purpose which is not associated with the emerging hydrogen industry and so were not relevant to this bill.

Clause 15 of the bill amends the definition of 'pipeline' in section 16 to add regulated hydrogen as a substance that may be transported through a pipe or a system of pipes. The intent of this amendment is to provide clarity to industry and community stakeholders about substances that are authorised to be transported in pipelines. Clause 16 also broadens the definition of 'major user facility' to include a facility operated as a place of export for fuel gas including, for example, a port or a facility operated for the liquefaction of fuel gas before it is transported to a facility operating as a place of export for fuel gas. Without these changes, a pipeline transporting fuel gas that consists of hydrogen will be considered a distribution pipeline under the petroleum and gas act and cannot be licensed. Glencore's submission proposed that the definition of 'major user facility' in section 16A would benefit from being broadened to also refer to export facilities for regulated hydrogen.

The department stated that regulated hydrogen is defined separately to fuel gas and, as such, the change to the definition of 'major user facility', which only relates to fuel gas, will not apply to regulated hydrogen. Should a proponent seek to transport a substance prescribed as regulated hydrogen, for example ammonia, to an export facility, an application would be made for a pipeline licence under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004.

Clause 20 of the bill amends section 411 to require that a public notice state each substance proposed to be transported through the pipeline. The department stated that the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 requires notification for pipelines in a newspaper circulating throughout the state or, if the proposed licence is in an area pipeline licence, generally in the area. The proponent is also required to notify any relevant local governments. In addition, impacted landowners will have communications from the proponent for the pipeline land to be first obtained. To be eligible to construct a pipeline, pipeline land must be owned by the proponent or be land over which the proponent holds an appropriate easement for the construction or operation of the pipeline or has obtained the owner's written permission to enter to construct or operate the pipeline or holds a part 5 permission to enter to construct or operate the pipeline.

Usually the parties will negotiate either an easement or an agreement with the relevant landowners which will also provide for any compensation payable; however, where an easement or an agreement cannot be negotiated, the proponent may apply to the Minister for Resources for a part 5 permission. A part 5 permission is a temporary permission to enter the land to construct and operate a pipeline. In the rare circumstances where pipeline land is not settled after the expiry of the part 5 permission, the land may be compulsorily acquired. There were many lessons learned in the gas industry regarding this. I hope they are taken up with regard to the hydrogen industry.

Clause 27 of the bill amends section 670 to allow for regulated hydrogen substances to be excluded from being operating plant where the substance is prescribed as an excluded compound. This will allow RSHQ to independently determine if the operating plant safety framework is the most suitable safety framework for regulated hydrogen substances prescribed in section 11A. That is something the community needs full confidence in. The Queensland Law Society stated—

If the intention is that pipelines carrying only the substances prescribed in section 6A of the *Petroleum and Gas Regulation* are to be excluded from the definition of 'operating plant', then the Regulation should go further and state that those substances are excluded compounds for the purpose of section 670 of the Act.

The department advised that—

The approach proposed in the QLS submission will be provided to the Office of Queensland Parliamentary Counsel for consideration in drafting the relevant amendments to the P&G Regulation.

APA Group Ltd submitted their general support for the bill and added the following proposal with regard to land access. As stated in their submission—

Easements (and other land access rights) generally reflect what was negotiated between the parties and are naturally inconsistent in drafting. Some existing easements in their current form may only permit the transportation of natural gas/hydrocarbons. This means transporting hydrogen and other future fuels in existing pipelines, either as additives to, or instead of, natural gas may constitute a new permitted purpose. If this is the case, all existing easements in Queensland would need to be reviewed and new easements may need to be negotiated if the original permitted purpose is not sufficient.

This would be a very costly and drawn out process for industry and governments and could present challenges for meeting Queensland's clean energy targets.

...

It is vital that industry go above and beyond the minimum regulatory requirements in order to build and maintain its social licence to operate. This can be assisted by nurturing positive, productive and transparent relationships with landholders in line with growing investor and customer expectations regarding environmental, social and governance performance. This will include engaging with landholders in instances where a variation to an existing easement is necessary.

As stated in the committee report—

Regulations made by the Governor in Council under the GS Act and P&G Act must be tabled in the Queensland Parliament. The Queensland Parliament may disallow a regulation made under a Queensland Act.

We are satisfied that the Bill sufficiently subjects the exercise of the delegated legislative power to the scrutiny of the Queensland Parliament because any regulation must be tabled in the Queensland Parliament, and it may be disallowed by the Parliament.

As further stated in the committee report—

Although landowners are able to be compensated for allowing the PPL holder access to land, and for the restriction on the use of their property in the area of any PPL, the statement of compatibility acknowledges:

In limited circumstances, where agreement cannot be reached, the Minister administering the P&G Act can approve temporary access to construct and operate the pipeline for up to nine months and can also compulsorily acquire land for these purposes. These requirements also apply where native title exists in the area. Compensation is paid to the landowner or native title party if resumption occurs.

That goes back to the earlier statement about the social licence in the rolling out of this legislation. If you do not have the social licence this all becomes very difficult, so that is very important. Indigenous representatives stated there was a lack of consultation in relation to the potential impact of limitations on Indigenous cultural rights. As stated in their submission—


... without that knowledge no person can make a judgement on whether the limitations that will arise from the passage of the Bill are reasonable and demonstratively justifiable.

The submission further states that the Queensland government has not yet made contact with the traditional owners who are 'most affected by any potential developments and changes to the regulatory environment governing the hydrogen industry'. Their submission continues—

The views and concerns of the PBC, as the representative of the affected First Nations People, have not been appropriately canvassed in the development of the *Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023* (Qld). Under these circumstances, a Statement of Compatibility that suggests that indigenous cultural and human rights have been properly considered under this proposed legislation is disingenuous.

I note that the minister acknowledged that and addressed it in his contribution.

In closing, the LNP will not be opposing this bill. We acknowledge that it does have sound intent. As I also stated, we have learned many of the lessons of the past and I hope they will be taken on board. As the minister stated, the hydrogen industry is a growing industry and there will need to be a number of amendments to facilitate that industry. It is not only government that is investing: private money is being invested in hydrogen. One of the best things the government can do for the future of hydrogen is to provide certainty of investment. Unfortunately, industry in Queensland has been hit with a number of unexpected announcements that have undermined investment in Queensland. Some of the main people who will be buying hydrogen going forward—and I am talking about Japan as a perfect example—are questioning their investment in Queensland. They are looking at other states in Australia which are more sound and reliable to do business with. That is the main thing this government has to do. Is there going to be a market for hydrogen? Yes, but if we do not give business the confidence that Queensland is a safe and sound business environment in which to do business they will go elsewhere. That is what this government needs to address more than anything else.

 **Mr KING** (Kurwongbah—ALP) (12.36 pm): I rise to contribute to this debate on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. The Transport and Resources Committee inquired into this bill and recommended that it be passed. I would like to thank the committee members from both sides, secretariat staff, officers from the Department of Energy and Public Works and the over 125 stakeholders from across industry, local government, the agriculture and resource sectors, First Nations, environmental groups, GOCs and distribution authority holders who helped inform our inquiry.

It is always a pleasure to stand up in this place to talk about what the government is doing in the energy space. I come from the energy supply industry, although not many may know that. Not only am I very proud of our Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan; I know that my old workmates at Powerlink and my union, the mighty Electrical Trades Union, and so many more tradies and businesses across Queensland are excited about the opportunities this and our future energy road map are generating. They are excited about the \$4.5 billion Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund guaranteeing jobs in our industry and making sure publicly owned energy businesses can invest in renewable energy, storage and hydrogen projects in dedicated renewable energy zone regions—bringing more work like Powerlink is doing now on windfarm projects in Far North Queensland and the Western and Southern Downs under our National Electricity Rules. Consultation is currently open on the draft 2023 Queensland Renewable Energy Zone Roadmap, which identifies 12 potential future zones and a Queensland-specific framework to help connect 22 gigawatts of new renewable energy development to our network.


As part of the overall Energy and Jobs Plan, which this hydrogen is part of, I want to mention that pumped hydro is an important part of our energy plan. I recently had the opportunity to visit Tasmania's hydro site at Lake Cethana, south-west of Devonport, and hear about their plans for a large pumped hydro station there. I am more excited than ever that we are building a huge pumped hydro project right here in Queensland. To see the sheer scale and engineering of these projects close up is phenomenal. I know that members will be interested in this. Another one in Tasmania has been in existence since 1938. The pipelines are made of timber pipes that run for kilometres, keeping another trade in work—coopers or barrel makers. It is incredible to see. I will say the one thing they do not have down there that we have is the stability that pumped hydro would bring. That is why they need pumped hydro. We have it here. I have said it before and I will say it again: when the Callide Power Station sadly failed in 2021 due to a generator fault, it was our Wivenhoe pumped hydro that saved the day.

In Queensland, we have committed to a target of zero emissions by 2050. We know that hydrogen will play a significant role in getting there. That is because, unlike burning fuel to generate energy, burning hydrogen does not release carbon dioxide. For those who do not know, hydrogen is an energy carrier and it can be used to deliver, transport and store energy produced from other sources. The local skills, industry and infrastructure we have invested in over the years in Queensland have perfectly placed us to be a world leader in the development of hydrogen, particularly green hydrogen which leaves only water as a by-product. That is why we have a Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy and why we are investing millions of dollars in hydrogen projects and in training facilities that teach people how to work with hydrogen through the \$4½ billion Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund that I have already mentioned.

In order to produce, transport and export our hydrogen, we need pipelines. Currently, the Gas Supply Act 2003 covers processed natural gas, and this bill will expand its coverage to hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other covered gases, defined as a primary gas or gas blend. The bill sets out some other definitions and distributor requirements and, importantly, provides consistency with federal government changes to the National Gas Law and the National Energy Retail Law.

The bill also amends the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to enable the licensing and operation of transmission pipelines for the transportation of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. The Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 regulates the petroleum and gas industry in Queensland, including the licencing system for the construction and operation of pipelines, and covers safety and technical issues related to production, transport and use of petrol, natural gas and fuel gas. While hydrogen is prescribed as a fuel gas, it is currently not listed in the act as a substance that can be transported under current pipeline licences. This bill changes that, recognising the growing prevalence of hydrogen production and use and its importance to our state as an economic and jobs generator and a means to achieve a cleaner environmental footprint now and for future generations.

Modelling suggests hydrogen could be worth about \$33 billion to our economy within 20 years. Effective regulation of hydrogen development and use is essential to the healthy growth of the industry and is an action item of our Energy and Jobs Plan. This bill brings us an important step closer to those goals. I will conclude today by mentioning the commitment to our parliamentary committee by the Department of Energy and Public Works that issues around H2 water and land access that were raised during our inquiry will be considered as part of a broader review. We do appreciate that. That is the next step for us in supporting and regulating the huge potential of Queensland's hydrogen industry. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr MILLAR** (Gregory—LNP) (12.42 pm): In rising to comment on this bill, I extend my thanks to my colleagues on the Transport and Resources Committee, the committee staff, the officials at the Department of Energy and Public Works who assisted us and the submitters who shared their knowledge and suggestions with us. This bill represents the first legislative steps towards providing the regulatory framework required to support the development of a hydrogen export industry in Queensland. Regardless of one's views about green energy, there is already a strong global demand for hydrogen. For Queensland, this presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity for jobs, for manufacturing development here at home and for strong international export growth to nations like Japan, South Korea and Singapore.

If it succeeds, the green hydrogen industry could have a similar impact on Queensland's prosperity as the development of the Bowen Basin brought us in the 1970s. It is a useful comparison because the story of the Bowen Basin mining industry taught Queensland's regulators much. Sadly, many of those pioneering public servants, MPs and mayors have passed away or have been long retired. I hope today's successors—the ministers, members, mayors and public servants who have to deal with the new developments—ignore neither the history nor the lessons it contains. It shows that Queensland is capable of great feats economically and socially. It also shows undoubtedly that the concept of social licence is very real and must be born in mind if the government is to bring Queensland with them in supporting the new industry.

From the other side of the coin, Queensland is not the only jurisdiction globally or even within Australia trying to develop hydrogen products for export. This means we are essentially in a competition for the capital investment to fund the development. Much, if not most, of that investment will be sought from overseas—as it was with the Bowen Basin in the 1970s. There are many other places they can go to achieve their own hydrogen goals, including Western Australia. The Treasurer is doing Queensland no favours in overseas' eyes with his constant disrespect for one of Queensland's most

important economic pillars. To this end, the Department of Energy and Public Works told the committee that they are currently leading a broad review of Queensland's regulatory frameworks to ensure all elements of the hydrogen value chain have an effective regulatory framework in place. This is as it should be, and I hope to participate in further consultation and scrutiny as a broader framework is developed. One of the very first things investors want to see before they commit to Queensland's hydrogen industry is that the vital pipelines required to transport hydrogen from the point of production to the ships at the export terminal can be built at a known cost and on schedule.

The objective of the bill is to put into law that clear regulatory assessment and approval process to show the clear pathway that must be followed in building and operating the pipelines that will carry hydrogen, hydrogen blends and hydrogen carriers as well as other gases from production to port in Queensland. As an aside, I should clarify that so-called hydrogen carriers could include ammonia and methanol.

To achieve this objective, the bill amends two existing acts: firstly, the Gas Supply Act 2003 to expand its jurisdiction to hydrogen, hydrogen blends and other gases; and, secondly, the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to create a clear pathway for proponents to become licensed to build and operate a pipeline to carry hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. Transparency in this process is vital for both proponents and the community, including landholders, agriculture and native title holders. The department advised the committee that—

The Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 requires notification for pipelines in a newspaper circulating throughout the State or, if the proposed licence is an area pipeline licence, generally in the area. The proponent is also required to notify any relevant local governments.

Given the possible impacts on strategic cropping land, agriculture and landholders, it is also important to note that, in addition to the public notification requirements, proponents for pipelines must also communicate directly with the impacted landholders. That is incredibly important. As a member with deep ties to agriculture, this was an area of great concern to me in the committee's scrutiny of the legislation. The department suggested that most of these pipelines will be built on public lands to ensure ease of access and operation but that will not always be the case, so this part of the framework is vital in safeguarding other interests.


To be eligible to construct a pipeline, pipeline land must be owned by the proponent or be land over which the proponent holds an appropriate easement for the construction or operation of the pipeline or has obtained the owner's written permission to enter to construct and operate the pipeline. Usually the proponent will negotiate either an easement or an agreement with the relevant landholder, which will also provide for any compensation payable. Having said all that, the intent of the bill is to support the development of the hydrogen industry for Queensland so where an easement or an agreement cannot be negotiated the proponent may apply to the Minister for Resources for a part 5 permission. A part 5 permission is a temporary permission to enter land to construct and operate a pipeline. In the rare circumstances where the pipeline land is not settled after the expiry of the part 5 permission, the land may be compulsorily acquired. If land is compulsorily acquired under a part 5 permission, compensation will still be payable to the landholder.

I am not a fan of this aspect and I will be watching to see that this is not used as a get out of jail free card so that prior negotiations are just for show and the minister is handing out part 5s without just cause. Labor's record in the protection of strategic cropping land, for instance, has been dire. I also have well-founded concerns about the potential impact of legal costs for impacted landholders and hope the department intends to address this separately. I can say that the department made it clear to the committee that they understand the importance of social licence in establishing a new industry and that the best way to achieve this is by nurturing positive and transparent relationships between proponents and landholders. They have committed to looking further at these issues and other related issues in their ongoing broader review into the entire regulatory framework for the entire hydrogen value chain. Given the narrow scope of this bill, I can accept that advice, partly because this bill does contain a good example of the transparency Queenslanders have a right to expect.

A pipeline authority will relate to the transmission of a specified substance which must be named in the public notification and in communications with any impacted landholders. Should the proponent then want to transmit a different substance through their existing pipeline, an amendment of any easement agreements will be required in order for that to be approved. In other words, they have to get an agreement from the landholder whose land the easement covers.

Obviously, coming from the seat of Gregory, we have many resource industries in our area. In my electorate, landholders in the township of Bluff have been seriously affected by dust, noise, light pollution and traffic from the adjoining Bluff Mine. One particular family were seriously endangered when they were not advised of blasting which coincided with mustering on their property close to the mine. It has been a difficult and drawn-out process to resolve the issues between the proponent and the local neighbours.

I want to see the avoidance of similar problems as we develop a new hydrogen industry in Queensland. I will be continuing to flag this to the minister, and I look forward to hearing from the department about the findings of their broader regulatory review. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (12.50 pm): I rise to speak to the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. This bill recognises the importance of getting the policy settings right to support the development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland. As Queensland, along with the world, recognises the importance of transitioning to net zero, the role that sustainable fuel sources, such as hydrogen, will play is increasingly evident. It is hard to imagine now that just last year Queensland was experiencing its second one-in-100-year flooding event in 10 years. With an increase in the severity and frequency of natural disasters driven by climate change, Queenslanders are far too familiar with the impacts that these events bring. These events have highlighted how important progressing solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change are to our regions. Hydrogen cannot only help to limit emissions in hard-to-abate sectors such as heavy haulage and manufacturing but also will play an important role in ensuring Queensland prospers on the transition to net zero.

With vast amounts of renewable resources, a skilled workforce with access to ports and the South-East Asian market, Queensland is well placed to support the emerging hydrogen industry. The Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan highlights the potential opportunity a renewable hydrogen industry could bring for Queensland. Independent modelling that informed the plan estimates that the industry could be worth more than \$33.4 billion by 2040 and could support more than 10,000 jobs. These are important green-collar jobs, ones that workers aspire to be part of, and part of decarbonisation.

I am also pleased to see the focus in the bill on ensuring this will all be done safely. As we know, hydrogen is being used safely in many industrial applications in Australia and internationally. Many countries around the world use hydrogen as fuel for transportation with an excellent safety record. To ensure appropriate safety measures are being adopted in Queensland, I am pleased to note that the bill will apply the existing safety framework for pipelines under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act to hydrogen and other renewable gases. This tried and tested approach is supported by advances in standards and additional notification requirements to ensure the health and safety risks associated with hydrogen and other renewable gases are managed.

We know that hydrogen is seen as a game changer for cutting emissions in hard-to-abate sectors, and globally many countries are already setting ambitious targets for hydrogen use and production. This represents a huge opportunity to be leaders in the renewable hydrogen industry, and Queensland is set to be one of those. Queensland is competing at an international level for investment in the renewable hydrogen industry and the importance of strategic leadership at this early stage is fundamental. The amendments in the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill do exactly that. They will provide clarity and certainty to industry and help to support the development of a hydrogen industry in Queensland by ensuring that settings are in place to transport hydrogen to markets.

As we know, the growing demand for renewable hydrogen provides, as we have talked about, significant opportunities, both in terms of international export and local decarbonisation. The amendments in this bill will allow for the transportation of hydrogen in pipelines that will be a critical part of the hydrogen production and export industry. Projects could deliver up to \$17.2 billion in hydrogen exports and \$12.4 billion to Queensland's gross state product over its 30-year life, positioning the state as a leader in the hydrogen industry. With the support of a \$15 million contribution from the Queensland government towards the \$117 million front-end engineering and design study, this project highlights how having the right policy settings can pave the way for world-leading projects within the state.

It is to be noted that CS Energy are also in the process of delivering the Kogan Renewable Hydrogen Demonstration Plant project, which is just one of the most advanced renewable hydrogen projects in Queensland. When in operation, the project will produce 75,000 kilograms of renewable hydrogen each year. The project is supported by \$28.9 million of funding.

Renewable hydrogen is the next big opportunity for Queensland and the industry could be comparable in size to the LNG industry. By building on our long and trusted history as a major energy exporter, Queensland can become a leading global producer and exporter of green hydrogen. Global demand for hydrogen is growing, as we know, with many of our major trading partners seeing the role it is playing in helping them to achieve their decarbonisation targets. Investors from Japan, Korea and Singapore are all looking to Queensland to meet their hydrogen needs. Queensland government owned corporations are among some of the significant projects under development across the state. I am pleased to hear the announcement regarding the development of the Stanwell-led consortium CQ-H2 hydrogen export project in Gladstone.

There is also a significant role that hydrogen can play in the transport sector as a diesel replacement in heavy vehicles. Articulated trucks have the highest rate of fuel consumption per vehicle. In Australia, if articulated trucks switched to hydrogen fuel, this would require about 130,000 tonnes per annum. In fact, the first hydrogen refuelling station was recently opened in my electorate of Lytton. It is a great location, close to the Port of Brisbane Motorway that leads onto the Gateway, north and south, and is therefore a great location for our heavy vehicles.

Many more domestic hydrogen cases are being developed and demonstrate the role that hydrogen can and possibly should play in Queensland's sustainable future. The role hydrogen could play to assist domestic decarbonisation for both Queensland and Australia is growing. Continued strategic leadership to support the industry's growth at this time is vital and one way is ensuring that there are viable offtake options for hydrogen production.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill is an important first step in ensuring the regulatory settings are right to support the emerging hydrogen industry. By building on our long and trusted history as a major energy exporter, Queensland can become the leading global producer and exporter of green hydrogen.

We all know about the very successful Energy and Jobs Plan that we are delivering across Queensland which has seen the uptake of a huge amount of renewable resources and the cutting down of our emissions, leading into the upcoming Olympic Games in 2032. This will also create a number of green-collar jobs across Queensland. Yesterday I was at Visy's cardboard recycling facility where I met a number of employees who have chosen to move into the green industry, to have green-collar jobs, because they are well-paid jobs that create an opportunity for people who have a commitment to working in manufacturing and are also committed to working towards climate change to feel good about themselves by working in a green industry. I think there is great opportunity. This bill is a good first start in this area and that is why I commend the bill to the House.

Debate, on motion of Ms Pease, adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 12.59 pm to 2.00 pm.

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Palaszczuk Labor Government



Mr CRISAFULLI (Broadwater—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (2.00 pm): After three terms and nearly a decade in office the Palaszczuk government has the wrong priorities for Queensland. This is a government that views everything through the prism of its political survival, and today we saw that on display with the complete and utter lack of a plan when it comes to water infrastructure. In a moment the shadow minister will unpack how a decade of poor planning has resulted in chaos, infighting and a policy vacuum from a government that no longer views things through the prism of what it means to people. I want to explain why this matters.

Labor's failure to plan means less water and more bills, less housing and more rent, less industry and more unemployment. That is the flow-on effect from a decade of poor planning. Make no mistake, we do not need to go back a decade to see the chaos and crisis of this government. Let me remind the House what has unfolded since we were in this place last, barely a month ago, in another chaotic episode of this government in Queensland.

The patients tax that was not for reversing, that had to be done on a certain structure, there was no way it could be changed, we were locked into some sort of national arrangement—we heard all sorts of gobbledegook from the Treasurer. In another humiliating backflip in a series of humiliating backflips, the patients tax now has a new iteration. I will make this point. Despite the humiliating backdown, we

still have doctors coming and speaking with the opposition, saying that in the Treasurer's failure to admit he got it wrong, the consequence will be more registration, more administration and less time to see people.

Mr Dick: We've given a hundred million bucks a year.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, Treasurer! You are on the speaking list next.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will take the interjection from the Treasurer who just will not listen to people at the front line. He is part of a government that stopped listening. We saw the clearing house, which we were told could not be done financially or technologically, whatever that means, but after another sustained amount of pressure, the impossible became possible. That is the benefit of diligent opposition when a government is wrapped in chaos and crisis. We saw building codes where the industry pleaded with the government and the shadow minister on multiple occasions and said, 'Follow the lead of the other states. Do this in a sober and a judicious way and allow industry to be able to transition.' The government said that was not possible, yet somehow at the 11th hour it cherry-picked half of the equation and made half of it possible. Somehow they managed to find a way to alienate everybody in the industry by not listening and not acting.

We saw the new royal commission called into the DNA debacle. It took seven months for the first royal commission to be called. For seven months we were told we were politicking. On this occasion a brave whistleblower and the mother of a murdered young woman stood up and refused to take no for an answer. Despite that, a minister of the Crown attempted to play them off like some sort of political plaything. That is the point we have reached in government in Queensland. However, they did not back down. I say to Dr Kirsty Wright and to Vicki Blackburn, 'You are the heroes of the DNA debacle in calling this out. You are the heroes in ensuring this sordid chapter of a failure that has denied people justice might reach the end so we can finally deliver victims the peace they need and the knowledge that the people who deserve to be behind bars might just be.'

We saw the saga with the Griffith University, and I will leave that to the deputy leader. When government becomes about, 'Hey comrade, the Premier needs to announce something,' you know you have reached the bottom of the pile. When a Labor director-general phones a former Labor MP, a former treasurer, and says, 'We need an announcement. Please help us,' and the result has no details, no planning, no way of delivering and it cost people who were living out of their homes, who were living in vulnerable situations, \$2 million in missed opportunities we see a government that only cares about the announcement.

We passed 150 days in the last month since Albanese announced the 90-day infrastructure review. I can only imagine what the response would have been from those opposite. What would have happened in that review? But this is a government that is no longer about Queensland. This government—

Mr Janetzki interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Toowoomba South.

Mr CRISAFULLI: It was so bad the member for Miller's fingers did not work on Twitter. He was unable to even tweet about it. That is the kind of paralysis that the 90-day infrastructure review—that has turned into 150 days—has delivered.

Mr Deputy Speaker, let me make this commitment to you: when it was an LNP government in Canberra, this team stood up for Queensland. Now that it is a Labor government in Canberra we will stand up for Queensland.

Ms PEASE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. The Leader of the Opposition is misleading the House.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I have made it very clear in the past that I take points of order in silence and I respond to them in silence. Member, there is a process for dealing with misleading the House. It is not to rise to a point of order. There is no point of order.

Mr CRISAFULLI: I will point to the number of times we heard about fifty-fifty health funding before the last election and the absolute silence after. I point to how many times we had criticism over infrastructure projects that were not funded before the election and complete silence after. I make this

commitment to every Queenslander: we do not care if it is the red team or the blue team in Canberra; we are on team maroon. We are for Queensland. We are for Queensland and Queensland deserves its fair share.

When industry tells us that as a result of this paralysis infrastructure in this state has become frozen and the pipeline of works has dried up, that means that people who rely on it for work—to be able to go to work and earn a living—do not have the ability to plan into the future and people who are stuck in their car who want to get home to their family do not have the ability to do that either. That is the consequence of a failure to plan.

This government has the wrong priorities for Queensland. What are the priorities that Queenslanders are after? They want to know that when they go to bed at night they are safe. They want to know that a repeat, hardcore offender will not be standing at their front door with a knife or ramming a police car because of watered down laws and fewer police. They want to know when they pick up the phone in their hour of need they will be able to get an ambulance. That matters to them. They want to know their kids can afford to own their own home.

In recent times I have been travelling around Queensland listening to Queenslanders about their priorities. I listened to people in Mareeba who told me what it is like to no longer be able to have babies in that town or to get dialysis treatment. That matters to them. I was in a park in the Redlands when I heard from pensioners who cannot afford a security system to keep them safe and who are not sleeping well. I heard from the owner of a supermarket that has been rammed over a dozen times. Every time there is a cost on them. I heard from a young apprentice tradie who is unable to replace his stolen trailer and what that has meant to him. I sat with the member for Southport and we listened to some young Queenslanders tell us that they do not believe they can own a home. That is the consequence of a government that does not have the right priorities for Queensland.

In just over a year, Queenslanders get to make a choice for their priorities in the future—a choice between a government fixated on clinging to power or an LNP team focused on priorities that matter for Queenslanders; between a government wracked by infighting, bogged down by chaos and crisis, or a united, stable LNP team; between a government that only cares about its own survival or an LNP team that is fighting for the things that matter to Queenslanders; between a government seeking a fourth term—14 years in office—or a fresh start under an LNP team that has the right priorities for Queensland.

Liberal National Party, Performance



Hon. CR DICK (Woodridge—ALP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment) (2.11 pm): After that effort, we know this: Queenslanders deserve better than the LNP and they deserve better than this Leader of the Opposition. Members do not have to take my word for it. They just have to listen to the member for Broadwater's former LNP cabinet colleague Jann Stuckey. I give credit to Jann Stuckey for calling out the current LNP leader's charade. He wants to run to the 2024 election as 'Labor lite'. He is trying to make it seem that if he is elected nothing bad will happen. All of us on this side of the House know differently. It is untrue, and for Queenslanders to believe otherwise is simply dangerous for them.

The LNP have plans and they are keeping them a secret. As long as the Leader of the Opposition hides his policies and plans from Queenslanders, it falls to the government to inform Queenslanders about what the LNP is really planning. Hiding behind the facade of 'Labor lite' is an LNP that is unapologetic, unreformed and unreconstructed from the LNP Newman government—a government in which the opposition leader proudly served as a senior minister.

The LNP still stands for cuts to the health system, for cuts to frontline services and for cuts to infrastructure. The LNP cuts are coming back. Our government will make sure that Queenslanders are aware of the pain they will suffer under an LNP government. We will keep telling Queenslanders about the LNP's secret plans for Queensland. I believe that it is a message Queenslanders will be eager to hear, because they can see that the LNP leader is hiding his true agenda. Even though the opposition leader is trying to avoid telling the truth about his agenda, every now and then the truth slips out—the shadow Treasurer, with his intergenerational equity plan for cuts. All Queenslanders know that Peter Costello is off the Future Fund now and is available to swing the axe on the next commission of audit. The member for Chatsworth wants to cut billions of dollars from our government's building program. The member for Mudgeeraba wants to bring back the Newman approach to the health system and progressive coal royalties. All Queenslanders now know that they will be cut by the Leader of the

Opposition. If they were not sure before, they will know once they see the photos of the member for Broadwater and Ian Macfarlane standing together, grinning—best friends, united by a common goal to deprive Queenslanders of the revenue Queenslanders deserve from progressive coal royalties.

I welcome the decision of the Speaker to refuse the request of the Manager of Opposition Business to refer me to the Ethics Committee on the issue of royalties. I welcome it, because every Queenslanders knows the truth about the LNP's secret plan to cut royalties. In his own letter, the member for Glass House could not even write that the LNP would keep progressive coal royalties. That is because the LNP is in the pocket of the coal lobby, but one thing is for sure: the member for Broadwater wants to keep it secret. That secret small-target, 'it's just not my style' strategy is not going to work anymore.

If the new candidate for Oodgeroo has anything to say about it, we will know something about the opposition. The opposition leader will have to explain: does he agree with Amanda Stoker on nuclear power? Does the Leader of the Opposition agree with Amanda Stoker on the termination of pregnancy? On World Mental Health Day, does the Leader of the Opposition agree with Amanda Stoker, who says that mental health problems are caused by what she describes as the 'internal corruption of freedom'. This is someone they have preselected to sit in this parliament. The Leader of the Opposition has two choices: either he overrules his candidate or he supports everything that Amanda Stoker has said. There is no third option.

I will give Amanda Stoker her due. Her ideas might be weird and out of place in a modern Queensland, but at least she has the courage of some of her convictions, which is more than anyone can ever say about the Leader of the Opposition. I would be looking at my phone, too, if I had someone with those weird views, whom I had just preselected, wanting to come into the Queensland parliament. I have news for the Leader of the Opposition: Queenslanders are not going to cop this 'Labor lite' carry-on by the Leader of the Opposition—in no way, shape or form. They know what is coming: cuts to mental health and cuts to infrastructure because the LNP has simply not learned its lesson. Only Labor will protect Queensland from energy cuts.

(Time expired)

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member for Kawana, you used some unparliamentary language during your interjections. I would ask you to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Performance



Mr BLEIJIE (Kawana—LNP) (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (2.16 pm): What a misogynistic speech by the Treasurer—

Mr DICK: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take deep personal offence at the comments made by the member for Kawana and I ask him to withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member for Kawana, the member has taken personal offence. I would ask you to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. This is a treasurer who does not believe that a woman is allowed to have a say unless it is the Labor Party's view of the world. How disgraceful from the state Treasurer!

Mr DICK: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. Those words are deeply personally offensive to me and I ask the member for Kawana to withdraw.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Kawana, the member has found the comments personally offensive. I ask you to withdraw.

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw. The Treasurer may be happy to have not been referred on the recent matter, but he was not happy when he was referred for SPER debts. The Ethics Committee made adverse findings against the Treasurer. He may not have been happy about that. He is one of the few members in this place with adverse findings against him by the Ethics Committee.

A government member interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: It was not me, champ; it was the Treasurer of the state of Queensland.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member will use correct titles.

Mr BLEIJIE: Thank you, Deputy Speaker—'the Treasurer'. The Labor Party, of which the Treasurer is the third most senior member, is arrogant and out of touch. It has stopped listening and has given up on any plans for Queenslanders. It has given up on any transparency or accountability.

Look what happened when the Premier needed an announcement before she flew to Paris, on her first overseas holiday this year. Mike Kaiser, the acting DPC director-general, came out the day before with the youth justice policy on the back of an envelope. What happened? Just before she went into the first-class lounge, she made the announcements on youth justice policy. Why? It was because she wanted to tick a box to show that she was doing something.

What happened with the DNA laboratory? The health minister only a week ago was saying that only an internal review is necessary and that there was no need for a second royal commission. What happened? It got into the media. In order to fix a political issue, they announced a second royal commission. Then there is the patients tax. How humiliating for the Treasurer! Not only did he have to back down on the patients tax; do members remember the renters tax?

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mr Dick interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, Leader of the Opposition! Order, Treasurer!

Mr BLEIJIE: That went well for the Treasurer! He announced the renters tax and then the Premier slapped him down from Canberra and stopped his renters tax going through.

With regard to Jackie Trad, the former attorney-general said that the legal fees would be released. Last week when standing in front of a press conference, the current Attorney-General said, 'We're not releasing it. We never do.' Two hours later, the Premier backflipped on that and said, 'Oh no, we will release it.' What is it? It is chaos! It is absolute chaos and crisis. Everything this government touches is chaos. Who is paying the price for Labor's chaos? It is Queenslanders. Queenslanders are paying the price for the backflipping and the backstabbing of people like the Treasurer of the state of Queensland who has no interest in what is in the best interests of Queenslanders. All the members of the Labor Party are interested in is power. All they are interested in is self-interest, power, ministerial leather and limo drivers. That is all that is driving the Treasurer's policy platform in the state of Queensland—his limo driver. Let us look at Labor's infrastructure chopping block. Minister Mark Bailey is very quiet on the infrastructure chopping block.

Mr BAILEY: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I have a title and he should not be referring to me in the personal. He knows what the standing orders are.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member, I will ask you to use correct titles.

Mr BLEIJIE: Mr Deputy Speaker, I said 'Minister Bailey'.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. Resume your seat. I will take some advice. Member for Kawana, I am not asking you to withdraw; I am just asking you to use correct titles going forward.


Mr BLEIJIE: Let us now look at the chaos of the Griffith housing accommodation proposal—a 10-word text message from Labor mate Mike Kaiser to Labor mate Andrew Fraser. A 10-word text message 24 hours before the Premier announced the policy at the Housing Summit cost Queenslanders \$2 million. Last week the Premier then said, 'Oh, I understand there were conversations that took place.' Yeah—a day before, like the Gabba announcement of a billion dollars. Why in budget estimates? Because the Premier needed an announcement, just like she needed an announcement at the Housing Summit. That is more chaos and crisis of the Palaszczuk government. I table copies of the RTI documents in which Andrew Fraser said, 'Said we would not seek a commercial return but come knocking on other matters.' I table the RTI documents.

Tabled paper: Extract of text messages, dated 15 September, between Mr Andrew Fraser and Ms Carolyn Evans, relating to the use of former student accommodation [1605].

This is how the government is doing business—behind secret text messages between Labor mates saying we will 'come knocking'. What does that mean? Where is the transparency? Only 10 minutes ago the Premier was asked, 'Where's this desalination plant?', and she said, 'Kawana'. That is news to my constituents, or is it going in Bribie Island, as we have heard? I reckon that is the case. What a disgraceful Labor government in Queensland!

(Time expired)

Liberal National Party

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (2.22 pm): Well, well, well, the Leader of the Opposition chose the member for Kawana as his 2IC. If the member for Kawana is the second best MP on that side, the LNP is in deep trouble with the hyperventilating amateur thespian routines. If those opposite think that that is what the people of

Queensland will have faith in at the next election, I can tell them that they have another thing coming. What I say to this parliament and to Queenslanders is this: when the LNP tells you it is going to cut, believe it, because that is what it is going to do, and it has been racking up a record this year. Those opposite think they have already won the next election. They are doing victory laps around Parliament House already and they are telling people inadvertently what their agenda is. We saw it first from the member for Chatsworth—

Mr Minnikin interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, member for Chatsworth.

Mr BAILEY:—who said in April of this year—

... we know at the moment that if you look at the budget we've got areas that we've already identified a couple of billion dollars worth of savings.

That means cuts. He also said—

At the moment, there are a range of areas that we know already that we could prune things back.

That is what we know. That was the beginning of the LNP revealing its cuts agenda this year.

The member for Mudgeeraba said in her feature interview recently that she 'insists the Newman government's record on health is something she would again aspire to'. Those words will hang around the LNP's neck like an albatross because we know what happened last time. She also said that she was putting everybody on notice in the health department—words that will send a chill down the spine of every health worker in Queensland because they know the LNP has not changed. The same people over there are leading and filling the front benches. They have not changed. We then had the member for Burnett, who said that it is time we broke the back of unrealistic employee entitlements—that is, cut, cut, cut. That is what their agenda was and that is what it will be again.

Who are those opposite bringing in who is new? Amanda Stoker. Does anybody believe that if Amanda Stoker is going to attempt to be elected to this House and, if successful, not try to take choice off Queensland women? Does anybody believe that? I certainly do not. The Leader of the Opposition voted to keep abortion in the Criminal Code. That is the record of the Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and most of the members of their team. The Leader of the Opposition also voted against voluntary assisted dying, something that is a compassionate human right in this state. We have to ask ourselves: what is the social agenda of the LNP with those coming into their team who are on the far right? We know what is going to happen if they get the chance. They have no energy plan, they have no economic plan, they have no health plan. All they have is a commitment to nuclear power and a commitment not to coal royalties but to cut because there cannot be any other logical outcome. Their health plan has been revealed. They will cut like they did last time. What we see from this government is record investments and new hospitals all over the state, whether it is Toowoomba, Roma, Kingaroy or—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat please. Member for Chatsworth, I have been asking you repeatedly to stop your interjections. You are now warned under the standing orders.


Mr BAILEY:—Moranbah. This government's agenda in terms of investment in health infrastructure for a booming population is very clear and Queenslanders understand that they will only get it under this government. One of the biggest revelations in the last few days is the former LNP member for Currumbin coming out and calling those opposite for what they are—a whingeing, whining, policy vacant zone. She would know. She knows them well. That is not this government speaking; it is the former LNP member for Currumbin who has nailed the Leader of the Opposition right down. What we see is a list, whether it is the member for Chatsworth, the member for Mudgeeraba, the member for Burnett or the former member for Currumbin. We see that their agenda is unfurling before our eyes.

(Time expired)

Mr Boothman interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Member for Theodore, you can go on a warning. That was uncalled for.

Sexual Assault Services

 **Ms CAMM** (Whitsunday—LNP) (2.28 pm): Last year I stood here and shared with the House the horrific story of a young woman—just like me, just like those opposite—who was out for a social drink. Her night out became her worst nightmare: laying in a ball of pain with not one but two perpetrators'

semen inside her, bruised and battered, failed by the Queensland forensic lab. Women across the state are courageously turning up at emergency departments, quietly whispering to a triage nurse, 'I have been raped,' barely comprehending the words and wondering whether she will be believed. She takes a seat and waits, and continues to wait. Finally, hours later, after being told that there is no-one there—no-one there who can help you, no-one there who can carry out a rape kit—she is to go home, covered in the semen of 'him' inside her. She can feel it on her legs, mixed with her own blood from the injuries and her tears. It burns. She is not allowed to shower. She is told to take photos of her injuries. Pulling out her iPhone, every time she looks at that iPhone she does not believe the imagery she sees: is that my body, bruised, bloody? The thought continues to make her sick. It makes me sick. It should make everybody in this House sick reliving the trauma.

It is unacceptable. Queensland women who are victims of sexual assault deserve to be treated with care and compassion; they deserve no less than a first-class service. They also deserve access to timely and best practice treatment, but that has not been happening. That has not been happening in this state for the past eight years. This government has had three terms and still it fails women and victims of sexual assault.

This morning in question time, when we raised how victims were being treated, the health minister said, 'Let me know and I will fix it.' Rape kits have been substandard and trained staff are not adequate—there are not enough and they are not there at the times when women and victims need them. Those opposite have said that we were politicking, that we were playing political games. The commission of inquiry proved that that was wrong. Today in question time the health minister was not across the detail of her own brief when she said that she would fix it. This minister said that there is funding, that there is a commitment, that there is a new standard of rape kits and that there is adequate funding for training. An announcement is not enough. An announcement to victims of rape living with the trauma every day because of the failures of this government is not enough. They present to our hospitals to seek care, to start the journey to seeking justice. It is clear that women in these situations are not only seeing justice delayed but also, in fact, seeing justice denied at the hands and the failings of this Labor government.

Today's performance outlined that the minister is not across the detail. The opposition has heard from whistleblowers. The opposition is aware that senior health bureaucrats know of the failings of sexual assault kits and the inadequate training. The opposition is aware that one of the big four consultancies has undertaken a review and there is a report. If the minister is not fully across the brief, the opposition will continue to call it out. We will continue to speak on behalf of victims. We will continue to protect whistleblowers and speak on their behalf. We are not politicking; we are representing vulnerable Queenslanders who have lost faith in this government, who have no confidence in a health minister or a Premier or a former attorney-general who stand up every day paying lip-service to protecting Queensland women when all of the actions that we see continue to fail. To those women we say sorry. It is not good enough and we will stand up every day in this House holding ministers and the government to account.

Liberal National Party, TAFE



Hon. DE FARMER (Bulimba—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business, Minister for Training and Skills Development and Minister for Youth Justice) (2.33 pm): All around the state there are school students who are making decisions about their future. In fact, some of them might be our own children. They must be so excited about what is going on in vocational education. Under our Fee-Free TAFE partnership with the federal government, 45,000 people have been able to get a free TAFE education. In fact, over the weekend the government announced that another \$300 million was going to go into Fee-Free TAFE. We are negotiating with them at the moment as to how many of those are going to go to Queensland. Already we have seen big enrolments in early childhood education, individual support and nursing—all occupations that are in high demand. It is not just about those students getting to choose things which will define their lives; these are important for our economy and for our future workforce.

If you are a parent of one of these students you would be worried about what will happen after the next election. You need to know that there are opportunities for your children. If one was to look at what the LNP has to offer, as it is putting itself up as an alternative government, one would not be clear on what it is offering. It is over 1,000 days since I have been asked in this chamber any question at all about vocational education. One would not think that the workforce was the No. 1 issue on the lips of every employer. One would not think that the future of young people was important for us to think about.


Those opposite have no plan. It is a vacuum. The Leader of the Opposition was talking about how Queenslanders need to vote for them because they have the right priorities. If only anyone knew what those priorities are!

We have heard a lot about what Jann Stuckey said when talking about the new candidates those opposite had preselected. On the weekend Amanda Stoker was preselected. What is she going to speak about? There are no plans or policies for her to take to the electorate. Jann says that they present as whingeing, weary, policy-vacant, ageing, grumpy individuals. 'Where are their policies?' she asks. 'Not happy, Jann!' Jann has always been one to speak her mind. Jann has a point. I have always loved Jann.

After seeing the interview with the member for Mudgeeraba, I get why those opposite do not have a plan. They are hankering after the good old days. They are hankering after cutting, sacking and selling. They are aspiring to get in and knock off all of those public servants they hate so much. The member for Burnett has already told us what he thinks about nurses. We know what the member for Mudgeeraba thinks about nurses. Before they went to the last election they said that public servants had nothing to fear. Then, quick as a flash, they sacked 14,000 of them. We know what they did in TAFE. We know that the LNP hate TAFE. It is in their DNA.

If you are a parent of one of those students thinking about their future or if you are a mature-age person and you are thinking about how you might change your life, this is what will happen under the LNP because that is what the good old days were for the LNP. It is all the same old people from the Campbell Newman days. They are all hankering after what they got to do under Campbell Newman when they sacked 2,100 staff. They cut \$170 million in funding. They closed five campuses and they recommended cutting 36 more. In Far North Queensland they were going to cut the number of TAFE campuses in half. On the Gold Coast they were going to cut them in half. In the western corridor they were going to cut them by two thirds. In the Brisbane region they were going to cut them by a third. That is what happens when the LNP gets into government. They are not talking about a plan because they have a plan. They know exactly what they want to do: cut, sack and sell. It is leaking out, and Queenslanders can be very clear about what the future will be under an LNP government.

Youth Crime

 **Mr KNUTH** (Hill—KAP) (2.38 pm): The state government has largely ignored victims impacted by youth crime in this state. Victims of crime have been forgotten in the debate about the pandemic that is youth crime. However, recently these victims have fought back. Recently the KAP stood alongside those victims at rallies in Cairns and Brisbane. They sent a very clear message to the Premier: fix it or get out. I have heard the stories of those who have had their homes broken into, who have been assaulted and whose cars have been stolen.

I know firsthand how that feels after my car was stolen in the early hours of Monday morning this week in Atherton, but I am just one of 2,000 every year whose cars have been stolen in North Queensland alone. While it has not been found, I have received constant messages that it has been spotted at various locations driving recklessly. The car has signs on both sides, so it is obvious that whoever took it wants to get caught. They are not scared of the current penalties for stealing a car and do not care about detention. I thank God nobody has been hurt or killed, which we all know has happened far too often across this state. That is what average Queenslanders are facing every day. Whether a home is broken into or a car stolen, it is an invasion of privacy that disrupts lives and erodes our sense of security.


How do we fix it? A bloke by the name of Albert Einstein once said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. The state government is not listening otherwise it would stop building detention centres. The recent announcement of a \$250 million youth watch house to be built at Wacol is nothing more than a bandaid solution that will not address the core issues.

Relocation sentencing has been receiving widespread support as an alternative to watch houses and detention centres and it can be delivered for a fraction of the cost. For \$250 million we could build multiple relocation facilities in remote areas of Queensland and provide real opportunities to rehabilitate youth criminals and reduce reoffending. It is a ground up rethink of youth detention that delivers on what many Queenslanders demand (1) it is remote; (2) it is mandatory; (3) it is for a fixed term; and (4) it includes intensive rehabilitation.

We need to get these kids away from detention centres, which are nothing more than universities for crime. We know the statistic: 95 per cent of the youths who go to Cleveland Youth Detention Centre reoffend within 12 months of release. I will say that again: 95 per cent of the youths who go to Cleveland Youth Detention Centre reoffend within 12 months of release. They are committing crimes to get back into the detention centres. There must be something wrong with the juvenile justice system if youths are committing crimes to get in there.

Relocation sentencing would give magistrates the power to send youths to remote locations where they could be taught values and skills such as droving, how to build cattle yards and how to operate front-end loaders and graders, along with other proven workable programs. The KAP's relocation sentencing policy should be implemented as a real alternative to help bring this crime crisis to an end. Youths could be given an opportunity to have a life and a purpose, and not just aspire to be the best criminals they can be by the time they reach adulthood while making everyone else's life a misery.

Nuclear Energy

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (2.42 pm): Nuclear energy is a subject under discussion in the media and in many communities across our nation right now. Many Queenslanders would want and perhaps expect to know the views of their elected representatives and, in the case of the state LNP, the alternative government on this matter. We know that federal members of the Queensland LNP are on the public record supporting nuclear energy. These include LNP leader Peter Dutton, Senator Matthew Canavan, shadow energy minister Ted O'Brien, Nationals leader David Littleproud and former senator Amanda Stoker, the newly minted LNP candidate for Oodgeroo.

However, where exactly does the Queensland LNP state opposition stand? There is a relatively recent media article in the *Australian Financial Review* that, at a glance, gives the impression that the state LNP policy position is that they might be opposed to nuclear energy. The headline reads, 'No nukes in Qld: Crisafulli rejects Dutton's plan'. I table the article.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Australian Financial Review*, dated 10 July 2023, titled 'No nukes in Qld: Crisafulli rejects Dutton's plan' [1606].

When you look at it, there is a bit of devil in the detail. The report states that the Leader of the Opposition said that there was no point discussing nuclear power until it was endorsed by both major parties. The article quotes him as saying

'Until both sides of federal parliament agree that is the course of action, it is not going to happen.'

The article continues—

'I'm not spending any energy on it—pardon the pun—because no-one will invest in it unless both sides agree to it.'

The article then states—

When asked what he would do if he and Mr Dutton won their respective elections and it became federal government policy, Mr Crisafulli said investors would still steer clear of nuclear power until Labor was behind it.

That is hardly a clear rejection. Given the chance, he could have said, 'No, we don't support nuclear energy,' but he did not. Instead, there were very carefully worded and evasive responses that leave the doors wide open for a secret plan for nuclear.

That is more than plausible when one considers what a current opposition frontbencher, the honourable member for Clayfield, said about nuclear energy in 2007 in this place. In the middle of the millennium drought, during a motion about water, he said—

Where does the government stand—

meaning the Labor government of the time—

on those three issues when it comes to the nuclear debate? Does it recognise the scientific research that finds that nuclear energy is a safe source of energy ... Does it note the safe use of nuclear almost everywhere in the world?


I table that extract from *Hansard*.

Tabled paper: Extract, dated 22 February 2007, from the *Record of Proceedings*, Queensland parliament [1607].

According to media reports in today's *Australian*, the LNP's new candidate for Oodgeroo will go straight into cabinet under a future LNP government and she backs nuclear. We only have to look at her work as a Sky News host to see that. Nuclear energy is expensive, it will drive up energy prices and it is much more dangerous than other forms of energy.

Queenslanders can count on the Palaszczuk Labor government to create jobs through more cheap, clean and reliable energy through our very public, evidence-based, unambiguous energy policy plan, the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. The state opposition needs to tell Queenslanders, clearly and unambiguously, exactly where they stand and stop hiding their true agenda.

Water Security

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (2.46 pm): Today the government made it official: the first time that Queenslanders will see a business case, not a dam, is in a decade—10 years. The government is elected and a decade later—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Pause the clock. I remind members that if you want to participate in the debate you will need to return to your own seats.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: Today it is official: the Palaszczuk Labor government has been so crippled with crisis and chaos that they have not been able to end the water war—or maybe the water war has been ended. A decade after they were elected what will Queenslanders see in South-East Queensland for water security? They may see a business case that does not even have any funding! Talk about a fake water announcement.

Mr Crisafulli interjected.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: What a pipedream; I take that interjection from the Leader of the Opposition. Talking about a fake announcement, what did we see in the paper today? We have so many questions. The Premier comes into the parliament but cannot say where the proposed desalination plant will be. The Premier cannot say how much it will cost. The Premier cannot say what communities the desalination plant will affect.

What does the water minister say? 'Wivenhoe is evaporating at a fast rate so we need to build a desalination plant.' I ask the water minister: what are you going to do about the hydro dams you are building? Will they evaporate at the same rate? Will there be a desalination plant for the hydro dams? No, because that water plan was on the back of an envelope. We know that plan had an envelope. I have worked out that the announcement made by the government today, the first in a decade, did not even get an envelope. Is this the end of the water war? In about August of 2022, the papers reported the water minister as saying that the South-East Queensland water security plan was going to be released later that year. It is 10 months later and still we have not seen that plan, but what we do have is a fake announcement. I call on the government to release that plan.

We have a lost decade of water security. It is all going down the drain. We have now had a 10-year drought in water security planning for the south-east corner. We know, because of what is going on with the population boom, that government has known about this for a decade. This government has been in power for almost a decade, and what have we seen? We have seen a Premier who cannot make a deal with the cabinet. The water minister has not been able to make a deal with the Premier. It is all uncertainty. What else has that led to? It had led to Queenslanders waking up and reading in the paper—because of the chaos and the crisis of the Palaszczuk government around the lack of a water plan for the south-east corner—that they could be facing a 15 per cent increase in water prices. That is a 15 per cent increase to the state of Queensland, which is currently crippled by a cost-of-living crisis. Shame on the Palaszczuk government! This is what happens when you fail to plan. This is what happens when you have a government that is crippled by chaos and crisis. That is exactly what is happening. Everything has evaporated—not just Wivenhoe. A water security plan has completely evaporated off the table of the Palaszczuk government. It is not good enough.

When it comes to the failure of planning from this Palaszczuk government when it comes to water, what about the communities of Bribie Island right now? What about the communities of Kawana? What about the communities of Ninderry? What are those communities thinking right now when the rumours are swirling around? The Premier has refused to say where the desalination plant will be but today announced billions of dollars of Queenslanders' money around a fake plan. What a joke! Where is the consultation? How about considering the communities of Bribie Island? How about considering the communities of Kawana? Imagine how they are feeling. They have had no consultation. All they know is that there is a water minister in this state who has not been able to plan because the Premier refuses to end the water war. Where does that leave everyone in Queensland? It leaves them with the threat of a 15 per cent increase in their water bills. This plan is supposedly somewhere between \$4 billion and \$8 billion. A heck of a lot of dams could be built with that amount of money. I say to this government: stop the water wars and start planning for the future of Queensland.

Ipswich, Policing



Ms HOWARD (Ipswich—ALP) (2.51 pm): I am proud to report that groundwork is currently underway at the new Ripley Police Station. This sets the first stage of development of the newest police facility in Ipswich. Two weeks ago the member for Bundamba and I visited the site. It was really exciting to see the work already commenced. Ripley Police Station is just another in a long line of successful infrastructure projects we are building in the fastest growing area in Queensland. If people are unclear about what members of the LNP think of Ipswich, I am here to remind them that my LNP predecessor cut one ribbon during his tenure. That ribbon was cut on a project that was fully funded and delivered by the previous Labor government.

Ripley has seen three new schools open in the last three years. A new satellite hospital opened in August. A new ambulance station is currently under construction. We have provided catalyst funding to unlock land for new housing, with the population of Ripley Valley—that is just one suburb in the area—set to grow to 120,000 people by 2046. It is imperative that we build this infrastructure now rather than in five years, when it is too late.

The \$25 million police station at Ripley was a commitment that we took to the last election. We are proud to see this being delivered in the community. It is also being made possible by the record \$3.28 billion we committed in this year's budget to police services. Residents in Ripley are very much looking forward to welcoming this new infrastructure. I am also looking forward to seeing the new station up and running. I know that it will be a start-of-the-art facility—larger than the current Yamanto Police Station, which it will replace. I recall speaking to former superintendent Katherine Inness when she was in the role. One issue she raised with me was the need for larger headquarters. I am sure that anyone who has been to Yamanto Police Station would concur. The crew were rapidly outgrowing their current headquarters and something needed to be done. I was really happy to work with her towards her vision for a brand new first-class police station in the Ripley area. It will better serve our community which, as I have said, is the fastest growing local government area in Queensland.

I am in awe of the work that the police do every day to keep our communities safe. It is a tough job. There are many courageous professionals putting themselves on the front line every day to tackle crime and domestic and family violence, to enforce road safety and to provide assistance during disasters. On the same day that the member for Bundamba and I looked at the site of the new police station we attended the launch of a new mobile police beat in Redbank. Wherever I go in Ipswich, people are talking about these mobile police beats. They are a fantastic addition to the assets of the police and are resonating really well in our community.

Wherever I go in Ipswich, people talk to me about their concerns about crime, but what they want to see our government focusing on is early intervention. That is why I was so pleased to learn that Ipswich would become a site for our government's ground-breaking youth co-responder teams. I want to thank Minister Di Farmer for including our region in this successful model of early intervention. I know that the member for Bundamba, the member for Ipswich West and I were delighted to be a part of the launch of this program. It is being deployed in Ipswich to help break the cycle of youth crime and to enhance community safety.


The Ipswich youth co-responder team is one of five new co-responder teams that our government has launched across Queensland since 2020. Since they have been deployed, police and youth justice workers have been patrolling the streets together to help deter young people from offending. The statistics show that young people who come into contact with these co-responder teams comply with directions given to them 95 per cent of the time. Each time these teams engage with a young person is an opportunity to divert them from breaking the law as well as to check up on their welfare, to make sure they have safe housing and to connect them with support services, education and training.

It is not an easy task. It is not a sign of us being too soft on crime. We know that there are serious repeat youth offenders out there who need to be detained for community safety. We are investing in programs that work. We do not need hardline, punitive measures that are more about political pointscoring than actually helping young people. The LNP are old hands at this. We all remember how Campbell Newman's LNP government dealt with youth crime. We do not want to see a repeat of that. We do not want to see a blatant disregard for legal conventions; we want to see evidence-based policy. That is why I am proud to be a part of this government.

**GAS SUPPLY AND OTHER LEGISLATION (HYDROGEN INDUSTRY
DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT BILL****Second Reading**

Resumed from p. 2826, on motion of Mr de Brenni—

That the bill be now read a second time.

 **Mr WATTS** (Toowoomba North—LNP) (2.57 pm): I rise to make a brief contribution to the debate on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill. There is not much in this that is controversial at all. Queensland is a good provider of energy to the world. When we are providing that energy, it is very important to give some consistency to our overseas partners both when they invest and when they rely on us, because they, too, want energy security. A couple of times now we have seen that come under threat by actions of this government that have made our overseas partners nervous. That has also happened at the federal level in relation to gas. It is good to see a bill come forward that puts in some necessary regulations that are sensible. I think there will be a requirement for more regulation as we move towards the production of hydrogen, its movement around the state and its preparation both for our consumption and for export.

As I say, there is not a lot in the bill that is controversial but there are a couple of key things that I think need to be considered. One involves compulsory acquisitions, which affect people's property rights. Often this can be a difficult time for those people whose property rights are affected. When it is for a government piece of infrastructure, we can see the greater good. When it may be a private investor for corporate reasons, for private profit, then we need to make sure it is treated very carefully. We need to make sure that it is open and transparent. We need to make sure that a social licence has been earned so the community generally can see that this is of benefit to Queensland—themselves and the people of Queensland—and that the compensation being sought is reasonable, whether it be for an easement or an actual tenement. This bill addresses some of those issues, but I think we need to be cognisant that there are some concerns around compulsory acquisition powers. I think it is important that we take those seriously.

As we went through the committee process there was some discussion in relation to coexistence within easements. Where possible, it is good to have legislation that would allow an easement to have multiple users. It can be difficult to have common use infrastructure here because of the different nature of the gas that is being distributed, but it is something that we should make sure we are cognisant of and treat well. When these properties are finally acquired, either for easement or overall ownership, it is important that as these pipelines are constructed and developed we are aware this is farming property when we go onto people's properties. People would be very aware that on the Darling Downs just west of me, particularly in some of the closer areas on the blacksoil plains, a fair amount of damage was done back in the early days. People just rode around in their utes, jumped over people's property and did not follow instructions clearly. It is important to make sure that we have both legislative and regulatory controls to ensure biosecurity and correct behaviour when people are going onto people's private property where there may have been an easement granted for construction purposes.

It is also important to make sure that there is good, open and transparent notification so that people have a clear understanding of the process, what is happening and their rights in that process. That should be not only from the government that is providing the regulatory framework and legislative implementation but also from proponents as they go ahead. They should make sure they are communicating clearly with anybody who may be affected in a very open and transparent way so that we can all have some confidence in the development of this industry, which I think is very important for Queensland's future. It is also necessary that it is taken care of in an appropriate way.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Bush): Members, can I ask everyone to watch the volume in the room. I am finding it a bit challenging to hear the speaker on his feet.

Mr WATTS: Most of the submissions that came through were supportive, although I do note that some of the local Indigenous organisations have potential concerns, and they should be noted. There should be an open and transparent conversation going on to provide them with some reassurance. Ultimately, there is not much in here that would be controversial at all.

In conclusion, the LNP—and me personally—are very supportive of developing the state's energy resources, including hydrogen and that industry, and making sure we are well placed to take it forward if it becomes the fuel of choice for users. It needs to be done with respect to property owners, it needs to be done for the benefit of Queenslanders, and it needs to be done in an open and transparent


way when a social licence has been earned by the proponents. I think this is the first piece of legislation we have seen come through. I look forward to making sure we set up a regulatory framework that works for the people of Queensland and the proponents who might be developing this.

It is interesting to note that, when it comes down to regulatory frameworks around resource extraction, the Fraser Institute has started to mark Queensland down. We have been dropping over the last number of years.

Mr Stewart: That's rubbish!

Mr WATTS: No, it is certainly not rubbish. They certainly have. I take the interjection from the minister. He is referring to the fact that overall Queensland may well have gone up, but that is to do with the price of coal and not this government's regulatory framework. It clearly shows that, in a regulatory framework and sovereign risk coming directly from the government, there has been a drop by the Fraser Institute. I hope the minister can come in here and make me correct the record, because that would mean he is doing a good job in ensuring Queensland has a competitive regulatory framework. Unfortunately, I fear he will not. It tells us that other states are climbing in the ranks of the Fraser Institute when it comes to regulatory frameworks. Queensland is not.

It is a good thing this legislation has come forward. When it comes to regulatory and legislative frameworks there are opportunities for us to do better in future, not only with hydrogen but with all of our resource extraction. With that, I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr WALKER** (Mundingburra—ALP) (3.05 pm): Firstly, I would like to acknowledge our Queensland firefighters from Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, our aviation firefighters, our rural fire brigades and our mine rescue personnel, who are out there every day looking after our valuable Queenslanders.

Madam Deputy Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to rise to speak today to the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. This bill recognises the importance of getting the right policy settings to support the development of the hydrogen industry here in Queensland.

Queensland has committed to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. It is only with a vision and a plan that we can meet our target and the clean and green energy needs of the future. That is what the Palaszczuk Labor government is doing. The people of Queensland and Australia want a clean and green future not only for them; they also want it for their children and their children's children. It is also the right thing to do when it comes to protecting our precious environment and meeting community expectations. That is why I am committed to the future of green hydrogen. I cherish the role as hydrogen champion for Townsville and the greater region.

Queensland, along with the world, recognises the importance of transitioning to net zero emissions. The role that sustainable fuel sources such as hydrogen will play is increasingly evident. As a former Townsville city councillor, I advocated for Townsville to be a Solar City back in 2007. The city became the first Solar City in Australia selected on merit, so Townsville is well placed and credentialed when it comes to embracing a green energy future and more than keen to be a green hydrogen producer.

To be a green hydrogen producer you need plenty of renewable energy like solar and wind. This will be provided through investing in critical enabling infrastructure to support the industry's growth. This includes the \$5 million CopperString project—a 1,100-kilometre overhead high-voltage electricity transmission line to connect the North Queensland renewable energy zone to Townsville. Not only will we have the biggest source of renewable energy in the country; we will have also have the site to produce green hydrogen at the eco-industrial site at Lansdown, Townsville.

Hydrogen will not only help reduce submissions from the heavy transport sector and industry; it will also play a significant role in ensuring Queensland prospers during the transition to net zero emissions. With vast amounts of renewable resources, a skilled workforce and access to ports like Townsville and South-East Asian markets, Queensland is well placed to support the emerging green hydrogen industry. The Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan clearly highlights the potential opportunities that a renewable hydrogen industry could bring for Queensland. Independent modelling that informs the plan estimates the industry could be worth more than \$33.4 billion by 2040 and support more than 10,000 jobs. That is only 16 years away.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 will have positive impacts on the development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland, particularly North Queensland. In the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, the Queensland government has committed \$15 million over three years to supercharge, coordinate and further plan for renewable


hydrogen hubs in key locations across the state, including Townsville and Abbot Point. Establishing a hydrogen hub presents an opportunity to encourage more jobs and industries to a region through cleaner, cheaper energy and positions Queensland at the forefront of new industry technology. Townsville has been identified as a leading potential hub—and rightly so, with abundant sunshine and being so close to international markets—with the Australian government establishing the \$70 million Townsville region hydrogen hub grant program. A successful consortia are expected to be announced by the Australian government later this year, so watch this space.

The strategic leadership shown by the Palaszczuk government has helped to advance the development of the hub and has seen the announcement of many hydrogen projects in Townsville. Earlier this year, Edify Energy was awarded funding under the German-Australian Hydrogen Innovation and Technology Incubator, HyGATE, demonstrating strong international interest and collaboration in Queensland for green hydrogen production. Edify's project will be located in the Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct just west of Townsville. At full capacity, it will consist of a one-gigawatt electrolyser capable of producing approximately 150,000 tonnes of green hydrogen per annum.

Three hours south of Townsville, another project is Ark Energy's Han-Ho hydrogen hub project, which is seeking to establish a green energy hub in Collinsville. The consortium partners have signed a landmark heads of agreement to formalise the partnership and progress the project. This was witnessed by the Premier in Korea in July this year. The project is proposed to produce up to 1.8 million tonnes per annum of green ammonia and will support the development of up to 4.5 gigawatts at Ark Energy's Collinsville green energy hub. This project development will be supported by the Queensland government's \$8.5 million Abbot Point Activation Initiative as part of the \$15 million supercharging hydrogen hubs program within the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. The Abbot Point Activation Initiative will support the planning, development and infrastructure needs of Abbot Point to become a global hydrogen exporter.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill is critical for these projects as it provides a clear framework for the future potential transport of hydrogen for export and local use. The amendments seek to support projects like these to safely and efficiently transport hydrogen and other renewable gases through pipelines to industry and the ports. That is why the Palaszczuk government is investing \$50 million in state-of-the-art infrastructure to develop and support training in renewables and hydrogen jobs that will help us meet the jobs needs of the future and our zero emissions target by 2050. This includes a new \$10.6 million hydrogen and renewable energy training facility currently under construction at TAFE Queensland's Townsville Trade Training Centre at Bohle as part of the Equipping TAFE for our Future initiative. This facility is nearing completion as we speak.

The amendments within the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill will get the settings right to support the development and growth of the hydrogen industry in regions like Townsville and North Queensland. It signals to investors that Queensland is open for business and is committed to the development of a renewable green hydrogen industry in the state. I commend this bill to the House.

 **Mr HEAD** (Callide—LNP) (3.13 pm): The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 aims to provide a clear regulatory assessment pathway to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in Queensland. Hydrogen carriers could include ammonia, methanol, methylcyclohexane, dimethyl-ether and toluene. I note that many members have not tried to pronounce them yet, but I tried to get through it.

We in the LNP support industry development in Queensland, whether it is the hydrogen industry or other industries across the board, because we back jobs and we back communities and rural communities in Queensland that underpin a lot of industry in Queensland. I thank all members of the Transport and Resources Committee, of which I am a member, for their efforts in reviewing this legislation. I also thank the committee secretariat for their efforts. We certainly have a few things going on at the moment.

There is a lot of talk about green hydrogen when it comes to the hydrogen industry in Queensland, but there is also blue hydrogen. Hydrogen is a resource that could potentially be extracted from mineral resources. I had a very interesting conversation with a gentleman from Geoscience Australia at the world mining expo in Brisbane recently about the potential for a mineral hydrogen industry in Australia and in Queensland. I am looking forward to the opportunities that may arise there

across our state. I just hope that, when it comes to potential approvals for these hydrogen mines in the future, the Labor government does not stick with the status quo and kick these resource projects out into the future for too long.

I note the importance of compulsory acquisition powers when used fairly with due process for nation-building and strategic projects. The compulsory acquisition powers of the government are very important. They are powers that we support when applied correctly and when there is due process in that compulsory acquisition. I note that there is some need for a bit more leadership on projects that may be subject to compulsory acquisition. In my own community, there are a number of transmission lines that will be subject to compulsory acquisition should those projects go ahead. This causes a lot of angst. In the past we have seen a lot of angst caused to communities with gas and other pipeline projects. That angst is increased when those projects get delayed indefinitely or never go ahead, because it puts the community through a lot of stress and dramas without them ever seeing the economic benefits of the project. We have to be very measured in our approach to these projects. We would like to see as much coexistence of any projects on existing easements or along existing government owned land corridors, especially for projects that the state might be pushing. We support the concept of state owned projects being built and run through state owned land.

When it comes to easements under compulsory acquisition, there is also genuine concern with regard to biosecurity. Biosecurity is a huge concern in Queensland, especially thanks to the failures of the Palaszczuk Labor government when it comes to many biosecurity issues. Fire ants are running across all of South-East Queensland. Before long, pipeline projects that may come under this bill will need to have a fire ant management plan because of the failures of the government when it comes to biosecurity. That is just another thing that is going to be in the way of these projects when they are having to go through the process of compulsory acquisition. They are going to need a fire ant management plan in their biosecurity plan into the future. I am flagging that because this bill no doubt will see more pipelines in Queensland.

With regard to the notification process for compulsory acquisition, we asked the department some questions. When asked whether the notification process is acceptable, a representative from the department said—

That is the existing one that is in the act at the moment, so we have not changed that. Obviously with online circulation and those sorts of things, that is not acceptable, I understand.

That is because there is limited opportunity for a notification process and they are still relying on newspapers, and unfortunately across Queensland we do not have many newspapers left.

When it comes to hydrogen and green hydrogen, there is a lot of talk about the scope and scale across Queensland. I was at the Gladstone Engineering Alliance conference recently and there was a very interesting presentation from the Gladstone Ports Corporation CEO. I table a photo of that slide for the benefit of the House.

Tabled paper: Photograph depicting a slide of a presentation relating to Gladstone Renewable Hub [\[1608\]](#).

That slide shows that 45 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity is required to decarbonise Queensland by 2040; however, to support a hydrogen industry around Gladstone and Central Queensland alone, on top of that and in addition to that, to provide four million tonnes per year of hydrogen will need 110 gigawatts of renewable energy, which will require 10,000 wind turbines and 2,500 square kilometres of solar farms. That is a lot of solar farms and wind turbines. I dare say that if the industry goes ahead on that scale—and that is a government owned corporation that is pushing that—there will not be a hilltop left in Central Queensland and there will not be a paddock left because 2,500 square kilometres is a lot of country.


We certainly need more transparency around these projects and what it might bring to Queensland because the government has been awfully quiet when it comes to hydrogen in Queensland recently. I wonder why that might be. Well, there was an assistant minister for hydrogen development in Queensland, but it was scratched from a title recently without much notification or without letting people know why. Maybe the government, in developing PowerPoint presentations like that, want to hide from Queensland what the impacts of the green hydrogen industry might be, and maybe they are trying to go a bit quiet on it.

I know they talk about a lot of jobs. How many jobs might be wiped when you cover 2,500 square kilometres of farmland with solar panels? I ask that as a genuine question into what the comparison in jobs are, because I dare say that there will be a lot of farming jobs lost with that.

How many trees will be cleared for 10,000 wind turbines and 2,500 square kilometres of solar farms? It certainly will be a lot, and the environmental impact of that will be huge, to the extent that, I dare say, it will be hard to call it a green industry. I note, following the shadow minister's comments, that this is the first bill around this topic by the Minister for Energy in his term, so it is good to finally see something here.

I ask: how much water will the green hydrogen industry need? The PowerPoint presentation I just tabled indicated 45 gigalitres of water, which is a significant amount of water. If you want to use water, then you certainly need a lot of dams. I note that the Premier this morning was talking about desalination and I know that we all know how expensive desalination is. If they want to support a hydrogen industry in Queensland then they better get building a few dams, because it is the only way that it is going to stack up. I wonder if that announcement this morning was written on the back of an envelope, like nearly every other announcement from this government has been.

I certainly note that there have been many lessons learned in the past with the gas and resources industry, and I hope that we do not make the same mistakes again. Projects should stack up on a triple bottom line, and that is something that the LNP certainly agrees with. Perhaps agencies such as the GasFields Commission could partake in some of these conversations going forward with this industry. That said, we certainly look forward to hearing more from the government in relation to their broad review of Queensland's regulatory frameworks.

 **Hon. SJ STEWART** (Townsville—ALP) (Minister for Resources) (3.23 pm): I rise to support the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. There are huge opportunities for Queensland to not only develop but lead the world when it comes to developing a hydrogen industry. That is why this legislation is before the House. We know we have the opportunity to create thousands of good, safe jobs across Queensland through the hydrogen industry. Ensuring that we have the right policies in place to enable the development of the hydrogen industry is absolutely essential. As with all industries, the safety of the community and its workers is absolutely paramount. One of the challenges, of course, is the transportation of hydrogen.

The Palaszczuk government is committed to ensuring the safe transportation of hydrogen and other renewable gases in pipelines right across Queensland. Like natural gas, hydrogen can be delivered through pipelines. In fact, according to the United States Department of Energy, there are around 2,600 kilometres of pipelines already transporting hydrogen through the United States. It is also estimated that in Europe there are around 2,000 kilometres of pipelines transporting hydrogen. However, in Queensland, there is currently no clear regulatory pathway to licence a transmission pipeline for hydrogen or hydrogen carriers. That is one of the key issues this bill will address. It provides a clear regulatory assessment pathway to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in the state.

The amendments to the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 will provide a clear and effective regulatory pathway for a proponent to apply for a pipeline licence for the transmission of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. Put simply, they will allow for a proponent to apply for a pipeline licence for the transportation of hydrogen and other hydrogen carriers. This will open opportunities for proponents to construct new pipelines to deliver hydrogen to end users or export facilities, but also it enables the potential to repurpose existing oil and gas pipelines to transport hydrogen. In deciding whether to grant a pipeline licence, matters to be considered will include the proposed location, route, substances to be transported and proposed maximum allowable pressure. This will ensure that only applicants who can competently and safely manage matters relating to the location, design, construction and operation of a pipeline will be granted a pipeline licence.

To ensure appropriate safety considerations are also being considered prior to the construction of a pipeline, the bill will expand existing pre-construction notification requirements to require a licence holder to give notice to Resources Safety and Health Queensland prior to the start of a safety management study. This requirement will be a key mandatory condition for a pipeline licence.

It is important to enable the hydrogen industry to develop, but it must be done in the right way. The safety measures being adopted by the bill will safeguard workers and the community and prevent the risk that hydrogen and some renewable gases such as ammonia present if not managed appropriately. We know hydrogen has been used safely in many industrial applications in Australia and internationally, and many countries throughout the world use hydrogen as fuel for transportation with an excellent safety record. Queensland has a world-leading resources safety industry already, and we want to lead the world when it comes to hydrogen. These reforms are one of the key actions in the

Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan, a 30-year vision that will lay the foundations to responsibly unlock and realise the potential of our state's resources well into future. The existing requirements for a pipeline licence under the act will apply to hydrogen pipelines, as we know. This means that an environmental authority must be issued by the Department of Environment and Science before a pipeline licence can be granted by myself as the Minister for Resources. In addition, existing public notification, land access and native title requirements will also apply. These changes are also essential to ensure the transportation of hydrogen through the pipeline is safe.

A thriving hydrogen industry for Queensland also means good jobs for my home town in Townsville, and it would be remiss of me not to talk about what that means for the city's future. Already our publicly owned Port of Townsville has signed three MOUs with Ark Energy, Origin Energy and Edify Energy to export hydrogen out of Townsville. We know infrastructure like our ports, which this government kept in public hands, will be essential to export hydrogen throughout the world. We are seeing international interest in Queensland and the potential of it being a hydrogen superpower. Recently, I was in South Korea with the Premier on a trade delegation where we saw the Han-Ho Hydrogen Consortium signing a landmark heads of agreement to formalise development of an export-scale green hydrogen hub project.

The job-creating project's development during this feasibility study will be supported by the Palaszczuk government investing \$8.5 million for the Abbot Point Activation Initiative under the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan and the hydrogen hubs program. We are continuing to back projects like this because we know there is great potential to develop a new industry which will support regional Queensland, but it is important that the legislation is in place to allow Queensland to be ready now to take advantage of this immense opportunity moving forward.

I also take this opportunity to address some of the outrageous comments made by the member for Toowoomba North when he was referring to the Fraser Institute. Unfortunately, the member for Toowoomba North has swallowed wholeheartedly QRC propaganda about the Queensland resources industry. This is really disappointing. He should really be talking up the industry, not talking it down and discouraging future investment. Let me reference what the Fraser Institute has said and what the ABS is saying in response to the member for Toowoomba North's outrageous comments.

According to the ABS, private capital expenditure in the Queensland mining industry was 15 per cent higher in the second half of 2023, after coal royalties were introduced. In May the Fraser Institute released its annual survey of mining companies, including its influential Investment Attractiveness Index. Of all the major producers of metallurgical coal, Queensland is now ranked the most attractive destination for investment. That was from the Fraser Institute. There you go. Also, our overall state ranking improved from 18 to 13, which is a five-year high.

The federal government's most recent *Resources and energy quarterly* highlights the strength of the investment environment in Queensland. I am more than happy for the member for Toowoomba North to come back into the chamber and set the record straight in that he actually has done the wrong thing. I commend this bill to the House.



Mr LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (3.30 pm): I rise to speak on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 and acknowledge my wife and eldest daughter, who have come into the parliamentary gallery. I did not know they were coming. I think it is Stacey's first time here since my maiden speech. That was 19 years and 10 months ago. She loves this place!

An honourable member: This better be good!

Mr LANGBROEK: This had better be pretty good. I promise I will not cry this time.

Ms Grace: She is wearing dark glasses, too.

Mr LANGBROEK: 'She is wearing dark glasses,' says the education minister. Welcome, and welcome to my daughter Chloe, who has come from England for a couple of weeks. I was just bringing them in for a coffee. Who was to know that the whip would say, 'You're on next. Mate, run to the chamber,' and here I am. Look at the gallery, filled with people! Isn't it wonderful to see everyone! Every time I speak, Stacey, that is what happens!

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 holds significance for the future of our energy landscape in Queensland. As we have heard from others, including the shadow minister, the member for Condamine, its primary purpose is to establish a clear

regulatory framework to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen and hydrogen carriers within our state. These carriers, which may include ammonia, methanol, methylcyclohexane—MCH—dimethyl-ether and toluene, will play a pivotal role in the future of clean energy transport and storage.

The bill seeks to amend the Gas Supply Act 2003 to broaden its jurisdiction to include hydrogen blends, biomethane and other gases. Additionally, it aims to amend the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to establish a clear and effective regulatory pathway for proponents to obtain pipeline licences for the transmission of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. Whilst the opposition is broadly supportive of the bill and its potential to drive the development of a robust hydrogen industry in Queensland, there are important concerns that I wish to raise.

As shadow minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, I was disappointed to see Brisbane Labor's continuing pattern of failing to listen and consult with key stakeholders in the regions. In their submission to the committee, the traditional owners of the Gladstone, Bundaberg and North Burnett regions, the Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda First Nations people, or BGGGTB, outlined concerns over the lack of consultation and failure of the minister to meet obligations under the Human Rights Act in relation to consideration of the impact of the bill on the Indigenous cultural rights of the BGGGTB people prior to putting the bill before the parliament. In their submission the BGGGTB stated that the Palaszczuk government had yet to make contact with the traditional owners, those most affected by any potential developments and changes to the regulatory environment governing the hydrogen industry.


In relation to compulsory acquisition powers, there is a pressing need for enhanced leadership and oversight in this area. We have seen time and time again unnecessary concern caused by projects that have undergone compulsory acquisition processes only to be abandoned. When applied wisely and in adherence with due process, these powers play an essential role in advancing national interests and facilitating strategic projects. There must be government responsibility to ensure communities are spared years of uncertainty when projects fail to materialise.

Whilst pipelines and similar projects can bring significant community benefits, they also impose impacts on landholders. Careful consideration needs to be taken in relation to the coexistence within easements, along with biosecurity processes by contractors and companies. Biosecurity measures need to be adhered to at all stages of projects to prevent unintended consequences when work crews traverse different properties and regions.

The opposition commends the department's efforts to encourage common user infrastructure. Nevertheless, it is crucial to recognise that various hydrogen products require distinct methods of transportation and storage, thus the potential limitations of common infrastructure must be carefully considered. Strong government leadership and oversight in this area is required to minimise adverse effects on our communities.

The committee received submissions from various organisations including: Glencore Coal Assets Australia Pty Ltd; the board of the First Nations Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng; AgForce Queensland Farmers Ltd; and the APA Group. Whilst these submissions largely expressed support for the bill, suggestions for potential improvements were made. Glencore's submission recommends broadening the scope of the bill to include ammonia under the new section 11A of the petroleum and gas act 2004. The APA Group suggested that jurisdictions collaborate on converting existing easements to accommodate hydrogen and other future fuels, advocating for the establishment of a working group involving Commonwealth, state, territory and industry representatives. We anticipate further information from the government and the Department of Energy and Public Works regarding their comprehensive review of Queensland's regulatory frameworks. We hope these reviews will lead to beneficial changes that will further support our great state.

I want to emphasise that the LNP's response to this bill is not one of opposition but of raising essential issues and concerns. We believe in the potential of this legislation to shape the future of Queensland's energy landscape positively. However, we must proceed thoughtfully, ensuring we strike a balance between progress and responsibility.

 **Mr McCALLUM** (Bundamba—ALP) (3.36 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. Queensland is well on its way to becoming a renewable hydrogen global superpower and this bill is an important next step in that journey. Australia's hydrogen investment pipeline, which is almost \$300 billion, is about double what it was only two years ago. That is incredible geometric growth in the economic potential that

renewable hydrogen has to deliver to our nation. In fact, it represents around 40 per cent of all global renewable hydrogen projects to date. Much of that work, much of that innovation, much of that expertise and much of that benefit is happening in our great state right now.

We have over 50 green hydrogen and ammonia products that are being developed right here in Queensland. It is actually really incredible to consider the progress from when the Queensland hydrogen strategy was launched in late 2019 with the incredible foresight of the Premier. Fast-forward to now and we have over 50 projects in Queensland. That is an enormous amount of progress in such a short amount of time, particularly when we consider that we had the global COVID-19 pandemic right in the middle. As has been indicated by previous speakers, under our Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan—hydrogen is an absolutely core component of this plan—independent modelling has estimated that hydrogen will be worth \$33.4 billion by 2040, contributing 10,000 jobs to Queensland.

To make sure that we realise these benefits in the best way possible, we have adopted a multifaceted approach to accelerating our hydrogen industry and our Queensland hydrogen supply chain through policy, strategy, engagement, investment and legislation. That is what we are dealing with and working towards with this bill. It is becoming reality under our landmark Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. It is a plan that will deliver over \$62 billion worth of investment to Queensland. It is a plan which reflects the fact that we are transitioning to a clean energy economy. The fact is: it is our biggest economic opportunity since the industrial revolution. Already, we have global trade giants turning to Queensland to help them meet their decarbonisation targets. Our plan is to power new jobs in new industries with new export opportunities like renewable hydrogen, with more affordable, more reliable and cleaner energy. Green hydrogen is absolutely essential to that plan. It is a plan that includes what will be Queensland's very first 100 per cent hydrogen-capable gas peaker to be delivered at Kogan Creek.

The bill before the House deals with a number of amendments to other acts that will help enable this hydrogen industry in Queensland. The Gas Supply Act amendments expand the scope of the Gas Supply Act to include hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other types of renewable gases, whilst the amendments to the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act help to provide a pathway for hydrogen proponents to apply for and obtain a pipeline licence that is specifically for the transportation of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. This will be achieved through inserting the new term of 'regulated hydrogen' into the petroleum and gas act which again includes hydrogen, hydrogen gas blends and other types of substances that will be prescribed by regulation.


It is also achieved through the extension of the current licensing and safety provisions for pipelines to include hydrogen and other hydrogen carriers to ensure appropriate safety considerations whilst these pipeline licensing processes are underway. I note that this legislation has been very well consulted on. Over 125 stakeholders were approached and provided feedback, as well as those who took the time to make a submission to the committee inquiry into this bill.

We are getting on with the job of standing up a strong and sustainable hydrogen industry here in Queensland. We have already delivered a landmark report, the *Enabling Queensland's hydrogen production and export opportunities* report, and I acknowledge and commend the work of our hydrogen advisory council. That report is a key tool that can be used by industry when it comes to investing in renewable hydrogen in Queensland. It has been very well received and now it is being backed up by the legislative changes in this bill.

Queensland was the first state to have a bespoke Hydrogen Safety Code of Practice. I acknowledge the contribution of the member for Townsville and Minister for Resources who went through and made the amendments and changes that are in this law to help modernise our safety regulation around hydrogen. The Queensland Hydrogen Centre of Excellence is skilling and training workers for jobs in this industry. We will have 10,000 new jobs by 2040. In my local area at Swanbank, we are taking steps to turn Swanbank into South-East Queensland's first clean energy hub, and that includes the use of hydrogen. In fact, there are EOIs and a market sounding practice underway. At this very moment, the proudly publicly owned CleanCo is tendering for clean energy opportunities which include hydrogen. There is plenty happening when it comes to realising the enormous opportunities that green hydrogen has for Queensland.

I was pleased to see that the LNP is supporting this bill. I acknowledge that their statement of reservation provides broad support, so I thank them for backing our hydrogen agenda. I would also like to thank them for backing the Palaszczuk Labor government when it comes to our use of common user infrastructure. It does put them a little at odds with the former member for Callide and the current member for Flynn, who used his maiden speech in federal parliament to label hydrogen as 'dangerous'.

The member for Condamine and opposition spokesman for energy remarked that this is the minister's first piece of legislation. I implore the LNP to take a moment, take a breath and do their research. You would think that before they would level that kind of criticism, they would maybe take a moment to consider whether they had brought forward one private member's bill or an energy policy, which they have not. I commend this bill to the House.

 **Mr ANDREW** (Mirani—PHON) (3.47 pm): I rise to speak on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill. In Queensland, the Gas Safety Act 2003 and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004, the 'P&G act', provide the regulatory frameworks for proponents seeking to transport petroleum and gas through pipelines. The GS Act covers the licensing of gas and distributors as well as the regulation and distribution of pipelines, including customer connection services, meters and natural gas infrastructure works.

The bill's amendments will extend the remit of the GS Act from processed natural gas to hydrogen and other covered gases. To achieve this, the bill introduces the new term 'covered gases', which is defined as a primary gas process, natural gas, hydrogen, biomethane, synthetic methane, or a gas blend. A regulation-making power is also added to the definition of 'covered gases' to allow for new renewable gases to be captured in the act. This power is envisaged to be engaged in the event of new scientific or technological advances that warrant further gases being added to the definition. The bill includes a range of consequential amendments to extend provisions from processed natural gas to covered gases. This is intended to ensure all existing regulatory requirements under the act apply to distribution, authorities and the pipeline for hydrogen and other renewable gases.

These changes will enable the distribution of hydrogen to consumers in Queensland through the state's distribution pipelines. It will also give proponents the ability to transport and connect customer services to covered gases in addition to processed natural gas. Transitional provisions will ensure existing distribution authority holders are authorised to transport and connect customers to renewable gases such as biomethane and synthetic methane, provided that the substance is suitable for use by consumers. Part of developing a green hydrogen industry is having an established bureaucracy, together with licensing and regulatory bodies, to advise and direct the establishment of the new industry and to administer an appropriate regulatory framework.

The Queensland government is investing heavily in the development of green hydrogen and ammonia through the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy 2019-2024, the \$35 million Hydrogen Industry Development Fund and the \$4.5 billion Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund. According to the minister's introductory speech on the bill on 9 May 2023, the Palaszczuk government's Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan commits the government to transforming the state's energy system. He said that to get there it will take a huge effort to build vast amounts of new renewable energy. Recognising the impracticality of battery storage as a replacement for trucks and heavy haulage transport, the government is relying on green hydrogen to power everything from shipping, aviation and large trucks to industrial processes like making green steel and fertiliser. As the minister commented—

... Australia cannot meet its international climate targets without decarbonising its heavy haulage transport fleet. Battery powered trucks up and down the Bruce are just not feasible.

According to the minister—

We are at the dawn of the most significant transformation of our economy since the industrial revolution. By 2040 our green hydrogen industry could support 10,000 jobs and generate over \$33 billion in economic activity—that is comparable to Queensland's LNG industry—and contribute nearly as much as mining did to this state in 2019-20 ... delivering on our steadfast commitment to deliver 70 per cent renewable energy by 2032 and 80 per cent by 2035.

The minister even went so far as to claim that Queensland's green hydrogen industry is not a pipedream but a pipeline of real action. This is highly debateable. The practicality and cost issues of hydrogen are such that it is highly unlikely it will ever be the solution to the energy storage conundrum that so many experts are wrestling with today. One only has to look at the facts, starting with the fact that 99 per cent of today's globally produced hydrogen is grey hydrogen, made from fossil fuels.

Green hydrogen, which Australian governments are hyping as the silver bullet for achieving their net zero commitments, accounted for only 0.04 per cent of global hydrogen production in 2021. Despite hundreds of billions of dollars spent worldwide on developing the green hydrogen industry, there has been almost no commercial production of green hydrogen anywhere in the world. Even in the US, where the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act appropriated \$9.5 billion for clean hydrogen and the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act provided an even greater level of support through its hydrogen production tax credit, progress has been negligible. At present, there are only 1,500 miles of hydrogen transmission

pipelines in operation throughout the country. Furthermore, almost all current hydrogen mileage exists in rural areas and is exclusive to smaller diameter transmission lines. JP Morgan's 2022 annual energy paper states—

Current green hydrogen production is negligible ...

This means there are almost no prototype green hydrogen systems operational at present, although enough is known about the processes of producing and distributing green hydrogen to know that the problems involved in scaling up the industry are substantial and the costs enormous.

The bill and its objectives reveal a concerning disregard for some of the well-known safety risks relating to the transport of hydrogen by pipeline. The government seems to regard the blending of hydrogen into the gas supply as a quick and easy way to support the development of a local green hydrogen industry by creating guaranteed demand. However, recent network planning in Victoria shows that major work will be needed before blends can be safely added in most parts of the state, with separate issues affecting both distribution and transmission systems. Total costs are still unknown, but it is clear that blending in most places will not be possible until 2030 or later.

Prospective blending projects often propose adding hydrogen directly into distribution rather than transmission lines to avoid the high operating pressures that cause hydrogen embrittlement. According to Energy Safe Victoria, introducing blends to the distribution lines could potentially risk the safety of the transmission system overall. This is partly due to the lower pressure sections of the transmission system where it traverses metro areas. These breach the pressure differential that usually isolates transmission from distribution gases. The VTS is an interconnected network rather than straight pipeline made up of different types of pipelines of different ages. Introducing hydrogen blends might mean parts need to be replaced or operating pressures wound back.

APA, which owns the VTS, has been unable to make an estimate around the scope, cost or time line for what would be required to support hydrogen blends in their assets or confirm whether it might be possible at all. Last year it requested \$19 million of additional funds through regulated revenue to answer these questions given the difficulty of this assessment. Funding has so far been declined by the regulator given that hydrogen blending is not currently a requirement in Victoria, but the question of the effects of hydrogen in transmission assets is highly relevant here in Queensland. Evidence from other projects suggests that these costs could be high.

An environmental impact statement released last year for the proposed new gas generator at Kurri Kurri found that building the high-pressure storage to be compatible with hydrogen—at a 30 per cent blend in this case—would be uneconomical, even as a new build. Transmission issues aside, the recent Victorian gas arrangements also discovered that major works need to be completed on distribution lines before blends can be added. Network businesses themselves do not expect blending to be possible until 2030, and they do not expect to be ready to transport pure hydrogen until 2050 or 2040 as a stretch target. Programs already underway to replace legacy low-pressure mains, especially cast-iron lines, would need to be finished before hydrogen blends could safely be injected, with the largest works remaining in the urban Multinet network.

A recent feasibility study completed with Arena for Ballarat confirmed that there was a need to replace these older low-pressure mains before adding hydrogen. It also found that hydrogen's lower energy density reduces the carrying capacity of the network slightly, sometimes requiring the system to be upsized. A similar study completed for Wodonga found capacity to be reduced by 2.5 per cent. In addition to mains replacement and possible augmentation, incompatible parts across the network would need to be upgraded. Recent regulatory decisions for Victoria's gas networks acknowledge that the increased competition from efficient electric alternatives now present a stranding risk to their assets. These circumstances warrant increased caution around new investment in gas networks. Safe and reliable operation remains essential, but as far as possible unnecessary spending on infrastructure expected to become stranded should be avoided.

Given the early stage of our experience working with hydrogen in Australia, it is important that lessons from the ground are fed back effectively into our planning for developing a hydrogen industry and for the broader energy transition, including projects like the Integrated System Plan. Blending is not cost free, so its promises should be tested. If we cannot reticulate blends until after 2030, we should consider carefully whether the demand boost it might offer will still be useful by then or whether it would compete with real demand from priority applications. It is also important to understand how blending might impact remaining gas users as the household movement to electrify continues to pick up pace. There is no doubt that green hydrogen could be a vital tool for the hard-to-decarbonise sectors like steel, shipping and chemicals manufacturing.



Mr MADDEN (Ipswich West—ALP) (3.57 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. The bill proposes to amend the Gas Supply Act 2003 and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to provide a clear approvals pathway for hydrogen and other prescribed pipelines to complement changes approved nationally by state and territory energy ministers. The reason our government is so focused on a future hydrogen industry is that it is estimated that by 2040 our green hydrogen industry could support up to 10,000 jobs and generate economic activity comparable to Queensland's current liquefied natural gas industry. As well, as detailed in the explanatory notes, the growing global interest in renewable hydrogen highlights an increasing potential for its use as a future energy and fuel source to support decarbonisation and climate commitments.

Renewable hydrogen is also called green hydrogen and is created by the electrolysis of water. Depending on the process of how the hydrogen is produced, it is provided with nine colour codes, but the three most common colour codes are grey, blue and green hydrogen. Grey hydrogen is currently the most common and cheapest form of hydrogen production. It is used as a fuel and does not generate greenhouse gas emissions itself, but its production process does. Grey hydrogen is created from natural gas using steam reforming, which separates the hydrogen from the natural gas. However, the technologies used do not capture carbon emissions created during the process, which are instead released into the atmosphere. Blue hydrogen is also extracted using the steam-reforming process, but it differs from grey as the carbon emissions released are captured and stored, which reduces emissions into the atmosphere but does not eliminate them. Blue hydrogen is sometimes called low-carbon hydrogen as the production process does not avoid the creation of greenhouse gases; it just stores them away.

Green hydrogen does not generate any emissions in its entire life cycle as it uses renewable energy in the production process, making it a true source of clean energy. It is made by electrolysis of water using clean electricity created from surplus renewable energy from wind and solar power. The process causes a reaction that splits water into its hydrogen and oxygen components—the H and O in H₂O. This results in no carbon emissions being released in the process. Green hydrogen is a great alternative to grey or blue hydrogen, but for now the main challenge is in reducing the production costs of green hydrogen to make it a truly obtainable, renewable and environmentally friendly alternative. Green hydrogen provides a possibility to completely redesign the process of steelmaking. The magic of hydrogen is that it can make the entire process almost carbon free. By reacting hydrogen directly with iron ore, iron and water are produced in place of iron and CO₂.

Many of Queensland's major trading partners, such as Japan, South Korea and Singapore, have made commitments to net zero emissions and are looking for renewable hydrogen to meet their ambitious decarbonisation targets. Queensland has the opportunity to build on its long history as a major energy exporter and position itself as a global supplier of choice for renewable or green hydrogen. Independent modelling that informed the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan estimates that Queensland's renewable hydrogen industry could be worth over \$33 billion by 2040. Queensland's renewable energy industry also has the potential to play a key role in providing Queenslanders with clean, reliable and affordable power in line with the government's commitment in Queensland's Energy and Jobs Plan. With over 50 projects underway within the state and several with major international proponents, Queensland is well positioned to secure opportunities from the emerging industry to provide benefits to all Queenslanders.

Queensland's green hydrogen industry has the potential to be the greatest jobs, climate and export opportunity in a generation. The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill helps to deliver this future for Queenslanders. Queensland is set to deliver the biggest hydrogen production project in the nation by way of the publicly owned CQ-H2 located between Gladstone and Rockhampton delivered by a government owned corporation, the Stanwell Corporation. With investment from right across the globe, it is expected to deliver almost 9,000 jobs and over \$17.2 billion in exports.

Recently I had the opportunity to visit the state owned Kogan Creek Power Station located at Brigalow near Chinchilla where we are currently building a 200-megawatt Tesla megapack, a pilot hydrogen plant and a new 2,000-megawatt hydrogen-ready gas peaking power station. The project at Kogan Creek Power Station is an important insurance policy for our state to make sure that Queenslanders can always meet our electricity demand during peak times in the future, delivered with 100 per cent green hydrogen gas.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill will also amend the Gas Supply Act 2003 and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004. The industry has told the government that pipeline licensing is a critical area of reform that the government needs to prioritise. It is essential that renewable hydrogen can be transported safely and properly from production sites in regional Queensland to Queensland's export terminals. Ensuring regulatory settings are right to enable a world-leading industry will also require a considered and phased approach to regulatory reform. The Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 will provide regulatory frameworks for proponents seeking to transport petroleum and gas through pipelines. This bill represents the first phase in these reforms.

As the minister said in his introductory speech, this bill creates a clear regulatory pathway for the transportation and use of hydrogen and associated hydrogen carriers such as ammonia, methanol, methylcyclohexane, dimethyl ether and toluene, all providing consistency with broader national reforms. In closing, I thank the members of the Transport and Resources Committee, the committee secretariat, the submitters and Hansard. I commend the bill to the House.



Mr BERKMAN (Maiwar—Grn) (4.05 pm): I rise to give my contribution on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. I make clear at the outset that the Queensland Greens will be supporting this bill because these reforms will allow hydrogen, among other feedstock gases, to make use of the Queensland gas network. This is a pivotal step to facilitate the green hydrogen industry and export from Queensland. It is worth acknowledging at the outset, though, that hydrogen cannot replace natural gas for households. Beyond anything this bill might facilitate or achieve, the government still needs to prioritise the electrification of new and existing households because hydrogen is simply not feasible for existing appliances.

This bill expands which gases are allowed in the gas network to include biogas, biomethane, synthetic methane and hydrogen, as well as gas blends. This is a positive step. It allows a blend of lower carbon emission gases in the network which will slightly reduce carbon emissions from gas use through blends of natural gas and hydrogen, not unlike the blending of ethanol in E10 fuels. Allowing these blends is a useful temporary measure before we completely transition away from natural gas, which is essential for achieving net zero emissions in Queensland. The bill also provides industries with the regulatory framework for using gas feedstock with a lower carbon emissions footprint, which is again a key step in decarbonising manufacturing and materials production in Queensland. To get this state down to zero emissions replacing natural gas with hydrogen in industrial processes in particular is a necessary step wherever possible.

There is an awful lot the bill does not do, however. The entire Queensland gas network is privately owned. Regardless of what flows through its pipes, huge corporations make billions of dollars from extracting natural resources from this state at a cost to everyday Queenslanders. We heard plenty from government members during their budget speeches about how much money the coal royalties raked in from higher coal prices this year, but we did not hear a peep about gas. That is because Queenslanders get a pittance in royalties from the gas sector. The highest royalty rate available for natural gas is a mere 12½ per cent. The Queensland Greens want to see this tripled. My colleague presented the Petroleum and Gas Amendment Bill 2022 to parliament to do just that. The bill was unfortunately ruled out of order. The government seems entirely committed to maintaining the current standing orders, which prevent any discussion on that bill or consideration by parliament of any non-government revenue or appropriation bills. Beyond that, the government appears to have no interest at all in raising gas royalties, and this bill certainly does not advance the material interests of Queenslanders in that way.

This bill and the government also are not directing these massive gas corporations to make a transition to lower or no emissions gases. There is no requirement for the gas industry to use hydrogen on its own or in a blend with other gases. Whether the gas industry reduces their emissions is entirely up to the goodwill of these massive corporations, but we know that their decisions are dictated entirely by their bottom lines. Without any directive or imposed cost from the state government there is a good chance that it will not be profitable for gas companies to take action on climate change to make the transition. Time and again we have seen these corporations choose larger profits over fighting climate change, so why should we expect anything different this time?

As I mentioned at the outset, a further limitation of the bill is a simple matter of physics: you cannot use hydrogen to replace natural gas for existing household appliances. Research shows that conventional appliances can get away with a mixture of 10 per cent hydrogen, maybe stretched up to 20 per cent, but any further increase in that mix would cause millions of household appliances to simply fail. If Queenslanders would ultimately need to buy new appliances in order for them to function with

hydrogen in the existing gas network, then why not cut to the chase and transition to all-electric households as a priority? Year on year, there is an increasing awareness of the health risks that are associated with the use of gas appliances, especially gas cooktops in our kitchens. Alongside that, electric appliances are nothing new: they are a known technology, they have existing supply chains and they do the job. While some of us might have a traditional preference for a gas cooktop, clearly there is no sense in Queenslanders buying new appliances based on younger technology.

Electric appliances would also dramatically simplify the net zero transition for everyday Queenslanders. All it requires is that the government build more renewable power to support households to transition. They could also provide rebates such as the ones my federal Greens colleagues negotiated at the federal level to help households switch over. Developers would not need to build gas piping into new housing projects, there would be no need for cumbersome gas bottle deliveries to those households that are not connected to the gas network and households would have one less utilities bill to deal with. The government should be planning an electrification transition for households. As we have seen the Victorian Labor government do, banning new household gas connections is a key step that could be taken to meet Queensland's emission reduction targets.


To support this transition, the state government should also be creating a publicly owned energy retailer, delivering energy to Queenslanders at cost. Ever since Labor privatised electricity retail in 2006-07, companies such as Origin, AGL and EnergyAustralia have been raking in massive profits from struggling Queenslanders. Even Peter Beattie, the architect of Queensland's retail privatisation, has now admitted that it was a mistake. The cost of electricity for Queenslanders has gone up thanks to this privatisation, so why hasn't the state government taken steps to reverse this move? Is it that they are happy to let Queenslanders pay for the profits of those companies or to pay more for electricity than they need to?

We have to be clear about what the electricity retailers do. What do they actually do? They read your meters and they pay for advertising, telemarketing and door-to-door sales teams. None of that tells you about the superior, higher quality energy that they are providing, because there is really no such thing as they just buy electricity wholesale from generators. Really, they are just chasing more customers. Queenslanders fund those retailers so they can burn through massive sales and marketing budgets to grow their customer base. To top that off, of course, they are adding a healthy mark-up over wholesale energy prices to make sure their profits remain healthy, at the expense of everyday Queenslanders. Queenslanders are paying the retailers a steep mark-up over wholesale prices so that they can throw money into massive sales campaigns and still make a profit.

Queenslanders are getting ripped off across the board, and at this point the state government is just standing by and letting it happen. Over the past couple of years especially, Queenslanders have been ripped off by wartime profiteers. The likes of Origin, AGL and Alinta Energy raked in profits while Ukraine was being invaded and, in turn, households were slugged with astronomically high gas and power bills that Queenslanders were only protected against through government rebates. There is a kind of absurd circularity about that. You have to ask: when will the government take the most obvious steps that it can to drop power bills for Queenslanders? When will it get on with creating a publicly owned electricity retailer?

I cannot finish without making some observations about climate more broadly. In his second reading speech the minister went on at some length about this. We can all acknowledge that globally we have probably lived through the hottest months on record, and 2023 is likely to be the hottest year on record. Yes, we have a really substantial renewables push going on in Queensland, but still we are ignoring the elephant in the room: Queensland's emissions reduction targets have not moved for years. We have emissions reduction targets that are effectively the same as the Morrison government's targets. Thirty per cent by 2030 and net zero by 2050 is simply not good enough, especially when, at the same time, we continue to extract coal and gas and open up new coal and gas projects. You really do not have to look far: the International Energy Agency and the IPCC have made it abundantly clear that the emissions reduction targets that this government maintains are completely incompatible with limiting global warming to an average of 1½ or even two degrees. We need to get on with the job. We need to see some courage from the government to improve the emissions reduction targets. They need to get a bit of backbone, take on the resources sector and look at what is required to get our resource communities out of coal and gas.

All in all, the bill is a positive step. As I have said, we will be supporting it, but far more needs to be done if the government is to be taken seriously on climate change.

 **Ms RICHARDS** (Redlands—ALP) (4.15 pm): I rise to support the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. I remind the member for Maiwar that you could not find a government that is doing more to take on the Resources Council than the Palaszczuk government is at the moment. When it comes to publicly owned electricity retailers, I remind the member for Maiwar that Ergon is a publicly owned energy retailer here in Queensland.

I am proud to be a Queensland hydrogen champion. I have been in the role for the past five years, since 2017, so I am proud to speak on the bill as it continues to advance Queensland's position as a global renewable energy powerhouse. The bill recognises the importance of getting the policy settings right to support the development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland. As Queensland, along with the world, recognises the importance of transitioning to net zero, the role that sustainable fuel sources such as hydrogen will play is increasingly evident.

It is hard to imagine that just last year Queensland was experiencing its second one-in-100-year flooding event in just 10 years. With an increase in the severity and frequency of natural disasters driven by climate change, Queenslanders are far too familiar with the impacts of those events. Those events have highlighted how important progressing solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change are to our regions.

Yesterday morning I arrived back from Ghana, West Africa, where I spoke at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. I had the opportunity to contribute to the debate on food security and sustainability and the impacts of climate change in that space. It is really important to appreciate that, as we reach a population of roughly 10 billion people across the planet by 2050, we will need to create 70 per cent more food. Climate change plays a very big part in how we are able to produce food for communities across the world.

Not only can hydrogen limit emissions in hard-to-abate sectors such as heavy haulage and manufacturing but also will play an important role in ensuring Queensland prospers on the transition to net zero. With vast amounts of renewable resources, a skilled workforce and access to ports in the South-East Asian market, Queensland is well placed to support the emerging hydrogen industry. The Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan highlights the potential opportunities a renewable hydrogen industry could bring for Queenslanders. The Energy and Jobs Plan is an incredible piece of work by our government that looks at the renewables future and the jobs and prosperity for all Queenslanders that will come from it.

In terms of hydro power, earlier this year, during the regional sittings in Cairns, I had the opportunity to visit the Barron Gorge Hydroelectric Power Station. While in Ghana I had the opportunity to visit the Volta River Authority's Akosombo Dam hydro project, which is the largest in Africa. It provides energy to all of Ghana, Togo and Nigeria. It was really incredible to see. I am super proud that, through our Energy and Jobs Plan, our government is investing to deliver the world's largest pumped hydro project at Borumba, right here in Queensland. Independent modelling that informed the plan estimates that the hydrogen industry could be worth more than \$33.4 billion by 2040 and support more than 10,000 jobs. We know that this will deliver for Queenslanders. If we reflect back on what the LNG market did for our economy and for jobs, hydrogen will play exactly that role.

By building on our long and trusted history as a major energy exporter, Queensland can become a leading global producer and exporter of green hydrogen. Global demand for hydrogen is growing, with many of Queensland's major trading partners seeing the role it will play in helping them to achieve their decarbonisation targets. Investors from Japan, Korea and Singapore are looking to Queensland to meet their hydrogen needs.

With the ongoing leadership and support of the Queensland government and more than \$110 million of investment, there are already over 50 projects progressing in the state which, as we heard from the member for Bundamba, is 40 per cent of the world's hydrogen projects. I think that is an incredible statistic. I am very proud that the Redlands has been at the forefront of hydrogen. Many members might not know, but we were the first region to export hydrogen to Japan.

Mr Stevens interjected.


Ms RICHARDS: It might have been in small quantities, member for Mermaid Beach, but we were the first. It was exciting to be part of that history. At the moment we also have underway, through the procurement process, new hydrogen buses being trialled in the Redlands. I am very excited about that.

Queensland government owned corporations are among some of the significant hydrogen projects under development across the state. I am pleased to hear about the announcements regarding developments in the Stanwell-led consortium CQ-H2 hydrogen export project in Gladstone. This project could deliver \$17.2 billion in hydrogen exports and \$12.4 billion to Queensland's gross state product over its 30-year life, positioning our state as the leader in the hydrogen industry. I have had the opportunity this year to speak at national hydrogen conferences in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne on how well Queensland is doing in this space. We are absolutely leading the way. When I have had the chance to listen to other speakers from different parts of Australia and different parts of the world, I can absolutely assure members that Queensland is well positioned to be the leader in the hydrogen space.

With the support of a \$15 million contribution from the Queensland government towards the \$117 million front-end engineering and design study, this project highlights how having the right policy settings can pave the way for world-leading projects within our state. There is also CS Energy which is in the process of delivering the Kogan Renewable Hydrogen Demonstration Plant, one of the most advanced renewable hydrogen projects in Queensland. When in operation, the project will produce 75,000 kilograms of renewable hydrogen each year. The project is supported by our government with \$28.9 million of funding.

Renewable hydrogen is the next big opportunity. As I said, the industry could be comparable in size to that of the LNG energy. Again, I tell everybody to think back to what LNG did for Queensland and our economy. Hydrogen is positioned to do this. This represents a huge opportunity to be leaders in renewable hydrogen. Queensland is competing and, as I said, having spoken at those conferences, I have no doubt that we are competing both nationally and internationally. The US market is moving swiftly in terms of the levels of investment in the renewable hydrogen industry. The importance of strategic leadership at this early stage is fundamental. When I think about the strategy as it was developed for 2019 to 2024, we have been at the forefront of positioning Queensland to take that lead.

The amendments in the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill will do exactly that—that is, continue to position Queensland. They will provide the clarity and certainty to industry and help to support the continued development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland by ensuring settings are in place to transport hydrogen to those markets that will so deeply love green hydrogen from our state. I commend this bill to the House and I commend the work of the minister.

 **Mr McDONALD** (Lockyer—LNP) (4.23 pm): It is a pleasure to rise and speak on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill today. Before I do, I would also like to offer my respects to the fires on Firefighters Remembrance Day and particularly remember Izzy Nash who tragically died earlier in the year.

I use the words of the shadow minister for natural resources: we are pleased to support the bill because it is one step in a process to see some of the Jobs and Energy Plan delivered for this state, but certainly not before time. I commend the committee and the LNP members of the committee—the members for Gregory, Callide and Toowoomba North—for their contributions and for their statement of reservation and I commend the work of the shadow minister, whom I recognise is in the House.

Whilst the LNP supports this bill, I remind those opposite that, just because they say the word 'renewable', it does not mean that it is actually sustainable. In using the term 'renewable' when it comes to hydrogen, there is a heck of a lot of work that has to happen in that space to make it affordable. Some scholars tell us it is one-tenth the affordability of what it could be and others say it is one-hundredth. We recognise and welcome the technological advances—and we are part of that journey—but just because the term 'renewable' is put in front of something does not mean that it is going to be sustainable. We need to continue to explore other technologies to ensure that we get this mix right because it is about the best use of water, resources and land. Where I come from, land and water are particularly important.

When it comes to the sustainability of hydrogen and some of its products or being able to use hydrogen and transport it, the volume of water that is required to deliver—and I note the shadow minister for water in the House who respects the security of water very strongly as do I in our rural communities—these hydrogen products is absolutely phenomenal. It is about making sure that we have best practice innovation and have a circular economy that actually is sustainable. We know that renewables are very important for our community, but so is affordability and reliability. As we have been talking about over the past few months, we have to make sure we have that base load power to ensure reliability and affordability, which I have been referring to.

I note that AgForce gave a very detailed submission to the committee inquiry. AgForce is not a group that should be taken lightly. There are 6,500 farmers in its membership base whose properties cover about 55 million hectares of the state. That is one-third of the state of Queensland. AgForce talked about property rights and making sure we respect the property rights of people who are going to be affected by some of these pipelines and potential acquisitions of land—or certainly easements across the land. We stress and highlight for the government the AgForce submission that talked about making sure the property rights of our farmers who will be affected by this legislation are protected.

There are a number of different issues that arise from seeing these easements and acquisitions of properties. Through my area we have a number of gas pipelines and power easements. Through those easements we have had some weed species unknowingly brought into the Lockyer Valley—they might be a good legume in other parts of the state—and they have become rampant. There are other weeds that need to be considered in terms of a biosecurity risk when it comes to the movement of earthmoving equipment and other construction equipment for the building of the pipelines. I am sure that some of these easements will end up coming down off the fields and come back through the South-East Queensland corner. If it is through the Lockyer, we want to make sure our property rights are looked after and that that biosecurity threat is very well maintained.

I also stress the importance of leadership and having very good consultation with property owners. As we have seen through gas acquisitions in the Surat Basin and through the Downs, there have been some early acquisitions that ended up not being viable or ended up being handed in with the result that the businesses took a different direction. When looking at these hydrogen pipelines it is very important that, if the government is looking at trying to fast-track some of these renewable projects, the government shows good leadership and engages in good consultation to ensure it does happen and that businesses are there for the long-term so that we do not see that same problem happening. With good leadership there is a very viable option to coexist with these easements and pipelines.

Agricultural activity can take place with these pipelines and easements as long as companies and the government have meaningful conversations with farmers and landholders to make sure easements and acquisitions are done in a manner such that their farm operations can coexist. Farmers of all types are stewards for the land. They want to make sure their land is there for future generations and it is well cared for. They can coexist with these pipelines. They will work together with government. Unfortunately, there has been some consultation—I mention again some of the gas acquisitions—that was very poorly done. It left a sour taste in a lot of farmers' mouths. With hydrogen—I look to it being another set of pipelines—it is the same sorts of pipelines and the same sorts of areas and they are the same farmers. They are genuinely good people who will work with government and business. If you show good leadership and there is good consultation, it will produce a positive coexistence and respectful outcome for all.

I made note of my colleague the member for Callide's questions in the inquiry. He made a really practical point about the diminishing number of newspapers in regional areas and the lack of ability to give notification through those newspapers. The government did recognise that the notification process can be improved. We would certainly look forward to the government taking those concerns on board and making some modifications, whether that be online notification or some other local notification process through the community such as ABC Radio or other noticeboards and local forums in the community such as Facebook and different blogs. Many of the communities I represent have thousands of members in their community groups, and I certainly use those to get information out to the community. Perhaps the government could adjust the regulation so that we could see those things happen in our communities.

As I said before, it is all right to say that we are going to have renewable hydrogen, but let's make sure that work is done to see the industry is well supported in developing technologies. We support that and we support the delivery of a sustainable basis for these products. I would also raise the issue of Glencore wanting the government to look at amendments to see other products placed in those pipelines, because that is a practical outcome that would make other legislative changes unnecessary and would be a good outcome.

In closing, I want to stress that in our agriculture and rural communities we are all for working with the government to achieve sustainable outcomes. It just takes good leadership and good consultation to make sure there are minimal compulsory acquisitions of land. It will require genuine dialogue with our community and farmers to make sure their concerns are addressed and that these pipelines and easements can be done. We need to work with our rural communities to get a good outcome for them as well.



Mrs McMAHON (Macalister—ALP) (4.33 pm): I rise to speak in support of the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. I support the Palaszczuk Labor government's vision for Queensland—positioning it as a world leader in the renewable hydrogen industry. Major trading partners on our doorstep such as Japan, South Korea and Singapore are committed to net zero emissions, and the future global hydrogen industry will play a major role in achieving these commitments.

Independent modelling has estimated that investment in the renewable hydrogen industry in Queensland could be worth over \$33 billion by 2040. To ensure Queensland—a state that shares the vision to transition to renewable energy—is ready for this industry investment and potential, we need to ready ourselves now. An efficient and effective regulatory framework is needed to ensure infrastructure and associated industry is ready to capitalise on this massive investment. As much as no-one likes excessive regulation, I think we can all understand that, when dealing with petroleum and gas, safety through licensing and regulation is absolutely necessary. I have lived and worked in countries where regulations either do not exist or are not properly enforced, and it is a real concern. It is dangerous for workers and it is dangerous for the industry and the population more broadly. It also presents a risk to investment potential in the industry and our global standing as a world leader in this space if we are not careful with our regulatory framework.

Currently, Queensland's regulation framework does not incorporate Queensland's prospective hydrogen industry. The bill seeks to remedy this to futureproof the process for applications and licensing. The hydrogen industry will require new pipelines to transport hydrogen and other gases from production facilities to export terminals. Current pipeline licences do not cover hydrogen blends, biomethane and other covered gases. This bill will address this gap not only in the pipeline but also for hydrogen carriers and transporters.

The Macalister electorate will play a vital role in this renewable hydrogen industry. The Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre in Beenleigh hosts the Hydrogen Centre of Excellence, a key 2020 election commitment of this government. It is a clear and solid demonstration of how important this government sees this industry is to the future of Queensland's economy, not only as an export industry but also for the thousands of skilled jobs this industry will accommodate. At PICAC, workers of the future will be trained and skilled in hydrogen-specific trades to meet the jobs and needs of industry here as well as abroad. With the Hydrogen Centre of Excellence officially opened almost a year ago, I have seen the connections our local schools are making with PICAC as the school students of today prepare for the hydrogen jobs of tomorrow. PICAC recently hosted the hydrogen subcommittee of the Ministerial Energy Council where the need for the amendments the subject of this bill were widely discussed. This bill will deliver the necessary action for stakeholders to continue to work towards our green hydrogen future.

I did note in the statement of reservation, as has been mentioned by a number of speakers today, that there were concerns about the role this future industry might play in terms of compulsory acquisitions. I note that this bill does not actually contain or extend to the process of compulsory acquisition; however, that is subject to the current extent provisions under the legislation. I do note the shadow minister's concern about the impost for industry if there is additional work that needs to be done in creating and making new agreements.

As I understand it, current agreements with landowners do not cover the transportation of hydrogen across their land, so new agreements will need to be entered into by industry, even if it is for the same land. I also note the member for Lockyer's comments that landholders themselves need to be protected in this process. I am sure that the process by which consultation happens between the pipeline owner or licensee and the landowner is a process that has been developed and refined by industry and landowners over many years. The industry or pipeline proponent needs to ensure they have the agreement of landowners before applying for these licences. I do hope that the process in effect between pipeline proponents and landowners is one that is met with equal agreement on both sides before it comes to the government to receive its regulation and authority to proceed.

We understand this is a major, key piece of the infrastructure that is needed for this industry. As much as landowners are seeing pipelines and all other sorts of easements going through their properties, with the appropriate financial compensation and the amount of money in this industry those proponents will again be sitting down with landowners to make sure they have the pipeline, they have the agreements and, from the point of extraction of renewable hydrogen to the point of departure in our ports, we have a secure pipeline all the way through that takes into account the concerns raised by the member for Lockyer. I commend the bill to the House.



Mr KNUTH (Hill—KAP) (4.39 pm): I rise to make my contribution to the debate of the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. The explanatory notes state that the bill is designed to capitalise on the renewable hydrogen industry, which could be worth over \$33 billion in Queensland by 2040. The bill aims to provide a clear regulatory assessment pathway to authorise the construction and operation of the pipelines for hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in Queensland.

I acknowledge the Minister for Hydrogen for his passionate and sometimes fanatical views towards hydrogen and the pursuance of that. I do not have an issue with hydrogen and believe it should be pursued as part of our energy mix; however, if we are going to embrace hydrogen we should do the same for nuclear energy as a clean, green, plentiful and limitless energy source. In fact, according to a study in 2020 from the Energy Options Network, nuclear energy may be the best way to make green hydrogen without carbon emissions. According to the study, nuclear can also serve as the cheapest carbon-free source for hydrogen fuel and be economically competitive with natural gas. The study said—

An inherent advantage over technologies that only produce electricity (like wind and PV) is nuclear's capacity to produce both electricity and heat, affording it the ability to take advantage of all hydrogen production technology options.

It was the LNP which got the ball rolling against nuclear by horsetrading with the Greens back in 1998 to originally ban nuclear power in Australia. The LNP have had plenty of time in government since then to repeal section 140 of the EPBC Act to enable debate about nuclear energy but have failed to do so. Now all of a sudden, as the opposition, they have found their voice to support nuclear energy.

The ALP are no better, with the federal and Queensland state governments completely dismissing nuclear energy. We are instead being driven into a multitrillion dollar black hole to meet the fantasy of renewable energy targets. The campaign against nuclear has reached the ridiculous stage, with federal energy minister Chris Bowen's crazy declaration that it would cost \$387 billion to replace coal with nuclear energy in Australia. In fact, according to the technical director of SMR Nuclear Technology, Tony Irwin, this figure is vastly overestimated.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock. Member for Hill, you have drifted a little bit away from the bill. I have given you some latitude. You did mention hydrogen a couple of times. I draw you back to the bill.

Mr KNUTH: This is because solar's capacity factor is only around 20 per cent, while nuclear is 95 per cent.

I acknowledge the Minister for Hydrogen and the desire to expand the hydrogen industry. A concern was raised by the opposition with regard to the effect it could have in advancing over primary production land. At the same time, I support this bill and commend it to the House.



Mr KELLY (Greenslopes—ALP) (4.43 pm): It was wonderful to have a step through the history books and learn about the Condamine-Maiwar alliance that has been long hidden in the state of Queensland. We look forward to bringing more of that to the attention of the Queensland people. Don't worry, member for Gympie. They are going to be preferencing you at the next election because they are going to be keen to get rid of you, mate. When that gets out there, you will be gone.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Pause the clock. Member for Greenslopes, hydrogen.

Mr KELLY: Of course. I support the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. Do members know what I like about this bill? It shows just how the Palaszczuk government's Energy and Jobs Plan and Climate Action Plan are making a real difference as they roll out. This bill is setting up Queensland to be a leader in the energy industry of the future. It builds on all of that great work we are doing in the wind area, the solar area and battery storage. In fact, earlier this year I spent two days on the Big Walk walking through the Coopers Gas Wind Farm and I saw firsthand the fantastic work that the Energy and Jobs Plan is rolling out there.

The other thing this bill demonstrates is that we could not find a more stark contrast in an area of policy between our government and those opposite. Our government actually believes in man-made climate change and believes in taking action—such as the action being taken in this bill to deal with climate change—while those opposite continue to play their fairly weird games of policy three-card monte, which is that weird game where they try to get you to look at one thing but you have to look somewhere else to see the real thing. The Leader of the Opposition would have us believe that perhaps he believes in climate change—

Mr O'Connor interjected.


Mr KELLY: Don't worry, member for Bonney. You will get a go.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Direct your comments through the chair, please, member for Greenslopes.

Mr KELLY: We only have to read the member for Callide's first speech to see what those opposite really believe when it comes to climate change and the policy positions they would put forward. The Leader of the Opposition is out there saying one thing, but then when we listen to his federal counterparts we hear that, much like the member for Hill, they are great fans of nuclear. They are not doing what the Palaszczuk Labor government are doing, which is rolling up their sleeves and rolling out a renewable energy future—getting into hydrogen and getting into all those energy sources of the future.

This bill recognises the importance of getting the policy settings right to support the development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland. As I have travelled around the world I have seen that the world is moving and transitioning very rapidly in this space. As you are aware, Mr Deputy Speaker, we were privileged to have some discussions around this in Taiwan earlier this year, and that is certainly mirrored by what we are seeing in Japan, Korea, Europe and North America, where people are moving rapidly in this area. It is the Palaszczuk Labor government that is rolling out a bill of this nature which is making it easier for us to move in the transition to a hydrogen future which will do a lot to deal with climate change.

It was just over 12 to 18 months ago that I was once again cleaning up after another one-in-100-year flood in my electorate. I was helping those people who had been flooded just a few years beforehand and were again facing another one-in-100-year flood event. The people on the ground in my electorate know that climate change is having a real impact. I will be the first to say that the impacts in my electorate are pretty minor compared to some of our neighbouring electorates. I know that in the electorates of Bulimba and Miller significantly more people are impacted when there is flooding, but the people who live in my community know that we have to take serious and rapid action in relation to climate change. I want to commend the minister for his great work in bringing this bill forward. It will be an important part of establishing a viable and sustainable green hydrogen industry in our community as we move forward. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Ms LEAHY** (Warrego—LNP) (4.48 pm): I rise to contribute to the debate on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. I would like to thank the committee members from both sides of the House for their consideration of the bill and the committee staff for their assistance. I note that there were five submissions to the bill from industry and interested parties. The APA Group, which was one of those submitters, is a group which has considerable infrastructure across my electorate. If you happen to go to a place like Wallumbilla, you will find that South Australian pipelines and Queensland pipelines all intersect at that particular place. They have a large amount of infrastructure across my electorate.

Mr Stevens: Where is Wallumbilla?

Ms LEAHY: I will take that interjection from the member for Mermaid Beach. Wallumbilla is a very important place in my electorate. You will find it just before you get to Roma.

There is considerable interest in hydrogen development in the world and potential investment opportunities in Queensland. Pipelines will be essential for hydrogen production and export. Pipelines could be critical infrastructure and they will be needed to facilitate the transportation of hydrogen and other gases to markets or large facilities; for example, transporting hydrogen from a production facility to an export terminal.

I have heard a lot about pipelines before, and I have lived through the coal seam gas industry when they were developing their pipelines from the Surat Basin to Gladstone, so I am particularly familiar with some of the things that happen when you are dealing with pipelines. Often these pipelines are quite significant infrastructure and it takes a lot of effort to ensure you have the corridors for them. The CSG/LNG pipelines are now in place, and the learnings from the development of the CSG industry need to be taken into account by government.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill aims to provide a clear regulatory assessment pathway to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in Queensland. Hydrogen carriers include ammonia, methanol, methylcyclohexane, dimethyl-ether and toluene in pipelines.

In October 2022, energy ministers agreed to extend the national gas law and the national energy retail law to hydrogen and other renewable gases. This bill is intended to provide consistency with these national regulatory reforms. I do not know if members of the House have seen the map that shows where gas is moving around the country. There is a great graphic of that on the internet.

The objectives of the bill are to expand the Gas Supply Act jurisdiction to hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other gases and to amend the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to provide a clear and effective regulatory pathway for the proponent to apply for a pipeline licence for the transmission of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers. This brings me to some of the issues raised in the submissions to the bill. In particular, the APA submission mentions the conversion of 43 kilometres of the Parmelia Gas Pipeline in Western Australia, the first 100 per cent hydrogen-ready transmission pipeline. They state that the pipeline was assessed as suitable for 100 per cent hydrogen service without any requirement to reduce the operating pressure of the pipeline; however, they do not mention what that particular pressure was in that pipeline. For the information of the House, not all pipelines are the same. Many of them operate on different pressures and they vary greatly depending on the use and depending on the collection and where they are operating in the actual project. It cannot be said that every pipeline will be easy to convert because some of them may not be.

APA state they have developed a pipeline screening tool that provides a high-level assessment of the hydrogen readiness of the pipeline assets based on key pipeline material and operating characteristics. This is particularly important for the conversion of any pipeline. I recall that a pipeline from Moonie to Brisbane in 2007 leaked oil onto industrial land in Brisbane. That pipeline was subsequently shut down following that incident. Pipeline screening is important to mitigate the risk not only to people but also to the environment.

APA also mentioned further legal issues that will need to be resolved on the conversion of existing property easements to carry gases other than natural gas. There will be an extensive amount of work to do. The hydrogen pipeline cannot be constructed and operated on private land unless an agreement is reached with the relevant landholders and the native title holders. That comment from the APA is also relevant to the other matters raised by AgForce in their submission. One of the most challenging issues for any new pipelines will be that of the development footprints. There are already many pipelines on public and private land, and I do not think there is one comprehensive map of all of them. AgForce point out that not infringing on landholder rights and delivering real protections for prime agricultural land and acceptable land access are all important issues. You have to have the regulatory framework in place before you go trying to provide licences for an energy project.

More specifically, AgForce states this relates to development footprints such as easements, pipeline corridors and alternative tenures. A preference for the use of state owned land over resumptions or impacts on privately owned or held land is sought by AgForce. I have had a lot of experience with that, particularly with the powerlines that we use to connect up a lot of the gas infrastructure across my electorate. They had a great preference for going through privately owned land because it was already cleared—

Mrs Frecklington: Which is what is happening now.

Ms LEAHY:—rather than going through forestry land, which is state owned land. I take that interjection from the member for Nanango. We should be using the state owned land and stock routes, which should form part of the infrastructure corridors, before we go onto private land. It is simply trying to take the cheaper option because private land is usually cleared land, whereas that which is the state owned land usually has vegetation on it which has to be cleared. It is often very much the cheaper option which is taken by many of these proponents.


There are existing developments and workforce fronts in planning and new industry developments in the CSG industry and also, I might mention, in relation to wind and solar projects. Do not underestimate how complex the development footprint currently is. There are existing roads, gas pipelines, wind turbines, water pipelines and gas infrastructure, just to name a few of the things that are out there in the regions where you will be wanting to develop the hydrogen type industries. The footprint is already very busy. The state owned land should be the first consideration rather than complicating the footprints on privately owned land.

AgForce state that the highest protections should be afforded for the safety and privacy of farmers and agricultural production in the first instance and, further, that amendments must ensure this outcome is secured. The minimising or limiting of unavoidable impacts on primary producers and agricultural productivity and production is particularly important. The agriculture industry will not be the immediate beneficiaries of new energy industries in relation to hydrogen or in relation to the wind

turbines, but those particular individuals and their communities will have to deal with considerable disruption and the construction activities which sometimes are very difficult for small communities to manage.

AgForce state they also understand from the departmental briefing that environmental approval, regional interest development approval, RIDA, and native title processes will apply, as will existing land access and easement requirements. AgForce have recently raised several concerns with the existing land access system, including the RIDA process, within a submission to the Resource Industry Development Plan coexistence discussion paper. I urge the government to look very closely at what AgForce have said in relation to that RIDA process. Constituents have reported to me that the RIDA process in its current form is particularly onerous and needs significant improvement.

Privacy during infrastructure development, surveillance, monitoring, maintenance, ongoing weed control, animal welfare and disturbances—noise and dust—are all factors that landowners and adjacent landowners will have to deal with in terms of the new pipelines that will be proposed by the new energy industry of hydrogen. It is the government's responsibility to ensure the regulatory environment meets the expectations of those communities that are impacted and that are most impacted during the construction period.

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Miller—ALP) (Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services) (4.57 pm): Acting on climate change is a key goal of the Palaszczuk Labor government. I rise to speak on this hydrogen industry development bill. The Palaszczuk government's Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan is one of the most significant nation-building, energy transition programs in the nation. In Queensland, with some of the best solar resources in the world, wherever the sun is shining or the wind is blowing we can capture it, send it or store it where it is most needed, driving down energy costs and transitioning to zero emission power.

Our plan will develop real action on climate change, cheaper energy, less carbon emissions and thousands of good jobs for Queenslanders. Independent modelling that informed the plan estimates that the industry could be worth as much as \$33.4 billion by 2040 and support more than 10,000 jobs. That is our vision, that is what this Palaszczuk Labor government will deliver and that is what this bill enables.

While the world grapples with these global challenges, Queensland is uniquely placed to make the most of this opportunity. We have vast natural renewable resources in wind and solar to manufacture green hydrogen. We have a series of publicly owned ports, saved from the seller under the LNP by this Palaszczuk Labor government, with huge export capability, including Abbot Point at Bowen and Hay Point in Mackay, along with Gladstone in Central Queensland and many others.

Queensland's green hydrogen industry is in the pipeline right now. It is the greatest opportunity in terms of jobs and action on climate change and provides an export opportunity for a generation, and that is what we aspire to. This legislation is about getting the regulatory settings right. As Queensland and the world recognises the importance of transitioning to net zero, the role that sustainable fuel sources such as hydrogen will play is increasingly evident. Not only can hydrogen help to limit emissions in hard-to-abate sectors but it will also play a key role in ensuring that Queensland prospers on the transition to net zero.

Queensland's public assets, our government owned corporations, are driving some of these significant hydrogen projects that are already under development. Whether it is the Stanwell-led consortium CQ-H2 hydrogen export project in Gladstone or CS Energy, that are in the process of delivering the Kogan Renewable Hydrogen Demonstration Plant, one of the most advanced renewable hydrogen projects in Queensland, we can drive this clean energy transformation because we kept our assets in public hands. There is a global demand for renewable hydrogen and Queensland is competing at an international level.

The amendments in this bill absolutely achieve the goals we are setting. They will provide the clarity and certainty to industry and help to support the development of a hydrogen industry in Queensland by ensuring settings are in place to transport hydrogen to markets. The bill also aims to establish a clear approvals pathway for hydrogen and hydrogen carrier pipelines, some of the critical enabling projects needed to set up this new industry in our state. These new hydrogen industries present enormous opportunities for our regions, particularly in North Queensland and Central Queensland. The hydrogen industry in Gladstone represents a great opportunity for that region to develop a world-class hydrogen production and export market as well as deliver good jobs and clean energy for generations of Central Queenslanders.

Gladstone's strengths for developing a renewable hydrogen industry are clear. Gladstone has a long and proud history as a major energy exporter and is now diversifying into low-emission energy. The Stanwell-led CQ-H2 renewable hydrogen project in Gladstone will include a large-scale renewable hydrogen production facility at Aldoga and an export facility at the Gladstone port. In order for Stanwell to transport hydrogen from the proposed production facility to the port they will require a hydrogen pipeline, so pipeline licensing will play a vital role in the success of this clean energy industry. This bill represents an important first step to ensure the regulatory settings are right to support the emerging hydrogen industry in Gladstone and right across the state to achieve our net zero target.

The Palaszczuk Labor government is not just content with our solar revolution and our wind revolution, but hydrogen is a really important part of the clean energy transition. We have one of the most comprehensive plans in the world and especially the nation. This is another step forward to achieving that goal. It is only this government that can be trusted to do that. There has been no commitment by those opposite to the Energy and Jobs Plan in this state. The transition to clean energy certainly cannot be trusted to the stewardship of the LNP, which show no comprehension of energy policy after 8½ years in opposition.

I commend the bill and the minister for his hard work and the government for ensuring this emerging industry is facilitated. We need it for net zero. We need it for action on climate change. It is a bill that sets up Queensland for the future.



Mr MARTIN (Stretton—ALP) (5.03 pm): I rise to support the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. The bill encompasses a range of crucial reforms aimed at enhancing Queensland's hydrogen industry. Global events such as the war in Ukraine have led to a massive reduction in the availability of gas energy and the disruption of supply chains and trade relationships. There is a growing scarcity and rising cost of fossil fuels globally, which means the transition towards renewable energy is becoming even more important.

Many of our major trading partners have made commitments to net zero emissions and are looking towards renewable hydrogen to meet their ambitious decarbonisation targets. Queensland is also committed to a true zero emissions energy future. This requires the development of the advanced manufacturing sector that utilises our natural resources to build our local capacity and put tens of thousands of Queenslanders into good, secure jobs. That is why the Palaszczuk government's Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan commits to transforming our energy system to shape Queensland's future.

We are well placed with vast natural, renewable resources in wind, solar and water. We also have a series of publicly owned ports across the state with huge export capabilities. We also have Australia's and the world's first Minister for Hydrogen along with the assistant minister for hydrogen development. Queensland's green hydrogen industry will form a major part of our Energy and Jobs Plan. Independent modelling estimates that the industry is set to be worth over \$33 billion by 2040.

The new renewable technology presents significant opportunities for communities all across Queensland. Our plan will help to build the careers of skilled workers in new industries in our regional centres. It will create generational clean exports and fund new schools, hospitals, roads and essential services. It will slash emissions in global heavy haulage, shipping, aviation and manufacturing, and it will deliver real action on climate change.

Queensland will have the biggest hydrogen production project in the nation that is expected to deliver over 9,000 jobs and over \$17 billion in exports. We will also have publicly owned clean energy hubs that will include a new 200-megawatt hydrogen-ready gas peaking power station. This will act as an important insurance policy for Queensland to make sure we can always meet our electricity demand during peak times and it will be delivered with 100 per cent green gas.

There is no doubt that the green hydrogen industry is the greatest jobs, climate and export opportunity in a generation and this legislation will help to deliver it. The bill is intended to provide a clear regulatory approval process to authorise the construction and operation of pipelines for hydrogen, hydrogen blends and hydrogen carriers, as well as other gases in Queensland. Pipelines are essential for hydrogen production and exporting as they facilitate the transportation of hydrogen and other gases to markets and large facilities like export terminals. Pipeline licensing is a critical area of reform that this government is prioritising. It is essential that renewable hydrogen can be transported safely from the production sites in regional Queensland to the export terminals and to the world. Regulatory settings need to be in place to allow the industry to succeed, and this bill represents the first phase of that.

The bill will amend the Gas Supply Act 2003 to expand its jurisdiction to hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other gases, as well as the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 to provide a clear and effective regulatory pathway for a proponent to apply for a pipeline licence for the transmission of hydrogen and other hydrogen carriers. The first amendments are to the Gas Supply Act 2003, which covers the licensing of gas distributors as well as the regulation of infrastructure for distribution pipelines. That includes customer connection services, meters and gas infrastructure works on public places. It also includes provisions for the regulation and supply of gas in order to maintain supply to essential services and priority customers even in the event of a shortage.

The bill extends the remit of the Gas Supply Act 2003 from 'processed natural gas' to hydrogen and other 'covered gases'. This will be achieved by introducing a new term of 'covered gases', which is defined in the bill as a primary gas, processed natural gas, hydrogen, biomethane, synthetic methane or a gas blend. A regulation-making power is also added to the definition of 'covered gases' to allow for new renewable gases to be captured in the act. This power will be engaged in the event of new scientific or technological advances that warrant the addition of further gases to the definition.

The bill also includes a range of amendments to extend provisions from 'processed natural gas' to 'covered gases' to ensure that all existing regulatory requirements under the act will apply to distribution authorities and pipelines for hydrogen and other covered gases. These changes to the Gas Supply Act will enable the distribution of hydrogen and other renewable gases to consumers in Queensland through our many distribution pipelines. It will also give proponents the ability to transport covered gases and connect customer services to covered gases in addition to processed natural gas. Transitional provisions will minimise red tape by ensuring existing distribution authority holders are authorised to transport and connect customers to renewable gases, such as biomethane and synthetic methane, provided that the substance is suitable for use by consumers.


The amendments to the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act will make it clear that hydrogen can be transported through pipelines authorised by a pipeline licence issued under the act. It does this by inserting a new definition of 'regulated hydrogen' into the act. Regulated hydrogen includes hydrogen and hydrogen gas blends, or other substances prescribed under a regulation. The prescribed substances are commonly referred to as hydrogen carriers and are related to the storage and transport of hydrogen. The ability to prescribe hydrogen carriers by regulation is important. It provides the pipeline framework with a bit of flexibility to adapt as the technology and the industry knowledge about industry hydrogen and its carriers grows and develops. The bill will amend the definition of a pipeline to include regulated hydrogen as a substance that can be transported in a pipeline.

Other amendments to the act will require that the pipeline licences state what substances are being transported through the pipeline. This information will be made available on a public register for increased transparency about the substances that are being transported through a regular pipeline. Minor changes to the definition of a distribution pipeline will clarify the distinction between distribution pipelines and transmission pipelines for fuel gas.

These changes will broaden the definition of 'major user facility' to include export and liquefaction facilities for fuel gas. This ensures pipelines transporting fuel gas that consists of hydrogen to these facilities are also able to be licensed and transmitted through these pipelines. The bill provides for appropriate safety considerations to be undertaken through the pipeline licensing framework. These considerations will ensure the safe and competent management of the location, design, construction and operation of the pipeline.

There is no doubt that hydrogen is seen as a game changer for cutting emissions in hard-to-abate sectors. Countries all around the world are setting ambitious targets for hydrogen use and production. Japan has proposed to increase its hydrogen supply to 20 million tonnes by 2050, and South Korea anticipates that green hydrogen imports could be as high as 1.9 million tonnes by as soon as 2030. The European Union has set targets to produce and import 10 million tonnes of clean hydrogen each year by 2030.

Hydrogen will play a key role in helping global economies to reach their decarbonisation targets, and Queensland is no different. The Palaszczuk government has set ambitious targets in our Energy and Jobs Plan to reach net zero. There are domestic and international opportunities for renewable hydrogen, and we have the chance to strengthen that industry right here at home. Green hydrogen will strengthen other key sectors, such as manufacturing and heavy haulage. The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 is an important first step in ensuring the regulatory settings are in place to support this emerging industry. It signals to investors that we are committed to the development of this industry in Queensland. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (5.12 pm): I rise to speak on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. In the context of world energy supply, this bill is really important to providing a stable industrial framework of regulation to allow those who wish to go into the industrial production of hydrogen to have a clear pathway for the transportation and storage of hydrogen for domestic, industrial and export use—all of which we anticipate will be a big part of our future.

We see that Japan and Korea, two of the powerhouses of East Asia, are very keen to have hydrogen, and indeed imported hydrogen, play a big part in their industrial economies. These are not small economies; nor are they unsophisticated economies. They are making a hard mark estimation of where their energy needs can come from and they are looking for stable, well-regulated partners—partners with whom they have had, and will continue to have, a long-term connection regarding coal, especially coking coal. They understand that Queensland is a great partner for investment, and a great partner to continue to do business with. They will recognise that this clear regulation the minister is putting forward is an important part of having that process in place.

I heard the member for Toowoomba North make statements attacking investment in Queensland. He seemed to indicate that there was not confidence in our coal industry. The reality is: since the changes have been in place, we have seen an increase in confidence in investment in Queensland. I have come into this place year after year and heard those on this side speak about the Fraser Institute surveys of mining confidence. They would often have to cherry-pick individual parts of it to say what they wanted to say. What it clearly says—the mining minister made reference to this earlier—is that there is a big uptick in confidence in Queensland and in investment in Queensland. That is because miners and industrial investors in East Asia have confidence in Queensland and in our regulation. We spent 10 years flagging the fact we were going to get fair returns for Queensland. We have put in this network, and they have confidence that it will go forward. It is an essential part of our fiscal stability, and it offers a fair return for Queenslanders. Those investors know that we have that partnership. This, again, is another part of putting forward regulation—especially about the transmission pipelines for new gases—into a licensing regime so that there is clarity over construction and transmission. This is what our partners want. This is what industry wants. This is what those providing the jobs would want. This is regional investment for the most part. It will be taking place all over Queensland, but there will be a lot of regional investment. It is also about investment in not only export but also domestic manufacturing.

I think back to what the National Party of the 1960s would do if faced with these new situations. You would think that in the 1960s the Nationals would be all over this and would be great supporters of it. We heard all of the MPs from this side—a far cry from those who used to want to invest in Queensland, to see export opportunities—put up all sorts of barriers. Just as with any other type of renewable investment, we see them, instead of wanting to fight weird culture wars about these types of investments, putting up barriers and complaining about things.

A government member interjected.

Mr POWER: All sorts of unsubstantiated allegations about this important new step for investment in Queensland, about energy production in Queensland, about new industrial capacity in Queensland and about new opportunities in Queensland. It is really disappointing.

We used to see people wanting to embrace the challenges of investment in new export opportunities. Now we see an odd teal partnership between our yellow and blue friends over here and our green friends at the back. All they want is to find reasons not to do things with modern energy. I understand why the Greens want to attack regional Queensland—why they are not interested in new jobs and innovative new-industry jobs in regional Queensland. I find it confusing as to why the rump of the old National Party is the same. Why do they want to attack investment in regional Queensland?

East Asia in particular is transitioning away from fossil fuels for direct consumption and is looking for alternatives. That is why we are in this space. A lot of East Asian countries are reasonably careful about their energy—they are reasonably conservative about these things—but they recognise that protecting our environment and protecting industrial capacity is a conservative thing. However, the National Party have gone off on a weird radical tangent where they are willing to put ideology and politics ahead of regional jobs and ahead of that careful conservatism.


A government member: Shame.

Mr POWER: It is a shame. It is disappointing that they are willing to risk the very investment that would help their communities.

We are seeing a Trump-like cancer of tribunal politics attacking this transition. They are trying to create confusion, trying to create doubt and trying to block it. It is amazing that the National Party has become the opposite of the adventurist 1960s Nationals who had ambitions for Queensland and who had a belief that Queensland could be part of a future energy provider for East Asia. Instead, we see a backwards negative Nationals that do not want to embrace the new challenge of being a carbon-free exporter of energy. They do not want to see these new opportunities for industrial production right here from green hydrogen.

Mr Head interjected.

Mr POWER: I can hear that the member for Callide does not want to embrace these challenges. He does not want to see these things going forward. He wants to put up as many blockages as he can. It is disappointing that we hear these naysayers and these voices that are the very opposite of those who had a far-seeking vision. I want to congratulate both the Minister for Energy and the mining minister because they are embracing that challenge and looking to the future. They want to engage with our partners in exports. They want to put in place the networks and regulation that are going to drive energy and exports. That is the kind of Queensland we want to be part of—part of the future, part of driving energy use right here for industry, part of driving exports of energy that produce a world where we can meet our lifestyle needs and the industrial production that we want but in a low-carbon or zero carbon economy. I endorse this bill and am really disappointed that those who constantly want to talk down this transition are doing damage to our economy, especially to regional economies.

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (5.21 pm): I rise in support of the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill which recognises the importance of getting the policy settings right to support the development of the hydrogen industry in Queensland. In Queensland, along with the rest of the world, we recognise the importance of transitioning to net zero and the role that sustainable fuel sources such as hydrogen will play, which is now becoming increasingly evident. We have vast amounts of renewable resources, a skilled workforce and access to ports and the South-East Asian market, so Queensland is well placed to support the emerging hydrogen industry. This represents a significant opportunity for Queensland if the state can position itself as a global supplier of choice for renewable hydrogen, building on its long history as a major energy exporter.

EY modelling informed the Energy and Jobs Plan and it estimates that Queensland's green hydrogen industry could grow from \$2.8 billion in 2024 to \$33.4 billion in 2040. I am very pleased that there are currently over 50 projects progressing in the state which have been supported through the Queensland government's \$110 million investment as part of the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy and I congratulate the minister and the Deputy Premier for the work that they have done to attract these projects and this investment right across the state, but in particular in my contribution I want to focus on the projects that are progressing in Central Queensland. This bill seeks to enable a clear regulatory pathway for the transportation and use of hydrogen and hydrogen carriers in pipelines. Pipelines will be an essential part of the hydrogen production and export industry as they are critical to the transportation of hydrogen to markets or large facilities. The bill will also provide consistency with changes occurring at the national level to bring hydrogen, hydrogen blends, biomethane and other renewable gases within the scope of the national gas law and national energy retail law.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 is an important piece of legislation to support hydrogen developments in Queensland, particularly in regions like Central Queensland. What is good for Gladstone is good for Rockhampton and Yeppoon because we are geographically co-located in Central Queensland and we have seen the benefits through the production of LNG in our region. Whilst Rocky and Yeppoon have far superior beaches, shopping and members of parliament—just kidding—it is true that hydrogen will create a boom for our region.

Government members interjected.


Ms LAUGA: The member for Gladstone is not here to defend himself. It is true that hydrogen will create a boom for our region much the same as LNG production did but even more so with hydrogen, and the benefits will be realised in Rocky, Yeppoon and Gladstone as well. We have capability for solar. We have capability for wind to generate that renewable energy to create green hydrogen. We have the water supply, with the largest catchment in Queensland with the Fitzroy Basin. We have the renewable

energy zone. We have the deep water port that is Gladstone port. We are definitely well positioned to capitalise on the hydrogen boom and all of the indirect economic benefits of hydrogen production through transmission and through distribution. Central Queensland will continue to grow as an industrial and agricultural powerhouse supplied by renewable energy and building hydrogen electrolyzers for the world through the Energy and Jobs Plan. I am a power station kid. I was born in Kingaroy. My dad worked on the construction of the Tarong Power Station.

A government member: So did mine.

Ms LAUGA: There you go. We moved to Biloela where my dad worked on the construction of the Callide B Power Station and then on to Rockhampton where he was involved in the construction of Stanwell Power Station all those years ago. I congratulate Stanwell on its 30th birthday this year in 2023. I congratulate the board, the executive and all of the staff including CEO Michael O'Rourke, James Oliver and Angie Zahra for all of the work that they have done over the years to transform Stanwell into a powerhouse of the next generation. The first time I went to Stanwell Power Station just outside of Rockhampton I was only a small child and I remember seeing the cooling tower and thinking how huge it was. Some 30 years on, being a part of a government that is transforming our energy generation in Queensland, being part of a government that has a vision for the future and being part now of the next generation of power and energy generation in Queensland is something that I am incredibly proud of.

I am keen to see diversification of the Central Queensland economy as well. We are an agricultural powerhouse and an industrial powerhouse. We are also a manufacturing, education and health powerhouse. I am really keen to see Central Queensland grow and diversify as a renewable powerhouse and hydrogen powerhouse into the future. This bill sets out the clear regulatory pathway for the future of hydrogen production in Queensland. I very much look forward to the opportunities that this bill and everything that the hydrogen industry will bring to the Central Queensland region now and into the future. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (5.27 pm): I rise to make a quick contribution on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill. I do not have much to say about hydrogen. I still raise one eyebrow about it and the whole industry is part of this charge, much of it a reckless charge, to a low-carbon economy. There is a lot of irrational behaviour that has been built around that, so I have some scepticism but am yet to be convinced. There could be some great benefits from it and I do not want to be too critical. Where I will be critical is that this is a great opportunity for the government to again address gas issues. When talking about the gas supply in Queensland, what an enormous issue confronted us with the rollout of the LNG. In 2010 the then Labor premier told us that we would be enjoying royalty returns of \$850 million per year—a mark that we never even got close to. Even if that was the case, it serves us well to reflect on the fact that Australia is the largest LNG exporter in the world having exported 80.9 million tonnes in 2021, around a quarter of which is from Queensland, followed by Qatar and the US.

In terms of royalties for Australia in 2021-22, we had a total of \$1.65 billion paid in royalties. At the same time Qatar was paid \$30 billion. As a government owned corporation it is selling its supply and getting \$30 billion in royalties, so who is the better negotiator—the Qatar government or the Queensland state government? We have been absolutely caught with our pants down on the gas industry and there was no gas reserve policy put in place like Western Australia in that we had a phosphate fertiliser plant where I am and Glencore fully exposed to these gas prices and paying the highest energy prices in the world when we had sold it all off.

Most other western countries have some form of reserve supply mechanism to make sure their industries do not collapse when they start opening it up to the global price, but we do not. I am uncertain how the dynamics will work in the hydrogen industry. With the economic rationalist characterisation of both sides of government for so many years, that is not in the playbook. There is not a gas reserve policy in this bill and there should be. It was a missed opportunity. Shame on the government.


Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Hart): Under the provisions of the business program agreed to by the House and the time limit for this stage of the bill having expired, I call the minister.

Debate, on motion of Mr de Brenni, adjourned.

**LIQUID FUEL SUPPLY (MINIMUM BIOBASED PETROL CONTENT)
AMENDMENT BILL****Second Reading**

Resumed from 22 August (see p. 2260), on motion of Mr Dametto—

That the bill be now read a second time.

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (5.30 pm): It is with great delight that I get an opportunity to talk about ethanol in this House. I had a lesson in hypocrisy when we debated earlier ethanol bills in the House. We had a 2010 bill that was voted down by both sides. We came back in the next parliament and we all voted for a four per cent mandate. That has never been policed. There has never been a fine issued to anyone. It was a Claytons piece of legislation with no intention of being followed through. There was an E10 app that was very successfully run by the Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers. It received a national award for the way it was educating drivers on compliant cars. The enormous sum—I say sarcastically—of \$80,000 or \$100,000 a year was scrapped by the government in the first or second year. That is how committed the government was, with biofuels ministers and the like, to getting biofuels into the economy.

Now within the blink of an eye we are talking about hydrogen and we are forgetting to talk about biofuels. We are charging towards a low-carbon economy and conspicuous by their absence are the biofuels. I am not saying it is the answer to everything, but it surely should be in the mix. Photosynthesis has always been a very efficient converter of sunlight into energy. Something we try to replicate with photovoltaic cells is done very efficiently in nature. Most of the rest of the world have appreciated that, with 63 countries mandating ethanol to promote the use of biofuels. There are many reasons for that.

It is difficult to land on just one reason that we push biofuels. One reason is that the AMA support it because they say you get a cleaner burn and it removes the heavy particulates out of the tailpipe. They say that 28 per cent of tailpipe emissions can be gone if you put E10 into the tank. What a good idea. If we are talking about reducing our footprint, why would we not put E10 in the tank which can be delivered cheaper than standard fuel? By mandating it we can reduce the emissions from petrol-driven vehicles by 28 per cent across Queensland overnight, with no cost to the taxpayer. That is a good reason to do it. The AMA back it because they say it reduces deaths in the city. There are less emissions and therefore less lung diseases and less deaths. We might do it for that reason.

We might also do it because some of us care about regional industries and we would like to stimulate regional industries like farming and alternative markets like live export in the cattle or sheep industry. That is right, we do not have a live sheep export industry anymore; that is being destroyed. You have support markets to level out these industries and give them alternative markets. You might do it for that reason. You might do it for having the taxes paid at the point of production. At the moment, 90 per cent of our petrol comes from refineries overseas and we forgo the tax at the point of production. You might do it for the regional jobs. Dalby's ethanol plant should have 100 people working in it. Guess how many are working there. Zero! There might be a care and maintenance team there. Courtesy of the Labor government it is shut down. We have lost all those jobs at Dalby. You might do it for fuel security. There is a lot said about that. The brilliant federal government came up with a scheme whereby the US will store our fuel for us in case we get into trouble. With a good spit and a handshake they will deliver that fuel if we ever get into trouble. That is how ridiculous our fuel security is in Australia. People would do well to listen to John Blackburn, who was the deputy head of the Australian Air Force. He talks a lot about self-sufficiency, particularly in terms of defence. Ethanol and biofuels has come up as one of the great contributors to our defence strategy. We should have learned a big lesson through the global disruptions of COVID, but apparently we did not because biofuel still does not make it.

The member for Hinchinbrook has not tried to meet you in the middle; he has really lowered the bar. If you are going to say that you are selling E10, you have to at least sell nine per cent of it. That is not a big swing. That is making things pretty easy for everyone to agree. There are silly arguments put forward that it could hurt the small producers. I am not sure why someone would say that. I am not sure if they are putting a target on their back deliberately, but that is just a stupid thing to say. We said clearly time and time again, in the explanatory speech and through the committee system, that there are exclusions built into the bill. People choose to acknowledge that and I can only say deceive people, because the facts are very clear. There are very deliberate exclusions for the smaller operators. If members want to vote against the bill, just vote against it. If they have a good reason, they should say it. They should not make up these excuses.


Every schoolkid in Australia should be made to visit the Manildra plant in Nowra, south of Sydney. It is a beautiful plant. It is magnificent. They take a grain of wheat and 100 per cent of that grain of wheat is used in processes. They make something like 60 products from it: glycogen, glucose, vodka, ethanol and different categories of flour. The waste that comes out gets mixed with an RO plant where they do not use wastewater. The CO₂ off the plant goes into soft drinks in Sydney. The last of the waste gets used as a feed mix that goes out to fatten up cattle. They showed us a pipe that went out to the river that drips pure water at the end. About the only waste is this dripping pipe in the river. Everything is used. It is the main industry in town. One has to walk for a kilometre past this plant. It is beautiful. It is the template for what we could have all around Australia. In the Darling Downs and all through the sugar belt up in the north we can be producing clean and sustainable renewable energy, but what it needs is a government to lead on it.

This bill is providing the most passive of support in that space—a signal to the market to say we really do want this industry to go forward. What signal has the government sent? We have an app we are paying \$100,000 for, but we are not even willing to spend that. We are going to pull that after a year. We have a mandate that we are not going to police, so ‘do whatever you want’. ‘We are saying you should have E10, but you do not really need E10. Go ahead and put full unleaded in. We don’t care. We could not care less about these regulations.’ That is the signal the government is sending.

It is very disappointing. Many Queenslanders and Australians would love to see their government be a little bit aspirational in what we can do for the regions. I might be wrong, but I do not see the same number of hydrogen plants going all through the regional areas like we could see with biofuels. I am not so sure they would be as clean and green as that plant in Manildra. Members should take a look at that if they get the chance someday, because it is a template that I think we would all be proud of as Australians to value-add to what we can grow in this country. One thing we do well is create a lot of biomass. We have a small population base to consume that biomass, so we will always be competitive in creating some sort of bioenergy.


Unlike Brazil or China, which have high population demands on any biomass that they can create, we are the complete opposite so we can always be competitive. With second-generation technology you can move beyond converting just molasses, sugar or sorghum to ethanol. You can move into bioplastics, high-value oils and all sorts of products that come from that second-generation technology. It is not as expensive because, once you build the plant and you have the systems and the suppliers in place, it opens up all sorts of opportunities.

If people want to say ‘no’ to biofuels then just say ‘no’. Do not keep buying us drinks and pretending that this is going to go somewhere because it is not. If you want to say ‘no’ then just say ‘no’ and we can concentrate on something else, but do not pretend to back something else. We implore all members to think carefully about how they will vote on this bill. That vote will be recorded and, when ethanol does go through, we will be back here and pointing the finger at what happened tonight because this is a way to go forward. I thank the member for Hinchinbrook.

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (5.40 pm): I rise to say a few words on the bill. I start by thanking the member for Traeger and the other KAP members for their promotion of Queensland biofuels. We all recognise that there are many opportunities for biofuels opening up in this state. We know that new markets for biofuels are also opening up around the world and that the petrol market will decrease. That provides us with a great opportunity because we produce the base materials, the biomass, for those fuels, for example, at the Wilmar plant at Sarina. We will be there as the biofuels industry opens and expands over the coming years. One great opportunity that is emerging involves renewable diesel which can be substituted for mineral diesel using biomass. That can be done without expensive modifications. There is drop-in equipment that can be used and away you go.

I want to talk about the great opportunity that exists to develop sustainable aviation fuel, SAF. It is exciting that over the coming years the world will be looking to go to zero emissions for aviation using agricultural products. We are talking about tallow, sugarcane pulp, cereal cropping residues and things such as those, which, once again, we can produce. Oceania Biofuels have chosen Gladstone to establish their \$500 million sustainable aviation fuel plant. I believe it will be the first commercial sustainable aviation fuel biorefinery in Australia. It will create 60 direct jobs in the Gladstone area. The aviation industry has said that they want to get to 10 per cent sustainable aviation fuel by 2030. This is a great opportunity for Queensland and I believe that we are doing everything we can to grab that opportunity.

In May we released an options paper, which has now closed. The paper asked everyone for input about biofuels, sustainable fuels and how we get there. I believe the results from that paper will be released next year to inform us on how we can take up these great opportunities in the biofuels area.

 **Mr DAMELLO** (Hinchinbrook—KAP) (5.43 pm), in reply: I rise to reply in the debate on the Liquid Fuel Supply (Minimum Biobased Petrol Content) Amendment Bill 2022. In 2020 I introduced this bill to support the biofuels industry in Queensland for a very simple reason. Industry is always looking to government for small indicators for investment. Whether it is a policy change, a legislative change or support for legislation moving through the House, industry is always looking at this place and the people in it for small indicators of support. Over a four-year period I met with people from the Sugar Milling Council, cane growing organisations, grain organisations and everyone from the agricultural and biofuels industries to try to figure out what the KAP could do to help them see a small glimmer of hope for the biofuels industry.

During COVID, the people responsible for building the biofuels plant at Dalby were screaming for help. They were asking for just a small offtake. This was at a time when they were having trouble selling ethanol because people were not using their vehicles. They needed a small offtake or a PPA from the state government to buy some of their ethanol to use in hand sanitiser. At that time we were importing hand sanitiser from China, which is arguably the place that COVID came from. The people from the Dalby plant were asking the state government to find some way to support them to keep their doors open. Months later, the Dalby plant closed and people who were employed there had to look for other jobs. It is an absolute disgrace that people flew back from overseas to work in this industry only to see it fall apart.

From the KAP's perspective, I worked with the member for Traeger and the member for Hill to come up with something small for the industry. Every time I talked to industry experts they said, 'Just try to do something small and see if the government will support you.' The small thing that we came up with—the tiny thing that we came up with—was to try to mirror what is going on in New South Wales. Industry asked us to introduce this legislation. It was not us coming up with some wild or flamboyant idea. Industry told us, 'If you can mirror the law that they have to adhere to under the New South Wales LNP government at that time then we would be happy.' They want to ensure that the ethanol that is sold as E10 at Queensland bowlers has at least nine per cent ethanol and a ceiling of 10 per cent ethanol, just as it has across the border.

There were indications that some people selling E10 in Queensland—and there is documented evidence of this—were not selling the right product. They were selling ethanol blends as low as one per cent and marketing it as 10 per cent ethanol. That does two things. It gips the person at the bowser who thinks they are doing the right thing to support industries such as the sugar industry, the ethanol industry and the grain industry and who thinks they are doing the right thing by the environment. It also reduces confidence in the market.

Over the past couple of weeks, multiple speakers on this bill have indicated that we have to leave things up to the market. That is true to a point, but over the years the state government has done a number of things to force people to use safer products. For example, they phased out leaded fuels and made us use unleaded fuel in the name of safety and health. They forced that out. People thought the world was going to fall down, but it did not and we converted.

Another thing that the government has said in the energy space, and this has been highlighted in some of the contributions from across the chamber, is that forcing people to use E10 would drive up the price of fuel because people would not use E10 but would use the higher octane fuels and, therefore, would have to pay more for their fuel. We are already doing that in the electricity market. We are seeing increases in our electricity bills because we are forced to use green energy at the moment. Wind and solar energy is being produced to replace our coal-fired power stations. That is putting a strain on the market and it is also increasing our power prices.

I will come back to the bill. I will address the contributions of members in a second, but, firstly, I want to talk specifically to the explanatory notes on the bill. The bill's objectives are—

- 1) To increase two-fold all penalties for non-compliance by liable fuel retailers liable with the State's bio-based petrol mandate, which presently sits at four (4) per cent of the total volume of all petrol sold; and—

And this is the most important part—

- 2) To require that fuel retailers take reasonable action (on a continuing basis) to ensure that the bio-based petrol blended fuels (referred commonly to as E10) they sell contains a minimum of nine (9) per cent ethanol and is advertised as such.

To those who made contributions saying that we were going to attack small retailers I say: the reality is that that is incorrect. Anyone who said that in their contribution to the debate has either intentionally misled people or has not read the bill.

Mr Knuth: Shame.

Mr DAMETTO: That is a shame. I take the interjection from the member for Hill. Those small retailers who have fewer service stations in their conglomerate of stations that they own or who sell fewer than 500,000 litres of petrol within a quarter are exempt from the increases to the penalties for noncompliance with the four per cent mandate. I will give members an idea of how many fuel retailers in Queensland would be exempt. In June 2021—the latest data that we were able to find at the time of introducing this bill—164 time limited exemptions were granted to fuel retailers. On average, about one-quarter of liable fuel retailers were exempt per quarter. That is a shame. Since the four per cent mandate came in, not one retailer has been fined because they were not compliant with the E10 mandate. We asked for that fine to be doubled for two reasons. First, we wanted the state government to click themselves into gear and actually start policing this. At the same time, we wanted to send a strong message to those fuel retailers who have been getting away with this that double penalty units are coming their way if they are noncompliant. Doubling that is not in line with some of the contributions and the figures that were given to us.

I want to talk about the committee process. I appreciate the chair, the deputy chair and the committee for going through the process. I also thank the minister for allowing his staff to meet with me to discuss what we are trying to achieve with this bill. Interestingly, the committee report reflected that either the committee did not understand some of the provisions of the bill or the committee process and report were intentionally misleading people. I do not think the committee process was misleading people, but I believe that some members on the committee did not understand the technicality of the bill. The committee report states—

While we appreciate the Honourable Member's efforts to ensure truth in advertising for Queensland E10 consumers, the proposed bill seeks to apply a significant penalty (quite disproportionate to existing penalties contained in the Act) to all sellers of E10 fuel in Queensland, including some small scale, family businesses who to date have not been required to comply with any E10 mandate.

Under this doubling of penalty units for noncompliance, they are still exempt. I wish the committee had taken a little bit more time. I have gone back ad nauseam looking at what I said during my contribution to the committee when being cross-examined, and I thought we cleared this up. It was very disappointing to read that in the report. The report also states—

Additionally, the level of regulatory work that might be required to enforce the proposed provision appears significant, and not enough detail has been provided by the Honourable Member ...

I have seen a lot of bills come before the House for scrutiny. Even when the government puts legislation through, it is scrutinised in terms of how it will work out and how it will be policed. It is up to the department and the regulators; it is not up to the people who introduce the legislation to work out every little piece of nitty-gritty. Honourable members should look at what happens in New South Wales. Let us try and mirror that. That was our intention here.

The large fuel retailer or supplier would be required to have a certificate of authenticity that the fuel they are about to supply to the smaller retailer has at least nine per cent ethanol in that E10 blend. Very simply, the wholesaler has to assure the retailer that that is exactly what they are selling. As I said in my earlier contribution, there is anecdotal evidence of people coming forward to our office saying, 'You are doing a good thing here. I used to drive a fuel truck. Because there is no regulation here in Queensland, there were times when I would turn up to a fuel station and they would say, "Mate, have you got any E10 for our bowsers?" I would say, "Mate, we don't have any E10 at the moment," and they would say, "Oh, well. There should be enough ethanol in the tank. Drop that unleaded fuel in there."' It was happening out there and it could still be happening.

In his contribution the minister said—

We are committed to locking in this enduring action. We are so serious that we have announced this government's plans and our intention to legislate our targets of 70 per cent by 2032 and 80 per cent by 2035.

That is for renewable fuels. We want to see the government doing this. We understand that it is working hard in this space, but why was the E10 OK app scrapped? It cost about \$80,000 to \$100,000 every year to run this quite successful app that helped drive up E10 use in Queensland.

Mr Katter: It got an award.

Mr DAMETTO: It actually got an award; I take the interjection from the member for Traeger. For some unknown reason, the state government scrapped it. We still have not got to the bottom of that. I am glad that we are supporting the biofuels industry, but I have to question why we are removing something that was helping it. In his contribution the minister also said—

... we are already seeing the demand for regular unleaded and E10 fuels decline. I think the member for Hinchinbrook may have acknowledged that.

I do not think I have acknowledged that. People are using petroleum at record levels at the moment. Some people will make the choice to move to electric at some stage and some people might decide to go to a hybrid vehicle. That is great, but why would we not try to support an industry that could provide a liquid fuel to vehicles to reduce tailpipe emissions?

The member for Traeger pointed out quite clearly that if you use E10 fuel you reduce your tailpipe emissions—the harmful particulates, the things that cause cancer and all those horrible things that we are trying to stop going into the atmosphere. Obviously we cannot force people—I am not suggesting that at all—but if we could convince everyone to use E10 fuel we could be effectively taking 28 per cent of all petrol-burning vehicles off the road in Queensland. That would be an incredible thing to do.

I acknowledge the minister's support for the bio aviation fuels industry. I have been meeting with people from Jet Zero and there is some pretty interesting things happening in that space. I have been made aware of some potential developments to help the sugar industry in a quite significant way. I am very proud to hear that such developments could be happening in North Queensland soon. Watch that space.

I would like to address the chair of the committee, the member for Kurwongbah, Mr Shane King. In his contribution the chair of the committee said something that really ground my gears—pun intended. He said—

In addition, penalising retailers exempt under the condition that the costs of E10 enabling infrastructure are prohibitive, would disproportionately affect smaller independent businesses in regional and remote areas, something I am amazed that the member for Hinchinbrook would want to see happen.

No way in the world would I want to see that happen. Do not put something on to me because you, as the chair, could not understand what was being said to you during the committee process. I am really offended by that. Those small businesses out there who feel like they have been used in this process should be offended by that as well, because the reality is that they are exempt from the legislation we are putting through the House. The member for Kurwongbah also said—

Instead of the big stick approach taken by the Katter party in this bill, our government has committed to a range of proactive approaches under our target for 50 per cent renewable energy sources by 2030 ...

We support that as well. We want to see more ethanol and biofuels produced in Queensland, but we have not tried to take a big stick approach to small fuel retailers. If they are selling under 500,000 litres per quarter they are exempt, and I want that on the record. He also said—

Unfortunately this bill is not the way forward to advance the sugar industry or grow biofuel consumption ...

Tell that to the Sugar Milling Council, because they are the ones who put this forward in the first place.

During the debate we also heard from the member for Condamine, the shadow minister for natural resources, mines and energy. I thought we would have the support of the LNP on this, but unfortunately it appears we have not. Once again he mentions the unintended consequences of the bill. They keep bringing up that we are going to be going after small fuel retailers. That is not the case; those people are exempt. I will note that all of the fuel retailers would be captured by having to have the certificate. Although they would be captured in this, it is only 100 penalty units. If you are intentionally doing the wrong thing and misleading people it is nearly an \$80,000 fine. That is a small fine for intentionally misleading people, especially if you are a fuel retailer and especially if you are the big wholesaler that is supposed to be providing a certificate of authenticity.

Another thing the member for Condamine said is that the extra regulatory work that would be required to enforce the proposed provisions would be significant. Yes, it might be significant. The state government's departmental people might have to get out and police the E10 provisions or even go out and police the mandate. I would suggest that since this was introduced not everyone out there is doing the right thing. It is just like if you are out on the highway and you do not have a speed camera, then no-one is speeding. If you are not out there as the regulator regulating this, then no-one is doing the wrong thing. The member for Condamine brought up some problems. He said—

The proposed provision is also potentially inconsistent with Commonwealth legislation that does not mandate a floor value for E10 fuel ...

I would suggest that he talk to his colleagues in New South Wales. They passed this legislation when they were in power. This is operating quite well down there. I do not see why Queensland could not be enjoying the same benefits.

We also had a contribution from my favourite, the member for Mundingburra. The only thing I could suggest after hearing his contribution is that he is still not over the one-two punch he got in the Mad Cow up in Townsville that day because he said 'the bill has raised more questions than answers'. He seems bloody confused—damn confused—because what he said here is very confusing. He said, 'All the Katter party is proposing is a bigger stick approach.' He might have been swapping notes with the LNP on this. It is great to see them finally working together on something—against the KAP as usual. This is interesting. The member for Mundingburra said—

In fact, the bill seeks to double penalties up to a maximum of \$2.875 million. This ignores the fact that ultimately it is up to motorists to choose whether or not they buy E10. It is freedom of choice.

I do not even know what he is saying there. It is very confusing. I think he is trying to say that doubling the penalty units is going to equate to a fine of \$2.875 million.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Lui): Member, you used unparliamentary language in your speech. I ask you to withdraw.

Mr DAMETTO: I withdraw. It was only because of my passion.

Mr HINCHLIFFE: Madam Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am afraid the member for Hinchinbrook has qualified his withdrawal and I would ask that he be directed to withdraw unconditionally.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, I ask you to withdraw unconditionally.

Mr DAMETTO: I withdraw unconditionally and I thank the minister. The reality is that, even if it doubled from 2,000 penalty units to 4,000 penalty units, it is only about a \$600,000 fine at this point. The reality is that doubling the penalty units is not disproportionate. It is not \$2.8 million, and I will bring this figure up again in a little while. He also said he believed that the consumer and the community had to move on with the 'latest and greatest' when it comes to buying fuel efficient cars. If you are buying fuel efficient cars, would you not want to use the fuel that is most environmentally friendly? He is acknowledging that we have to go to more fuel efficient cars—congratulations, that is a great idea—but we are still going to burn liquid fuel. Interesting.

I will also address the comments of the member for Gregory. In his contribution he basically indicated the same thing as before—once again, I am quite sure, swapping notes, not reading the legislation, not listening to my contribution. I gave him the answer during the committee process when I said that small retailers will not be affected. In his contribution he said—

To me this bill looks at more regulation on small- and medium-sized retailers in rural and regional Queensland.

He also said that the penalties contained in the bill are quite high for these retailers. Once again I would suggest that they are not, and those small retailers are exempt.

I only have a short amount of time so I might fast-forward a little, but this is the figure I wanted to come back to again. I appreciate the contribution from the member for Bundamba. He was nice enough to acknowledge that the KAP is trying to do something here in the House. I think we still are the only ones on this side of the House with conservative views that have put a bill in so far, so I would love some support on this. The member for Bundamba said—

As we have heard from other speakers, the bill seeks to double the penalties up to a maximum of \$2.875 million.

Gee, I hope you were not copying the member for Mundingburra's notes, member for Bundamba, because you got that wrong as well. Yes, we appreciate your contribution. He also said—

Simply doubling maximum penalties will not achieve the effect that the mechanism is designed to.

The mechanism is designed to discourage large fuel retailers and wholesalers from skipping the E10 mandate, the four per cent mandate. He continued—

It is just going to result in less choice for motorists and increased use of more expensive petrol.

We are not trying to force anyone; we are just trying to add consumer confidence about the E10 that consumers are choosing—choosing—from the bowser.

Before I finish, I want to make it clear that we are not here trying to force anyone, we are not here trying to take a big stick to small retailers and we are not here trying to attack the grain industry. People from the Dalby plant actually said they got good feedback from the feedlot industry because they loved

the by-product from the process, the wet mix. They were able to buy that wet mix from the Dalby plant at a really cheap rate and it was great to go into their feedlots. That will dispel some of the myths around that issue.

We are just trying to give consumers the confidence about what they are buying from the bowser. We are trying to get some alignment with what happens across the border in terms of when a fuel wholesaler in New South Wales comes across the border to Queensland. Most of the fuel does that anyway, let's be honest; not much of it gets made here in Queensland, I will tell you that right now. When they bring it across the border, they already have the certificate of authentication which they have to provide in New South Wales. There is no extra burden. They have already done the tests on it. They have to be asked for that when they come to Queensland and they just give that to the large fuel retailers and the small fuel retailers that are buying their fuel. That is it. There is not any extra regulatory burden and no extra work is being done—probably the only extra work for a business owner who is buying this E10 fuel is that they need to grab that certificate of authentication and put it in a folder, photocopy it or scan it. The service stations are already doing that with a whole lot of other things, like food safety. It is simple stuff.

We have not done this because we want to change the world and send earthquakes through this parliament on the biofuels industry. We just want to send a small indicator to those out there who are looking to invest in biofuels in Queensland and who want to see biofuels being used in our vehicles in Queensland for the right reasons—that is, to support our agriculture industry and to do the right thing by the environment. This will reduce our tailpipe emissions by 28 per cent and give our Queenslanders jobs. That is very simple.

Mr Walker interjected.

Mr DAMETTO: I do not even know who that member was who interjected. It is a bit dark over there and I cannot see. What I will say is that everyone in this House should have an eco conscience. I hope that members on both sides of the House can find theirs today and support this piece of legislation through the House. The reality is that we can do a lot in this House and we can also do small things. Today I am asking this House to support something small. I thank the House for listening to my contribution. I have been eagerly listening to other members. I hope I have been able to dispel some of the myths and misconceptions that occurred through the committee process. I hope those who read the committee report but may not have read the explanatory notes actually have a better understanding of the bill they are about to vote on.

As parliamentarians, we do a lot of hard work in this House. The KAP has done a lot of hard work to put this bill together. We do not mind if you do not support it, but please make sure they are real reasons for not supporting it. If you do not want to support it because it is a KAP bill, just put your hand up and say that is the reason. If you do not want to support it because you do not like biofuels, put your hand up. If you do not want to support it because you have lobbyists from petroleum companies or the grain industry, put your hand up. Please do not mislead people, small businesses and voters in Queensland with contributions that are contradictory to what is actually being proposed in this bill in the House. I commend the bill to the House.

Division: Question put—That the bill be now read a second time.

In division—

Mr SPEAKER: Honourable members, before going through the division process I want to make members aware that there has been a report that we have some difficulties with the bells being heard in the Annexe and we are looking into that. It looks as though most members are actually in the chamber.

AYES, 5:

KAP, 3—Dametto, Katter, Knuth.

PHON, 1—Andrew.

Ind, 1—Bolton.

NOES, 83:

ALP, 49—Bailey, Boyd, Brown, Bush, Butcher, Crawford, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Furner, Gilbert, Grace, Harper, Healy, Hinchliffe, Howard, Hunt, Kelly, A. King, S. King, Lauga, Linard, Lui, Madden, Martin, McCallum, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Miles, Mullen, Palaszczuk, Pease, Power, Pugh, Richards, Russo, Ryan, Saunders, Scanlon, Skelton, Smith, Stewart, Sullivan, Tantari, Walker, Whiting.

LNP, 32—Bates, Bennett, Bleijie, Boothman, Camm, Crandon, Crisafulli, Frecklington, Gerber, Hart, Head, Janetzki, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Leahy, Mander, McDonald, Mickelberg, Millar, Minnikin, Molhoek, Nicholls, O'Connor, Perrett, Powell, Purdie, Rowan, Simpson, Stevens, Watts, Weir.

Grn, 2—Berkman, MacMahon.

Pairs: D'Ath, Robinson; O'Rourke, Lister.

Resolved in the negative.

GAS SUPPLY AND OTHER LEGISLATION (HYDROGEN INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Resumed from p. 2862, on motion of Mr de Brenni—

That the bill be now read a second time.



Hon. MC de BRENNI (Springwood—ALP) (Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement) (6.19 pm), in reply: I thank all members for their contributions to the debate on the Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023. I would like to particularly acknowledge members who have recognised that green hydrogen is an important part of Queensland's climate and energy transition and that we are leading the nation in our efforts.

Queensland's trade partners, critical to our economic growth, are already turning to us to meet their ambitious decarbonisation targets, and it is no wonder. Queensland-made renewable hydrogen is considered a game changer in slashing emissions in hard-to-abate sectors, such as heavy haulage, shipping, aviation and industry both here and right across the world. It will create new industries and unprecedented opportunities for our next generation of Queenslanders—all the while helping the world tackle climate change head-on.

Not since the industrial revolution have we sat at the precipice of such a monumental transformation of our global economy. It is a transformation we are matching with not just promises and ambition but real action through a real plan—the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. It is a world-leading blueprint that is turbocharging investment in green hydrogen, in batteries, in new minerals and in manufacturing. By 2032 it means 70 per cent of Queensland's energy supply will be renewable, and already Queensland's big energy build is powering ahead. Today Queensland has over 26 per cent renewable energy supply. This is more than halfway to our 50 per cent target by 2030, and there is still seven years to go. Our supply has increased more than 20 per cent in the last year alone and by more than 250 per cent since we inherited the trademark of the LNP—the trademark of their delay, their denial, their dysfunction and their division.

It is the Palaszczuk government that believes in the science of climate change and our pathway to reduce emissions. The latest data released in April confirms Queensland's emissions in 2021 were 29 per cent below the 2005 baseline year. Plainly, Queensland has almost achieved its 2030 interim emissions reduction target, nine years ahead of time, and we remain focused on meeting our commitment to zero net emissions by 2050 in line with leading global economies.

Queensland is on the verge of an enormous scaling up of our hydrogen industry, with over 50 projects progressing across the state and marquee Queensland hydrogen projects expected to reach key investment decision points imminently. Therefore, it is pleasing to see that the federal Albanese government today opened expressions of interest for its \$2 billion Hydrogen Headstart Fund. I commend Minister Bowen and his team for recognising the potential of the industry and not wasting a day to deliver. Here in Queensland, we have some of the most advanced projects in the country and we will be well-positioned for this program. I point out as well that the partnership between the Palaszczuk and Albanese Labor governments is already working together, with ARENA providing funding for the front-end engineering design and the Stanwell-led CQ-H2 projects, the Rio Tinto and Sumitomo hydrogen demonstration plant, and the FFI and Incitec Pivot Gibson Island green ammonia project. It is projects like those that demonstrate why the infrastructure for our green hydrogen industry is so incredibly important.

The Gas Supply and Other Legislation (Hydrogen Industry Development) Amendment Bill 2023 will ensure Queensland has fit-for-purpose policy settings to enable the construction, operation and safe management of hydrogen and other renewable gas pipelines. The amendments to the Gas Supply

Act and Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act create a clear regulatory pathway for the transportation of hydrogen and other renewable gases by extending these established frameworks. This provides industry with a fit-for-purpose framework to help develop Queensland's green hydrogen industry and creates a tested process for the licensing of hydrogen pipelines and consideration of safety.

The contributions from honourable members who have spoken during debate today have been broadly well considered and are welcome. As noted earlier in my speech, it is agreed that consultations with First Nations stakeholders should improve. I thank the Department of Energy and Public Works for already redoubling their efforts to engage with First Nations representatives. I am advised that the department has now invited representatives from the relevant native title body corporates to join the hydrogen subcommittee, chaired by the assistant minister. I understand that invitation has been accepted. I thank the First Nations Prescribed Body Corporate for their engagement with the department, and I look forward to this continuing into the future.

I want to particularly acknowledge my cabinet colleague, the member for Townsville, and his local teammate, the hydrogen champion in the north, the member for Mundingburra. Together they recognise the potential of the hydrogen industry and the thousands of jobs that could flow into the great city of Townsville. They know that net zero by 2050 delivered by projects such as that being progressed by the Han-Ho consortium will power new industrial growth in Townsville's exciting clean and green future, a potential that the Albanese government has also recognised for putting on the table an additional \$70 million for the Townsville hydrogen hub. On behalf of North Queenslanders, we welcome that.

I give my thanks as well to the member for Kurwongbah not only for his contribution today on some interesting construction techniques but also for his advocacy for Queensland's clean energy future as chair of the committee.

Despite the very feeble attempts at slander from the member for Callide, the member for Bundamba is now taking on even more responsibility as the Assistant Minister for Energy. He has delivered more for the hydrogen industry in Queensland than the entirety of the LNP party room. The assistant minister released the landmark EQ-H2 report at the Port of Townsville in October last year. It is a report that highlights that Queensland has all of the ingredients to be a global hydrogen superpower—abundant renewable energy resources, water, world-class ports and proximity to international markets.

I want to acknowledge, too, the member for Redlands in her essential role as the Queensland hydrogen champion—in fact, Queensland's first hydrogen champion—and her commitment to Queenslanders both in the electorate of Redlands that she represents and across the state of Queensland, as well as abroad.

I acknowledge two other members of the Palaszczuk government who provided valuable contributions today, especially the member for Lytton who knows that the decarbonisation of transport is one of the clearest routes to take as the nation travels towards our 2050 net zero emissions target. She knows that hydrogen in the vehicle network offers benefits in terms of range, payload and fast refuelling. Both she and I could not be prouder that it is the refueller in her electorate that is already driving the change in building the national East Coast Renewable Hydrogen Super Highway.

Earlier we heard from the member for Condamine and others who suggested that the bill should amend the notification processes. As I have noted, under the Gas Supply Act there is an obligation that the regulator publish a distribution authority in a statewide newspaper. If those opposite had just for a moment paid attention to matters recently before this House—members of the public may ask what do they do for the money that they are paid—if they paid an iota of attention to the matters before this House, they would know that recent amendments to the Financial Accountability Act—listen carefully—the Financial Accountability Act 2009, section 88F, override any legislative requirement for print advertising or publication by government agencies mandating that these requirements are to be satisfied by online advertising or publications. They spent hours this afternoon complaining about newspapers. If only they had listened to legislation passed just recently in this House, they would know that these requirements are to be satisfied by online advertising or publications. This includes using a departmental or Queensland government website or an electronic version of a newspaper.

The Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act currently requires notification of pipeline licence applications in a newspaper in the area a pipeline is proposed, or a website, or circulating throughout the state which can also include electronic versions of those newspapers. Relevant local

governments are also required to be notified. The notification process under the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act provides 30 days in which anyone who may have concerns with the proposed pipeline can provide comment. Submissions must then be considered before the application is decided.

The member for Condamine suggested a notification of substance as a negative and a costly exercise for proponents, but next we heard from the member for Gregory that this was a good example of transparency. Perhaps the LNP have replaced their statement of reservation with simply a statement of mass confusion.

On the member for Callide's contribution earlier, he showed his true colours when referring to the many possibilities of his view of hydrogen in Queensland. He seemed to be entertaining every colour in the rainbow. It was good to hear the member discussing the potential for naturally occurring hydrogen, though, which is something my department has been considering and looking into, to ensure the regulatory settings for this naturally occurring hydrogen are considered and that they are fit for purpose. We will be considering this issue as part of the broader review foreshadowed, along with a range of other matters.

I am pleased to note the member for Maiwar's support for this bill. My department, the Department of Energy and Public Works, has been tasked by the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan to review current settings, including reviewing and renewing our hydrogen industry strategy and undertaking work on hydrogen targets. This will also consider the role of hydrogen in the electricity system as part of this. In Queensland, majority owned assets provide levers to be able to grow this industry.

Finally, I would like to turn back to the contribution of the opposition spokesperson, the member for Condamine, and his unique perspective—I will at least give the member that—where he took the quite extraordinary step of commending me on this legislation. Ordinarily, yes, I would be flattered by the member for Condamine's perspective and congratulations, but I am not sure the point he was trying to make ever actually made the launch pad. What he has neglected to remember is that we operate in a national energy system with national legislation and that I have, in fact, tabled many pieces of legislation, negotiated with stakeholders, considered by ministers and then considered by parliaments. There have been eight in fact, everything from the national electricity amendment act 2023, the Statutes Amendment (National Energy Laws) (Gas Pipelines) Act 2022, the national energy retail amendment (delaying implementation of the AER billing guideline) rule 2022, the Statutes Amendment (National Energy Laws) (Regulatory Sandboxing) Act 2022, the National Electricity (South Australia) (Consumer Data Right) Amendment Act 2022, the national energy retail amendment (protecting customers affected by family violence) rule 2022, the national energy retail amendment (regulated stand-alone power systems) rule 2022 and the Competition and Consumer (Industry Code—Electricity Retail) Amendment (Determination) Regulations 2022. Pay attention, member for Condamine. As they have continued to demonstrate in this House, the LNP either have no understanding of the national energy system and the market or have simply no desire to gain one. I think it is obvious because they are so obsessed with selling Queenslanders' share in that system in that market.

I can also acknowledge the members for Traeger, Hill and Hinchinbrook. They at least brought to this House a private member's bill in their liquid fuel supply bill. When I checked *Hansard*—and anyone can do this—I found no evidence of a policy put forward by the member for Condamine or the LNP. I found no evidence of a private member's bill; honourable members would find nothing. It seems all they could muster up on behalf of Queenslanders was another instance of hiding their secret energy plan. Even given the extensive opportunity today, the members opposite turned up to back our reforms, but there were no details on the LNP's secret plan on emissions, no details on the LNP's secret plan for coal keeper and no details on the LNP's secret—perhaps not so secret—plan for nuclear.

Queensland's green hydrogen is the next resource frontier for a world yearning for our renewables. While the globe grapples with many of the challenges of decarbonising their economies, Queensland is uniquely placed at the intersection of the available solutions. According to the International Energy Agency, Australia will take global leadership as the world's largest net exporter of low-emission hydrogen. It is Queensland with all of our green credentials that will be the major player. By 2040 our green hydrogen industry could support 10,000 jobs and generate over \$33 billion in economic activity, all unlocked by the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan, unlocked by proactive government policy which has positioned Queensland as the ideal place to invest in green hydrogen. That is why today is a crucial beacon on that chartered course to delivering a world-leading industry.

The importance of transforming our global energy systems to net zero is evident now more than ever. With vast renewable resources available and the right policy settings, Queensland is set to maximise the opportunities renewable hydrogen will bring in terms of reducing emissions, putting downward pressure on energy prices and creating good jobs for Queenslanders. There is a strong pipeline of investment with already more than \$60 billion in private sector-led green hydrogen projects across Queensland. This bill ensures we are putting in place the framework those investors need to enable the movement of hydrogen to markets.

I would like to thank the committee for its thorough examination of the bill and our approach to supporting the development of this most important industry for Queensland. Again, I would like to thank those who attended the committee's public hearings for the bill and all of those who made their very valuable submissions for our consideration.

In particular I would like to thank the honourable member for Townsville, the Minister for Resources, Scott Stewart, for his leadership in supporting this important bill for our emerging hydrogen industry. I also take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the officers of the Department of Energy and Public Works. I want to thank the Department of Resources. I want to thank Resources Safety & Health Queensland for their work and contribution to the development of this important bill.

Most importantly, though, tonight I thank Queenslanders. This is the climate and energy transition that Queenslanders voted for in action—action that only the Palaszczuk government can proudly deliver for economic growth today and climate action for generations to come. I commend the bill to the House.

Question put—That the bill be now read a second time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

Consideration in Detail

Clauses 1 to 22, as read, agreed to.

Clause 23—



Mr WEIR (6.36 pm): The explanatory notes state—

Clause 23 inserts new section ... to require a pipeline licence holder to give notice to the chief inspector prior to starting the safety management study for the pipeline.

They go on—

A safety management study is the process that is carried out before construction of the pipeline starts to identify, and apply controls to, threats to the safety and integrity of the pipeline.

I was wondering what are the impacts of this on the landowner? Are they also included in this? Obviously landowners have various activities they carry out on their properties and that will include traversing pipelines. It might be excavation work. What are the implications on the landowner? Are they part of the safety brief and preparations mentioned in this part of the bill? It talks about the pipeline management but I am wondering what are the impacts on landowners—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Martin): Member, I am sorry to interrupt. Under the provisions of the business program agreed to by the House and the time allocated for this stage of the bill having expired, I will now put all remaining questions.

Clauses 23 to 31 and schedule 1, as read, agreed to.

Third Reading

Question put—That the bill be now read a third time.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Long Title

Question put—That the long title of the bill be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

**CRIMINAL CODE (SERIOUS VILIFICATION AND HATE CRIMES) AND OTHER
LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

Resumed from 29 March (see p. 732).

Second Reading

Hon. LM LINARD (Nudgee—ALP) (Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Minister for Science and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (6.39 pm): I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

On 29 March this year, the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill was introduced into the Legislative Assembly. The bill was subsequently referred to the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee. I thank the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee for their consideration of this bill. I would also like to thank those stakeholders, organisations and individuals who made submissions to the committee and who participated in the public hearing.

The bill was introduced in response to that committee's inquiry into serious vilification and hate crimes, which is report No. 22 of the 57th Parliament. Over the course of the committee's inquiry into serious vilification and hate crimes and its subsequent examination of the bill, the committee heard some very distressing examples of despicable conduct fuelled by hate. The committee's report on the inquiry into serious vilification and hate crimes identified that Queenslanders from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and members of the LGBTIQ+ community experienced serious vilification and hate crimes too often. The committee heard of the profound effect upon victims. Feelings of humiliation, hopelessness, depression and anxiety are pervasive. The effects of vilification upon the victims is deeply real, and is the cause of long-lasting harm.

The committee heard that people will change their behaviour to lessen the chances that they are subject to such vile abuse or assault. They feel that they must remain hypervigilant while in the community. These experiences are not one-off occurrences; they are regrettably not unique. Some stakeholders reported to the committee that such conduct is on the rise. That people feel it necessary to take steps in their day-to-day lives to avoid being exposed to this kind of hate is deeply saddening. No-one anywhere should feel that this is acceptable, particularly not in a modern society like the one we have in Queensland. In short, this is not who we are as Queenslanders. Discrimination, vilification and hate has no place in our community.

Before I speak further on the bill, I would like to foreshadow that I will be moving amendments during consideration in detail to make an administrative correction to validate the appointment of the Inspector of Detention Services under the Ombudsman Act 2001 from 9 December 2022 until 28 September 2023. At the time of appointment on 9 December 2022, an oath or affirmation was not taken in relation to the inspector's function, as required under the Ombudsman Act. Upon becoming aware of this, the government has acted quickly to remedy this situation with the inspector taking an affirmation under the Ombudsman Act on 28 September 2023. The inspector commenced operations from 1 July 2023. The amendments, to be moved during consideration in detail, will declare that anything done by the inspector from 9 December 2022 until 28 September 2023 has the same effect and is taken to have always had the same effect as it would have had if the inspector had made the affirmation.

On 30 June this year, the committee's report on the bill, report No. 49, was tabled. A total of nine recommendations were made. The government's response to the committee's recommendations was tabled on 3 October this year. Recommendation 1 is that the bill be passed. As I have already said, and again reiterate, there is absolutely no place for vilification and hate crimes in Queensland. The government is committed to strengthening our laws to ensure our diverse communities are protected. One of the primary objectives of this legislation is to ensure that, as a society, we make it clear that the community will not tolerate vilification, or the deliberate use of hate symbols to promote hatred towards our diverse communities and to cause those communities harm.

The bill before the House proposes to give effect to recommendations 7, 8, 9 and 16 of the committee's report. Recommendation 7 proposed that the Queensland government investigate the viability of removing the requirement for the written consent of a Crown Law officer before commencing a prosecution for the offence of serious vilification which is already contained in the Anti-Discrimination

Act. Section 131A of the Anti-Discrimination Act is the offence of serious racial, religious, sexuality or gender identity vilification. The offence criminalises public acts which—

... knowingly or recklessly incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group of persons on the ground of the race, religion, sexuality or gender identity of the person or members of the group in a way that includes—

- (a) threatening physical harm towards, or towards any property of, the person or group of persons; or
- (b) inciting others to threaten physical harm towards, or towards any property of, the person or group of persons.

Under section 131A, a prosecution cannot be commenced without the written consent of a Crown Law officer. In this context, the Crown Law officer is either the Attorney-General or the Director of Public Prosecutions. The bill, through clause 7, proposes that this requirement be removed. The change proposed by the bill is to enable prosecutions for the offence to proceed expeditiously. The gravity of the offence is recognised by the proposed changes to the maximum penalty available for the offence. Currently, the maximum penalty for an individual is 70 penalty units or six months imprisonment. For an organisation, the maximum penalty is 350 penalty units. The bill also proposes through clause 7 that the penalty be changed by increasing the maximum penalty that can be imposed on an individual to three years imprisonment from six months. The proposed increase in the penalty better reflects the seriousness of the offence and the community's expectations. The change in penalty will bring them more into line with penalties available in other Australian jurisdictions for similar offences.

Implementing recommendation 9 of the inquiry, the bill further proposes that the offence in section 131A of the Anti-Discrimination Act be relocated to the Criminal Code. Moving the offence into the Criminal Code further recognises the gravity of the offence. Recommendation 8 of the committee's report on the inquiry was that the Queensland government introduce a statutory aggravation regarding hate and serious vilification into the Criminal Code and the Summary Offences Act 2005 to apply to criminal conduct. The bill proposes the introduction of a circumstance of aggravation to be available for charging where the offender commits a prescribed offence that was wholly or partly motivated by hatred or serious contempt for a person or group of persons based upon race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity or the presumed race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity.

Clause 12 of the bill provides that the circumstance of aggression will be available to be charged with the offence in the Criminal Code of going armed so as to cause fear, threatening violence, disturbing religious worship, common assault, assaults occasioning bodily harm, threats, unlawful stalking, intimidation, harassment or abuse and wilful damage. Part 5 of the bill proposes that the circumstance of aggravation would be available where the offences of public nuisance and trespass are charged under the Summary Offences Act. Where an offender is convicted of a prescribed offence, along with the circumstance of aggravation, an increased maximum penalty will apply. For going armed so as to cause fear and threatening violence, the maximum penalty, where the circumstance of aggravation has been charged, increases from two years to three years. For disturbing religious worship, the maximum penalty increases from two months to six months. For common assault, the penalty increases from three years to four years. For assaults occasioning bodily harm, the increase is from seven years to 10 years. For threats and unlawful stalking, intimidation, harassment or abuse and wilful damage, the maximum penalty increases from five years to seven years. For public nuisance and trespass under the Summary Offences Act, the maximum financial penalties available are proposed to be increased. A court's ability to imprison an offender will remain as currently provided.

I note that the protected attribute of sex characteristics has been included within the bill to align with the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2023, which was passed on 14 June 2023. This ensures a common definition of sex characteristics between the bill and the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act. The definition used in the bill will provide protections for members of the intersex community under the offence of serious racial, religious, sexual identity or gender identity vilification. The issue of determining an offender's motivation and whether that motivation was wholly or partly driven by hatred or serious contempt is a subjective matter. A person's motivation for committing an offence is a subjective matter of which proof will be required. Such proof may arise explicitly from the offender's conduct, or from other circumstances which give rise to the charge.

This threshold test, with reference to the words 'wholly or partly', recognises that, even if the conduct in question is motivated significantly by a non-prejudiced factor, if the offender is also partly motivated by one or more of the protected attributes of race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity in the circumstance of aggravation, the person is liable to be charged for the offence with the circumstance of aggravation attached. The bill provides that the new circumstance of aggravation captures motivations towards both individuals and groups. The inclusion of the term

'presumed' will ensure offenders who commit offences based on an erroneous assumption of the race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity of the person or group of persons will remain liable to be charged with an offence with the circumstance of aggravation.

To implement recommendation 16 of the committee's report on its inquiry, clause 12 of the bill proposes that the Criminal Code be amended to provide an offence to publicly display, distribute or publish a prohibited symbol in a way that could menace, harass or offend a member of the public. The offence will carry a maximum penalty of 70 penalty units or six months imprisonment. The bill provides that a prohibited symbol can be proscribed under regulation which ensures that the government can quickly respond to emerging symbols associated with extremist ideologies. However, before a symbol can be proscribed, the minister is required to consult with the chairperson of the Crime and Corruption Commission, the Human Rights Commissioner and the Commissioner of the Queensland Police Service.

For a person to have committed the offence, the bill provides that the offence is committed at the time when the person publicly displays, distributes or publishes the prohibited symbol. The offence is intended to capture a broad range of circumstances, including the public display of tattoos and the public distribution or publication of prohibited symbols online. There is also a non-exhaustive list of excuses to the offence, including if the display or distribution is for a genuine artistic, religious, educational, historical, legal or law enforcement purpose; a public interest purpose; or to oppose the ideology represented by the prohibited symbol.


The proposed amendments provide that a defendant seeking to rely on an excuse must also prove their conduct was reasonable in the circumstances. It is intended that an excuse might be available where the public display is made in genuine trade for sale of historical memorabilia, books, satire, documentaries, museums and during historical re-enactments. While there is no room for the proliferation of racism and hatred in our society, the government has implemented safeguards through these excuses to achieve a balance between the right to freedom of expression against the need to protect our diverse communities from hateful ideologies. The religious purpose excuse is particularly relevant to those of the Hindu, Buddhist and Jain faiths. I note that the Nazi Hakenkreuz, which is the hooked cross, significantly resembles the swastika and is a symbol that is displayed with a peaceful and profound meaning. The religious excuse is intended to ensure that the display of symbols such as the swastika in these contexts is not the target of the offence.

The introduction of the bill will also align Queensland with other jurisdictions in the country that have implemented or are in the process of implementing legislation to ban symbols associated with Nazi ideology, including in Victoria, New South Wales, the ACT, WA and Tasmania. Consistent with these jurisdictions, I also note that the Commonwealth has recently introduced its Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Prohibited Hate Symbols and Other Measures) Bill to criminalise public displays of symbols of the Nazi regime. The bill also amends the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 to assist in the enforcement of amendments introducing an offence for the public display, distribution or publication of a prohibited symbol. We are enabling police officers to search a person or vehicle without a warrant where the officer reasonably suspects the person has committed or is committing the offence under new section 52D of the Criminal Code. A police officer will therefore have the power to stop, detain and search the person or vehicle and seize all or part of a thing that may provide evidence of the commission of the offence.

I will return briefly to the recommendations that were made by the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee in its report on the bill. As I noted earlier, the government's response was tabled on 3 October this year. The government has previously committed to introducing legislation within this term in response to the Queensland Human Rights Commission report titled *Building belonging: review of Queensland's Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*. The issue of the inclusion of additional protected attributes, which is recommendation 2, will be considered by the government as part of its consideration of *Building belonging*. Recommendation 3 is effectively that certain closed environments such as hospitals and schools be considered public spaces. Recommendation 4 is that the definition of 'public act' in the Anti-Discrimination Act be updated to provide examples of communications by electronic means. The government's responses to these specific recommendations are that they will be considered within the context of the *Building belonging* report. Consideration of these recommendations in that context means that the matters raised can be considered in light of the amendments in this bill and further consideration of the *Building belonging* report.

In response to the committee's recommendations 5, 6 and 7 about monitoring the operation of the bill, I would also like to note the government's commitment in the recently tabled response to implement measures to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed amendments. The government is

committed to ensuring our laws and practices meet community expectations and that the provisions in the bill appropriately address serious vilification and hate crime in Queensland. This bill represents the Palaszczuk government's—our government's—deep commitment to call out and eliminate hate and prejudice and represents a vital step for Queensland in supporting our diverse communities. Our diversity as communities and as a state is a strength. It is something that we should celebrate and never fear. I commend the bill to the House.

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (6.56 pm): I look forward to my contribution for the next 3½ minutes, as I am sure you all do. I would have thought the member for Nudgee could have spun it out just a little bit longer, but anyway. I did notice a slight slowing down of her speech towards the end there. The Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill follows report No. 22 of the 57th Parliament of the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee. That report was delivered in January 2022 following a referral from the Assembly made on 21 April 2021. The report was of the committee's inquiry into the nature and extent of hate crimes and serious vilification in Queensland and whether there is evidence of increasing instances of serious vilification in Queensland and the effectiveness of section 131A of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 and other existing laws responding to hate crimes.

In its consideration, the committee looked at the options paper titled *Serious vilification and hate crime: the need for legislative reform*; the interaction of Queensland and Commonwealth legislation in relation to online vilification, and we just heard from the minister in respect of the Commonwealth's recent actions in that regard; the effectiveness of activities and programs of the government, including the Police Service, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Commonwealth government in responding to hate crime, including record-keeping practices which were dealt with in both reports; the Human Rights Act 2019 and any rights which are engaged by the current law and any proposals for reform, including a human rights analysis under section 13 of the act for any recommended legislative amendments as well as constitutional limitations, together with the current legal framework and relevant reports, reviews and inquiries in other Australian and international jurisdictions; and the appropriateness of the conciliation-based anti-discrimination framework under section 124A of the ADA. As members can imagine, a very comprehensive report was produced.


The result of the inquiry was 17 recommendations and the government has supported or supported in principle those recommendations. This bill gives effect to recommendations 7, 8, 9 and 16 of that Legal Affairs and Safety Committee report. The recommendations were set out in the LASC report as follows: recommendation 7, that the Queensland government investigate the viability of removing the requirement for the written consent of a Crown Law officer before commencing a prosecution for serious racial, religious, sexuality or gender identity vilification under section 131A as it exists and the offence of those matters under the Anti-Discrimination Act; recommendation 8, that the Queensland government introduce a statutory aggravation offence regarding hate and serious vilification into the Criminal Code Act and Summary Offences Act to apply to criminal conduct; recommendation 9, that the Queensland government relocate section 131A from the Anti-Discrimination Act into the Criminal Code; and recommendation 16, that the Queensland government establish a criminal offence that prohibits the display of hate symbols, including those relating to Nazi and ISIS ideology, with considered exceptions.

An additional objective identified through consideration of the LASC report is to increase the maximum penalty for the offence under section 131 of the AD Act. The increase to the maximum penalty of three years reflects the seriousness of this type of offending and the community's denunciation of such conduct. I also want to comment on the very many good and serious organisations and individuals that made submissions to the committee inquiry into this bill and the previous inquiry.


Debate, on motion of Mr Nicholls, adjourned.

DEPUTY SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

Error in Division


 **Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Martin): Honourable members, I have been advised by the Clerk that there was an error in calculating the votes on the division for the question on the second reading of the Liquid Fuel Supply (Minimum Biobased Petrol Content) Amendment Bill. The result of the division was, in fact, ayes 5, noes 83. In accordance with standing order 106(11), I have instructed the Clerk to amend the *Record of Proceedings*.

School Group Tours

 **Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr Martin): I acknowledge the student leaders from Kenmore State High School who are joining us in the gallery tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Sippy Downs

 **Mr MICKELBERG** (Buderim—LNP) (7.01 pm): The Labor state government is ignoring the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast is among the fastest growing regions in Queensland. Our population has exploded in recent years, but, because of a failure to plan and a failure to build, Sunshine Coast residents continue to needlessly suffer. Let us consider the impact on one of the suburbs that I represent: the suburb of Sippy Downs—a vibrant suburb home to families, retirees and students, all of whom deserve better than the inadequate support they are currently receiving from the Labor state government.


Every morning Sippy Downs residents needlessly sit in traffic for up to 30 minutes on a single-lane road, Claymore Road—all because the Labor state government will not deliver on its requirement to deliver the Palmview-Bruce Highway link road, which should have been built a year ago. Instead of building a new fire station on land set aside for it at Sippy Downs, what did the Labor state government do? It sold the land set aside for a new fire station which is needed to ensure a timely response in the event of fire and it does not have a plan to build one somewhere else in Sippy Downs.

An opposition member: It is an asset sale!

Mr MICKELBERG: It is an asset sale. Sippy Downs residents languish on hospital waiting lists for months and years longer than they should. They have told me of the impact on their mental health and their physical health because of this Labor state government's failure to invest and failure to plan. Sippy Downs residents live in fear of their home being broken into or their car being stolen, all because this Labor state government will not invest in the additional police officers that we need to keep our residents safe and secure. Sippy Downs residents who live near the Bruce Highway must live with the constant droning of road noise, all because this Labor state government has decided to not build noise attenuation fences to reduce the impact on local residents—on retirees and on families—who cannot sleep because of the noise emanating from the Bruce Highway.

When Sippy Downs residents venture out of their suburb they hit traffic gridlock on the Sunshine Motorway and on the single-lane section of the Mooloolah River Interchange or the Sugar Road-Mooloolaba Road intersection in Buderim. I recently took LNP leader David Crisafulli to the Sugar Road-Mooloolaba Road intersection, an intersection upgrade that has been shamefully cut by this Labor state government, a road it promised would be upgraded but has now been cut—a Labor broken promise. Rather than cuts, we need to see more investment on the Sunshine Coast. We need to see upgrades to critical roads. It has become very clear that only an LNP state government will deliver those critical upgrades. We need to see a Sippy Downs Police Station that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To do so we need more police to man that station. The number of residents who live in Sippy Downs has exploded since that police station opened in 2009. Rather than provide us with more police, we actually have fewer. The population has nearly doubled and we have fewer police. It is simply not good enough. Sippy Downs residents deserve to be safe so a sufficient number of local police officers is critically important. I will not stop fighting for a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week police station for Sippy Downs.

Algester Electorate, Community Groups


 **Hon. LM ENOCH** (Algester—ALP) (Minister for Treaty, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Minister for Communities and Minister for the Arts) (7.04 pm): I rise tonight to praise the important community groups in the Algester electorate that are building networks and every day work to support each other and the community more broadly. This month is Queensland Seniors Month. It is also Probus Month. I had the chance to catch up with the local Probus Club of Algester and Districts. They have a jam-packed October calendar head of them. The executive and I were able to have a wonderful morning tea. We talked a lot about the almost 100-strong members of that Probus club. As many members in this chamber know, Probus clubs are a fantastic way to connect people who otherwise might be at risk of experiencing loneliness as they grow in age.

I am also proud of many other groups that work incredibly hard in the electorate of Algeester such as the Greenbank RSL and Algeester men's sheds that have been busy not only helping each of its members build on new and improved skills but also creating an environment of valuable social connection. I visited both those men's sheds in recent weeks. The Algeester Men's Shed is now expanding their opportunities and activities to women, which has been very interesting.

I also had the pleasure of visiting the two new YMCA vocational school campuses, both based in my electorate of Algeester. The YMCA vocational schools bring an incredible benefit to students by offering an alternative learning environment structured around fostering confidence in young people while developing their practical and personal skills. In Acacia Ridge students from years 7 to 9 are supported by teachers, youth workers, case workers and counsellors. I thank head of campus Tash for showing me around the campus and introducing me to some of the incredible students who are making some real inroads in terms of their learning outcomes. I also had the opportunity to have a look at the new facilities at the YMCA vocational school campus in Parkinson. They are continuing to foster outcomes for years 10 to 12, where they bring the same nurturing care to ensure these young people are ready for adulthood.

I would also like to take this opportunity to talk about the choice all of us have to make on 14 October. It is a profound and transformational point in our history. It is a very important time. I am calling on everybody to ensure we maintain respectful conversations around this very important decision as Australia looks to make a decision about whether Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will be recognised in our constitution.

Coolum State High School

 **Mr PURDIE** (Ninderry—LNP) (7.07 pm): I would like to take the opportunity tonight to talk about a fantastic school in my electorate that I have proudly spoken about before in this place but about which I am eager to update the House. Students at Coolum State High School are leading the state in their achievements in the classroom, on the sporting field and on the stage. It was a privilege to celebrate their success with all the teachers, staff, parents and our community at their annual celebration of excellence evening only a few weeks ago. The top accolade on the evening is the prestigious Wandama Award presented to the highest achieving year 12 student. This year's recipient was Jessnee, an outstanding student whose achievements have been nothing short of exemplary and are some of the highest in the state. Jessnee made history by becoming the first student ever to achieve a perfect score of 110 points when the calculations were made for the Wandama Award.


Another equally prestigious award is the outstanding citizen award proudly sponsored by their local state member of parliament. This year I was honoured to present this award to Polly Salsbury. Polly is a wonderful member of the school and wider community. She is involved in all aspects of school life and has been a quiet yet influential leader of the school council, fostering an inclusive culture within the school. As I said to principal Troy Ascot on the night, it was abundantly clear to the large crowd in attendance, who witnessed some of the amazing talent that was on display by the singers, dancers, musicians, performers, speakers and award recipients, that a lot of people have invested a lot of time into the students at Coolum State High School and that the students, thanks to this mentoring and expert tuition, are clearly thriving across all disciplines in that environment.

Speaking of that environment, it has recently been enhanced by some first-class facilities. The newest addition to these facilities is the new building the school has fittingly named Gagel Giri, which in Gubbi Gubbi language means 'shining light', which reflects the outstanding rise of musical excellence that shines at Coolum High. The facility boasts soundproof music studios that will foster the astounding rise that the school has recently achieved. There are also some state-of-the-art classrooms and art facilities, along with four new basketball courts on the ground level.

After a long period of construction, the students have recently moved in. The official opening is scheduled for early next month. I acknowledge the education minister, who is in the House at the moment. At lunch today I personally invited her to come to the opening. I know that she has been invited and has a busy calendar, but the school and the students would love to see the minister there so that she can see firsthand some of the outstanding achievements of the school and also the amazing facility.

In closing, I congratulate school principal Troy Ascot, his leadership team, all the staff and teachers, and the P&C. They all work tirelessly to improve facilities and the environment at the school. I look forward to seeing the minister, hopefully, early next month.

Moreton Bay Central Fire and Rescue Station

 **Mr WHITING** (Bancroft—ALP) (7.10 pm): I am overjoyed to inform the House that the new Moreton Bay Central Fire and Rescue Station is nearly ready to go live. This is a great achievement for our area. The brand new 24/7 station will cover Deception Bay, North Lakes, Mango Hill and Narangba. I have visited the finished building and the fit-out is nearly complete. I saw the last of the IT—the phone systems and the servers—being installed just the other day. The crew have been selected and are ready to go. A permanent crew of 16 will work 24/7 in shifts of four.

What will distinguish this station is that they will have an auxiliary fire and rescue crew of 14. It will be the new home of the Deception Bay auxiliary fire brigade. That volunteer force has protected the bay for many generations. The siren would go off and the volunteers would race to the station, hop in their appliances and off they would go. Now they have a new home from which to continue their work.


The station has eight bays to house appliances that will fight most urban and rural fires. There is a road crash rescue training pad where they practise cutting cars open to rescue people. There is a training room and eight dormitory rooms. It looks fantastic. It is so good to see that facility come out of the ground. It will be fully operational within weeks. The station will provide a higher level of community protection and safety, all brought to them by the state Labor government.

The station is only one example of the infrastructure that is being delivered in Moreton Bay by this government. I will mention a few of the other projects: the widening of Beachmere Road, the new Morayfield Ambulance Station, and in Caboolture the new Moreton Bay district police headquarters is finished. There are massive upgrades to the Caboolture Hospital, which will have over 1,500 parking spaces. The Redcliffe Hospital expansion is a \$1 billion build. Of course, the new satellite hospital at Caboolture is doing great work and new ones will open soon at Bribie Island and Kallangur.

There are also the highway upgrades, the 'Moreton connector' and the widening of the Gateway Motorway. That is a \$2.1 billion project that we have started planning for. The Deception Bay Road overpass and the Boundary Road overpass were planned, designed and built by the state government with 80-20 federal-state funding. The local LNP keep saying they delivered it, but it was years of hard work by the state government and local construction companies that planned, designed, built and delivered it. There is more: dual lanes—

(Time expired)

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Foundation; Moggill Electorate, Schools

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (7.13 pm): The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Foundation is an extraordinary charitable organisation that exists to connect those who wish to give in order to make a positive difference for translational health and research outcomes. Through the support of many generous Queenslanders and organisations, the RBWH Foundation is proud to support the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, the Surgical Treatment and Rehabilitation Service, STARS, and the Redcliffe Hospital as well as the Herston Health Precinct research institutes and centres with almost \$5 million in total funding provided for the 2022-23 financial year.


Last Friday, 6 October it was a pleasure to attend the RBWH Foundation annual military dinner as the Liberal National Party's shadow minister for the arts. The annual military dinner celebrates the remarkable partnership of over 150 years between the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and the Australian Defence Force, both of which have continued to work together to achieve life-saving research and patient care. It was an honour to attend last Friday's event. I take this opportunity to acknowledge Brigadier David Ward, Director-General of Health Reserves—Army, who is also a distinguished senior specialist in emergency medicine at the Brisbane Northside Emergency department and an adjunct professor at QUT's School of Public Health. I wish to acknowledge Brigadier Craig Schramm CSC, who presented the John Thomson Oration, as well as a special guest at the evening's event, Australian contemporary artist Donald James Waters OAM. I also acknowledge the many other distinguished health leaders including Major General John Pearn AO, RFD; Air Commodore Amanda Dines OAM, the Director-General Health Reserves—Royal Australian Air Force; and also the former executive director of medical services at the RBWH, Dr Judy Graves.

Today is World Mental Health Day. This year, Queensland Mental Health Week will be held from 7 to 15 October. I acknowledge Brookfield State School, which recently took the initiative to host a terrific community breakfast featuring resources for R U OK? Day and Mental Health Week, delivered in collaboration with PCYC Queensland and the school's P&C. It was my pleasure to again support and sponsor that important initiative.

Finally, I am honoured to have Executive Principal Mr Paul Robertson and student leaders of Kenmore State High School attend the Queensland parliament for dinner in order to celebrate their achievements and contributions over the past 12 months. The school captains, Jack Gorman and Katelyn Brooks, and vice-captains, Jorge Alt-Andrews and Emilia Halley, have made an outstanding contribution to their school and community. Each year it is my pleasure to host the outgoing school leaders of Kenmore State High School at the Queensland parliament.

I certainly wish these students and their peers all the very best as they approach their final exams. I know that the Minister for Education also wishes the students all the best. They are very excited about the planning for the new school hall, but there is more infrastructure to be done, as the minister knows. Hopefully, we will see that in the years to come.

Toyota AFL National Inclusion Carnival

 **Mrs MULLEN** (Jordan—ALP) (7.16 pm): A very exciting sporting competition is taking place all this week and it is happening right here in Queensland. The 2023 Toyota AFL National Inclusion Carnival is being held in Springfield, in my electorate of Jordan, and I could not be more thrilled. The annual carnival for the most talented male footballers with an intellectual disability is again seeing representative teams from eight states and territories compete. The teams are selected from the very best talent in their local inclusion leagues and academies.

First played in 2014, the 2023 tournament is the second time the event has been held in Queensland after the 2017 edition was staged on the Gold Coast. Delivered by the AFL and AFL Queensland, with APM Employment Services coming on board as supporting partner, our state is hosting 72 matches with more than 160 athletes and support staff participating. The carnival is played as per traditional Australian football rules with adjustments to the playing numbers, with 12 versus 12 on the field and four players on each bench. The event falls under the classification of Sport Inclusion Australia where players are required to meet classification guidelines to ensure the integrity of the event is upheld.

Playing football is obviously a major focus of the carnival. However, it is also an opportunity for players to develop their independence through living away from home for a week. Also, through attending education sessions and running coaching clinics within special schools, the carnival develops footballers as role models, thereby providing a sense of belonging in the community.


As the local member I am so excited to see both the Springfield Central Sports Complex and Brighton Homes Arena being used for the National Inclusion Carnival this week. Brighton Homes Arena, supported by the Queensland government, is an \$80 million, world-class AFL stadium and the only venue in Australia that provides elite training and recovery facilities for both professional men's and women's AFL. It is the perfect venue for the grand final of the National Inclusion Carnival, which will be held on Friday.

On Sunday night I was honoured to attend the official welcome event in Ipswich, which was absolutely fantastic. Emcee Peter 'Spida' Everett and Jonathan Brown were there as well. It was wonderful to meet many of the players, who were equal parts excited and a bit nervous, and to see firsthand how this fantastic carnival promotes inclusion, breaks down barriers and showcases the skills and talents of footballers with intellectual disabilities.

This year in Queensland we have seen the introduction of the inaugural Queensland Wheelchair Football League, with four foundation clubs playing the first season. In Victoria they have introduced AFL Blind, a new adapted version of Australian Rules football that enables people with blindness or low vision, through modifications to equipment and rules, to play the game. There are now more than 12,000 Australians with a disability playing Australian Rules football through various programs. I would like to congratulate AFL for what are really groundbreaking initiatives that promote inclusion within their sport.

I wish all of the state teams participating in the National Inclusion Carnival the very best as they battle it out this week. Currently, WA is on top ladder but I am still holding out for a Queensland win.

Gulf of Carpentaria, Fishing Ban

 **Mr KATTER** (Traeger—KAP) (7.19 pm): I rise to speak again about the proposed net fishing ban in the gulf. I need to delineate that from the proposed ban for the reef. We have just jumped over to the gulf with no science attached. They have just made up these maps and said to these fishermen, a lot

of whom have invested millions, 'Hey, we just drawn these lines on a map; they are from consultation.' When we asked, 'Who did you consult with?' we are told, 'Well, we can't tell you.' They have been told, 'You will be out of business.' We want to know where this is coming from. We know it is coming from the WWF, but we just want you to tell us.

An honourable member interjected.

Mr KATTER: Mayor Kyle Yanner. Thank you for talking about Mayor Kyle Yanner. I have spoken to Kyle. He wants it around his island. He does not want it up in Kowanyama. That has nothing to do with him and you can keep saying that all you want. I have reconciled with Kyle. I have spoken to him. You want to get these environmentalists to vote for you.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Direct your comments through the chair, please, member.

Mr KATTER: They want these environmentalists to vote for them. They want them to pander to them. I do not know where they are from. Some of them are based overseas. They have come up there and said, 'Look, we don't have any science, but we want you to ban this here now.' You are willing to go up to these Australians who work hard in the hot sun, are away from their families for three weeks and put everything on the line to produce for this country, 'You know what? Because we want to get some votes down here, we will just ban it.'

Hang on, what was the science behind this? The little bit of science was the king salmon. Please, minister, keep saying this because it just invalidates everything else you say. It is the most ridiculous thing to say that king salmon is at five per cent. Do we know why the minister is saying that? That is because no-one goes up to the Mitchell River where it is all caught and ask the commercial fishermen where they are taking the king salmon from. That is why the minister is saying it is five per cent. Anyone who wants to visit my Facebook can have a look at the king salmon boiling in the water. You can catch them off the beach. Saying it is five per cent makes the fisheries department and the minister look ridiculous. Keep saying it, please.

We are talking about dugong and turtle hunting. They have to report this. They do not want to catch all fish in their nets. It takes them two hours to get them out. They do everything possible not to catch these animals in their net. It is a big pain in the neck. You are trying to fillet fish to do that. You stay away from it.

This government wants us to import from Indonesia. I will show members this map. These are the Indonesian waters—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member, will you table that?


Mr KATTER: I will table this map.

Tabled paper: Map depicting fishing zones in Torres Strait [\[1609\]](#).

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: But you still cannot use it as a prop, member.

Mr KATTER: If you look at that map, it shows a small handful of boats in the gulf. You will let them smash the waters up there right on our doorstep. We will import that into Coles and Woolworths. Dave Wright, the mackerel man in Cairns, can go broke. The Carroll brothers in Mareeba can go broke. That is alright. They have just spent \$750,000 on their shed and that is now for nothing. They can all go broke because the members want to win some votes there. The science is ridiculous. Recreational fishers are not safe here. The member for Cook needs to stand up and the minister for agriculture needs to stand down. If he will not stand up for fishermen, stand down.

Moon Festival


 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (7.22 pm): Happy Moon Festival. The Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn Festival falls on the 15th day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar, which means celebrations in my electorate all throughout September and October. The festival is widely celebrated across east Asia, including China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia, and, of course, in the Stretton electorate. Coinciding with when the moon is at its brightest and symbolising unity, this time is marked by many family reunions and also gives thanks to the harvest season that it coincides with. At the heart of the Moon Festival is the legend of Chang'e, the moon goddess of immortality. According to folklore, Chang'e and her companion the Jade Rabbit reside on the moon. Her tale speaks of sacrifice and the pursuit of eternal love and happiness—things that resonate deeply with people across all cultures.

One of the most beloved customs of the Moon Festival is the sharing of mooncakes. These delicious round pastries are exchanged among friends and family, and include many boxes of mooncakes being dropped off to my electorate office. It is little wonder then that my hardworking staff and I really love this time of year. Mooncakes are often filled with different fillings like red bean, mixed nuts, lotus paste, sesame paste, dates, pineapples, pandan or mocha, but, most importantly, at the centre is a delicious boiled egg yolk. A decent yolk-to-filling ratio is a must for any mooncake. I make special mention of the handmade snow skin mooncakes dropped off at my office by the Brisbane First Chinese Scout Group; the peanut butter mooncakes dropped off by Kingsfood Restaurant; and also, my personal favourite, the Hong Kong Peninsula Hotel mid-autumn mooncake from Sunnycare Nursing Home. I highly recommend it.

The Moon Festival is a time of family and community in the Stretton electorate, with many get-togethers and celebrations that I had the pleasure of attending, including: the Taiwan Women's League; WAMCI—World Arts and Multicultural; the Australian Queensland Fujian Association; Kingsfood Restaurant; Landmark Restaurant; the Golden Lane Restaurant; the Queensland Aesthetics and Dance and Promote Inc.; Calamvale Central and Sunnybank Hills shopping towns; the Australian Dongbei Chinese Association; the Queensland Chinese Catering Association; Sunnycare Nursing Home; Oriental Care home care; and the Queensland Chinese Orchestra.

I am very proud that Stretton and Queensland is such a successful multicultural community where differences are embraced and different cultural and religious celebrations are shared and embraced by all. I again wish all members in this place a happy Moon Festival and a happy Mid-Autumn Festival.

Western Queensland, School Sport; NAPLAN Remedial Learning


 **Mr MILLAR** (Gregory—LNP) (7.25 pm): I am so glad that the Minister for Education is here to hear this. On behalf of the parents and the students of Gregory schools, I speak briefly to raise two issues causing considerable concern. The North West Queensland School Sport District is currently under review—and has been for some time—but there is yet to be any meaningful consultation with the school P&Cs about the proposed changes. School sporting districts are where our young people go to compete at a district level. The boundaries of these districts dictate the centres in which they compete. For instance, students of the Longreach School of Distance Education attend district sports competitions mainly in Longreach and sometimes in Mount Isa. This allows as many students as possible to qualify and attend as these are the geographical regional hubs for many small western communities and remote and rural properties.

The current proposals seek to amalgamate Central Western schools into larger sporting districts around distant cities on the coast, with no option of travelling there by air. This means children as far west as Windorah or Birdsville who qualify to compete at a district level will have to be able to travel to Gladstone, Rockhampton or Mackay to compete. Unless they are lucky enough to have a parent or a guardian to drive them the 14 hours required, they will not be able to compete. Furthermore, this means they need a parent who can be absent from their work for over a week and who also earns sufficient to fund both travel and accommodation out of the family budget.

Coastal competitors suffer no such disadvantage. This is unfair and a real barrier for talented Western Queensland children who want to participate in district competitions to develop the skills such competition brings. I ask the minister to urgently direct the department to reconsider this or fully fund arrangements to ensure Gregory children do not have an unfair barrier placed on their path to sporting development.

On another topic, the value of the NAPLAN scheme was highlighted again this year with children's results either reassuring parents and teachers that a child was on track or showing where learning gaps exist so they can be closed before the child progresses through the system next year. I have been concerned to hear from parents that the funding for remedial learning support does not seem to be separate from funding for learning support for children with disabilities. This means a child who needs some support for literacy or numeracy in year 3 may not receive adequate support if his or her school's budget is already fully committed to supporting inclusive education due to a higher number of enrolments this year. These must be separate budget items for every Queensland school, otherwise it is luck of the draw for our kids.

Redlands Satellite Hospital

 **Mr BROWN** (Capalaba—ALP) (7.28 pm): I am happy to report that Don is delivering for public health in the Redlands area. It is the Palaszczuk Labor government that is completely transforming public health in the Redlands. As a former public health worker, I could not be prouder that we are

delivering such infrastructure as the satellite hospital, which opened just a month ago. We are receiving rave reports about that, particularly from chemo and dialysis patients who are saving up to two hours in travel time with the new satellite hospital. It also came into its own on the recent public holiday. I recently received reports about how busy the Redlands Satellite Hospital was treating minor injuries, taking much pressure off Redlands Hospital. This was on a day when there were not many GPs to see for those injuries. I cannot believe that the opposition and the LNP local candidates talk down the satellite hospital at every chance. It is absolutely a game changer in our local area.

I know why they want to talk it down: they want to cut it and privatise it themselves. The next one is the stage 1, \$62 million investment into Redland Hospital. It will deliver a new ICU and 37 new beds. We have started construction on that; we turned the first sod last week. This is on top of the \$25 million ward we are just about to open, which is another 28 beds. These beds will completely transform Redland Hospital. We are able to do this because we delivered the new car park, which freed up the whole site to deliver this much needed infrastructure. We are completely transforming Redland Hospital.

It is Mental Health Week this week. We also announced \$150 million to start stage 2. We are starting stage 2 by delivering a brand new mental health facility. An extra 20 beds will be delivered there. We know that the Leader of the Opposition is against the mental health fund. If you are against the fund, you cannot fund the upgrade. What do you do when you cannot fund the upgrade? They are going to cut the stage 2 upgrade, the mental health facility. They need to come clean on that, because if they are not willing to fund it they are going to cut it.

We only have to look at the shadow health minister's recent comments in the *Courier-Mail* to see that she aspires to be Campbell Newman again. I was there during the Campbell Newman years representing radiographers and pharmacists who received redundancies. They do not want to go back to the Newman era—I know that for sure. Doctors and nurses do have a lot to fear. They tried to force individual contracts on doctors. They sacked 4,400 nurses. They shut Wynnum hospital. They shut the Moreton Bay nursing clinic. There is a lot to fear for Redlands health if the LNP ever gets back into government.

The House adjourned at 7.31 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Andrew, Bailey, Bates, Bennett, Berkman, Bleijie, Bolton, Boothman, Boyd, Brown, Bush, Butcher, Camm, Crandon, Crawford, Crisafulli, Dametto, de Brenni, Dick, Enoch, Farmer, Fentiman, Frecklington, Furner, Gerber, Gilbert, Grace, Harper, Hart, Head, Healy, Hinchliffe, Howard, Hunt, Janetzki, Katter, Kelly, King A, King S, Knuth, Krause, Langbroek, Last, Lauga, Leahy, Linard, Lui, MacMahon, Madden, Mander, Martin, McCallum, McDonald, McMahon, McMillan, Mellish, Mickelberg, Miles, Millar, Minnikin, Molhoek, Mullen, Nicholls, O'Connor, Palaszcuk, Pease, Perrett, Pitt, Powell, Power, Pugh, Purdie, Richards, Robinson, Rowan, Russo, Ryan, Saunders, Scanlon, Simpson, Skelton, Smith, Stevens, Stewart, Sullivan, Tantari, Walker, Watts, Weir, Whiting