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MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly met at 9.30 am, pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Honourable D Fouras) read prayers.

ASSENT TO BILLS

Letter from the Governor was reported, informing the House that Her Excellency had, in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, assented to the following Bills on 31 May 2005—

A Bill for an Act to amend particular legislation administered by the Minister for Tourism, Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development, and for other purposes (Tourism, Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development Legislation Amendment Act 2005 – Act No. 24 of 2005)


A Bill for an Act to amend Acts administered by the Minister for Education and the Arts (Education (Accreditation of Non-State Schools) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2005 – Act No. 29 of 2005)

STATEMENT BY ACTING SPEAKER – MATTER RAISED BY LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Mr Acting Speaker made the following statement—

‘Honourable Members—

I refer to a letter dated 19 April 2005 from the Leader of the House about statements made in the House by the Member for Moggill that he was not aware of any research by the CSIRO. The Leader of the House sought a determination from me as to whether the Member’s comments were deliberately misleading and warrant referral to the Members’ Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee.

Honourable Members would appreciate that the standard of proof required in cases of deliberately misleading Parliament is a civil standard of proof on the balance of probabilities. But the proof must be of a very high order having regard to the serious nature of the allegations.

I have considered the Member’s comments made on 19 April 2005 and his subsequent personal explanation made in the House on 20 April 2005. I have also considered documents tabled by the Leader of the House on both days.

It is important that the Member’s comments are considered in their proper context. Otherwise comments that are correct may, in isolation, sound factually incorrect.

Based on the most favourable interpretation of what I have before me I conclude that, when the Member for Moggill stated that he had no knowledge of CSIRO research, he was in fact referring to CSIRO research about air monitoring. The documents tabled show no evidence that the Member was aware of any such research.

On this basis, I do not consider that there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate the Member intended to, or did in fact, mislead the House. I do not propose therefore to refer this matter to the Members’ Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee.

I would, however, remind Members to be careful in their statements. In some circumstances, even a factually correct statement can nevertheless be misleading. I repeat that – In some circumstances, even a factually correct statement can nevertheless be misleading.’

STATEMENT BY ACTING SPEAKER – MATTER RAISED BY DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Mr Acting Speaker made the following statement—
'Honourable Members—

On 21 April 2005, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Member for Callide wrote to me alleging that the Member for Bundaberg committed the contempt of deliberately misleading the House during her contribution to a debate in the House on 19 April 2005. The debate was about treatment provided by Dr Patel at the Bundaberg Base Hospital. During the debate, the Member for Bundaberg stated:

“The claims by the Opposition that have been made widely in the last week that I knew about Dr Patel six months ago and did nothing are blatant lies.”

In support of his claim that this statement was misleading, the Member for Callide tendered a copy of a letter a Bundaberg woman sent to the Member for Bundaberg in August 2003 concerning the woman’s health care at the Bundaberg Base Hospital. The letter mentions a medical examination by Dr J Patel.

The Member for Callide also tendered for my consideration a copy of the Member for Bundaberg’s reply back to the woman on 23 October 2003. In her letter, the Member for Bundaberg states quite clearly that she had made representations to the then Minister for Health on the woman’s behalf about her concerns with the Bundaberg Base Hospital.

In short, the letters tendered by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition suggest that the Member for Bundaberg was aware of Dr Patel six months ago, and did in fact take action in making representations to the former Minister for Health.

I find that there is no basis to demonstrate a prima facie contempt of deliberately misleading the House, and intend to take no further action in respect of the matter.’

PETITIONS

The following paper petition, lodged with the Clerk by the Member indicated, was received—

Mr Langbroek from 1,309 petitioners requesting the House to call on the Beattie State Labor Government to immediately abolish all six remaining unfair and inefficient State taxes the GST was meant to replace as part of the promise of the Beattie Government made to Queensland taxpayers to review such taxes.

The following E-petitions, sponsored by the Members indicated, were received—

Mrs Smith from 527 petitioners requesting the House to establish a Multi-Disciplinary Domestic Violence Death Review Board which would provide information on the nature and circumstance of each domestic violence death as well as possible gaps in legislation and/or service response, as with more information these deaths may be prevented.

Mr O’Brien from 189 petitioners requesting the House to modify the Wild Rivers Bill and detailing three measures to modify the Wild Rivers Bill.

PAPERS TABLED DURING THE RECESS

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

31 May 2005—

Twenty-Fifth Report by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal dated 19 November 2004, pursuant to the Judges (Salaries and Allowances) Act 1967

Judges’ Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Determination (No. 1) 2005

Letter, dated 30 May 2005, from the Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) to the Clerk of the Parliament enclosing a copy of a letter from the Commonwealth Parliament’s Joint Standing Committee on Treaties listing proposed international treaty actions tabled in the Commonwealth Parliament on 11 May 2005 and the National Interest Analyses for each of the proposed treaty actions listed

1 June 2005—

Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Mr Lucas) to a paper petition presented by Ms Lee Long from 71 petitioners requesting better signage at the intersection of the Kennedy Highway and Kairi Road (Main Street) at Tolga
2 June 2005—
National Transport Commission - Annual Report for year ended 30 June 2004

3 June 2005—
Response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Mr Lucas) to a paper petition presented by Mr Wellington from 45 petitioners requesting the House to amend the eligibility criteria for the school transport assistance scheme

6 June 2005—
Report by the Minister for Education and the Arts (Ms Bligh), overseas visit to France, Switzerland, Italy and Denmark, 23 April – 5 May 2005

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS
The following statutory instruments were tabled by the Clerk—

Vocational Education, Training and Employment Amendment Act 2005—
Proclamation commencing remaining provisions, No. 93

Electrical Safety Amendment Regulation (No. 2) 2005, No. 94

Nursing Act 1992—
Nursing Amendment By-law (No. 1) 2005, No. 95

Queensland Building Services Authority Act 1991—
Queensland Building Services Authority and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2005, No. 96

Legal Profession Act 2004
Legal Profession (Postponement) Regulation 2005, No. 97

Land Title Act 1994—
Land Title Regulation 2005, No. 98

Local Government Act 1993—
Local Government Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2005, No. 99

Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995—
Workplace Health and Safety (Codes of Practice) Amendment Notice (No. 2) 2005, No. 100

Chemical Usage (Agricultural and Veterinary) Control Act 1988, State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999,
Stock Act 1915—

Vocational Education, Training and Employment Act 2000—
Vocational Education, Training and Employment Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2005, No. 102 and Explanatory Notes and Regulatory Impact Statement for No. 102

Natural Resources and Mines Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2005, No. 103

Recreation Areas Management Act 1988—
Recreation Areas Management Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2005, No. 104

Emergency Services Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2005, No. 105

Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994—
Rural and Regional Adjustment Amendment Regulation (No. 4) 2005, No. 106
MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS (Hansard p. 1781, 9.36 am)

(a) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to the death of Mr Alex Freeleagus, the Honorary Greek Consul.

(b) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to the Council of Australian Governments’ (COAG) meeting held on 3 June 2005.

Papers: Mr Beattie, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
COAG Communique dated 3 June 2005
Productivity Commission Issues Paper, dated May 2005, titled The Health Workforce
Letter, dated 31 May 2005, from Mr Beattie to the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) relating to proposals for the national apprenticeship system
Letter, dated 31 May 2005, from Mr Beattie to the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) relating to the Commonwealth’s agenda paper on workplace relations

(c) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to the Crime and Misconduct Commission Report on the Review of the Financial Management Guidelines for the Office of the Speaker.

Papers: Mr Beattie, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
Letter, dated 30 May 2005, to the Honourable Ray Hollis, MP, in relation to expenses incurred during overseas trips and a copy of a document titled Report on Overseas Trip to attend the Forty-sixth Parliamentary seminar at Westminster by Hon N J Turner, MLA

(d) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to proposed changes to Members’ entitlements and amendments to the Members’ Entitlements Handbook.

Paper: Mr Beattie, during his statement, tabled the following paper—
Letter, dated 7 June 2005, from Mr Beattie to Mr Neil Laurie, Clerk of the Parliament relating to proposed amendments to the Members’ Entitlements Handbook

(e) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to Queensland Greats.

(f) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to the Queenslander and Young Queenslander of the Year.

(g) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to JetStar and a tourism aviation reception.

(h) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to AngelFlight.

Papers: Mr Beattie, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
List of recipients of AngelFlight Star Awards
List of 5 Earth Angel Missions

(i) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to management of the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

(j) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to Freedom of Information and Des Houghton’s FOI Column in The Courier-Mail.

(k) Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) made a ministerial statement relating to a meeting attended by Mr Beattie with unions officials at the Bundaberg Base Hospital.

(l) Minister for Education and the Arts (Ms Bligh) made a ministerial statement relating to a literacy and numeracy report.
(m) Minister for Health (Mr Nuttall) made a ministerial statement relating to elective surgery waiting lists.

(n) Minister for Public Works, Housing and Racing (Mr Schwarten) made a ministerial statement relating to the Report of the Queensland Thoroughbred Racing Inquiry.

   Paper: Mr Schwarten, during his statement, tabled the following paper—

(o) Minister for Police and Corrective Services (Ms Spence) made a ministerial statement relating to police investigations into Dr Jayant Patel.

(p) Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Mr Lucas) made a ministerial statement relating to proposed changes to transport regulation and a derailment at Central Station, Brisbane.

(q) Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries (Mr Palaszczuk) made a ministerial statement relating to a trade mission to Asia from 12 to 21 May 2005.

   Papers: Mr Palaszczuk, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
   Document titled Report to Parliament on Trade Mission to Hong Kong, Korea, Thailand and Japan 12-21 May 2005
   Bundle of media releases relating to the trade mission
   Briefing book – Visit to Hong Kong, Korea and Japan – 12 to 21 May 2005
   Briefing book for the visit to Thailand – 15 to 18 May 2005

(r) Minister for Natural Resources and Mines (Mr Robertson) made a ministerial statement relating to land clearing and progress with the vegetation ballot.

SCRUTINY OF LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – PAPER

Chair of the Scrutiny of Legislation Committee (Mr Hayward) tabled the following paper—

Scrutiny of Legislation Committee—
Alert Digest No. 7 of 2005

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS (Hansard p. 1800, 10.24 am)

Private Members' statements were made.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (Hansard p. 1802, 10.30 am)

Questions without notice were asked.

Paper: Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Mr Seeney) tabled the following paper—
Copy of Queensland Services Union Energy News dated 15 February 2005 titled State Government Intervenes in Ergon Dispute

Questions continued.
Questions concluded.

MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST (Hansard p. 1812, 11.30 am)

Matters of public interest were debated.

Papers: Mr McNamara, during his speech, tabled the following papers—
References (four) for Dr Harish Gupta

Debate continued.

Papers: Mr Hopper, during his speech, tabled the following papers—
Letters (two), dated 3 May 2005, from Kevin Martin to Ralph Devlin and Martin Daubney, QC relating to the Queensland Thoroughbred Racing Inquiry
Email, dated 26 May 2005, from Martin Daubney, SC to Kevin Martin relating to the Queensland Thoroughbred Racing Inquiry

Debate continued.
Debate concluded.
RETAIL SHOP LEASES AMENDMENT BILL (Hansard p. 1822, 12.30 pm)
Minister for State Development and Innovation (Mr McGrady) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Retail Shop Leases Act 1994 and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.
Question put and agreed to.
Mr McGrady moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr Hopper moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question put and agreed to.

CROSS–BORDER LAW ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (Hansard p. 1824, 12.40 pm)
Attorney–General and Minister for Justice (Mr Welford) presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to the enforcement of the criminal law and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.
Question put and agreed to.
Mr Welford moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr Hopper moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question put and agreed to.

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL (Hansard p. 1827, 2.31 pm)
Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Sport (Mr Mackenroth) presented a message from Her Excellency the Governor, viz:

“MESSAGE
APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL 2005
Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, QUENTIN BRYCE, Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intituled—
A Bill for an Act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the consolidated fund for the Legislative Assembly and parliamentary service for the financial years starting 1 July 2005 and 1 July 2006.

Quentin Bryce
GOVERNOR
2 June 2005”

Mr Mackenroth presented a Bill for an Act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the consolidated fund for the Legislative Assembly and parliamentary service for the financial years starting 1 July 2005 and 1 July 2006 and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.
Question put and agreed to.
Mr Mackenroth moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Leader of the Opposition (Mr Springborg) moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question put and agreed to.

APPROPRIATION BILL (Hansard p. 1827, 2.33 pm)
Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Sport (Mr Mackenroth)presented a message from Her Excellency the Governor, viz:

“MESSAGE
APPROPRIATION BILL 2005
Constitution of Queensland 2001, section 68

I, QUENTIN BRYCE, 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 departments for the financial years starting 1 July 2005 and 1 July 2006.

Quentin Bryce
GOVERNOR
2 June 2005."

Mr Mackenroth presented a Bill for an Act authorising the Treasurer to pay amounts from the consolidated fund for departments for the financial years starting 1 July 2005 and 1 July 2006 and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr Mackenroth moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Papers: Mr Mackenroth, during his speech, tabled the following papers—

Budget Papers—
   Budget Speech
   Budget Strategy and Outlook
   Capital Statement
   Budget Highlights

Ministerial Portfolio Statements—
   Attorney–General and Minister for Justice
   Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Sport
   Minister for Child Safety
   Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors
   Minister for Education and the Arts
   Minister for Emergency Services
   Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations
   Minister for Energy and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy
   Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women
   Minister for Health
   Minister for Natural Resources and Mines
   Minister for Police and Corrective Services
   Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
   Minister for Public Works, Housing and Racing
   Minister for State Development and Innovation
   Minister for Tourism, Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development
   Minister for Transport and Main Roads
   Premier and Minister for Trade
   Speaker’s Portfolio Statements – Legislative Assembly of Queensland

Regional Budget Statements—
   Greater Brisbane
   Darling Downs and West Moreton
   Far North Queensland
   Fitzroy
   Mackay–Whitsunday
   North Coast
   North Queensland
   South Coast
   Western Queensland
   Wide Bay–Burnett

Leader of the Opposition (Mr Springborg) moved – That the debate be now adjourned.

Question put and agreed to.

LAND TAX AMENDMENT BILL (Hansard p. 1833, 3.08 pm)

Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Sport (Mr Mackenroth) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Land Tax Act 1915 and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.
Question put and agreed to.
Mr Mackenroth moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Mr Seeney) moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question put and agreed to.

**ADJOURNMENT** (Hansard p. 1835, 3.09 pm)
Leader of the House (Ms Bligh) moved – That this House do now adjourn.
Question put and agreed to.
The House adjourned at 3.09 pm.

**ATTENDANCE**
The following Members were present—

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**D FOURAS**
ACTING SPEAKER

**N J LAURIE**
CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT

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VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS NO. 59 – TUESDAY, 7 JUNE 2005