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MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly met at 9.30 am, pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Honourable M F Reynolds) read prayers.

SPEAKER’S STATEMENT – MATTER OF PRIVILEGE REFERRED TO THE MEMBERS’ ETHICS AND PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE

Mr Speaker made the following statement—

‘Honourable Members—

I refer to the matter of privilege raised by the Leader of the Liberal Party yesterday morning regarding correspondence from a legal firm received by the Member on account of his activities in the House. The Member also wrote to me on the matter yesterday. I have considered the Member’s correspondence.

I have also discussed this matter with the Clerk who also had correspondence with the legal firm, prior to the legal firm writing to the Member. For the information of the House I table that correspondence.

I note that in a letter from the Clerk to the legal firm, dated 20 March 2007, six days before the correspondence from the legal firm to the Leader of the Liberal Party, the Clerk warned the legal firm about the parliamentary privilege applying to Members’ activities in the House, the privileged status of tabled documents and the possible contempt that could apply to any interference in proceedings or the rights of members.

There could be an argument that the letter to the Leader of the Liberal Party is reasonably carefully worded so as to not offend any privilege, possibly as a result of the warning that had been already issued.

Nonetheless, I am deeply concerned about the ignorance of the privilege of proceedings of this House demonstrated in the original correspondence to the Clerk and how the requests in that correspondence were inappropriate. That the letter to the Leader of the Liberal Party followed, without any express recognition of the Member’s rights, compounds the matter.

I am also more generally concerned about letters from lawyers to Members regarding the Member’s activities in the House. Those in the legal profession may not realise how inherently intimidating an action a legal letter in itself is, especially if the tone is not moderated or rights recognised.

I appreciate that private legal rights are involved and that solicitors act in their clients interest and the approach should be balanced.

In short, this is a matter that does raise issues of privilege and is best examined in detail with an opportunity for full, detailed consideration and submission. I have, therefore, decided to refer this matter to the Members’ Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee for its consideration, not just of this particular matter, but any wider issues involved that the Committee believes should be considered and reported upon.’

Papers: Mr Speaker, during his statement, tabled the following papers—

Letter, dated 20 March 2007, from Mr M O’Connor of Gabriel Ruddy & Garrett solicitors to the Clerk of the Parliament relating to a tabled paper
Letter, dated 20 March 2007, from the Clerk of the Parliament to Mr M O’Connor of Gabriel Ruddy & Garrett solicitors relating to a tabled paper
Letter, dated 26 March 2007, from Mr M O’Connor of Gabriel Ruddy & Garrett solicitors to the Clerk of the Parliament relating to a tabled paper

PETITIONS

The following paper petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the Members indicated, were received—

Mrs Lee Long from 3,694 petitioners requesting the House to reconsider laws under which those charged with serious, violent offences are able to obtain bail.

Mr Wellington from 37 petitioners requesting the House to reject the application by Maroochy Shire Council for a proposed landfill site at Ferntree Creek Road Kulangoor.
Mr Wellington from 58 petitioners requesting the House to reject the application by Maroochy Shire Council for a proposed landfill site at Ferntree Creek Road Kulangoor.

Mr Wellington from 237 petitioners requesting the House to provide a pedestrian crossing on Mapleton Road at Nambour Heights.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS (Record of Proceedings p.1270)

Ministerial statements were made.

Papers: Attorney–General and Minister for Justice and Minister Assisting the Premier in Western Queensland (Mr Shine), during his statement, tabled the following papers—


Statements continued.

NOTICE OF MOTION – TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Leader of the Opposition (Mr Seeney) gave notice that he will move – That this House recognises the emerging crises of traffic gridlock, overcrowded public transport, inferior road infrastructure, and unaffordable housing; and calls on the Premier to follow the example set by the Queensland Coalition and urgently refocus his government and ministers on resolving these serious problems that are challenging the liveability of south east Queensland.

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ STATEMENTS (Record of Proceedings p.1280)

Private Members’ statements were made.

Paper: Mr Wellington, during his speech, tabled the following paper—

Copy of a letter, undated, from T Biedrzycka to Mr Wellington relating to a bioreactor landfill dump proposal

Statements continued.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (Record of Proceedings p.1282)

Questions without notice were asked.

Paper: Leader of the Opposition (Mr Seeney) tabled the following paper—

Copy of a letter, dated 30 March 2007, from the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (Mr Fraser), to Councillor John Brent, Mayor, Boonah Shire Council, relating to approval of a funding application under the Regional Collaboration and Capacity Building Program

Questions continued.

Paper: Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie) tabled the following paper—

Copy of a letter, dated 17 April 2007, from the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (Mr Fraser), to Councillor Allan Sutherland, Mayor, Redcliffe City Council, relating to local Government reforms

Questions continued.

Questions concluded.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (Record of Proceedings p.1294)

Minister for State Development, Employment and Industrial Relations (Mr Mickel) presented a Bill for an Act to make further provision for industrial relations, and for other purposes and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr Mickel 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.

**LAND AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL** *(Record of Proceedings p.1300)*

Order of the day read for the consideration of the Bill in detail.

**Consideration in detail**—

Clauses 1 to 24, as read, agreed to.

Clause 25—
Debate ensued.
Question put – That Clause 25, as read, stand part of the Bill.
The House divided.

**AYES 52—**

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**NOES 28—**

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<td>Dickson *</td>
<td>Hobbs</td>
<td>Lee Long</td>
<td>Messenger</td>
<td>Simpson</td>
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</table>

*Tellers *

Question agreed to.
Clauses 26 to 227, as read, agreed to.

**Consideration in detail completed**—

Mr Wallace moved – That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and agreed to.
Bill read a third time.
Mr Wallace moved – That the long title of the Bill be agreed to.
Question put and agreed to.

**STATUTORY BODIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL** *(Record of Proceedings p.1307)*

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for State Development, Employment and Industrial Relations (Mr Mickel) – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Debate adjourned on the motion of Miss Simpson.

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT** *(Record of Proceedings p.1310)*

A ministerial statement, by leave, was made.

*Papers:* Mr Beattie, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
Report on overseas visit to South Africa, Kenya and the United Kingdom from 19 March to 31 March 2007
Report on an overseas visit to South Africa, Kenya and the United Kingdom by Dr Heather Beattie from 19 March to 31 March 2007
POLICE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL  (Record of Proceedings p.1311)

Minister for Police and Corrective Services (Ms Spence) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Child Protection (Offender Reporting) Act 2004, the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 and the Police Service Administration Act 1990, and for other purposes and Explanatory Notes and moved – That the Bill be now read a first time.

Question put and agreed to.
Ms Spence moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Miss Simpson moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question put and agreed to.

STATUTORY BODIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL  (Record of Proceedings p.1313)

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for State Development, Employment and Industrial Relations (Mr Mickel) – That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Paper:  Miss Simpson, during her speech, tabled the following paper—
Table detailing resignation numbers for medical nursing and allied health professionals in Queensland Health, July 2005 to December 2006

Debate continued.

Consideration in detail—

Clauses 1 to 131, as read, agreed to.

Consideration in detail completed—

Mr Mickel moved – That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill read a third time.

Mr Mickel moved – That the long title of the Bill be agreed to.

Question put and agreed to.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL  (Record of Proceedings p.1324)

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (Mr Fraser) – That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

SPEAKER’S STATEMENT – PROCEDURE – PRINCIPLES FOR SECOND READING DEBATE

Mr Speaker made the following statement—

‘Honourable Members—

The second reading debate is an opportunity to debate the general principles and objectives of a Bill. The second reading debate should not be used to debate, in particular, matters which should be debated and decided in consideration in detail.

However, I am aware that the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport has foreshadowed substantial amendments to be moved to the Local Government and Other Legislation Bill and tabled copies of those amendments. Indeed, I think that the amendments are so significant that I think it would be unreasonable and almost impossible to not allow reference to the proposed amendments in the second reading debate. So reference to the foreshadowed amendments is permissible.

This does not mean that members can use the second reading debate to consider the proposed amendments to be moved at the consideration in detail stage, nor consider the Bill clause by
clause. The second reading debate should still be confined to general principles, including those contained in the foreshadowed amendments.’

Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned on the motion of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Seeney).

MOTION – TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE (Record of Proceedings p.1339)
Leader of the Opposition (Mr Seeney) moved – That this House recognises the emerging crises of traffic gridlock, overcrowded public transport, inferior road infrastructure, and unaffordable housing; and calls on the Premier to follow the example set by the Queensland Coalition and urgently refocus his government and ministers on resolving these serious problems that are challenging the liveability of south east Queensland.
Motion seconded by the Leader of the Liberal Party (Dr Flegg).
Debate ensued.
The following amendment was proposed by the Premier and Minister for Trade (Mr Beattie)—

That all words after “House” are deleted and the following words inserted:

• recognises the population and economic growth of Southeast Queensland and the Government’s implementation of detailed plans to manage growth and build for the future;
• acknowledges the Beattie Government’s substantial funding increase for roads, public transport services and public transport infrastructure;
• supports the Beattie Government’s call on the Federal Government to match Queensland’s unprecedented funding; and
• acknowledges the Beattie Government’s programs to make housing affordability a reality.

Papers: Mr Beattie, during his speech, tabled the following papers—
Report by the Office of Urban Management, dated June 2005, titled South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005-2026
Report by the Office of Urban Management, dated October 2006, titled South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005-2026 Amendment 1
Document titled Housing Affordability

Amendment seconded by the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure (Ms Bligh).
Debate continued.
Papers: Mr Nicholls, during his speech, tabled the following papers—
Document by the Australian Government, dated 18 April 2007, titled GST Revenue Provision to the States

Debate continued.
Question put – That Mr Beattie’s amendment be agreed to.
The House divided.

AYES 50—

Attwood
Beattie
Bligh
Bombolas
Choi
Croft
Darling
English
Fenlon
Fraser
Gray
Hayward
Hinchliffe
Hoolihan
Jarratt
Kierman
Lavarch
Lawlor
Lee
Lucas
Male *
McNamara *
Miller
Mulherin
Nelson–Carr
O’Brien
Palaszczuk
Pearce
Pitt
Purcell
Reeves
Reilly
Roberts
Robertson
Schwarten
Scott
Shine
Spence
Stone
Struthers
Sullivan
Van Litsenburg
Wallace
Weightman
Wellington
Wells
Wendt
Wettenhall
Wilson
Question agreed to.

Question put – That the motion, as amended, be agreed to.

The House divided.

AYES 50—

Atwood    Fraser    Lee    Pearce    Shine    Wellington
Beattie    Gray     Lucas    Pitt     Spence    Wells
Bligh      Hayward  Male *  Purcell  Stone    Wendt
Bombolas  Hinchliffe McNamara * Reeves  Struthers  Wattenhall
Choi      Hoolihan  Miller   Reilly   Sullivan  Wilson
Croft     Jarratt   Mulherin Roberts  Van Litsenburg
Darling   Kiernan   Nelson–Carr Robertson Wallace
English   Lavarch   O'Brien   Schwarten Weightman
Fenton    Lawlor    Palaszczuk Scott    Welford

NOES 27—

Copeland  Flegg    Johnson  Malone  Pratt    Stevens
Cripps    Foley    Knuth    Mc Ardle Rickuss * Stuckey
Dempsey   Gibson   Langbroek Menkens Seeney
Dickson * Hobbs   Lee Long  Messenger Simpson
Elmes     Hopper   Lingard  Nicholls Springborg

Tellers *

Question, as amended—

That this House—

• recognises the population and economic growth of Southeast Queensland and the Government’s implementation of detailed plans to manage growth and build for the future;
• acknowledges the Beattie Government’s substantial funding increase for roads, public transport services and public transport infrastructure;
• supports the Beattie Government’s call on the Federal Government to match Queensland’s unprecedented funding; and
• acknowledges the Beattie Government’s programs to make housing affordability a reality.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL  (Record of Proceedings p.1350)

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport (Mr Fraser) – That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned on the motion of Mr Cripps.

ADJOURNMENT  (Record of Proceedings p.1366)

Acting Leader of the House (Mr Fraser) moved – That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and agreed to.

The House adjourned at 10.02 pm.
ATTENDANCE

The following Members were present—

- Attwood
- Barry
- Beattie
- Bligh
- Bombolas
- Choi
- Copeland
- Cripps
- Cripps
- Cunningham
- Darling
- Dempsey
- Dickson
- Elmes
- English
- Fenlon
- Finn
- Flegg
- Foley
- Fraser
- Gibbons
- Gray
- Hayward
- Hinchliffe
- Hobbs
- Hoolihan
- Hopper
- Jarrett
- Johnson
- Jones
- Keech
- Kieran
- Knuth
- Langbroek
- Lavarch
- Lawlor
- Lee
- Lee Long
- Lingard
- Lucas
- Male
- Malone
- Mc Ardle
- McNamara
- Menkens
- Messenger
- Mickel
- Miller
- Moorhead
- Mulherin
- Nelson-Carr
- Nicholls
- Nolan
- O'Brien
- Palaszczuk
- Pearce
- Pitt
- Pratt
- Purcell
- Reeves
- Reilly
- Reynolds
- Rickuss
- Roberts
- Robertson
- Schwarten
- Scott
- Seeley
- Shim
- Simpson
- Spence
- Springborg
- Stevens
- Stone
- Struthers
- Stuckey
- Sullivan
- Van Litsenburg
- Wallace
- Weightman
- Welford
- Wellington
- Wells
- Wendt
- Wettenhall
- Wilson

M F REYNOLDS
SPEAKER

N J LAURIE
CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT