




Speech By  
**Stephen Andrew**

**MEMBER FOR MIRANI**

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Record of Proceedings, 26 March 2019

**GUARDIAN AND ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT  
BILL**

 **Mr ANDREW** (Mirani—PHON) (3.21 pm): I rise to make a brief contribution to the Guardianship and Administration and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2018. I would like to thank both the former committee and the current Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee for their work on this bill. I would also like to thank the secretariat for putting together the report and the many people and organisations who gave their valuable time to provide contributions to the making of this bill. Most especially, it is hoped that the elderly and the most vulnerable people within every community are finally on the way to getting the care and support they need from the Queensland government.

This bill is derived from various recommendations, as well as taking guidance from ongoing investigations seeking to accommodate Queensland's ever increasing and ageing population. Within the 98 clauses of the construct, this bill addresses many of the 317 recommendations from the Law Reform Commission's five-year investigation into existing acts. The bill will: provide a focus on contemporary practice and human rights for adults with impaired capacity; enhance safeguards for adults with impaired capacity living within guardianship systems; improve the efficiency of Queensland guardianship systems or improve the clarity of the legislation; and amend the Integrity Act 2009 to implement two recommendations of the finance and administration committee's report No. 19 titled *Inquiry into the report on the strategic review of the functions of the Integrity Commissioner*.

This bill will also amend the Government Owned Corporations Act 1993 and the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010 to implement recommendation 13 of the Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee report No. 97 titled *Review of Crime and Corruption Commission*. There is, however, some concerns attached to the minister's responsibility for assessing and preparing guidelines. The delivery of necessary outcomes to address this deficiency must be swift to remove further unnecessary stress on communities. Like other entities such as the Ombudsman, QCAT are short on funding resources and training. These critical needs have to be bolstered to cater for the increasing workloads to meet public expectations going forward.

Generally, the bill tidies up a lot of the legislation around the advance health directives and powers of attorney. The world outside this chamber is full of real families struggling to overcome real problems that can only be solved with more funding, especially for the regions where physical isolation and great travel distances just to access basic services exacerbate these issues. Taking all these matters into consideration, I commend the bill to the House.