



Speech By  
**Hon. Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR MCCONNEL**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 September 2022

## **HOLIDAYS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL**

### **Introduction**

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.34 am): I present a bill for an act to amend the Holidays Act 1983 and the Industrial Relations Act 2016 for particular purposes. I table the bill, the explanatory notes and a statement of compatibility with human rights. I nominate the Education, Employment and Training Committee to consider the bill.

*Tabled paper:* Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 [1299](#).

*Tabled paper:* Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, explanatory notes [1300](#).

*Tabled paper:* Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, statement of compatibility with human rights [1301](#).

I introduce the Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022. On 8 September 2022 we were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen faithfully served in the role for over 70 years and was the first and only reigning monarch to visit Australia. In line with the decision taken by the Commonwealth and other states and territories, on the afternoon of Friday, 9 September 2022 the Leader of the House wrote to you, the Speaker, to advise that the scheduled sitting of the Queensland parliament be postponed as a mark of respect while a period of mourning is observed.

On Sunday, 11 September 2022, in honour of the Queen and to commemorate the Queen's remarkable life and her dedication to service, the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of Australia, announced that Australia would hold a National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty The Queen on Thursday, 22 September 2022. On Sunday, 11 September the Prime Minister wrote to all members of the National Cabinet seeking support for the proclamation of a one-off public holiday in honour of the life and service of Her Majesty The Queen. The Queensland government supports the Commonwealth in observing a National Day of Mourning for the passing of the Queen. On that day, a national memorial service will be held at 11 am in Canberra at Parliament House which will be broadcast across the nation.

In Queensland a new public holiday can only be declared by an amendment to the Holidays Act 1983. This has always been the case in Queensland. It is therefore necessary for legislative changes to be made to the Holidays Act 1983 in order to provide for the National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty The Queen. The amendments will create a one-off public holiday on Thursday, 22 September 2022. The public holiday is to be named the 'National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty The Queen'. The National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty The Queen is of historical significance, and much genuine public grief has been and will be expressed at the passing of the Queen. The public holiday will allow the people of Queensland to honour the passing of the Queen and to commemorate the Queen's remarkable life and dedication to service.

The bill also makes a minor but necessary amendment to the Industrial Relations Act 2016 to ensure that the new public holiday is recognised for interpreting industrial instruments made under the act. This includes ensuring workers have an entitlement to be absent from work on the public holiday

where reasonable or to be paid public holiday penalty rates as prescribed in the relevant industrial instrument where work is performed on the day. In respect of trading hours for the public holiday, the arrangements will be similar to the Australia Day public holiday, with supermarkets, cafes and retail venues able to open. I know that the National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty The Queen will give Queenslanders a chance to remember the Queen's faithful service. I commend the bill to the House.

### **First Reading**

**Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.38 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 Education, Employment and Training Committee**

**Mr SPEAKER:** In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Education, Employment and Training Committee.

### **Declared Urgent; Order of Business**



**Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing) (9.38 am), by leave, without notice: I move—

1. that, under the provisions of standing order 137, the Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill be declared an urgent bill and not stand referred to a committee and be considered immediately;
2. that a maximum of 20 minutes apply to enable all stages of the bill to be completed at this day's sitting; and
3. if all stages have not been completed by the time specified, the Speaker shall put all remaining questions necessary to pass the bill, including clauses en bloc and any amendments to be moved by the minister in charge of the bill, without further amendment or debate.

Question put—That the motion be agreed to.

Motion agreed to.