




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR THEODORE

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EMBLEMS OF QUEENSLAND AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (12.09 pm): I rise to make a very short contribution to the Emblems of Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023. This omnibus bill amends multiple acts including the Crime and Corruption Act 2001, the Parliamentary Service Act 1988 and the Parliament of Queensland Act 2001. In the part of the bill that focuses on the Parliamentary Service Act 1988, amendments clarify that the parliamentary precinct includes both the Assembly and the gallery whilst the Assembly is in session and that the Speaker or those acting in that role will be able to give evidence to a court of a direction given in relation to a person's behaviour on the parliamentary precinct. The bill also amends the Parliament of Queensland Act in relation to voting as a proxy.

The main purpose of the bill relates to the state emblems of Queensland and adds the muttaburrasaurus as the state's fossil emblem. The muttaburrasaurus lived in the Cretaceous period, about 100 million years ago. At that time, the earth looked very different to how it looks today. Many landmarks, such as the Himalayas, had not been formed. The atmospheric composition was very different. Dense jungles and Sahara-like deserts crisscrossed the planet. Interestingly, the moon was about 4,000 kilometres closer to the earth than it is today and dinosaurs covered the planet. Many adults and children are fascinated by the dinosaurs, and declaring the muttaburrasaurus as the state fossil emblem is certainly worthwhile.

I want to highlight the importance of grey nomad tourism that feeds into townships throughout the state. We need to make sure that those towns have the workforce they need. Not only do we as a parliament need to do everything we can but also the Labor government needs to do everything it can to ensure that those towns have strong workforces and also the infrastructure that tourists need. I will keep my contribution very short. I wish the muttaburrasaurus a long and prosperous reign as the fossil emblem of this state.