




Speech By  
**Colin Boyce**

**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 October 2021

**RESOURCES AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr BOYCE** (Callide—LNP) (3.45 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021. Firstly, I want to take the opportunity to convey my condolences and thoughts and prayers to the families, relatives and friends of all those who were involved in the tragedy on the Capricorn Highway yesterday near Rockhampton. It is a sobering reminder of how quickly and unexpectedly these events occur and my thoughts and condolences are with all those concerned.

The purpose of this bill was to clarify the legal standing of certain historically granted tenures, activities and entitlements under the Mineral Resources Act and the Petroleum Act; to repeal the Personalised Transport Ombudsman Act 2019 and to make minor amendments to the Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act; to ensure that water restrictions can be equitably investigated and enforced across the South-East Queensland region by amending the South-East Queensland Water (Distribution and Retail Restructuring) Act to align with powers local government water service providers have under the Local Government Act; and to exclude cybersecurity measures reported to the Water Supply Regulator from being made publicly available to mitigate the risk of malicious attacks on water service providers and water supply schemes by amending the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act.

The committee made three recommendations—that the bill be passed; that DTMR investigate the banning and recall of licence plates issued by PPQ that misrepresent themselves as limousine or taxis; and that DTMR publish material to inform the public about limousine and taxi licence plates and the differences to book hire vehicles. I want to make some comment firstly to resource tenure. I think it is most important to have all paperwork correct in respect to petroleum and mineral resources and their various tenures and leases. However, I find it a little concerning that there has been little or no consultation with major stakeholders with regard to this, in particular the Queensland Resources Council and the Environmental Defenders Office. Their concerns have been noted in the committee report.

The repealing of the Personalised Transport Ombudsman has been dealt with and is another example of the Labor government wasting another half a million dollars of taxpayers' money, which is unfortunate.

With respect to the water part of this bill, it is clearly evident that water and water supply management in South-East Queensland is of growing concern. There is not enough thought, planning or preparation for the provision of water infrastructure—dams, weirs and pipelines—to service the ever-growing demand and population increase in Queensland. This not only affects the south-east corner but all of Queensland. Australia is the driest habitable continent on earth and water is our most precious resource. Without water there is no life, no agriculture and no industry, so I think it most important that we ensure adequate water supply infrastructure and manage it accordingly. I will close on that comment. As always, I want to acknowledge my fellow committee members and thank Mrs Deb Jeffrey and her team for preparing our meetings, papers and reports.