

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 24 October 2018

The **SPEAKER (Hon. V.A. Tarzia)** took the chair at 10:31 and read prayers.

The SPEAKER: Honourable members, I respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of the land upon which this parliament is assembled and the custodians of the sacred lands of our state.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call Mr Clerk, I welcome to parliament today students from Tanunda Primary School, who are guests of the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Welcome to Parliament House. I hope you enjoy your time here today.

Bills

ROAD TRAFFIC (DRUG TESTING) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 4 July 2018.)

The SPEAKER: Member for Hammond.

Mr PEDERICK: I move:

That the debate be postponed.

Mr PICTON: I am trying to speak.

The SPEAKER: Yes, and I believe that the member for Hammond sought the call first.

Motion carried.

Mr PICTON: Point of order: twice this morning, in terms of private members' bills, I have risen to speak on motions that have been on the *Notice Paper* for some time and have previously been adjourned by the member for Hammond. You have called the member for Hammond even though he has previously adjourned it and even though I was standing and ready to speak on the bills. Is it not customary for the Speaker to alternate the calls between the two sides to enable debate to occur?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Point of order to the point of order: clearly this is a proposal to dissent from your ruling, Mr Speaker, which the member well knows must be put with a substantive motion.

The SPEAKER: Yes, that is true; there must be a substantive motion to do so. However, for clarity I advise that standing orders say that if there is more than one member seeking the call the Speaker will call who he thought rose first, and today that was the member for Hammond. If the member for Kaurna would like to bring a substantive motion he is more than welcome to do so. Mr Clerk.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The order of the day has not been read out yet. I call to order the member for Florey and the member for Kaurna.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (10:37): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

This bill has come from the other place, and I am introducing it on behalf of the Hon. Mark Parnell MLC of the Australian Greens. It passed through that chamber last week. The origins of this bill are in a report delivered by the former ombudsman back in 2014 following a review of how various government agencies handled their responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act.

The current bill is a trimmed-down version of bills that were debated in the upper house back in 2014 and 2016. There are three provisions in the bill, all of which have been identified by the current Ombudsman as worthy of support now, notwithstanding that the Attorney-General has indicated that the whole Freedom of Information Act will be reviewed. The provisions are:

1. Setting out factors that should be taken into account in determining whether or not the release of documents to an applicant is in the public interest;
2. Clarifying that a claim by an agency that documents cannot be found or do not exist is still a determination and, therefore, subject to internal or external review; and
3. Making it an offence to improperly interfere politically in a determination.

Each of these three areas was identified by the Ombudsman as worthy of support now while we await the rewrite of the entire act. They are all derived from recommendations of the current and former ombudsmen and should be regarded as low-hanging fruit or no-regret reforms that would almost certainly be included in the holistic review of the act which the Attorney-General has committed to undertake but which is unlikely to reach parliament until sometime next year. I therefore commend the bill to the house.

Mr PEDERICK: I move:

That the debate be adjourned.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes 22
 Noes 19
 Majority..... 3

AYES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Ellis, F.J.	Gardner, J.A.W.
Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.	Luethen, P.
McBride, N.	Murray, S.	Patterson, S.J.R.
Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.	Power, C.
Sanderson, R.	Speirs, D.J.	Teague, J.B.
Treloar, P.A.	van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.	Whetstone, T.J.
Wingard, C.L.		

NOES

Bedford, F.E. (teller)	Bell, T.S.	Bettison, Z.L.
Bignell, L.W.K.	Boyer, B.I.	Brock, G.G.
Brown, M.E.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Gee, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hughes, E.J.
Koutsantonis, A.	Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K.
Piccolo, A.	Picton, C.J.	Stinson, J.M.
Wortley, D.		

PAIRS

Duluk, S.	Rau, J.R.	Marshall, S.S.
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PAIRS

Malinauskas, P.

Motion thus carried; debate adjourned.

*Motions***WORLD TEACHERS' DAY**

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (10:44): I move:

That this house notes that 26 October is World Teachers' Day (Australia) and expresses its appreciation to all South Australian teachers and former teachers who have dedicated their lives to helping our next generation to be all they can be.

Internationally, World Teachers' Day is celebrated on 5 October each year. However, as this is usually within the Australian school holidays, Australia celebrates it on the last Friday of October, which is this coming Friday 26 October.

The quality of teaching is a significant factor in the success of students, and effective teachers understand that the learning needs of students vary from one student to the next. An important theme of World Teachers' Day is 'The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher'. It is important that we acknowledge that the work our teachers do is invaluable, and it is important that we recognise that work and thank all teachers for what they do. I also think it is important that we acknowledge the teaching that occurs regardless of the sector it occurs within.

I am not very much in favour of putting one sector against another because, at the end of the day, the performance and success of teaching in those different sectors are important because the educational outcomes of all those students is important. The work that teachers do is about giving children and young people the skills to take on the world, empowering them to grasp the opportunities that await them in the future, and this ultimately underpins the future prosperity of our state and our nation. As a way of full disclosure, I would also like to make mention of the fact that my wife has very recently started teaching.

A great many of my friends and even former colleagues have now become teachers. It is certainly not uncommon in my former career to see people, when they get to about 30, start doing different things. I think it is fantastic that a lot of them have chosen to be teachers. There is a lot to be said for people who have been part of other careers before becoming teachers, not to take away from those who have not, but I think that diversity of experience is important as students go through different year levels.

We can all remember those good teachers we had and possibly also those who were not so good. Personally, I can remember a number of the great teachers I had who helped me at different points along the way. In particular, I remember the teachers who took me aside and pointed me in the direction of extra opportunities that they had identified as being of interest to me or areas that I personally needed to work on. For example, going right back to year 2, my handwriting was particularly woeful and my year 2 teacher, Ms Nitschke, gave me a whole bunch of additional exercises to do, which I probably did not like at the time. But with the support of my parents, I worked through them and got things back on track.

I can also remember a teacher—Ms McClusky was her name, from memory—who had organised Deane Hutton from *The Curiosity Show* to come out to the school and do some science shows on a couple of occasions with liquid nitrogen and a water rocket, where you got a bike pump and pumped it up and then it fired up into the air. I would have probably been about eight or nine years old, but I can still remember all of that. To digress a little, in recent weeks I met Deane Hutton at the opening of Science Alive! and told him about that. I think he was quite touched to see an example of someone who pursued a career in an area that he had worked in.

In later primary school, I had another teacher, Mr Chaplin, who held regular running sessions three times a week, which is pretty tough when I think back on it now. We used to accumulate the number of laps we did over the course of the year and as you reached particular milestones—20 laps,

40 laps, 50 laps—you would get certificates right up to 100 laps, when everyone would get a medal. Until that point I had no idea that I could even run but having that opportunity told me that I could and I certainly used that later on, although nowadays I guess I am going a bit backwards, but it was good for that period.

I also had a year 9 science teacher, Dr Woodruff, who encouraged me to participate in what was then the Siemens Science Experience. This was something that was also coordinated by Rotary. It was a fantastic opportunity to work in different areas of science over the course of a week. The one I did was at the University of South Australia. We looked at robotics and we did some medical applications in physiotherapy and some other things, even microbiology, where we were streaking out bacteria from yoghurt onto agar.

I then had a year 10-11 English teacher, Ms Renton-Power, who encouraged me to participate in a public speaking competition. I do not think I won or progressed any further, but I had decided, believe it or not, to talk about some of the ethical issues around the genetic manipulation of the human genome and human cloning. I cannot remember what I talked about, but I imagine it would have been quite interesting at the time. That same teacher gave me the opportunity, with one or two other students from my high school, to go to a local school leaders' meeting at Gawler High School. The premier at the time, John Olsen, and the minister for education, Malcolm Buckby, were there and we were able to fire questions at them on a whole bunch of different areas.

This is not intended to be a year-by-year recollection of my personal schooling. The main point I want to make is about the efforts that individual teachers made, identifying particular things they thought they could help me with and helping me along my pathway to later life. That is incredibly important and I see so much of it still happening today. Through Rotary, I had the great fortune of being part of the National Youth Science Forum district selection committee and meeting so many fantastic students who were interested in science. In their high schools, their science teachers had identified them as being interested in that area and encouraged them to participate.

Another great example I had the privilege to be a part of yesterday morning was at Banksia Park International High School, where they have a global citizens medal program where they recognise the community work and academic achievements of students and then also get them to give a talk on an issue that is of interest to them. This ranged from Scouts, both local and international, to immigration and integration within Australia. There was another talk about some of the issues around bullying in our schools and how the online environment has changed the way that occurs. The last speaker talked quite passionately about poverty, particularly in developing countries. It is a fantastic program and I would like to commend the year 12 coordinator, Bronwyn Eglinton, for her support of that program and also for inviting me to be part of it as a community member of the panel.

A critical point to make, particularly about extracurricular activities—and certainly this was so in my case and for the students receiving global citizens medals yesterday—relates to the role of parents because the support of parents is essential. Whilst there is no question that the standard and quality of our teachers and teaching methods, and making sure they are up to date and best practice, are absolutely essential, we cannot forget that one of the greatest determinants in the educational outcomes of a student is the attitude their parents have to education.

Where parents do not value education, then in spite of the best efforts of teachers that student is already at a very significant disadvantage. I firmly believe that the educational outcomes of our kids are greatest when schoolteachers and parents work in partnership; in fact, grandparents also play an incredibly large role now. I would like to acknowledge that there is also an important responsibility for parents in education. It is difficult, and there are a lot of time constraints. Sometimes some parents themselves have not achieved a high educational level, but I think the effort is what matters, and the acknowledgment that the education of their children is important.

I would also like to briefly touch on some of the really sad things that teachers have to deal with, where students have come through in cases of neglect. I have certainly heard examples from people who have worked in the profession of students being dragged away from their education by parents who are just having some pretty serious issues of their own. There are students who come to school hungry; it is surprising how many students do go to school hungry. Even in my own

electorate, I know of what I found to be quite shocking numbers of students. I am pleased, though, that the government is committing \$800,000 to a breakfast program that will help in these cases.

Then there are other really sad cases, like a young primary school student turning up to school saturated because they had to wash their own uniform and had not dried it. I could go on and on, and I am sure teachers could go on and on with so many of those cases. Teachers often have to work with students from difficult backgrounds, and many work very hard to try to give them the best possible opportunity to achieve a quality education. Yesterday, I reflected on a number of schools in my electorate and some of the good work they do. I did not get the opportunity to speak about all of them, so I would like to continue on that today and hopefully get through the rest of the list in the remaining time that I have.

I would like firstly to acknowledge the great work Ardtornish Primary School do. They are highly regarded in the area of phonics, so much so that the driver of this phonics program at the school, principal Mark Hansen, has actually been brought into the department to help with the government's Literacy Guarantee, particularly the phonics component. I would also like to congratulate the Ardtornish Children's Centre on their preschool learning stories award entry, 'Wildlife project', being awarded a state winner through the 2018 Primary Mathematics Association of South Australia's Powerful Learners Mathematics and Numeracy Challenge. I would like to congratulate the students, staff and families on their work on this.

Teachers at Saint David's Parish School, a wonderful local community Catholic school, have worked very hard and I understand are leaders in the area of explicit direct instruction under the leadership of Leanne Lawler. They are doing a lot of very good work there. I would like to acknowledge that Kersbrook Primary School is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. This is indeed a wonderful school that offers so many opportunities for its students. They are setting up a new nature play area at the moment for the younger students, organising a trip for some older students to Parliament House in Canberra and doing some fundraising events to help that. They recently had a swimming program, and they are about to hold their sports day, so that is certainly a very packed schedule.

Paracombe Primary School is in a beautiful setting up there in Paracombe. It has lovely Indigenous artwork that the school takes great pride in—and I think they should—right along the front of their school, which is a great reminder to the students about some of the Indigenous heritage in the area in South Australia.

Torrens Valley Christian School is an R-12 school in my electorate, and I had the great pleasure of attending their ANZAC Day service earlier this year—wonderful music performance and artworks of an incredibly impressive standard. I was taken on a tour of the school by the school principal, Julie Prattis, where I saw all sorts of things, including some 3D printing. I think it was the first time I had actually seen that in the flesh, and the little car thing that they had made was quite impressive. It is a school that certainly places the development of their students as a whole at the centre of everything they do.

In conclusion, today teachers are operating in complex, fast-paced, multicultural and technological environments, which makes the quality of teaching even more significant in helping our young people to engage with their learning and to realise their potential. We want South Australian students to be inspired to learn and to continue learning throughout their lives, and that is where the commitment of educators is pivotal and why excellence in teaching must be recognised. I thank all teachers for the work they do and I commend this motion to house.

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (10:58): I am delighted to support this motion and am very pleased that it has been brought forward by the member for Newland. There is no question that after the family background of an individual student and the social composition of the school as a whole, the biggest effect on our education system is that of the teacher. The teacher makes an enormous difference to the quality of the educational experience of each student. That is good news; it also confers an obligation on those of us who are responsible for setting education policy to understand how we can best support our teachers. That requires us to be paying attention to the teacher training that occurs at universities and to make sure that it is not only

of the highest standard but also of the greatest relevance to what teachers need to know and understand to be useful to their students and to enjoy their career.

We need to make sure that we invest appropriately in the first few years of teaching. Teaching, although not unique amongst the professions, is one that is most susceptible to people changing their minds about staying in that profession, having tried it for the first one, two or three years. We need to make sure that as policymakers we pay sufficient attention to the support that teachers require in those early years to ease into what can be a very challenging profession and quite a different experience from that in their preservice training, to help teachers settle in and see themselves there for the long term.

Under the previous government—and I am certain it is being continued under this government—there was an increase in investment in public schools for the first years, not only in the kind of professional development that they had available to them and the time off that they had in order to take advantage of that but also in making sure that mentoring was real and making a difference to their experience and to the quality of those first few years.

We need to make sure that we are maintaining professional development continuously for teachers. That is about not only discharging their obligations under the Teachers Registration and Standards Act to have 60 hours of professional development a year but also that professional development being engaging, interesting and relevant.

I am a little older than the member for Newland, who talked about being exposed to robotics during high school. That was not on the radar when I was at high school.

Members interjecting:

Dr CLOSE: *Lost in Space*, and we now have the tricorders from *Star Trek*, so maybe our best education was from science fiction. My point is that I could well be out teaching at the moment and not have had that experience in school myself, and it is so important that we make sure that teachers, as they go through the decades, have the opportunity to have professional development that keeps them up to date with this rapidly changing world that we are preparing our children for.

When the previous government made some big announcements in September/October last year, they included an academy for excellence in leadership and teaching. I expect that that work is continuing to be undertaken. We also need to make sure that we pay teachers well and that their conditions are appropriate. The enterprise bargaining time for teachers is upon the government again, and I will be watching very carefully to see how they respond to the demands and expectations of the teaching profession in public schools.

In all, I think it is worth reflecting on what a difference an individual teacher can make. I thought about whether I should talk about some of the schools that I visited—I visited literally hundreds of schools in my time as minister. It would seem wrong to single out any of those schools because, by reflection, you are suggesting that they stood out and others did not. To a school, they were all impressive and I learnt so much from the opportunity to visit them and spend time with the principals, the teachers, the SSOs and, above all, the students, so I will reach more into the personal experience of my education and my children's education.

Some time ago, I think I had only been a minister for a few months, I was asked by *The Advertiser* who my favourite teacher was so that they could seek out that teacher and have a photograph taken for the paper. This is a little bit of a sad story because the first teacher I thought of, who had been an exceptionally good history and classics teacher for me in high school, had died. I did not know that until we went searching for him. Mr Swanson made a big difference to me with the constant intellectual challenges he set out. It was never good enough just to parrot back some information. It was always, 'Why? How do you know that? Of what relevance is that?' These were skills in learning that last through the ages, and I thank him very much for the impact he had on my education both in year 10 and year 12.

Another high school teacher I was pleased to see again in another guise was Mr Elvish. He was one of those very few teachers back in the eighties who allowed us to call him by his first name. He was Barrie to us, which was an extraordinary revolution in my time. Later, I found he was running Autism SA. When I became the education minister, I met him in that capacity. He taught me ancient

Greek history and I read *The Iliad*, thanks to him. I thank him also for the impact he had on me. An early drama teacher I had in high school, Mr Cox, works in the Flinders Street building, and I bump into him occasionally in the lift. It is a very great pleasure to continuously revisit one's early years.

Having received the sad news about Mr Swanson, the teacher I then selected was a teacher from my primary school years in year 6. Her name is now Kathy Monks. She was our classroom teacher, but she had a special gift for drama and would put on performances with us. Because at the time I was considered to have a good speaking voice, I was the narrator of these dramas. I was amazed that she had managed to remember me. She had enough substantiating evidence that she had remembered me and was not making it up. I was absolutely delighted to be reunited with her, and I thank her and all her colleagues for the work they did in my early years. I was at Blackwood High School and before that Blackwood Primary School.

My own children have benefited enormously from the teaching they have received, both at primary school and now at a public high school in the western suburbs. The three core values or virtues that I see in the teachers who have made a difference to my children and to me include, first of all, this notion of inspiration. It is a sense from your teacher that there is something to aspire to and that there is a challenge that can be met by your learning that would be interesting and something worth doing.

They also have the very great virtue of patience. Teachers are extraordinary in their capacity to allow students to make mistakes not only in their work but in their conduct as they are learning how to operate in this complex world of ours. That degree of patience and tolerance is remarkable in our teaching profession.

They also have the virtue of care. Teachers know the names, histories and experiences of every child in their classes and they care about them as individuals. The truly great teachers make that felt by the individual students so that they never forget that there was an adult outside the family who cared about them, who understood them and who wanted to see them be all that they could be. My children have certainly had many teachers who have fulfilled all those qualities and demonstrated them to my children, and I am grateful.

The year 5 teacher my daughter had in primary school was not content with teaching individual subjects and pieces of information but wanted the children to join them up and create a demonstration for all the parents to see on the nature of light. These are year 5s, but they were doing work that I would consider to be getting ready for the SACE in the integration of understanding the biology of light and how the eye deals with it, the science of light, how photons work, the art of light, photography and the history of light.

They went to the lighthouse in Port Adelaide to talk about what a lighthouse does and why it matters. They organised a business case where they had to demonstrate why that tour was valid and how much it would cost, and they were required to prove to the principal that this would be a good expenditure for the school. All that occurred simultaneously in a single project that was not deemed too hard for a group of year 5s because the teacher had the desire to inspire them and the capacity to draw out the very best from them, and I thank all teachers for that.

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (11:09): I rise today in support of World Teachers' Day and the motion:

That this house notes that 26 October is World Teachers' Day (Australia) and expresses its appreciation to all South Australian teachers and former teachers who have dedicated their lives to helping our next generation to be all they can be.

I would like to add my personal support in acknowledging the important role that teachers play in the role of the development of students around the state of South Australia and add, as I said, my personal thanks to that voice.

World Teachers' Day was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in 1994 and has grown to be celebrated in over 100 countries worldwide, with this year's theme being, 'The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher'. Today's teachers are operating in a complex, fast-paced, multicultural and technological environment, which

makes the quality of teaching even more significant in helping our young people to engage with their learning and to realise their potential.

The quality of teaching is a significant factor in the success of the student, and effective teachers understand that the learning needs of students vary from one student to the next. We, the Marshall Liberal government, want South Australian students to be inspired to learn and to continue learning throughout their lives. That is where the commitment of educators is pivotal and why excellence in teaching must be recognised.

Narungga is home to what I believe to be the largest school outside metropolitan Adelaide: the relatively recently amalgamated Kadina Memorial School. This school is home to approximately 1,200 students, with over 76 full-time equivalents putting those students in a position to succeed. Kadina Memorial School services the townships of Alford, Bute, Kadina, Kulpara, Paskeville, Wallaroo and surrounding districts.

Students also transition from four primary schools at the end of year 7—soon to be year 6, much to the delight of just about every educator I have talked to—to Kadina Memorial School. These schools are Bute Primary School, St Mary MacKillop School Wallaroo, Wallaroo Primary School and Wallaroo Mines Primary School. Narungga is also home to Moonta Area School, which is only 20 kilometres from Kadina yet hosts a further 500 students on a daily basis. This is in addition to the surrounding primary schools that feed into these area schools.

Clearly, there is significant demand for education within the Copper Coast, which this government will need to address as the demand continues to grow. I note that there is also Harvest Christian College, which is a low-fee non-denominational private school and operates under the guidance of the brilliant principal, Mr Peter Ayoub. This school does a wonderful job servicing the over 300 students they have in their care. As I said, there is clearly significant demand.

I will be at the opening of a new STEM facility at the Moonta Area School early next month. Credit must go to the previous government for commissioning this work, which will include refurbished learning spaces, flexible and creative spaces for IT facilities, CAD design suites, creative team spaces, individual work spaces and design study spaces and making areas. These areas have strong interconnections to larger group work and undercover verandahs for use by students at all levels. The covered outdoor learning areas are being created to enable hands-on learning and to support STEM-based curriculum such as environmental sciences.

While we have strong demand for educational services in the Copper Coast, there is either fluctuating or decreasing demand for these services in other parts of the electorate. Unfortunately, a number of schools on Yorke Peninsula have closed due to low demand, with Port Vincent primary school and Edithburgh primary school closing as recently as 2006. I note with great interest the member for Wright's contribution to the chamber yesterday, hypothesising that this government might have an agenda to close schools.

If he had taken the time to type 'Schools closing South Australia' into Google, he would have come across a 2015 article in *The Advertiser* written by Tim Williams entitled, 'SA losing schools faster than any other state as the Government urges more mergers'. Perhaps the member for Wright ought to tend to his own backyard before hypothesising about the direction of this government. I note with great interest that the total number of government schools fell from 588 to 527 (or 10 per cent) which was 'more than double the proportion of public schools lost in any other state,' and 'made up 40 per cent of the national drop in public school numbers over the same period'. The member should get his own affairs in order before he comments on ours.

On World Teachers' Day, we acknowledge the wonderful contribution that our local teachers make to the lives of students. Parents entrust teachers with significant responsibility to teach their children the proper way to conduct themselves, the curriculum and social interactions. While we acknowledge the important role that teachers play, it is also worth acknowledging the steps this government has taken to improve the system within which teachers operate. We will make it easier for teachers by moving year 7 students into high school in exactly the same way as every other jurisdiction within Australia has done.

Of all the teachers I have spoken to, and there have been a significant number since coming to this place in March, I have yet to find one who does not support this plan from the government.

Our wonderful teachers in South Australia will finally be able to develop dedicated middle school programs, which research has shown is beneficial for students in the year 7 age group. The program will be able to fall in line with the national curriculum, which calls for year 7 students to be taught specialist maths, science and English, teachers for which can ordinarily only be found in high schools.

We have wonderful specialist teachers in SA, and on World Teachers' Day we celebrate their contribution but acknowledge that they need access to the relevant demographic of students where their skills can have the greatest effect. We will attempt to supplement the efforts that our teachers go to in schools by increasing parental engagement in student learning. Parents overwhelmingly want to be actively involved in their children's learning, and research supports that this involvement is beneficial to the child.

Parental engagement and parental support for teachers are key to ensuring that education is holistic and not just done in the classroom—anything to make it easier for our teachers in this great state. This is in addition to our policy to enshrine a literacy guarantee for students and getting tougher on truancy so that teachers are afforded the opportunity to actually teach those kids and teach entrepreneurship in classrooms to prepare them for the changing landscape out there in their post-school life.

I also take this opportunity to highlight the calibre of teachers we have working in regional areas. Former Kadina Memorial School principal, Dean Angus, won the Public Education Award's top leadership award in 2016, recognising his unique talents and years of dedication to education. This was the first time a teacher from our area has won this coveted award.

I also note the esteem of the late Auntie Josie Agius, a highly respected Aboriginal elder, who has an award named after her to highlight her pioneering work in South Australian Aboriginal health. She was born at Wallaroo and grew up at Point Pearce, and this award recognises the cultural and community expertise of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working towards better outcomes for children and young people. I am also proud of the efforts of many Narungga constituents who teach the Narungga language and are committed to keeping this culture alive for future generations.

I am also proud to be presenting medallions at every school in my electorate, recognising the efforts of students who go above and beyond their learning and who have made a significant contribution to their school life. On this day, we say thanks to our wonderful teachers in South Australia. We acknowledge the efforts that this government is making in order to ensure that they can continue to do their job well, and we look forward to our next generation of kids graduating the system. I commend the motion to the house.

Mr BOYER (Wright) (11:17): I, too, rise to speak to this motion and offer my words of support to teachers all across not just South Australia but Australia as well. During my contribution yesterday on the Education and Children's Services Bill, I spoke a little bit about what I thought were risks to the teaching profession and the things we should be focusing on in that bill. I was pleased to see that attention was given to a lot of the things in that bill that I think we need to do to make sure that teaching is retained as a desirable profession and that our best and brightest want to graduate from university and work in this area.

I want to build on the comments made earlier by the member for Port Adelaide. She spoke about the theme for World Teachers' Day this year, which is 'The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher'. I wholly endorse the comments of the member for Port Adelaide, who spoke about why it is so important to make sure that the university courses that are being provided to graduates of high school who wish to study teaching and then work as a classroom teacher are appropriate.

That is important not just in providing those graduates with the skills that they need to be effective classroom teachers but also in making sure that we are producing teachers in fields that are going to be in demand in the future, especially given the changing nature of the economy globally, but particularly in South Australia, where there have been many significant changes over the last 10 years. Separate to the issue of the qualifications that our teachers receive is an issue that I see coming up repeatedly as I make my way around the seat of Wright and neighbouring areas and talk to classroom teachers and principals.

Only last night, I hosted some principals from local schools in the dining room to talk to them about how I could assist them in their schools in my role as a member of parliament. The issue that is coming up repeatedly is that teachers and school administrators, too, are spending more and more time focusing on managing the behaviour of students and less time actually teaching kids in the classroom.

My father was an English and history teacher in a country public high school for 40 years before he retired, and my wife spent the first five years of her working life as a high school teacher in the Catholic system. I was fortunate enough to have my dad teach me on a number of occasions. I pay tribute to all those members of parliament here today who have shared their stories about their favourite primary or high school teachers. It is lovely to hear those stories, and it is very important that we recognise the influential and informative things that teachers have done in our lives. The teacher whom I would like to focus on, very briefly, is my own dad, who was, as I said, a teacher of English and history for 40 years.

I had my dad teaching me English in year 7 and year 10 and Australian history in year 12. To this day, some people ask me if having your father teach you in high school was difficult. For me, it certainly was not. As I get older, having spent that time with dad is something that I treasure. Of course, he is someone whom I rate as a very good teacher. You could describe him as an old-school teacher, in many ways. He was very big on spelling, grammar, public speaking, debating and teaching kids how to write an essay and how to write a letter. In my role as a member of parliament, I now see so often that these are skills that are not taught as well as they used to be. Some of those core things that used to be the foundation of our education system seem to be lacking a little bit now in some cases.

In many respects, it is no surprise. My father was certainly one who commented to me, over the long 40-year period in which he taught and with all the change that he saw in his time as a classroom teacher, on the biggest hindrance to him, in terms of doing the job that he loved to do. I note that he had opportunities to move away from the classroom and to instead apply for an assistant principal or principal's role somewhere. However, he decided not to do that because he had been motivated to study teaching and work in that profession because he loved being in a classroom and teaching kids.

He never wanted to move away from that, but he was frustrated because, towards the end of his career, he felt that a lot of his time in the classroom was spent actually managing the behaviour of kids who were disruptive, who were not there to learn and who were not only impeding their own education but greatly impeding the education of other students in the classroom, who did not get the attention and devotion of my dad because he was busy trying to get them to be quiet, or get off their phones or pay attention.

I think it is appropriate, as part of this motion today in which we are acknowledging World Teachers' Day, that we think about what we as privileged people in this place—as legislators and members of parliament—can do to make sure not just that teachers have the qualifications they need but also that they are protected in the classroom and that we let them do the job they want to do. For a couple of reasons, that is really important; one is that it means that the kids in our schooling system today will get a better education. However, it will also mean that the quality of graduates we get from university in the future will be of a much higher standard.

Having supported my wife when she did the rounds after finishing her Bachelor of Education, I know that standing up for the first time in a classroom is a very confronting experience for a new graduate—trying to teach students, trying to capture their attention and trying to impart wisdom to them. If that experience is a poor one, we cannot really expect our best and brightest graduates to choose teaching as their profession of choice. It will be a very sad day when teaching is seen not as a profession of choice but as a fallback position.

I encourage all members not just to use occasions like this to offer platitudes to our teachers about how they are so important and it is a respected profession and an important profession, because all those things are true and all those things are self-evident too, but to spend our time thinking about what it is we can do to make sure that the teaching profession retains the respect it deserves and that the people we send into the classroom to teach our kids are the best that they can be. I commend the motion to the house.

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (11:25): I also rise today to support the motion by the member for Newland that this house notes that Friday 26 October is World Teachers' Day. As has been said earlier, World Teachers' Day aims to focus on appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world and to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching.

It is important that this house expresses its appreciation for not only the current teachers but also former teachers here within South Australia whose lives have been dedicated to educating present generations. Many members have spoken previously about the effects teaching and education have had on them and will have on future generations, for those children going through schooling now. Children's development and education are vital for the future successes of South Australia. This important development and education part of children's lives hinges upon our state's teachers, which is why the overall profession deserves the utmost respect and trust of this state community.

There is no denying the influence teachers can have on students because a great teacher is able to change a student's life. Most people fondly remember at least one teacher from their schooling who had a profound impact upon their lives. Whether this teacher gave invaluable future career or university advice or was just a friendly face during a difficult time, teachers play an integral role in the development of their students.

The role of a teacher is not purely to educate students, to teach them either Pythagoras' theorem or how to write an essay; it is also to help them be the best that they can be and to learn and have lifelong learning skills once the children leave the classroom. A great teacher is able to make learning fun and engaging, ensuring that a student's academic success is at the forefront of every lesson. Motivating students to be excited to learn and develop their knowledge is not always an easy feat. We have heard about challenging behaviour issues that teachers are confronted with, but every day teachers are constructing new teaching techniques or designing assignments that will ensure high student engagement and learning.

Teachers are able to make the complex seem simple and help our future generations understand and apply knowledge in areas best suited to each individual student's talents, needs and aspirations. Certainly, in this changing environment of where the jobs of the future are, it is really a challenging role for teachers to be able to predict where those career paths are and therefore try to teach their students to cope with that. We have seen teaching techniques change, predominantly because society is continually moving forward. The pace of that change is certainly very rapid these days, and the things I learnt when I was in year 12 students are now learning in year 10. The content of information available and the advances are accelerating that.

Teachers, predominantly those educating students within the high levels of secondary education, are able to foster each student's unique talents and assist them in developing a plan for their life after school. They are able to help students realise their talents and passion for a particular subject or career path and assist them in achieving their goals. On paper, this sounds a lot easier than it is in practice in terms of teaching.

While students are off having a mental refresh during the holiday periods between terms, teachers are marking assignments and planning for the upcoming terms. Teachers are the unsung heroes of a student's success and early childhood development. It is quite often teachers who discover if a child has a learning disability or dyslexia or is just struggling with a particular area of their learning. The teacher then tries to take corrective actions, either on their own or by putting the child onto a specialist.

Teachers must and do remain incredibly patient, especially with particular students who lack direction or motivation. We have heard that a virtue of teachers is their patience and caring for their students. Through these qualities, they are able to work with the needs of each individual student and tailor lessons and teaching mechanisms around this. My wife is a teacher and has been teaching since 2000. I see firsthand the work teachers do not only in the classroom but in the preparation, follow-up, marking and report writing that goes with it.

It is enjoyable to hear about the improvement that she sees in her students from the start of the year to its conclusion in their education and also in their behaviour and attitude in most instances. A rewarding part of the job is hearing from parents about how their child has progressed, that the

child really enjoyed the year and that they look up to the teacher. I think that is certainly a reward in itself for teachers. Because of this, the demands on teachers these days go beyond just educating children. With working families working so hard, teachers often spend more time during the week with the children than the parents themselves.

With the internet, teachers are now accessible to students and parents after hours, which brings both positives and negatives. It is a positive, in that teachers are accessible, but this accessibility needs to be respectful and considered. I point this out because, as a society, we have trusted teachers to educate and, at times, give guidance to children. Some would call this discipline. In previous times, the decisions by teachers were on the whole supported at home by the parents, usually by increased chores or a restriction of movement and privileges.

In more recent times, I hear stories from teachers that they are being challenged more and more by parents about their teaching methods, the marks given to assignments and also areas of discipline. I encourage parents to at least take steps to hear another side of the story than that given by their child. We must remember that for various reasons children may give a one-sided story. If the fuller picture were known, I think that the teachers' actions would certainly be justified. I feel that is really important because, if teachers know that they are supported by parents at home, it will mean that, overall, the children will benefit as the teachers' time is spent educating rather than explaining and documenting.

I will speak briefly about my electorate of Morphett, which has 12 schools offering either primary or secondary education. I would like to briefly highlight two schools and their staff for their dedication and hard work. It is by no means a reflection on the other schools, but these are schools that I think are worth pointing out. Ascot Park Primary School is located in Park Holme. It is a specialist physical education and sport school. It is the only primary specialist physical education and sport school endorsed by the Department for Education. The teachers have done a terrific job.

Just recently, I visited the school for a sport presentation for their netball and soccer programs. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the coaches and teachers involved in the teams. They have gone out four mornings a week since March to teach students skills in soccer and netball before school starts, so starting early in the day. Through playing sport, these students have built valuable friendships and learnt leadership and teamwork skills.

Finally, in the time left, another school and its teaching staff I would like to applaud is the Kilparrin Teaching and Assessment School and Services. This school provides a range of support services for students with vision and/or hearing impairment and additional disabilities through early intervention programs and specialist preschool support through the school's early learning centre. Most of the teachers in this school acquired additional university postgraduate study, learning specifically what methods of education can be used with these students.

These are just some of the areas that highlight how teachers can have a profound and positive impact on a student, and one that will be remembered by the students long into their professional careers and adulthood. I congratulate all teachers on their hard work.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (11:35): As a former teacher and as a parent, I am delighted to have the opportunity today to speak in support of the motion moved by the member for Newland acknowledging World Teachers' Day and showing appreciation for all South Australian teachers and former teachers who have dedicated their lives to helping our next generation be all that they can be.

The United Nations World Teachers' Day celebrates the role teachers play in providing quality education at all levels. This enables children and adults of all ages to learn to take part in and contribute to their local community and global society. The theme of this year's World Teachers' Day is 'The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher', and this theme was chosen to mark the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in which education is recognised as a fundamental right, a right that cannot be fulfilled without qualified teachers.

The UN World Teachers' Day, of course, was celebrated on 5 October, which falls in our school holidays, so we will be celebrating it here in South Australia this Friday, 26 October. There is an estimated 264 million children and youth still out of school globally and, according to the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, the world needs to recruit almost 69 million new teachers to meet the 2030

education goal of universal primary and secondary education. This teacher gap is more pronounced amongst vulnerable populations—girls, children with disabilities, refugee and migrant children and poor children living in rural and remote areas. There remains so much more to be done to achieve this goal.

Today, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the many wonderful teachers we have in South Australia and the many dedicated, hardworking teachers in our public and Catholic schools in my electorate of Torrens: teachers at Hillcrest Primary School, Klemzig Primary School, Dernancourt Primary School, Wandana Primary School, Hampstead Primary School, Vale Park Primary School and Avenues College B-12; and, in our Catholic schools, St Pius X, Kildare College, St Paul's and St Martin's.

I would also like to acknowledge TAFE teachers and those in our universities. We know that there are many challenges—they are new challenges to some degree—facing teachers today. We have heard about some of them already: social media, mobile phones in classrooms and also those associated with the internet, where some sites are set up to target teachers, and of course this can be damaging. Respect for our teachers must be a priority; they deserve it.

We have all had teachers who have made a difference in our lives, and I know that I have, too, as has the shadow minister for education, who spoke about them earlier. It is always wonderful when I am out and about in the electorate to meet people I had as students and for them to remember me and some of the things we did in our classroom and to talk about the things that they loved about being in that class

Today, it is important to acknowledge these teachers who go above and beyond what is expected. I know that the many teacher friends I have take a lot of work home with them. They work through the school holidays. Very often, people talk about the number of holidays teachers enjoy. A lot of their holiday time is spent preparing for the new year, reading through the records of their students so that they know the students before they get into the classrooms and also getting ready for what is going to be perhaps a new year level that they are teaching or a new school.

I would like to wish all the teachers in South Australia and across Australia a happy World Teachers' Day for Friday. In the words of Greek philosopher and writer Nikos Kazantzakis:

True teachers are those who use themselves as bridges over which they invite their students to cross; then, having facilitated their crossing, joyfully collapse, encouraging them to create their own.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (11:40): I rise in support of the member for Newland's motion and give thanks to all teachers both past and present who have served in the South Australian education system. As a former educator, I believe that teachers are a strong influence in a person's life. The formative years of our lives are spent in the education system and a good teacher not only educates but guides and inspires. After a parent, they are one of the biggest influences upon a child's life. The right teacher can bring out the best in a student and have a huge impact on their aspirations and career pathways. You always remember the good ones; their words of advice and encouragement stay with you long after leaving school or university.

Let me tell you about a teacher called Scott Maxwell. Scott has been a music teacher at Mount Gambier's Grant High School for nearly 10 years. There was some pretty big news for Scott earlier this month after he was announced as a finalist for the 2018 ARIA Music Teacher of the Year award. He made the top four out of a thousand nominations across Australia, which speaks volumes about how he is thought of by his students and peers. Ironically, Scott told me that when he was a young muso he used to watch the awards on television and wonder if he would ever be up there on stage one day.

Scott uses the language of music as his connection to students. When he started teaching 15 years ago in the APY lands, one of the first things he did was introduce a music program. Suddenly, he said, senior kids wanted to come to school. What Scott has, and what resonates with students, is an energy for teaching and for inspiring his students. With fellow Grant High School teacher Mike Bakker, Scott has created two original high school musicals for today's generation, using current world events as themes. Scott says that it is a massive rush watching students bring the roles to life and perform songs he has written. 'It gives kids the liberty to create,' he says. 'Computers can never replace creativity.'

One of the nicest things to happen since he has been nominated for the award is that ex-students have been reaching out to him, telling him that his teaching inspired them and made a difference in their lives. There is probably no greater reward for a teacher than hearing those words. Not every teacher is lucky enough to get national recognition, so today let's give thanks to all those hardworking and inspirational teachers out there doing good work every day.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (11:43): It is a privilege to speak on this motion today and share my thoughts on teachers and teaching. They have been put on the record many times over the 20 years I have been in the house, as has the fact that all my siblings and their spouses were teachers, that the father of my children was a teacher and that my electorate is blessed with so many wonderful teachers that it would be foolish to start naming any of them in particular.

The new electorate of Florey has inherited some marvellous new schools, and I very much look forward to getting to know all the teaching staff in those schools over the years. Also, something that I do every year is make sure I visit every school for World Teachers' Day and provide them with something for their morning tea. I am helped to do that by bakeries in the electorate. It is always wonderful to call through to schools and thank them personally for everything that they have done.

As everyone has said and acknowledged, teaching is a wonderful and honourable profession. In my life, I have definitely had some very wonderful teachers and some very ordinary teachers. Of course, learning is lifelong, so I think that we are all going to be in the position of acknowledging people who influence our lives in one way or another and who teach us things until the very end.

I would also like to mention the University of the Third Age, which is in my electorate, and the wonderful efforts of the people who make themselves available to tutor in certain subjects and the many people who attend the University of the Third Age. They are also part of what we lovingly refer to in our office as the 'World Teachers' Day bun run'. I commend the motion to the house, as I do teaching as a profession to people who have the time and patience to look after children and pass on knowledge.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:45): I rise to support the motion by the member for Newland:

That this house notes that 26 October is World Teachers' Day (Australia) and expresses its appreciation to all South Australian teachers and former teachers who have dedicated their lives to helping our next generation to be all they can be.

World Teachers' Day was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1994 and is celebrated in over a hundred countries. This year, the theme of World Teachers' Day is 'The right to education means the right to a qualified teacher'.

Today's teachers are operating in complex, fast-paced, multicultural and technological environments, which makes the quality of teaching even more significant in helping our young people to engage with their learning and to realise their potential. The quality of teaching is a significant factor in the success of the student, and effective teachers understand that the learning needs of students vary from one student to the next.

We want South Australian students to be inspired, to learn and to continue learning throughout their lives. That is where the commitment of educators is pivotal and why excellence in teaching must be recognised. That is why we are here today, noting our school teachers who have educated us over time and who are the educators of our children into the future. I will reflect on some of my early educational experiences, although they were a little while ago now. I was educated during the late sixties and seventies at Coomandook Area School.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone: Are you that old?

Mr PEDERICK: You can talk. The first principal I can remember was Harry Harris, who then went over to a job on Kangaroo Island and, sadly, died too young. Ron Wigney then played a significant part. He had some difficulties. I remember there was a terrible situation of a murder-suicide involving one member of the teaching staff. It is one of the most significant memories of my secondary school career—I was in year 8 at the time—and it is something you never forget. The rumours went through the school on the day, and then obviously there was the reporting in the media the next day.

It is one of those stark memories you wish you did not have when growing up, but it certainly stands out.

Ron Wigney was the man who had to manage that. At an end-of-year assembly, he was the man who said something along the lines of, 'If you thought it was hard and a long time here at school, wait until you get out.' I think that no truer words were ever spoken: you had to face up to the realities of life, business and work. He was a very respected man. I had not seen Ron for a couple of years, and I was pleased to catch up with him a few years ago.

David Mellon, who now lives in Murray Bridge, was also a principal at Coomandook. He ended up with my former grade 2 teacher as his partner. I think that is magnificent, just through a series of different circumstances.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone: Were you the date maker?

Mr PEDERICK: No. You have memories of all these things when you start talking about issues like this. I certainly remember my grade 1 teacher, Liz Loen, and Robyn Wilson, as she was then, back when I was in grade 2. I have some fantastic memories of Robyn; not so fantastic was the discipline she meted out with the ruler. A ruler on its edge on your knuckles when you are disciplining yourself is interesting. I am sure I only had to do it once.

An honourable member: Self-disciplining.

Mr PEDERICK: Self-disciplining under instruction. She was a fantastic teacher and lived only a few kilometres down the road from me at Coomandook. I then had Ian Tilley in later years; I think that was in about years 4 and 5. I am not sure about year 3; it might have been Robyn Wilson again. It was all a little while ago. Then I had Alan Head, who sadly passed away a few years ago. His wife was our next-door neighbour on the farm at Coomandook. She was Dorothy Tucker and is now Dorothy Head. She still operates a thrift shop in Murray Bridge and does a great job.

My most significant memory of Alan Head is the dancing lessons he gave us, the old ballroom dances, which sadly we probably do not see enough of. There was maypole dancing, and we learned the military two, military three and a whole range of other dances. It may not seem significant at the time, but it does help with your overall education process. Before I speak about the broader motion, I want to reflect on one teacher, who was the deputy principal at the time, Bob Chapman.

We had a school trip up the river and we were on a houseboat. For whatever reason, the boat lost power and started going sideways towards a bridge and we had no power to pull out. Bob Chapman was a bit of a smoker as it was, but I reckon I never saw him smoke as many cigarettes as he did that day when we were heading towards this bridge. Between Bob and the crew on the boat, they managed to berth it sideways against one of the bridge pillars and we all got off safely. Because of his care for the kids, I reckon he should have been sponsored by a cigarette company. He was stressed and I can understand why. You probably could not do that these days on a school trip.

What I would like to say is that teachers do frame your lives. That is the point I am trying to make. You have childhood memories, no matter how old you get, of how they frame your lives. What has been indicated already this morning by speakers, including the member for Wright, is the fact that teachers have to do far more than just educate these days. They have to be psychological advisers and they have to provide food, with the assistance of breakfast clubs. I am glad we have put in \$800,000 for that program.

It is amazing: breakfast clubs are across all forms of socio-economic backgrounds; it is not specific to one section of society. It intrigues me that kids go to school hungry, but it is a sad reality of life. If they are hungry, they do not learn properly, because how do you learn when your belly is growling and all you can think about is the next thing you can eat? Certainly, the challenges include guidance and counselling.

We have counsellors at schools but, as I said, every teacher has to be a counsellor because there are so many demands on kids. There is the use of technology, the use of mobile phones, bullying on mobile phones and that sort of thing. It is a very hard job, and I commend teachers for the amount of work they have to do, not just around education but the extra work they need to do. In

some cases, they are basically replacing the caregivers or parents because, sadly, there is not a lot of love at home for those children. I commend the teachers who do that. It is tough.

The role of caregivers and parents is pivotal as well, to assist with learning. There is always homework to do and, as has been indicated, parents can link in faster and more easily with teachers. We cannot say enough good things about teachers and the challenges they face and, with World Teachers' Day coming up, I commend them for everything they do, not just in educating our children but also in guiding them into the future so they can be great citizens and make our community a great place to live.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (11:55): I also rise to support this very good motion that recognises World Teachers' Day. I will try not to go back over my primary school years because that is a long time ago. However, I will say that early education, even before the start of primary school, is incredibly important, and I would argue quite strongly that we need to allocate more resources to our kids before they get to primary school as well as in those early primary school years. You are always playing catch-up for what you do not do in those years, and often you do not succeed.

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of attending Adelaide University's Ingenuity presentation at the Convention Centre. Unfortunately, I had only the lunch-hour period so I did not get to have a look at all the stalls I wanted to look at, at all the amazing work that is being done. It is being done, in part, as a result of the contribution of our teachers both in the public and private education sectors in this state and elsewhere. One of the people I did catch up with was Sarina Barsby, who is in her final year of chemical engineering. She has a scholarship from BHP.

I know Sarina; she knows my kids, and she went to school in Whyalla, the Whyalla Town Primary School, the public primary school in Whyalla where my kids went, and then to Samaritan College, the low-fee Catholic school in Whyalla, for her high school education. As I said, she got a scholarship from BHP. She was working on the neutralisation of saline heap leach raphinate process—and I am sure all of us know what that is. There are a number of different elements involved, but the element she was working on was to optimise the leachate process they are looking at for potential use at Olympic Dam.

At school, Sarina obviously had an enthusiasm for science and the broader STEM subjects, and it was because of the work her teachers, as well as her family and probably her peers, that she has progressed so far. This is someone who has gone to school in Whyalla, received a scholarship from BHP and who, when she graduates, will work at Olympic Dam and make a contribution to our state. I know a lot of people like this, who have come from the public or private education system in regional South Australia and who have gone on to make a fantastic contribution.

When we were in government, we made a significant contribution towards improving STEM facilities in South Australia, and I was incredibly pleased that we got five of those STEM facilities in my electorate. That will benefit our teachers because they need decent facilities in order to be able to deliver the content needed. Sometimes, subject content in this day and age is downplayed somewhat, but it is incredibly important in addition to hoping that we end up with kids who go into the world with a sense of openness and curiosity so that they are willing to have a go at all sorts of things.

One of the proud moments of my life was being invited back to a couple of the schools in Whyalla that I went to, both Samaritan to give the graduate day speech and Eyre High to give the graduate day speech. I listened to the member for Hammond wax lyrical about his school years. I can make a claim to the two schools that invited me back to being both a rebel and a ratbag at both schools. At the Catholic school, I was far more of a rebel than a ratbag, and for being a rebel they felt they had no choice but to expel me. Then I ended up in the public education system and, alas, I deeply disappointed my parents. They thought I would be the first child in an extended family to go to uni, but my timing was impeccable and I managed to get expelled in year 12 for being a ratbag.

This is not about me. In my leaving year, we used to have a leaving public exam. There was a teacher who had a marked impact on me. He said to me, 'You're going to have to pull your finger out because this exam is in three weeks.' He talked about the social contract—the contract between a student and a teacher—and he actually put it into a context that appealed to me. So I did pull my finger out and got through the public leaving exam that year.

The thing about that teacher, in the way that he taught and the way he reacted and engaged with students, is that it left a mark. I went off and did 10 years' worth of labouring jobs, and I would never regret that. But because of what that teacher did, I eventually had the confidence to say, 'No, I'm going to go to uni.' It was the spark that he planted, the confidence that he had, that led me to go to university 10 years later.

That is what teachers can do. Great teachers can really make a massive difference to a person's life. We know that there are a lot of kids who come from incredibly difficult backgrounds, and a good teacher can to a degree partly compensate for that. A good school can to a degree partly compensate for that. On this day, we need to acknowledge all those fantastic teachers. I would like to go through my schools, sites and services individually, but in my large electorate there are over 80 sites and education department services, all the way from the remote APY lands—an area the size of England, with 3,000 people, connected by dirt roads, so the teachers who go up there are isolated, it is remote, and their dedication is amazing—all the way down to the south with the Cowell Area School and some of the bigger schools in Whyalla and Roxby Downs.

In all those schools, you come across teachers who do an absolutely fantastic job. They do a fantastic job even with the equivalent of students who are like me in this day and age. So all the best to our teachers. They deserve all the support we can give them. It is sometimes really difficult because everyone pretends to be an expert. Just because we have been to school, we pretend to be an expert. A lot of parents do, and some of them might be, but a lot of them are really not very well informed at all and that can create all sorts of conflict. Our teachers do a great job. I take my hat off to them.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Frome, I will give you the call.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (12:04): Thank you. I did stand first, but I thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Today, I also want to support the motion brought by the member for Newland; I think it is a great motion.

Teachers are a very integral part of our children's future. We must remember that teachers have children for only a very small part of their lives. They do not have them in the school holidays; they have them for only about six hours a day. Parents have their children for far more time than the teachers, so parents play a part in the teaching of their children.

Teachers make a great impression on the future direction of any student growing up. Other members have gone back on their younger days and things like that, and I would just like to quickly reflect on my younger schooldays, and my primary schooldays in particular. I had the privilege of being taught at Wandearah, a small community just south of Port Pirie, in one classroom comprising seven grades and one teacher.

At that school, I learnt how to be able to relate not only to grades 1, 2 and 3 but also to grades 5, 6, and 7 because we were in the one classroom. At one stage, when you got to grade 3, the teacher would ask you to read the primers, or the readers, to grades 1 and 2, so you would go home at night-time and be very proud of yourself because you got your sticker for reading not only to the teacher but also to the students themselves, and I believe that my education was very, very good.

In my electorate of Frome, in particular, I have a great range of primary schools and secondary schools, ranging from public schools to Catholic, non-Catholic and Lutheran schools. Also, just starting next year, we will have a Uni Hub, which is going to be facilitated in Port Pirie. Instead of having to go to the universities in Adelaide, people will be able to have some tertiary education in the country.

Schoolteachers are really sometimes under great pressure at the moment. In my younger days, we did not have the social media, we did not have the mobile phones and we did not have the technology we have today. Today, we have all this new technology. We have mobile phones, the internet and all of that, so the teachers really need to be on top of their education opportunities. I think that the member for Florey indicated that sometimes people criticise or say that teachers get many holidays. They may have holidays, but in those periods they are preparing for their students in the next semester. They are actually getting all the information, marking reports and things like that.

Certainly, I endorse and commend the motion to the house. I also want to compliment members of parliament on both sides for their dedication to the education of our young kids in this state. I commend this motion to the house.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (12:07): It is with great pleasure that I rise to speak on this motion, and I thank the member for Newland for bringing it to the attention of the house. It is World Teachers' Day on 26 October. I think it is absolutely appropriate that this house expresses its appreciation to all teachers in South Australia, past and present, who have dedicated their lives to helping our next generation be all they can be.

We want our schools, our learning institutions here in South Australia, to be the best in Australia. We want every student in every classroom in every school in this state to be supported to fulfil and to realise their full potential. This is something that is a bold aspiration, and it is an absolutely worthy one. However, it can only be realised through the extraordinary dedication of a teaching workforce across South Australian schools which is dedicated, capable, high quality and which is at its heart about supporting every child to achieve their full potential. It is a calling, not just a job, and it is something that, as the Minister for Education, I am very passionate about, and I know that the shadow minister is as well.

We have an extraordinary opportunity in our professional and working lives as members of parliament, not just people in the education portfolio, to spend time working with schools in our electorate or, as the minister and shadow minister, across the entire state, listening to teachers, parents and children, of course. Teachers are able to give us insight into the work they do. We celebrate their achievements, their victories and the things they are so proud of, and we listen, of course, to the ways in which we can help them better serve the needs of the students to whom they dedicate their lives.

It is a privilege when we talk to teachers to hear stories which invariably come to things that have happened in their class. They name the student who has presented this or that challenge to whom they are providing this or that support. There is a personal relationship there. Of course, the families of teachers are all too aware of this. Anybody who has a teacher in the house gains an extra 20 or 30 family members every year as most teachers when they come home are still thinking about the needs of those other key people in their lives.

Members have reflected during the course of the discussion this morning on individual teachers they have encountered in their own lives or their children's lives or in their electorates. So as to not curtail the opportunity for other members to speak on other motions, there are hundreds of individual teachers I have encountered as a minister, a shadow minister, a member or indeed through my own life, but I think one person really sums it up for me and what I would like to reflect on.

There was a young woman who was a student at Norwood Morialta High School when I was first elected who was an extraordinarily high achiever. She got great marks in all the seven subjects that she chose to do at year 12 and had scholarship offers from around Australia. She left South Australia, as so many young people do, unfortunately. They have this perception that they need to leave, and I think that is changing. She undertook scientific studies and engineering studies at universities interstate under scholarship. Her home is still in Rostrevor, so occasionally she comes back. She did some intern work for me one summer, so occasionally she drops into the office to say hello to the staff.

She told us that she had a brainwave in about her fourth or fifth year at university that the path that she was heading on, potentially extraordinarily and professionally financially rewarding as it might have been, was not what she wanted to spend her life on. The thing that had touched her most was the teaching of her high school teacher who had really set her on the road to all these things that she was doing at university, and that is what she wanted to do with her life. She wanted to inspire young people in the love of science, particularly young women and particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

So she shifted her gear, and after about 4½ years at university she decided to become a teacher. She is now teaching high school science at a disadvantaged school in the Northern Territory because with all of the options available to her in the world regarding any job she could do, she decided that the most meaningful impact she could have in this world was as a high school science

teacher in a disadvantaged school. I thought that was the most extraordinarily appropriate story for all of us.

We have parents in our lives who are our first teachers, we have so many people we interact with throughout the course of our natural life and the teachers at our school who made an impact we remember until we die. It is a worthy profession. It is an utterly laudable calling and it is a way that you impact on the lives of those you see. I have such high regard for teachers. I feel so lucky that I get to spend so much of my professional life engaging with so many teachers—teachers who dedicate their lives to the betterment of the children they work with. I commend this motion to the house and I commend the work of the teaching workforce around South Australia.

Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (12:13): I also rise to support the motion to support our teachers across the state who do such a wonderful job. A number of members have referred to teachers in their own lives who have influenced them and who probably helped to lead them to this place. I know that in my life I have been influenced by teachers, particularly in my own family, as I spoke about in my first speech in this place. I refer to my mother, my grandmother, uncle and aunty who are all teachers. It really has instilled in me through my life the value of teaching, the commitment teachers have to making a difference in our society and for the children they teach. It is particularly important that we mark this occasion in the parliament.

I am very proud and delighted with the work that has happened over recent years in terms of improving facilities across our schools, improving the facilities that our teachers have to provide their great teaching for all children in our state. Particularly in my electorate, I look at the STEM facilities that have been built and are soon to be opened at the Seaford Secondary College and see what a difference they are going to make and the power they provide the teachers at that school in using those new facilities not only to instil skills but also to inspire lifelong learning in the students of my electorate.

That is only going to be increased with further investment from the previous government in the Building Better Schools program. In particular at Seaford Secondary College, that is going to help deliver a performing arts centre. Taking those students who are learning drama, music and other performing arts out of transportables and into a newly purpose-built facility is going to help teachers inspire those kids to take their dreams a lot further.

We know that the complexity of teaching is only getting harder and harder, and we see that in a number of ways—first, in terms of the complexity of children who need to be educated and the complexity of needs they have. We have greater needs in terms of special schooling across our state, an area that has seen more investment and will continue to need more investment in the future. There is a greater need for support officers to help teachers with students with autism and a whole range of disabilities in our schools, so while we are thanking teachers today it is important we also thank support officers in our schools who provide a great service to our students.

Technology has its pluses, but it also has its minuses, and that is another aspect of complexity our teachers have to grapple with, both in terms of how they integrate that into the curriculum and some of the threats that technology leads to, particularly in terms of what we have seen recently with bullying. Sadly, we know that teachers have to deal with that day in, day out, and it is another aspect of their work that is now more complex than it has ever been before.

Another aspect of complexity is that, sadly, there are more and more demands on teachers. You only have to look at any national newspaper to see somebody calling for something to be taught in our schools. More and more of whatever society's ills there are, people say, 'If only we taught that in our schools, then that problem would be fixed.' More and more is being lumped on teachers to deal with. Not only does it make it more difficult to teach the standard curriculum but it also means that teachers have to deal with a whole range of new aspects of learning that have never had to be dealt with in our schools before.

I think it is important that we continue to raise the status of the teaching profession in this state. I will always be supportive of teachers and the high status they should have in this state. We should respect our teachers. We should treat our teachers well. We should make sure that our teachers are well paid. We should make sure that they have a high standard of education before they commence work in our schools, and we should not knock our teachers. There are too many

people who knock our teachers. Recently, we saw our Prime Minister knocking our teachers in what was a pretty desperate appeal for votes.

Sadly in this parliament, we have seen people knocking teachers and their holidays and things like that. It is pretty easy to bag teachers, but I do not see a lot of those people who bag teachers rolling up their sleeves and going to work in a classroom, looking after 30 kids and trying to deal with a huge curriculum as well as dealing with behaviour management and kids with special needs, lesson preparation, marking and behind the scenes work that needs to be done and dealing with kids who have child protection issues. The complexity of teaching is massive. You do not see those people who go around bagging teachers pulling up their sleeves and working in a school for what, no doubt, is a lot less pay than those people are on.

I will always stick up for teachers. I thank all the teachers in my electorate who work day in, day out to help their kids, whether they are in government or non-government schools. Let's back them, let's back the profession and let's make sure that they have the tools, the skills, the background and the support they need to look after the kids of this state.

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (12:19): I, too, rise to support this motion. It is an important motion that recognises, through World Teachers' Day, the great work that our teachers do. It is celebrated internationally on 5 October, but in Australia we celebrate World Teachers' Day on the last Friday of the month. Our teachers play a vital role not only in our schools but in our communities. They play a vital role in our homes: they influence parents, they influence their students and they also influence the way that our students and our children think.

One of my fondest memories of school was of attending Henley High some years back—not that many, but some—and of my tech teacher, Mr Rowe. He was a great ally of mine because I was always very keen in tech studies. One day he came to me and said that he thought that I was a bit too smart for school and suggested that I get a job, and I did that. The best thing I ever did was to leave school and get an apprenticeship at GMH. The advice he gave me and his influence over me through my schooldays was profound. It was a great night when, some 40 years later, I met Mr Rowe, Roger Rowe, a constituent of the member for Flinders. We met up and we celebrated the times we had together 40 years earlier. We celebrated the decisions, the influence he had on me and where my career path took me.

I want to touch on the importance of teachers and the profound impact they have had on my family and on everyone's families. Good teachers are an asset for the rest of our lives. The member for Kaurana said that they deserve respect; well, they have to earn respect, like all of us. It is about how those teachers earn respect. Good teachers are good teachers.

In my electorate of Chaffey, I have over 40 schools, preschools and childcare centres, and they do an amazing job in growing, educating and preparing our children. They are not only educators but also coaches, good community Samaritans and people of substance who help to create a really strong and vibrant fabric, particularly of our regional communities. Our regions are continually recognised at the South Australian Public Education Awards.

This year, Christine Laxton, from Renmark Primary School, was a finalist in the School and Preschool Support Award; Amy Hunt, from Barmera Kindergarten, was a finalist in the Innovation in Practice Award; Sofy Pipinis was a finalist for Credit Union SA Primary Teacher of the Year; and Tricia Yandell was a finalist for Secondary Teacher of the Year. These awards recognise outstanding teachers who are dedicated to inspiring students through exceptional mentoring, and that is what it is about: teachers being mentors, being held in high regard and earning respect so that kids listen, so that they respect their opinion and their teaching skills and become better people themselves.

I was pleased to see Riverland teachers acknowledged by their peers for outstanding commitment to and enthusiasm for the profession. Our local students are fortunate to have wonderful role models ensuring students achieve their highest potential.

I think that World Teachers' Day is an absolute accolade for teachers. I think that all teachers are put under more and more stress on a day-to-day basis, given the requirements of teachers to up the ante with teaching skills. We look at techniques with teaching. If we look at the way schools are

portrayed, they are always looking to better the school up the road, so we need to make sure that we have good leadership in our schools.

By and large, I think that this motion is a great acknowledgement of what our educators do not only for our children but for us as community people, and I really do pay homage to the great work that our teachers—particularly those in the regions of South Australia—do for our kids. By and large, all teachers, small and large, metro and country, do a great job, and I commend this motion to the house.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (12:24): I rise in support of the motion and commend the member for Newland for moving it in this house. In recognising that 26 October is World Teachers' Day (Australia) and expressing our appreciation for teachers, I wish to take the opportunity to recognise three teachers in particular.

Firstly, Kathy Teague, my mother, was a teacher throughout my upbringing. As I observed in my initial remarks in this place some months ago, she has been the primary role model in my life. Mum was not only a fine teacher for many years, teaching history at St Dominic's Priory College, but a role model, leader and mentor to so many of her students and those who came in contact with her in that teaching environment. I always gladly take any opportunity to recognise my mum, and I particularly do so in the context of this day, but also in coming days as we celebrate her 70th birthday, which comes at the end of a long and successful teaching career, exemplifying the role that we would expect of all teachers.

Secondly, I wish to recognise and thank John Lambert, the leading mentor and role model teacher of mine through my time at school, who gave his long life of professional teaching service entirely in the best spirit of education, that is, in pursuit of excellence at all times, with a view to caring for and nurturing those for whom he was charged with the responsibility of teaching.

Thirdly, I wish to recognise in particular, among so many dedicated teachers throughout Heysen, the principal of the Bridgewater Primary School, Barb Jenkins. During the short time I have been the member for Heysen, I have had the opportunity to interact, collaborate and cooperate with Barb as we look for ways to enhance the experience of education for those at Bridgewater Primary School.

Like so many in charge of our primary schools throughout the state, Barb takes it on board as a personal responsibility to look after the life, health and vigour of all the students at the school; to look after the infrastructure and the surroundings; and to ensure that all students who come in contact with Bridgewater Primary School are receiving the best possible education outcomes. I commend three wonderful examples of teachers to celebrate this very special occasion.

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (12:28): I rise to support the motion from the member for Newland to note that World Teachers' Day is 26 October, which, incidentally, is my mother's birthday, so happy birthday, mum. I am really proud that in my family there are lots of teachers. My grandad, my mother's father, is a teacher. In fact, he was a school principal at regional schools around the Mudgee area of New South Wales. That is probably one reason that my mother's family moved around so much—they moved to wherever the work was and to wherever my grandfather was posted.

My grandad certainly had a lifelong passion for education, which definitely rubbed off on my mother, who always prized education and who instilled in us girls the importance of getting a good education. The passion my grandfather and my mother have has certainly flowed on to me and my sisters. It was so much so that two of my sisters are also teachers. Between them, they have taught in all sorts of far-flung places, including some of the remote Aboriginal communities in northern WA, the Cocos Islands, where one of my sisters was the only teacher for quite some time and taught children from Malay backgrounds, and also France.

After getting her qualifications, one of my sisters spent some time in France to learn over there. My sisters have certainly made a huge contribution to education not just in Australia and, in particular, remote, regional and quite disadvantaged places in Australia but also overseas. I want to take this opportunity to recognise the contribution that my sisters have made. They are younger than me and have long teaching careers ahead of them, so I am sure that they will touch many lives in their careers.

I also want to thank my grandfather for his commitment and passion for education for a long, long time. He attended Bathurst Teachers' College back in the day when it was just a teachers' college. Over the decades, it transformed into Charles Sturt University. I was lucky enough to attend Charles Sturt University for my first degree, which was my journalism degree, and attend what was then Mitchell College. There is a legacy, I suppose, in that central western part of New South Wales, as far as our family and its connection to education are concerned.

For me, of course, public education has been absolutely critical in my life and has probably made the biggest difference to my life. My family did not always have the greatest of fortunes. There were certainly long periods of unemployment for both of my parents. That could have had a really detrimental effect on my sisters and me, but because I had the advantage of a good public education I do not think I suffered too terribly. The fact that I am standing here right now is obviously testament to the education and support that I got through the different public schools I attended as a child.

I was lucky enough to attend about eight different primary schools, which is quite a lot of different schools, as my parents moved around and looked for work. At each of those schools, I was provided with different opportunities. They had different ways of teaching, and although that probably contributed to a bit of a disjointed education, particularly in my primary school years, it also made me a more adaptable child and flexible young person who could roll with the punches and soak up different experiences from the different places where I went to primary school.

Of course, the thing that made that education great was not really the curriculum, the school buildings, where the schools were or anything like that. It was, of course, the teachers. I have been lucky to have had many great teachers over time. Some of them were my teachers for only three or six months, as we moved from one school to another. With others, I absorbed their wisdom over longer periods of time. To each and every one of them, I say thank you very much for putting up with the rather chatty girl in the classroom who liked to distract others, which was generally the comment I got on my report card each year.

I want to mention a few teachers who made a particular difference in my life. In high school, Mr Arch Fowler, who was at Port Macquarie High School, was a particularly passionate and devoted teacher who always took great care with me, particularly when I was studying modern history. There were only two of us in the three-unit modern history class and he really gave it his all. He was passionate about the subject matter but, more than that, he was passionate about us doing well and having every opportunity to succeed in our senior exams to get our higher school certificates and to be able to thrive in our lives, get into the university degrees that we wanted and have the careers that we wanted.

Certainly, his passion for the subject matter and his dedication to his students have stayed with me my whole life. I hope he knows what an important influence he has been on my life and the lives of many people in our class and how we have carried those lessons with us throughout life.

I want to thank the many teachers who sent me lovely messages when I was fortunate enough to be elected. My old school principal, Mr Longstaff, and Mr Brown both sent me messages and cards, which really touched me. My year 11 and 12 year supervisor, Jill Hartley, is a Facebook friend of mine, and it was lovely to receive a message from her. I think my teachers probably got something out of seeing one of their students elected. Even though I am in a different state from where I went to school, I think they got a bit of a buzz knowing they had made a difference in my life and had given me the opportunity to do something good with the time I have on this earth.

I also want to mention the non-educational aspects of school for me and for many children. Going to public school enabled me to have a diverse range of experiences that my family simply would not have been able to afford or get me to. Sport of course was a big one. I pretty much played every sport I could. I am not sure I have any particular talent for sport at all, but it gave me the opportunity to play, to learn about teamwork and to learn new skills, which is something that everyone needs.

Whether it was athletics, swimming, netball, volleyball or touch football, I was into it, and I was able to engage in those sports through my school. I was also encouraged to participate in other extracurricular activities such as debating and public speaking outside school hours. These were

facilitated by the school at no cost to my parents, so it was a great privilege for me to be able to engage in those activities.

Art was another big one for me. It is excellent that I now hold the shadow portfolio for art because it was certainly a big passion of mine at school. I think there were only three students across the state who studied Art History Unit 4 in year 12, and I was the only one in my school. It was something I was very passionate about. All those lessons come back to me in my current role, as I have the great privilege of visiting our cultural institutions and seeing the wonderful local, interstate and international exhibitions we are blessed to have in South Australia.

Lastly, I also benefited from community engagement at my school. There was always a strong feeling at all the public schools I attended that life was not just about us and our little community—that life was broader than that. I was taught that, while we may be having a bad day, others out there are having a much worse one, and we need to do everything that we can to support the most vulnerable in our community.

Every public school I went to would have charity days and would explore the different ways that students could get involved in helping our communities. It is obviously a lesson that has stayed with me. It spurred me into becoming involved in student leadership even when I was very young, and then into university and of course where I am now. Public schools in particular provided a place for me to thrive, to figure out who I was and to feel like I belonged, even though my family was constantly moving, especially when I was quite young.

It has been wonderful for me as the member for Badcoe to be able to see some of those things reflected in the public schools within my local area, and I just want to mention a few of them. Forbes Primary School, for example, is doing a fantastic job, particularly with vulnerable kids. I look at those kids as I visit schools around my area and remember what it was like when I was a child. I would like to commend the efforts of Forbes Primary School, Plympton Primary School, Black Forest, Ascot Park and Edwardstown—

Time expired.

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (12:38): I would just like to thank all those members who made a contribution on this motion: the members for Port Adelaide, Narungga, Wright, Morphett, Torrens, Mount Gambier, Florey, Hammond, Giles, Frome, Heysen, Kaurana and Badcoe, the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Minister for Education. As has been reflected upon by all of today's speakers, teachers do a very important job. It is a tough job, but one that all those teachers I have spoken to find incredibly rewarding. We thank all teachers for the work that they do and wish them all a very happy World Teachers' Day this Friday.

Motion carried.

VOLUNTEER SCREENING CHECKS

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:39): I move:

That this house urges the state government to—

- (a) acknowledge the invaluable service that volunteers provide to the community; and
- (b) investigates a Blue Card system, similar to the Queensland model, in relation to the department for communities and social inclusion (DCSI) screenings.

South Australia has one of the highest rates of volunteering in Australia. More than 900,000 South Australians give their time to volunteer, contributing 1.7 million volunteer hours each week. This combined effort is equivalent to around 107,000 full-time jobs and is valued at almost \$5 billion each year.

Regionally, the volunteer effort is even stronger. Nearly 60 per cent of the state's rural population engages in volunteer work, whether it is running a barbecue at Bunnings for a sports club or donating time to the local animal shelter. There are nearly 21,000 not-for-profit associations in South Australia that depend on teams of volunteers to contribute their services, and many people volunteer at multiple organisations.

In today's society, organisations are more cautious about who they allow to volunteer, and rightly so. That is why volunteers are required to undergo police checks and working with vulnerable people checks to assess their suitability for different roles. National studies have shown that the two main reasons why people choose not to volunteer are personal expense and red tape. Recently, the South Australian state Liberal government announced the scrapping of the \$60 volunteer screening fee, which is a win for our volunteers and a move which will benefit many regional organisations and events. This is a great step towards removing a cost burden upon our hardworking volunteers and organisations, and something that I commend the state Liberal government on.

However, the red tape issues continue for South Australian volunteers. Currently, volunteers who work at a number of organisations are having to undertake not one but multiple police checks. This is because our system is not centralised. To ensure our state's level of volunteering continues into the future, we need to make volunteering as easy as possible and streamline our current system. We should be rewarding our volunteers, not making them jump through hoops to give their time.

In other states, checks are interchangeable between organisations. In Victoria, the working with children check is valid for five years and designed to be transferable between all accredited organisations in that state. Queensland, however, has taken the lead. In 2001, the Blue Card system was introduced across the state to protect and monitor people who work with children and young people. The Blue Card system is recognised as one of the most comprehensive and rigorous employment screening frameworks in Australia and the only one that incorporates the management of past, present and future risks by including real-time monitoring. Equally importantly, it means that volunteers go through just one application process to work across multiple organisations for three years.

The system recognises the vulnerability of children and the obligations of employers, the government and the community as a whole. It is important to note that the Blue Card is not a one-off police check; rather, it determines the eligibility of individuals to work with children through the comprehensive assessment of any past police or disciplinary information. The police information relating to all cardholders and applicants is monitored. If the information changes, immediate steps are taken to protect children from harm.

Over the 17 years that it has been running, the Blue Card system has gone through several reviews to strengthen it, close gaps and ensure that it is working in the way it was designed to. More than 100,000 organisations and service providers are registered with the system. If our state Liberal government were to implement a similar one-card system, it would have multiple benefits. Not only would it reduce red tape for volunteers but it would offer South Australia's most vulnerable—that is, children, the elderly and disabled—greater protection and safety by closing the gaps through real-time monitoring. Ultimately, it will increase our volunteering rate.

Many local organisations have spoken out about the need to attract younger volunteers to take over from the generation that is currently undertaking volunteering, but they are struggling to find the younger cohort. As elected members, we should be looking for ways to reduce impacts on our local communities, and this is a measure that I believe would have a major impact on South Australia: one check for multiple agencies, which lasts three years and has real-time monitoring. Could it be any simpler?

I have spoken to a number of volunteers in my community about introducing this to South Australia and all agree that a one-card system would be of immense benefit. Kylie Boston, a mum of two who lives in the small town of Yahl near Mount Gambier, volunteers for no less than five organisations. On any given day, she might be typing up the newsletter for the South Gambier Netball Club, running a barbecue for the Yahl Primary School or writing a funding application for the Mount Schank Tennis Club. Kylie says she loves giving her time to these small community organisations and was raised in a family where volunteering was considered very important. This year, Kylie was named the Grant district council's Australia Day Citizen of the Year for her many volunteering roles.

Kylie said that she has lost count of all the police checks she has had to apply for. During the last three years, she has had to get six individual checks: three separate police checks and three separate working with children checks. Despite the fact that she already has the okay from one organisation, others will not accept her existing checks and she has to go out and get new ones. I agree with Kylie when she says that the policies are not consistent. Kylie believes that having a card

with a photo, an ID number and an expiry date would not only streamline the system but allow more people to engage in volunteering.

I hear the argument about what happens if somebody commits an offence yet has the card for three years. This is where the real-time monitoring comes in. Just as is the case with your driver's licence, the card is cancelled, organisations that have you registered would be notified and the card would need to be handed in to the local police station.

Every morning, Rodney Summers pops his head into my electorate office with a smile and drops off the daily mail. Rodney volunteers his time at the Mount Gambier Lakes Rotary Club, Meals on Wheels, Western Border Football League, Mount Gambier district basketball association, Bendigo Bank, Sunset Community Kitchen and others. His wife, Judy, also devotes time each week as a coordinator for drivers and deliveries for the local Meals on Wheels. Both Rodney and Judy have had to get multiple police checks for their work in those organisations.

As the president of the Lakes Rotary Club, Mount Gambier, Rodney often has to round up teams of volunteers for events so that the club is able to fundraise. He says that the current system affects volunteering rates as people put it in the too-hard basket and decide not to help out. You have to see his point when a volunteer has to go through the process of applying for a police check, plus a working with children check, to sell fairy floss for two hours at the Mil-Lel show.

We should be making it easier to volunteer in South Australia, not harder. A one-card system would save volunteers time when working across multiple agencies and help our valuable volunteer organisations continue their good work. This is about reducing barriers to volunteering and making it easier for people to give their time. The pathway to volunteering should be simple and effective and not result in costs upon the person. Let's make it easier, not harder, to volunteer.

The time impact upon volunteers also needs to be taken into consideration. If a volunteer has to fill out three applications a year, as many do, how many hours are wasted in filling out forms that have already been filled out before? If we have 900,000 volunteers in our state, it adds up to thousands of hours lost in filling out unnecessary paperwork. Quite frankly, I think a person's time is better spent volunteering. With those comments, I commend the motion to the house.

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (12:49): I move to amend the motion from the member for Mount Gambier as follows:

Delete all the words after '(b)' and insert the words:

note South Australia's robust child-related employment screening (CRES) scheme, including continuous monitoring of all CRES holders, and the future implementation of a working with children check as a result of the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016, which will improve the screening system in South Australia.

I will read the motion in full very briefly. The motion would now read:

That this house urges the state government to—

- (a) acknowledge the invaluable service that volunteers provide to the community; and
- (b) note South Australia's robust child-related employment screening (CRES) scheme, including continuous monitoring of all CRES holders, and the future implementation of a working with children check as a result of the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016, which will improve the screening system in South Australia.

Our government is committed to supporting and building South Australian volunteering and to fostering an environment that encourages the next generation of volunteers—our young people, new retirees, people from all walks of life—to get involved and contribute their skills and expertise in innovative ways that respond to the new and complex demands.

During my campaign, one of the regular issues that was brought to my attention was the lengthy wait times volunteers were experiencing when applying for screening checks. Since the Marshall Liberal government was elected, the Minister for Human Services from the other place has worked with her department to address this concern. Delays have since reduced exponentially not just for volunteer screening checks but across all screening types. In 2017-18, the department

processed more than 150,000 applications and, as of 10 October 2018 for the 2018-19 financial year period, 40,936 applications were received and finalised.

The department has advised the following regarding processing times in 2018: 76 per cent of applications were processed between zero and five business days; 9.9 per cent were processed within six to 10 business days; and 11.3 per cent within 11 to 15 business days. That equates to 97.2 per cent of screenings finalised within 15 business days. This is compared with the 2017-18 year that saw 56 per cent of applications processed between zero and five business days; 19 per cent processed between six and 10 business days; and 10 per cent finalised within 11 to 15 business days. That is the equivalent comparator of 85 per cent of screenings finalised within the 15 business-day period. It is important to note that the length of time taken is often associated with how common or unique an applicant's name is.

To further assist our volunteers, the Marshall Liberal government made an election commitment for free screening checks that will commence from 1 November 2018, saving volunteers and organisations the fee of \$59.40. For volunteers, this saving will reduce the disincentive associated with the personal cost of volunteering. We will continue to support the WeDo app and other supportive programs put in place by the department for communities and social inclusion.

The member for Mount Gambier indicates that he would like the government to investigate a screening system similar to that in Queensland, which is the Blue Card. Queensland's Blue Card system was created to contribute to the making of safe and supportive environments for children when receiving services and participating in activities. The initial Blue Card screening is one component of the screening system, which considers the following:

- screening to determine a person's eligibility to work with children and young people based on their known past behaviour;
- ongoing monitoring of all Blue Card holders and applicants, which enables action to be taken; and
- mitigating future risk through the requirement for organisations providing child-related services to develop and implement risk management strategies.

Here in South Australia, we currently have in place robust child-related employment screenings, a scheme which assesses whether an individual poses a risk to children in a similar way that the Blue Card system does. Both the South Australian and Queensland screenings determine, based on relevant information, whether or not the applicant poses a risk to children. SA also continuously monitors all CRES holders. Queensland's Blue Card system checks information comparable with what the DHS screening unit does for a CRES. This includes:

- any national charge or conviction, including spent convictions and pending and non-conviction charges, for an offence, even if no conviction was recorded;
- child protection prohibition orders—whether a person is a respondent or subject to an application—or any disqualification orders;
- if a person is subject to reporting obligations under the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act or Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act;
- disciplinary information held by certain professional organisations, including teachers, childcare licensees and foster carers; and
- information that the police commissioner may provide in relation to sexual investigations of a serious nature.

Through the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016, South Australia is implementing new child-related employment screenings which respond to recommendations from both the commonwealth Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and South Australia's Child Protection Systems Royal Commission.

The new act introduces a working with children check (WWCC), which will be valid for five years and portable between roles. It also introduces a unique identifier that will be issued to all

persons who apply for a WWCC. This means that employers or other persons—for example, parents—may request this unique identifier for a potential employee or individual and verify online that the person has a valid WWCC.

Additionally, recommendations from the royal commission have progressed through the development of national standards for working with children checks. South Australia has worked with the commonwealth Department of Home Affairs, states and territories to produce the national standards, which aim to provide a minimum benchmark for WWCCs nationally and ensure an increased level of protection for children through the screening processes.

I think it is important to note that the main difference between the South Australian and Queensland system is that Queensland's Blue Card is a physical product that can be used to demonstrate that the individual holds a screening clearance. Whilst this may seem beneficial, there are risks. For example, a clearance may have been revoked but the individual still holds the card. It is for this reason that several jurisdictions across Australia have moved away from cards or other physical products. This is why the physical card is not recommended in South Australia. I join the member for Mount Gambier in recognising the invaluable service that volunteers provide to the South Australian community.

Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (12:56): I will not read the motion in full, but I indicate that we thoroughly endorse paragraph (a) from the member for Mount Gambier and offer support for the government's amendments to paragraph (b). Thank you so much for the opportunity to speak again on volunteers, member for Mount Gambier. They are a thoroughly important cog in the machinery of our community. With more than one million South Australians volunteering, providing billions of dollars of value to the economy, we would grind to a halt without them.

Thank you to the community of Fisher previously, and Hurtle Vale now, for supporting fabulous sporting groups, community centres, emergency services, animals, wildlife and a whole range of things in our community. Without you, it would cost millions and millions of dollars to have the strong and resilient community that we have. Thank you for doing the work you do as volunteers, and thank you for sharing your stories with me.

Briefly, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Aberfoyle Community Centre and the Reynella Neighbourhood Centre on offering their meal service. They offer affordable, healthy and free meals. I know that cook Anita Pachot does a wonderful job supporting that program, and there are volunteers at those community centres doing a great job.

The continual monitoring system that we now have for screening is, in our view, a lot better than the Blue Card. We are glad that machinery has now started to roll out and is doing the work it is doing. I think that it will only improve as time goes forward. With those few words, thank you volunteers for everything you do, and thank you, member for Mount Gambier, for bringing the motion to the house.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:57): I thank those members who have made a contribution to this motion; however, I disagree that a physical card would be an impediment. It is no different from a driver's licence, as far as I am concerned, but I acknowledge any moves that we make to make volunteering easier. I certainly commend the government for waiving the processing fee for volunteers. I think that is a great step. We will continue on this journey to support our volunteers going forward. With that, I commend the motion to the house.

Amendment carried; motion as amended carried.

Sitting suspended from 12:58 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I welcome to parliament today year 11 legal studies students from Charles Campbell College. Welcome to parliament as my guests, and please do legal studies in year 12.

*Petitions***SERVICE SA MODBURY**

Ms BEDFORD (Florey): Presented a petition signed by 200 residents of South Australia requesting the house to urge the government not to proceed with the proposed closure of the Service SA Modbury Branch announced as a cost-saving measure in the 2018-19 state budget.

*Parliamentary Procedure***PAPERS**

The following paper was laid on the table:

By the Deputy Premier (Hon. V.A. Chapman) on behalf of the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Investment Attraction South Australia—Annual Report 2017-18

*Ministerial Statement***GRASSROOTS SPORTS GRANT**

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:01): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I am proud to inform the house that the Marshall Liberal government's new \$24 million grassroots sports grant has opened today. This exciting new grant will enable football, cricket and netball clubs to apply for up to \$500,000 in matched funding for projects—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Minister, could you just be seated. I remind members that the minister has sought leave and leave has been granted. I will be keeping a long line of members to call to order and warn if interruptions continue. The minister has leave. Minister, could you please start from the beginning.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Thank you, Mr Speaker; I will, with great pleasure. I am proud to inform the house that the Marshall government's new \$24 million grassroots sports grant has opened today. This exciting new grant will enable football, cricket and netball clubs to apply for up to \$500,000 in matched funding for projects including lighting upgrades, pitch or court resurfacing, new change room facilities and improved family-friendly facilities, or up to \$1 million on a 2:1 ratio for larger projects.

The government has moved quickly to get this new grant up and running, coordinating with the SANFL, SACA and Netball SA to ensure applicants have every opportunity to leverage this funding. The Marshall government's \$10 million investment over the next two years will be supported by an additional \$1 million each from the SANFL and SACA. Earlier today, Chief Executive Officer of Netball SA, Mr Ben Scales, and Chief Executive Officer of the SANFL, Mr Jake Parkinson, joined me to launch the grant, expressing their firm commitment and appreciation of the value of this exciting program.

The Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program will enable sport and community clubs to maximise participation opportunity for females and all South Australians by developing more family-friendly facilities that meet the AFL, Cricket Australia and Netball Australia national standards. The Marshall Liberal government is committed to driving up participation in sport and giving all players a fair go. One of the first things I did after coming into government was to survey the members of the SA Women in Sport Taskforce, state associations and the general public. I did this to give women in sport a voice. We are a government that wants to govern for all South Australians and give everyone a fair go.

The survey revealed a strong need for a culture change, giving more opportunities to produce strong female leaders and coaches in sport and fairness in game scheduling. South Australia's

female athletes are amongst Australia's strongest performers at the Commonwealth Games and the Olympic Games. The Marshall government will do everything it can to make it easier for women to play and compete in sport.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Our government is committed to completing a Women in Sport survey on an annual basis, the results of which will set the direction and inform the Marshall government's future investment in women's sport.

As a government, we are committed to investing in facilities that increase participation; changing club culture so that everyone, including women, girls and families, feel welcome at our sport and community clubs; and partnering with sports bodies and local government so that we can maximise investment in our community. Sports that fall outside the new grant guidelines will have their applications prioritised under the \$4.28 million Community Recreation and Sport Facilities fund. Applications for the first round of the Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program will close on Wednesday 27 February 2019. I encourage clubs to apply to the website of the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

The SPEAKER: Before I move on, unfortunately I call the following members to order: the Minister for Primary Industries, the Acting Premier and the Minister for Transport. I call to order and I warn for a first time the member for Reynell. I call to order the acting leader, the member for Torrens and the member for Elizabeth.

Ms HILDYARD: Point of order: standing order 125, offensive words against another MP. I would like the Minister for Transport to explain what he meant when he said, 'Katrine, flat white, thanks.'

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: The member for Reynell's repeated interjection—

The SPEAKER: One moment.

Ms HILDYARD: Sorry, it was 'a skinny flat white.' 'I'll take a skinny flat white, thank you.' If he can explain what he means exactly.

The SPEAKER: So the member has taken offence at an expression used; is that right?

Ms HILDYARD: The words were, 'I'll take a skinny flat white perhaps.'

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: The repeated interjections of the member for Reynell—

The SPEAKER: Order! That could mean an array of things. The Minister for Transport, will be seated, please. Would the minister like to withdraw that statement, which the member has taken offence to?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Mr Speaker, I seek to make a personal explanation.

The SPEAKER: Minister, is this related directly to this?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Yes.

The SPEAKER: I believe this is related directly to this. I am trying to establish who said what. The member for Reynell, like any member is able to do, has asked for an explanation and I am trying to seek that explanation before I give my ruling. Briefly, minister.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: The repeated interjections of the member for Reynell, I believe, sometime in this question time—

The SPEAKER: No, that is irrelevant to this.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: No, this is exactly relevant.

The SPEAKER: That is irrelevant. Minister, please be seated. Minister for Transport, would you like to withdraw the statement that the member has taken offence to? Minister for Transport, you made the statement. I'm trying to establish who made—

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: I withdraw the 'skim flat white'.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. The minister has withdrawn that statement. I take it that is to the member for Reynell's satisfaction. Members, we have students here in the gallery today, as well as other guests. I ask members to get on with it, please, and conduct themselves in a more cordial manner, please. This is not a good start. Now that we have dealt with that, we move on.

COOBER PEDY DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:08): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: On 2 October 2018, I received a submission from the District Council of Coober Pedy, referred to now as 'the council'. As members are aware, the council's submission related to a final report from the Ombudsman that identified a range of errors and failures on the part of the council as it undertook a critical procurement process. This report raised serious issues around the operation of the council.

The submission was provided in response to a letter that I sent to the council indicating my view that the Ombudsman's final report identified serious irregularities in the conduct of the affairs of the council and that I was therefore considering taking action under section 273 of the Local Government Act 1999 to recommend to the Governor that the council be declared defaulting.

The council's submission raises a number of matters that I am giving careful consideration to before making a decision on any possible action. I am aware that the election process is underway in Coober Pedy, as for all councils across South Australia, and that the Coober Pedy community, candidates for office and voters, need clarity about the current election process and whether it will proceed.

Given that the election process has started, I do not intend to take action before it is complete. Following the election, I will provide the council with an opportunity to make a further submission to me as soon as possible before I decide on the most appropriate course of action to take. I acknowledge that this process may seem to be long. However, any decision to recommend that a council be declared defaulting, and that an administrator be appointed, is a very serious one. It is therefore critical that my decision-making process is fair and ensures that all relevant information and views are properly considered.

The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Light is warned.

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:10): I bring up the ninth report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

Question Time

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:12): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Minister, today representatives from clubs across our state were in parliament calling for the minister to reverse his cruel \$24 million cut to the Female Facilities Program.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Point of order: this is clearly a speech and not a question.

The SPEAKER: Yes, if the member would like to introduce argument, opinion or facts—let's say facts—there really needs to be leave sought, so would you please either introduce facts with leave or please rephrase the question.

Ms HILDYARD: I will rephrase the question, thank you, Mr Speaker. Will the minister reinstate the \$24 million specific Female Facilities Program so that women and girls who play sport can have access to the same facilities as men and boys?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:13): I thank the member for Reynell for her question and note that we have been here eight months now and that is her first question on sport to me in this chamber, so it has taken a while. It is her first question on sport to me in this chamber, and I do note that, Mr Speaker.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order, minister. Please be seated for one moment. The member for West Torrens on a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The minister is required to answer to the substance of the question and not make personal reflections on members.

The SPEAKER: I respectfully ask the minister, yes, to please return to the substance of the question and not reflect on things like how many questions the member may have asked. Thank you, minister. I am listening to the answer.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I note that the member pointed out some people that she had here in the gallery, and I welcome them here into parliament. I hope they are very buoyed by what we are doing and the money we have committed to sport going forward. What I would do and what I would say first up—

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Mawson!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —is I would apologise for the 16 years of Labor government and the fact that they feel they have been let down. I can appreciate that, and I can appreciate them feeling let down. What we will do and what we have done, and I outlined it in my ministerial statement, is our \$24 million commitment we have made to community grassroots sports with football, cricket and netball, and we are very keen to work with the other sports.

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: The member for Reynell yells out that it is \$10 million. I am happy to break it down for her and happy to do the maths because she is out there saying that we have cut \$24 million, which is totally untrue, Mr Speaker, and I will talk you through it so that we can add it up—

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Reynell!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —just so that it is clear for everyone, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: I'm listening.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: When I came into this job, I sat down first up and I said, 'The female facilities project, \$14 million has been spent. Labor have been in government for 16 years. They have spent \$14 million on female facilities. Fantastic! How much has been delivered? What is on the ground?' That is the question I asked: 'What is on the ground?' There was \$14 million spent. The answer: \$250,000 worth of projects on the ground. I said, 'Where is the rest of the money?'

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: They said, 'It's in bank accounts. It's with clubs waiting to get delivered.' So it was taking a long, long time.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: While the intent might have been good, the delivery was poor. We weren't getting results, and South Australian taxpayers deserve results for their funding. So, the previous government had spent \$14 million in 16 years on this project, and we said—

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson is warned.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —we want to get better results. So I took that \$10 million, I went to the Treasurer and he has given us a commitment for another \$5 million in the third year. We are putting \$15 million on the table, and we have partnered with the SANFL, and we have partnered with Cricket Australia, or SACA, and we have partnered with netball as well.

What these sports have said is, 'We like your project that much we're going to tip in \$1 million each as well because we think that this is going to deliver good projects for our community,' and I think that is fantastic. So we are putting in \$15 million, the two sporting organisations are putting in \$1 million each and we are going to do matched funding. We are going to work with councils to make sure that we get projects that they want to see delivered, the sports want to see delivered, the communities want to see delivered and we want to see delivered.

That is a partnership. They may not know what that is like on their side, but we want to work in partnerships with community clubs, with sporting organisations, and we have put that program forward. What we have said for the other sports that don't fit under this program is, 'We want to talk and work with you, but we have the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities fund and you will be prioritised through that.' We are investing money in sport, and I can go on about the \$19 million we have put into the State Sports Park for soccer. We have gone into—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: They say it was them, Mr Speaker.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Again, I went and I sat down with the department, and I said, 'These projects that the Labor government have talked about. Have you got the money in the bank ready to go?' Do you know what they said? They said, 'No.' They said, 'It needs to come from the budget,' and the budget delivered it. In the bank account, when I got there, there was \$20 million for sport over the next four years. We have put more than \$75 million in, and we will continue to support sport in this state.

The SPEAKER: The minister's time has expired. I call the following members to order: the Minister for Transport and the member for Badcoe. I warn for a first time the member for Mawson. The member for West Torrens was interjecting throughout that whole answer and he is called to order.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Well, for part of the answer.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: He is called to order. The member for Reynell has the call.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:18): Thank you, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Why do hockey, basketball, softball, baseball, soccer and other sporting codes and their female members no longer have any access to funding for upgrades after the minister cut the \$24 million Female Facilities Program?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order, sir: that question fails to meet the standard required by standing order 97.

The SPEAKER: Asking whether—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I do not uphold that point of order. I am going to allow it on this occasion. Give the minister a chance to answer that question in silence.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:19): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, and I thank you for the question. I am excited and I am hoping I get to talk about sport all day, every day in this place because we are delivering for the people of South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: As far as those sports that the member talks about—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I have allowed the question. The minister will be heard in silence.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: The community recreation and sports fund, which I outlined and which is very much in the wheelhouse for all those sports, if they have projects that they want to deliver we are ready to talk to them. They can go to the office for recreation and sport—

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell is warned for a second and final time.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —and if they have projects that they want to deliver, we want to partner with them. That's what we want to do as a government on this side of the house. We are excited by it. We have our new program that we have outlined today for football, cricket, netball and grassroots sports, and the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities fund is right in the wheelhouse for all those other sports.

They will be prioritised through that fund, so there is plenty of opportunity for them to come to us as the government, talk to us and put their plans forward through the office of rec and sport. The grants process is there, and we want to deliver more projects. We don't want the money sitting in bank accounts. We want to make sure that it's on the ground with facilities that are going to deliver for the communities.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: We are passionate about it and are excited to be delivering for South Australia.

The SPEAKER: The member for Ramsay is also called to order. Member for Reynell and then the member for Newland.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:20): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. How does the minister respond to 10-year-old Noarlunga United soccer player, Abigail, who is upset that her club can no longer access specific funding to build or upgrade dedicated female change room facilities? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Ms HILDYARD: Ten-year-old Abigail has a message for minister Wingard and the Premier that was read out today by Abigail in the Old Chamber. Abigail says, and I quote, it's:

...not really that fair—the girls are not really getting enough changerooms. I think it would be fair if the girls could get that \$24 million, so we could get changerooms, so we could be [treated] equally fair.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:21): I thank Abigail. Is Abigail here? Because I thank Abigail for that question.

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson will not interject.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I thank Abigail for that question and I point out that, after 16 years of Labor, I apologise to her that you didn't deliver it because you had every chance—16 years. I would have thought, in that time—

The SPEAKER: Please address your remarks through the Chair, minister.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I would have thought that in that time the member for Reynell and the previous Labor government would have delivered it. I am disappointed for Abigail, too, and for a lot of community sports clubs out there that didn't get projects delivered under this previous government. I do again apologise to Abigail for the previous government and the fact that they didn't deliver it, but we have been in government for eight months and we are already starting to deliver on our projects. We have put our program out there right now, which is, again, focused on cricket—

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Acting leader, you are called to order.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —on football and on netball, and then we have the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities fund, where Abigail's club can apply. Abigail's club can apply there. If they need facilities for their club, to grow their club, they can do that. That's what has happened in the past, and that's what's going to happen in the future. As the government, we are—

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell is on two warnings.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —going to deliver. We are going to deliver for the people of South Australia. So I apologise that it didn't happen in the past 16 years, but we are here, we are open and we are ready to work with the local community clubs and deliver for South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Badcoe is warned, and the member for Lee is called to order. Member for Newland.

BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:23): My question is to the Minister for Environment and Water. Can the minister update the house on the prescribed burns program that is reducing bushfire risk and protecting South Australian families in the lead-up to summer?

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:23): I thank the member for Newland for his question. I know how important bushfire preparedness is to the communities that he has the privilege of representing in the Adelaide Hills.

It was good to be able to join the Minister for Emergency Services in the member for Newland's electorate three weeks ago to launch, at Black Hill Conservation Park, the preventative burn program season. That will see a program of some 65 programmed prescribed burns occurring throughout South Australia, many of those in the Mount Lofty Ranges, to keep lives and property safe from the ever-present threat of bushfire in South Australia, particularly in the Mount Lofty Ranges, which we know, given their population and geography, are particularly vulnerable to the threat of bushfires.

We have a program of prescribed burns across our state, which is a rolling program. It doesn't mean we will finish that program in the spring season. Those that are not completed will be rolled into the season after summer, the autumn season, once the hotter, drier and riskier weather is over. That is an ongoing rolling series of burns based on a threats analysis that looks at the most difficult areas and the areas that are of highest risk of bushfire and, obviously, threats to lives and property as well.

This year, we are continuing a body of work initiated by the previous government, which trialled burning on private land, and we are progressing that beyond the trial to a permanent strategy

of burning on private land. This is, of course, because fire does not know when to stop at boundaries between different tenures and will move from government-controlled land onto private land, creating a much greater risk, particularly when private landowners may not be adept at undertaking prescribed burns in an appropriate way.

We have the CFS, which includes the biggest CFS brigade, which is held by the Department for Environment and Water, working alongside expert fire officers within the Department for Environment and Water, working alongside officers who volunteer through the CFS to keep South Australia's landscape, particularly the Adelaide Hills, safe from this particular threat.

This year, I am pleased to be able to update the house, we have been able to undertake a cultural burn as well in the Far North of the state in Witjira National Park—a unique opportunity to involve traditional owners in the management of the landscape that they have care and control of and to have a cultural aspect to preventative burning as well. That not only fulfils cultural needs but also creates a safer environment and has ecological outcomes as well. There are always risks associated with prescribed burns, but with appropriate management, taking into consideration threats and managing the situation with the weather, the government will continue to undertake this critical service.

LOT FOURTEEN

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:26): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. How many tenancies have been granted at the old RAH site, now known as Lot Fourteen?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:26): I will have to take that question on notice. Renewal SA certainly does report to me, but the Premier has taken specific control of Lot Fourteen. As such, he is the one who is dealing directly with those tenancies, so I will have to bring back an answer.

LOT FOURTEEN

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:27): My question is again to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. When the minister delegated all responsibility for Lot Fourteen to the Premier, did the Premier become responsible for all contracts, tenders and tenancies granted at Lot Fourteen?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:27): To the best of my understanding, yes, but I would say that there is a process that is undertaken by Renewal SA to decide which tenancies are put onto Lot Fourteen. There are some guidelines that Renewal SA uses to vet potential tenants. We have a vision down there for the Lot Fourteen site that is around trying to create an innovation cluster and, quite clearly, our ability to get the right kinds of businesses that are going to really bring and inject that talent is extremely important.

We have the centre for machine learning that Adelaide University is putting on the corner of the Lot Fourteen site and there are many businesses that are very keen to get access to those graduates. We are moving towards a situation where knowledge is power and getting access to these highly skilled people is desirable for these start-up businesses.

Certainly, the response that we have had at Lot Fourteen is extremely strong and the number of businesses wanting to go down there is immense, but we need to make sure that we curate that site properly so that we can create this proper community and this idea that we can bring together smart minds so that they can talk, discuss and coexist with each other in order to be able to spark new ideas, start small businesses and work with the Chief Entrepreneur and the work that the Department for Industry and Skills is doing on that site to really drive forward entrepreneurship and innovation in South Australia, which is something that has been lacking up until now but something that we are really proud of, that is really strong, that we are creating down at Lot Fourteen under the extremely good guidance of the Premier.

LOT FOURTEEN

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:29): My question is to the Acting Premier. Did all tenancies at the Lot Fourteen site go out to public tender and were they issued at market rates?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:29): The Lot Fourteen tenancy arrangement has been the subject of a number of cabinet discussions, so I won't go into those. In respect of the process—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee is warned.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —that applied to the tender, I will obtain particular details in relation to that, but I confirm what the minister has advised the house, and that is the very special interest the Premier has taken in relation to Lot Fourteen. Why? Because he, like the rest of us on this side of the house, has been appalled by the abandonment of this site for 10 years since the former government made a decision to build a new hospital at the other end of North Terrace and did nothing—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —to make a decision about what would be placed on this site—did nothing except have two competitions. They paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to have two competitions for which submissions were sought on what other people thought they might like to put on this site.

Then we had announcements from the former minister for health, the Hon. John Hill, who has now left the parliament. He wanted to consider having a boutique hotel there for a while. That lasted about a day until I think he was shut down by former premier Rann on that idea. They did nothing. They did absolutely nothing on this site. The Premier realises, and he has made it very clear to our government, the significance of this site and the importance of ensuring that it is utilised. It is a public asset. Significant public money has been spent on it.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Activity in relation to bringing down and cleaning up that site has been undertaken under this government's watch, and we are very proud of it.

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell: He's not here to defend himself.

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson is warned for a second and final time.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The Premier maintains the commitment that this site, this public site on which substantial public money has been spent, will remain a very significant public asset for future South Australians.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is warned. I want to point out to members that, whilst ministers should not engage in things that are irrelevant—and I am not implying that they are—they may, however, contrast the actions of the former government with the current government. Former Speakers have found the same. However, I am keeping a close eye that they do not go too far from the substance of the question. The member for MacKillop has the call.

TAFE SA

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:32): My question is to the Minister for Education. Can the minister advise the house how the government's budget rescue package is supporting TAFE SA, and what are some of the challenges that the organisation has had to overcome?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:32): I thank the member for MacKillop for the question. I am pleased to advise that I can give him some information on this. It is, of course, a matter very close to the member for MacKillop's heart as a former apprentice and someone who is very concerned about how TAFE SA has had to deal with some challenges. We spoke about some of them yesterday, but I regret to inform the house that what I presented yesterday was but the tip of the iceberg. We just started scratching the surface.

It is reasonable to start with a question of how TAFE SA was going last year. Advice was given to the house by the member for Port Adelaide, who was the relevant minister at the time, in July last year:

TAFE has undertaken an extraordinary effort in modernising its service operations. It has made significant savings in the process and is operating extremely professionally, so I have no reason not to believe that they are well on their way to the contestability anticipated by the end of 2018-19.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: So, after 15½ years of Labor, the member for Port Adelaide, the shadow minister for education, was able to report to the house in July last year that everything was going terribly well at TAFE SA. That was the assessment of the shadow minister under the close oversight that she had applied to it as the minister. Of course, a little later in the year, she undertook a review led by Terry Moran and Kim Bannikoff, the Strategic Capability Review. They had a look at whether the minister, as she was then, was right in that. They said:

TAFE SA's emphasis on cost-cutting and centralisation has overwhelmed and distorted its strategic focus. The business model does not enable educators to respond to business and industry requirements. Nor does it empower staff to take initiative and innovate within an accountable organisational culture.

They went on to say of the TAFE SA organisation after 15½ years of Labor rule, eventually 16:

Ageing infrastructure, obsolete equipment, unreliable technology and inflexible online platforms have severely limited organisational capacity and innovation.

The member for Port Adelaide, the former minister for education, also commissioned the Nous Group to report into the quality issues that led to some challenges that TAFE faced at the end of last year. Nous described it thus:

Cabinet approved time-limited funding to assist TAFE SA meet its transition costs (primarily funding Targeted Voluntary Separation Packages) on the basis that investment in TAFE SA's downsizing would significantly ease Budget pressure over the medium-long term. However, the focus on cost cutting became an obsessive one, meaning that leaders and managers paid much more attention to cost inputs rather than the quantity or quality of outputs.

That is the summary of some of the challenges that TAFE SA faced after 16 years of Labor's wrecking ball through its organisation. But the good news is that there is a new government—

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Acting leader!

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: —and TAFE SA has a fresh start and a very bright future. TAFE SA is being revived. TAFE SA is being transformed. TAFE SA will, under the Marshall Liberal government, once again be known as the benchmark for quality, as a byword for quality, recognised by its peers, by industry, by students, by the community, and indeed by businesses and industry, for reliability and high professional standards. That is the road that it is on. The government has put in a \$110 million rescue package. By contrast, the former government, the member for West Torrens as treasurer, the member for Port Adelaide as the education minister—

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Acting leader!

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: —imposed \$70 million of slash-and-burn cuts in their last Mid-Year Budget Review. Staff are now respected and valued. Quality is now the byword for training. Meeting employer and student needs is what TAFE SA is all about. This complements the government's \$200 million investment in traineeships and apprenticeships being led by the Minister for Industry and Skills. TAFE SA has a fresh start. It has a bright future. Thanks to this government; no thanks to those opposite.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond is called to order. The Minister for Primary Industries is warned. I also warn the member for Lee. I warn the acting leader, and she has the call.

LOT FOURTEEN

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:36): My question is to the Acting Premier. Who at Renewal SA is responsible for overseeing the Lot Fourteen project and the terms and conditions of the contracts, tenders and tenancies granted at the site?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:37): Maybe to give some clarification to the members opposite who again have had some sort of general practice amnesia since 17 March this year, Renewal SA has a chief executive. That chief executive reports to a board—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Which one of the three?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Reports to a board and—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my left!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —that board is responsible for the overarching governance of Renewal SA. It's a statutory authority process that has been set up for some time. It's something that the member for West Torrens fell foul of—

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Industry is called to order.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —and I'm sure Bruce Lander's report in relation to certain dealings of Renewal SA would give him a clear understanding of what the governance arrangements should be in relation to Renewal SA. I could also ask any number of the board members, who resigned during that torrid affair, about what they thought about how the governance arrangements should have been operating.

In relation to this, there is a robust selection process that is undertaken that is using essentially a predetermined set of situations that Renewal SA uses to decide who does or doesn't come on to that site. They are the ones who undertake those contracts, but they do report to a board. Yes, they also do report to a minister, and in relation to Lot Fourteen that is the Premier. But there are strong governance structures in place. I know that the opposition is trying to lead down a path where they are trying to create some sort of level of smear and insinuation. If they would like to make that claim—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is warned.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —if they would like to make that accusation, then make it. Otherwise, we will provide general information to the house and stand behind what is a very robust process that seeks to change the way that our businesses operate and change the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship here in South Australia.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is warned for a second and final time. The acting leader has the call.

LOT FOURTEEN

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:39): My question is to the Acting Premier. Has the Premier or his office been briefed on the awarding of all contracts, tenders and tenancies granted at Lot Fourteen and their terms and conditions?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:39): I am happy to answer that question, although I just want to remind the acting leader that I am actually a woman, not a 'his'. I am still a woman and I intend to die a woman.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: But, as Acting Premier—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left, please!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —I am assuming she meant 'her' in her question in respect of the detail sought. I will make, as 'her'—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Could we have the question again, please.

Dr CLOSE: Certainly. My question is to the Acting Premier, who is here on behalf of the Premier. Has the Premier or his office been briefed on the awarding of all contracts, tenders and tenancies granted at Lot Fourteen and their terms and conditions?

The SPEAKER: I am glad that is clear. The Acting Premier.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: Do you have another pithy obfuscation?

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee, please cease interjecting.

An honourable member: Are you going to apologise?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Well, I apologise to the Leader of the Opposition in hearing her question. I didn't hear the first three words of her question; nevertheless, that is clear on the repeat. Yes, I will obtain some information in relation to that and come back to the house.

LOT FOURTEEN

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (14:40): My question is to the Acting Premier. Has the government been made aware of any concerns relating to contracts, tenders or tenancies that have been granted at Lot Fourteen?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:40): Not that I am aware in relation to that matter, but certainly I will make some inquiry on that and report back to the house.

LOT FOURTEEN

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (14:40): My question again is to the Acting Premier. Has the government received advice that any contracts, tenders or tenancies issued at Lot Fourteen have probity issues?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:41): I certainly haven't received any information to that effect, but I will inquire. I assume the member is referring to whether there has been any concern raised with the Premier's office.

LOT FOURTEEN

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (14:41): Again, my next question is to the Acting Premier. Did any public sector employees involved in the development, management or administration of Lot Fourteen declare any conflict of interest prior to any contracts, tenders or tenancies being granted?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:41): Again, in respect of that matter, if it's able to be disclosed, because that may be a probity issue in relation to the tender process as to the disclosure of information during that, if that information is available to the house, I will make inquiry about it and report back to the house.

LOT FOURTEEN

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (14:41): My question is to the Acting Premier. Is the government aware of any conflict of interest between any Renewal SA employee and any contracts, tenders or tenancies granted at Lot Fourteen?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:42): Again, I am not aware of any, but I will make inquiry as to whether, again, there were conflicts of interest disclosed and whether that in fact might affect the question that has just been asked in relation to that information. Subject to that being able to be made available, given the tender arrangements, I will report back to the house.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:42): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has the minister instructed Renewal SA to undertake a probity audit of all contracts, tenders and tenancies overseen by Mr John Hanlon or Ms Georgina Vasilevski on behalf of Renewal SA?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:42): No.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:42): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Why hasn't the minister for Renewal SA instructed the agency to take a probity review of all contracts, tenders and tenancies overseen by Mr John Hanlon and Ms Georgina Vasilevski?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:43): Because no issues or concerns have been raised with me.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Other than the ICAC inquiry.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens, sir, you are on two warnings. If you would like more questions, I would ask the member to please get on with questions and cease interjecting.

LOT FOURTEEN

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:43): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Have all demolition contracts awarded at the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site gone to the lowest bidder?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:43): I will have to check information in relation to that, but I know obviously there are staged demolition works that have been awarded down at Lot Fourteen, especially in relation to the main building, which is currently being demolished as we speak. I am more than happy to inquire into that matter, but what I would say is that there is a strong process that is undertaken and, in the usual course of business, there are probity advisers who do provide advice during these larger procurement processes, and I am happy to inquire into that further.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:44): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Does the minister stand by his remarks in estimates that all travel costs and credit card expenditure by the Renewal SA executive team have been proactively disclosed on the Renewal SA website?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:44): Can I reject the premise of that question, as to whether or not they are comments that I made at the time. It's just, I suppose, a sentence that the member has put to the house as being fact, but I'm more than happy to have a look into that issue. Certainly, there is a normal and standard process that is undertaken. There are proactive disclosure requirements. If the member has some sort of issue that he believes needs to be raised, then he can make that point.

The SPEAKER: If a member has a point of order on the question, could you please raise that point of order at the time of the question, not during the course of the answer. Member for West Torrens.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:45): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Can the minister inform the house where on the Renewal SA website the executive team at Renewal SA have or do proactively disclose all their travel costs and credit card expenditure?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:45): I'll need to—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: You should know; you set it up.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: I'll need to inquire into that and bring an answer back to the house.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: Can you believe he doesn't know that after all those years?

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier is called to order; she knows better.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:45): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. How many warrants were issued by law enforcement officers on Renewal SA and its employees?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:45): Mr Speaker, this is obviously where this line of questioning is attempting to go, and that is an extension of what happens in estimates. That is an attempt by the opposition to draw conclusions, and to entice me into drawing conclusions, that are simply not responsible to make.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Light is warned for a second and final time. The member for West Torrens is on two warnings.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Can I say that responsible governments have a series of priorities and responsibilities that they have to have regard to. First and foremost, we are elected here to serve the people of South Australia. But in addition to those responsibilities, we have responsibilities to our cabinet colleagues, as ministers. We have responsibilities—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir.

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens has a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: This is debate, sir. My question was very specific.

The SPEAKER: Debate. I'm listening to the answer. I believe the minister is going to come back to the substance of the question. I will allow some preamble and then I expect him to get very close to the question, and get to the substance of the question soon. Minister—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I'm listening to his answer and I ask members on my left to be quiet while I listen.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: We have a whole series of responsibilities that we must have regard to. The statements that I have made in relation to the repeated questioning by members of the opposition is what a responsible government and what a responsible minister say, having regard to the duties and responsibilities that they have with the very serious office that they hold. It is why we've taken a very responsible course with the statements that we've made. It's why, even though the opposition continues to try to create a level of smear and innuendo in relation to the questions that they're asking—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —we will not be deterred. We will not allow members of the opposition—

The SPEAKER: There's a point of order. Minister, please be seated.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: My point of order is debate, sir. The question was about how many warrants have been issued—

The SPEAKER: Yes, I have the question. Is the minister finished?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Yes, sir.

The SPEAKER: He has finished his answer.

The Hon. A. Piccolo: He didn't answer it.

The SPEAKER: Well, that was his answer.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:47): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. How many Renewal SA staff currently on leave are being investigated by ICAC?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:48): I refer the member for West Torrens to my previous statements on the matter.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:48): My question is to the Minister for Police. Can the minister assure the house that no government minister is under investigation by SAPOL?

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Police, can you?

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: How many opposition frontbenchers have faced it?

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Education is warned.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:48): Sorry, can I get clarification? You asked me whether it's an investigation by SAPOL or by ICAC?

The SPEAKER: Please repeat the question.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my right, please be quiet—and on my left. The member for Badcoe is on two warnings.

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni: It's a pity Bernie's all done and dusted!

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Industry is warned for the first time. He knows much better than that.

Mr Pederick: Have a look at those 68 speeding fines.

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond is warned.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Playford is warned. Could I please have the question again for clarity?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, sir. My question is to the Minister for Police. Can the minister assure the house that no government minister is under investigation by South Australia Police?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Of course, because I couldn't talk about ICAC anyway, but, no, not that I'm aware of.

ICAC INVESTIGATION

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:49): My question is to the Acting Premier. Has the Attorney-General and anyone in her office been contacted by South Australia Police in relation to her public statement on 27 September regarding an ICAC investigation into Renewal SA executives?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:49): No.

ICAC INVESTIGATION

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:49): My question is to the Acting Premier. Has the Attorney-General's Department or the Crown Solicitor been asked to provide any information to South Australia Police in relation to the Attorney-General's public statements of 27 September regarding an ICAC investigation into Renewal SA executives?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:49): Not that I am aware of.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:50): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. How does the minister's axing of the \$24 million dedicated Female Facilities Program assist efforts to improve gender equality in sport?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order: standing order 97 declines the member the opportunity to have comment and argument in the question.

The SPEAKER: In 'axing', or the latter part of the question?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Most of the question, sir.

The SPEAKER: Yes, there was a fair bit in that question. Would you like to rephrase? I will allow the member for Reynell one opportunity to rephrase the question. Member for Reynell.

GENDER EQUALITY

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:50): Thank you, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. How does the minister define 'gender equality'?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:50): I thank the member for the question. She asked me a similar question in estimates. What we want to look at here is what we are looking to do for the people of South Australia. To the question that I think was ruled out of order, I want to explain to the house that because we have taken the word 'female' out of the name of our funding by no means does it mean that we are not focused on females in sport. In fact, it is quite the opposite. You don't need to have the name in your funding to be focused on women.

As a father of two girls who play sport, and having coached a lot of girls in sport, too, I have a great, great passion for sport across the board. In fact, I have spent the majority of my life heavily involved in the sporting industry and know the value of sport for all South Australians. When it comes to equality, on this side of the house we want to make sure that we deliver programs for all South Australians equally, no matter what sex, race, religion, colour, creed or whatever it might be. Equality is about delivering services for everyone. Very proudly, that is a focus of our government. To the member's point, I did a survey and I mentioned this in my ministerial statement.

Ms HILDYARD: Point of order: my question was, 'Can the minister define 'gender equality?' We are moving away from the substance of the question.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: What was the point of order?

Ms HILDYARD: Debate.

The SPEAKER: Okay. That is a very wide-scoping question. I would expect a wide-scoping answer. I remind several members that they are on two warnings: members for Light, Reynell, Badcoe, Mawson and West Torrens. The member for Hammond is close to the edge as well.

An honourable member: Chuck him out.

The SPEAKER: I might do that. I am listening to the minister's answer. Thank you, minister.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I thank the member again for her question and the point about gender equality, which I did explain, and having equal aspects in sport for men and women. To take it further, we can take the gender out of it and we can just look at equality. As I have stressed, the point is that on this side of the house we look forward to providing opportunities for all South Australians. It is a real key focus that we are here to deliver on.

I mentioned in my ministerial statement the survey that I took. I wrote to the Women in Sport Taskforce—a task force that was around for three years. I did some research into that and found it was very ad hoc. They struggled to get a quorum together. I thought, 'It's not working. Let's get some input from them and other state sporting organisations,' and also—

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell can leave for half an hour, please, under 137A.

The honourable member for Reynell having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I wrote to them all, and before the member for Reynell does depart, she actually didn't even partake in the survey. She actually didn't even have an input into what she thought about women in sport. We were trying to do this on a bipartisan arrangement.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Exactly she did. So when I wrote her and asked her to take part in the survey—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell will leave the chamber.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —as the former chair, you would think she would have contributed to the survey and had her say on what she thought about women in sport. Thankfully, hundreds of other people did have their say and I appreciated them for that. We took on board what they had to say. The thing they talked about in the survey, which was notable—facilities were mentioned, but they weren't the number one thing—was a big push for women wanting a change in culture in sporting clubs.

They want to see a club that is inclusive—inclusive of everyone—and a club that has safe facilities, a club that gives them the facility to be able to play on a field and have lights to be able to train at night. They want to make sure that they have the facilities so that they can do what they do

best. That's why we set up our program. It's one that generates opportunities for all South Australians, most specifically focused on women, girls and families.

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell: No, it's not.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: The member for Mawson yells out that it's not—

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson is on two warnings.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —but the member for Mawson hasn't even seen the program, so he wouldn't know. It very much is, Mr Speaker. It's focused very heavily on families and women and all South Australians, giving them the facilities that they need. We took advice from the survey. We listened to what people had to say even though the member for Reynell did not contribute, which was quite disappointing, and we took it on board—

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson will not refer to members as losers, and he can—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Sorry, snoozers not losers—snoozers or losers.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Before my time runs out, Mr Speaker—

The SPEAKER: Not that he said losers. He can leave for 20 minutes, please.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —I will say to the member for Mawson that she was the chair and she didn't respond to the survey, which is absolutely appalling.

The honourable member for Mawson having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: She was chair and she didn't respond to the survey. It was disappointing.

The SPEAKER: The minister's time has expired. The Acting Leader of the Opposition has the call, and she will be heard in silence, please.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:55): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. When and how were clubs notified of the minister's cut to the Female Facilities Program, particularly those who had invested a significant amount of time and resources applying for round 4 of the program?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order: again, the member's question contains—

The SPEAKER: Insinuating that a club has particularly done something? Strictly speaking, it does contain a little bit of commentary. I am going to allow the question. I expect the minister to be heard in silence.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:56): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Everyone who applied for any of those grants was contacted by the office and they were given a case manager, if you like, to work through them to roll their grants over to the new program. They are great, exciting programs that we are rolling out on this side of the house.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:56): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. How does the minister respond to female players at the Southern Tigers basketball club who are upset that their club can no longer access funding to build or upgrade female change room facilities?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:56): I refer to my previous answer. They are very much in the sweet spot of applying through the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities fund.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:57): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. What consultation with clubs was undertaken before the minister ended the previous Labor government's program during the process of considering round 4?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:57): I met with many sporting clubs right across this state. I engaged with them. I spoke with football, cricket and netball, and we put together a very exciting program. It's going to deliver great community outcomes for all those sports involving footy, cricket and netball through our wonderful grant program—a grassroots program—

Ms Stinson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Badcoe will cease—

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —because that was the need that South Australia had, and we are delivering on that.

The SPEAKER: —naming several sports or she will be departing the chamber, too. The acting leader.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:57): Supplementary: can the minister table or provide a summary of the feedback received from those clubs in those conversations before he made the decision to terminate the previous government's program, which was in the middle of round 4 consideration?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:58): I thank the member for the question. As the government, we put our policies in place. I mentioned the survey that we did around the women's task force and all the sporting organisations and all the clubs. They got a great opportunity to have input there with, in fact, more than hundreds of respondents. Unfortunately, the member for Reynell wasn't one of them.

Dr CLOSE: My supplementary was, and I will repeat it: will you table the results—

The SPEAKER: No, no. We have had the question.

Dr CLOSE: There was no answer to that.

The SPEAKER: Just because you don't agree with the answer, doesn't mean you can repeat the question.

Dr CLOSE: It wasn't that I agreed with it; there was no answer.

The SPEAKER: If there is another question, I will take another question.

Dr CLOSE: There is another question.

The SPEAKER: Thank you.

FEMALE FACILITIES PROGRAM

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:58): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. What message does the minister believe that he is sending women and girls who play sport by cutting funding to a program during round 4 of its consideration?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order, sir: it is the same point of order argument again. She continues to ask the same question.

The SPEAKER: Yes, I uphold that point of order. Is there another question? Member for Mount Gambier.

COUNTRY ROAD SPEED LIMITS

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (14:59): My question is to the Minister for Transport. It is now 221 days since the election.

The SPEAKER: That is a fact introduced, member for Mount Gambier, and you know better.

Mr BELL: When will the minister increase the speed limits on the Carpenter Rocks and Port MacDonnell road back to 110 km/h, as promised in the lead-up to the 2018 election?

The SPEAKER: That is the question. Minister.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:59): Thank you, Mr Speaker, and I thank very much the Independent member for Mount Gambier for his question, and I do note that the question he has asked me publicly in the house today is a question he asks me almost every single day in this chamber privately. Can I say to the member for Mount Gambier, once again, what we said before the election was that we want to put the speed limits back up on country roads alongside of—

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone: Why did you drop them?

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Primary Industries is warned.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —reinvesting in country roads—

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Primary Industries is warned for a second and final time. I ask the Minister for Primary Industries to please be quiet so that I can hear his colleague answer the question.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Primary Industries and the member for Lee, if you are going to continue arguing, please do so outside the chamber.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: What I am really excited to talk to the member for Mount Gambier about is the investment that this government is making in and around his electorate in the South-East of South Australia in relation to the Penola bypass, in relation to Clay Wells Road, in relation to a whole series of promises that we are undertaking in his electorate, including recent upgrades that have been undertaken on the roads he has mentioned in his question.

The answer is that once the roads are in a significantly good enough condition by reinvesting them through our Royalties for Regions scheme, and they are considered safe for a higher speed limit, we will be putting the speed limit back up.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:01): My question is to the member for King. Has the member for King written to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure regarding the closure of the Modbury Service SA?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:01): Can I say that the member for King is a fantastic local member who advocates on behalf of her community. I can tell you what the member for King has talked to me about—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Ramsay, the member for Lee and the member for Kaurna are all warned.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —and that is the \$343,000 that we are spending to fix up Skyline Drive in her electorate, a great local project, a fantastic local project that is going to deliver benefits. The wonderful thing about having gone out recently with the member—

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: It is relevance. The question was about the Modbury Service SA.

The SPEAKER: At the moment, I think that this information is germane, but I will continue to listen to the minister's answer. To him, as to all ministers, I will give a little bit of latitude for some preamble, but I am sure that he will come to the substance of the question very soon.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: And the substance of the question is, and the answer to the substance of the question is: the member for King is a fantastic local member who advocates on behalf of her community, and I look forward to working with her to deliver for the people of King in a way that they have not had decent representation for a long period of time.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:02): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has the minister received any correspondence from the member for King about the closure of the Modbury Service SA?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:02): I think that question is the same as the previous question, but the answer is that I am happy to make inquiries into that.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:02): My question is to the member for Newland. Has the member for Newland written to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure regarding the closure of the Modbury Service SA?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:03): He's only been here for 21 years.

The SPEAKER: Please get on with it, minister.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Well, can I say, once again, that the member for Newland is also a fantastic local member of parliament, and members on this side of the house do not hesitate in coming to discuss with me issues that exist within their local community.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: They are great advocates who fight on behalf of their local communities, and what they've got is a government that listens and a minister who listens—

Ms Bedford interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Florey is called to order.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —and a government that delivers on its election commitments, and it does so—

Ms Bedford interjecting:

The SPEAKER: And warned.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —by running a strong, fiscally responsible budget that means that we can deliver on the election commitments that we took to the people of South Australia in March 2018. Yes, we've got some difficult decisions to make. We do not shy away from those, but what we have are great advocates on behalf of their local communities who are working with this government to deliver for the people of their electorates.

The SPEAKER: The 32nd question for the opposition, member for West Torrens.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:04): Thank you, sir. Thank you for counting, too. My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has the minister

received any correspondence from the member for Newland about the closure of the Modbury Service SA centre?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:04): Please see my immediate previous answer.

SERVICE SA PROSPECT

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:04): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has the minister investigated the source of the leak of a letter sent to him by the member for Adelaide regarding the closure of the Service SA centre at Prospect?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: That is a fair question; it is in order. Minister.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:04): No.

SERVICE SA PROSPECT

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:04): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Why has the minister decided to close the Prospect Service SA branch, given it's the third busiest in South Australia?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:04): To provide, I think, the 10th update to this house on variations on the same question, the closure of those three centres that we have identified has not been done on a frequency of transaction basis. It has been done on a proximity to other Service SA centres basis. In relation to the Prospect Service SA, the Regency Park centre is six kilometres from the Prospect centre and the CBD is 5½ kilometres from the Prospect centre.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: We need to provide equity of access on a proximity basis to all metropolitan South Australians, and that's the basis on which the decisions were made.

SERVICE SA PROSPECT

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:05): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Was the minister aware that Prospect's Service SA branch was the third busiest in the state when he decided to close it?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:05): There was a broad brief that was provided to me in relation to the decision—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my left!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —that needed to be taken.

Mr Brown interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Playford is warned.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Can I say that I can only answer questions about the way the decision was made. Again, I know those opposite are trying to create some sort of causal link that simply does not exist. We made the decision on an eminently transparent basis.

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Acting leader!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: We have communicated that dozens of times, both in this house and outside, and we will continue to say the same thing because, quite frankly, it's the truth.

SERVICE SA PROSPECT

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:06): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Did he consult with the member for Adelaide before he made the decision to close the Service SA centres? Did the member for Adelaide agree to the closure of the Prospect Service SA centre?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:06): Again, I am not sure if the member for West Torrens understands how the cabinet process works, but there is a budget bilateral process that's undertaken, there is a cabinet budget process that's undertaken and then the budget is signed off on and is delivered. If the member for West Torrens doesn't understand that, maybe he should remember or try to think back to what sort of government he was part of prior to 17 March this year.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Minister for Primary Industries, are you still interjecting? Please cease because you are on two warnings.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:07): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Did he consult with the member for Newland before deciding to close the Modbury Service SA centre? Did the member for Newland agree with its closure?

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier is warned. The minister has the call

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:07): I refer the member for West Torrens to my previous answer.

Mr Odenwalder interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Elizabeth is warned. The member for West Torrens has the call.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:07): Indeed, sir. My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. In his previous two answers, he claimed that the member for Adelaide was a member of cabinet. I am asking a question—

Mr Pederick interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hammond, you can leave for half an hour, sir.

The honourable member for Hammond having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: I am trying very hard to listen to the member for West Torrens' question.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: A serial offender, sir.

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee is on two warnings.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Did he consult with the member for King before deciding to close the Modbury Service SA centre? Did the member for King support the decision to close that centre?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:08): I refer to my previous two answers.

SERVICE SA MODBURY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:08): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Were the member for King and the member for Newland members of

the budget bilateral process that considered the processes of closing the Modbury Service SA centre?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:08): The reason that I mentioned the cabinet process is that there is a level of cabinet solidarity. In fact, I have been reading back on—

Ms Stinson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Badcoe can leave for half an hour under 137A. The member for Badcoe can leave for half an hour, please.

The honourable member for Badcoe having withdrawn from the chamber:

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee and the member for Kaurana will be joining her if they continue this way. I am trying to hear this answer, please.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: When we take the oath of ministerial office, it suggests quite strongly that we need to keep faith with the cabinet process. I am someone, as all members of our cabinet are, who makes sure that we have fidelity to that process, and I am extremely proud of it. We don't shy away from the difficult decisions that we have been taking. We have owned up to them, we are working through them and we are being honest in communicating with South Australians about that. We will continue to do that, and I am extremely proud of the budget that we handed down in September this year.

SERVICE SA PROSPECT

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:09): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has the minister responded to the member for Adelaide's letter regarding the closure of the Service SA centre at Prospect and will he accede to her calls?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:09): I reject the premise of that question entirely. I will inquire whether or not a response has been provided to this date. Having said that, we are a government that is going to—

The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Light!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —deliver on the budget that we handed down.

The Hon. Z.L. Bettison interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Ramsay!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: We are going to deliver on the election commitments that we took to the election in South Australia. We are going to make sure that the budget is properly back in the black, as opposed to the sham surpluses that the member for West Torrens tried to promulgate through his budget process, and we will help to show South Australians that providing a strong budget that is back in the black is a great way to show that we have a fiscally responsible adult government back in charge in South Australia.

The SPEAKER: I note that 'cook the books' has been held to be unparliamentary about 20 years ago, but 'sham surpluses'—perhaps in this day and age we have moved on with that language.

SERVICE SA PROSPECT

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:10): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Will he bring back a copy of a letter he has sent to the member for Adelaide and table it?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:10): The member is free to—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! I am trying to listen to this.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: The member is free to avail himself of the FOI processes, but we are not in the business of being a government that provides what is otherwise correspondence between two parties into the public sphere without it being outside of the normal processes.

SERVICE SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:11): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Will the minister announce the closure dates of the Modbury, Mitcham and Prospect Service SA centres by the end of the year?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:11): We will announce the closures of the Service SA centres once we have made sure that South Australians understand and we have in place the alternative solutions that we have been working on before and since the budget to make sure that we have—

Ms Bedford: Before?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: It doesn't just magically appear on 4 September.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Ramsay! Member for Lee! Member for Florey!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: We will make sure that we have done our homework in relationship to this to make sure that South Australians understand about all the opportunities they have to be able to transact with Service SA.

SERVICE SA

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:11): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Since announcing the decision to close the Modbury, Mitcham and Prospect Service SA centre branches, has the minister visited any of those three branches?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:12): No, I haven't.

FOOTY EXPRESS

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:12): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has the minister signed a new agreement for the Footy Express public transport service for the 2019 AFL season and beyond?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:12): No.

FOOTY EXPRESS

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:12): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Will the minister guarantee that the Footy Express public transport service will continue in its current form for the entire 2019 AFL season and beyond?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:12): Yes.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens has the call.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens has the call.

FOOTY EXPRESS

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:12): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has he met with representatives of the Adelaide Football Club and the Port Adelaide Football Club since making the announcement of the closure of the Motor Accident Commission regarding the Footy Express?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:13): Essentially, I have had some conversations and some discussions with AFL clubs, but the agreement on the Footy Express service is actually between the Stadium Management Authority and the department, and that's primarily where this negotiation needs to take place. We have had discussions and conversations with AFL clubs because it quite clearly trickles down to affect those clubs as well, and we will continue to do that until an agreement is reached.

*Grievance Debate***WRIGHT ELECTORATE**

Mr BOYER (Wright) (15:13): I rise this afternoon to speak about some great local events that have been taking place in the electorate of Wright over the past couple of weeks. Saturday 13 October saw the Wynn Vale Community Garden hold their annual open day, which attracted hundreds of people to inspect the fantastic gardens and produce that members have grown on the grounds. A wide array of plants, fruit and vegetables are grown at the community gardens in Wynn Vale and the beautiful spring weather on that day showed it in all its glory. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rita and Uwe and all the volunteers at the garden, who give their time to bake cakes, make jams and preserves, staff the barbecue and show members of the public around the gardens.

Saturday 20 October was a very busy day in the north-east. A number of great events were held at sporting clubs, schools and community groups. First of all, I popped into the Golden Grove Homestead Community Children's Centre annual quiz night, which was held at Redwood Park Primary School. The centre's director, Kate, and her team are very well known to me and my family. The centre and its hardworking educators are much loved by parents across the north-east.

I then joined hundreds of Modbury Vista soccer players, members, supporters and sponsors at their gala end-of-year presentation evening, held at Sfera's at Modbury. I would like to make particular mention of new club chair, Stuart Carlisle, former chair Detlef Georg and Modbury Vista secretary, Mel Gilchrist. Mel is one of the most dedicated and passionate volunteers at any club that I have seen, and I was pleased to see this acknowledged when Mel was presented with the Club Person of the Year Award on Saturday night.

The club also used this occasion to draw their community raffle. The first prize was a brand-new Suzuki Swift, which was very kindly donated by local business Newspot Suzuki. The lucky winner was another tireless club volunteer, Alison Warner, who was instrumental in putting together the fantastic gala presentation night. I offer my congratulations to Alison. She is a very worthy winner of that prize.

Later that evening, I attended the Para Hills West Soccer Club senior presentation night, where I was pleased to see that Chris King, the canteen manager at the club for many years now, was rewarded for her years of service to the club with a life membership. I would like to place on the record my heartfelt congratulations to Chris. Without selfless volunteers like her, great sporting clubs like Para Hills West Soccer Club quite simply could not function.

Gleeson College celebrated their 30th birthday with a cocktail event on Saturday evening. I would like to thank the principal of Gleeson College, Andrew Baker, for the kind invitation and Amanda Price for all the work that she did to organise the lovely evening. It was wonderful to see the college take time out to celebrate its longstanding success and the work it does in our local community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all past and present teachers and staff, and I wish Gleeson College all the best for another successful 30 years.

Finally, Wynn Vale Primary School, which is a very popular and loved primary school right in the heart of the seat of Wright, also held a quiz night on Saturday night. Due to other commitments, which I have already explained, I was not able to stay there for long, but I did pop in just long enough to help the younger members of our quiz team with the names of some very famous bands that were identified on a sheet only by the first names of the band members. I will finish my contribution by saying that it is indeed a sad day when people under 30 years of age do not know which band Mick, Keith, Bill, Ronnie and Charlie are members of.

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (15:17): Today, I would like to speak about National Child Protection Week, which was held a number of weeks ago, from 2 to 8 September. Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the tireless advocacy in this area of my friend and colleague the member for King, in particular the way she bravely shared her own experience as a child during her first speech in this house.

It is frequently the case that many of the fiercest advocates for change in the area of child protection have themselves suffered child abuse. Certainly, it is understandable and welcome that those who have suffered are heavily involved in these discussions and in the formulation of policy to protect others from harm. Of course, they have far greater insight into the issue than those who are fortunate enough not to have been harmed, but they should not be expected to do the heavy lifting alone.

This is a key message of the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect's National Child Protection Week, impressing upon our community the reality that we all have a part to play to make sure that children are protected from harm. It is not difficult to comprehend that, if our community has an open and widespread consciousness of the importance of recognising the signs of child abuse and, crucially, reporting concerns to the proper authorities, not only will it encourage children to confide in community members but hopefully potential perpetrators will realise that they will not get away with the abuse.

Eradicating child abuse from our society is not as simple as that, but child abuse certainly cannot be prevented without vigilance and openness from the wider community. Prevention of child abuse is the ultimate aim and, as part of National Child Protection Week, the Play Your Part Awards recognise individuals, organisations and communities whose prevention initiatives help to create safer environments for children.

The South Australian Play Your Part Award deservedly went to Puddle Jumpers Inc. for their community food nights, which provide support to families struggling to pay for basic necessities. It offers struggling families a forum within which both parents and children can form friendships and a sense of belonging during difficult times. This is an excellent example of an early intervention initiative that creates not only an environment in which children can feel safe but also one in which struggling parents can receive advice and support as well as respite.

Of course, government must play its part in ensuring the safety of children. We all watched on with dismay as scandal after scandal occurred in the child protection space under the former government. Understandably there was much outrage in the community. The outrage was not about politics. It was outrage that a circumstance could occur whereby children whom the government should have been keeping safe were harmed.

The election of the Marshall Liberal government brought with it the first dedicated child protection minister whose sole focus is on improving the lives of the most vulnerable children in our state by ensuring that South Australia's child protection system is operating as well as it possibly can. A critical component of the Minister for Child Protection's work is identifying pathways for early intervention. I know that the minister is approaching this role with her usual enthusiasm and deep understanding of the issues at hand. Importantly, she knows and this government knows that perfect worlds do not exist and so we must also ensure that the system can cater for children whose circumstances are so dire that they need to be placed into safer alternative accommodation.

It is an indictment on the way our system has been operating that we have double the number of children who have been placed in residential or commercial care than the national average. The Minister for Child Protection is working tirelessly to achieve an increase in the number of children in

family-based care and halve the number of children in residential or commercial care. This is an important goal and one that will improve outcomes for children who are most in need.

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (15:22): Today, I would like to bring to the house's attention one of the organisations in my community that is very important in terms of adult community education. I would like to refer to the University of the Third Age Gawler (U3A Gawler). U3A originally started in France in 1973 as an academic venture for older people no longer in the workforce. It spread later to the UK and then evolved into a more independent branch no longer linked to universities.

U3A Gawler began just three years after the first Australian branch was formed in Melbourne in 1985. The then manager of the Gawler Community House organised a meeting of interested townspeople on 30 March 1988 with a speaker from U3A Adelaide. So many people turned up to that public meeting that they had to go across the road to the then TAFE college to continue with the meeting. Now we have the U3A Gawler, which last week celebrated its 30 years, and during that time it has delivered a number of classes and enrichment programs for a lot of people in the community.

In her speech to the celebrations last week, Margaret Travers, the chairperson of U3A Gawler, talked about how in Gawler it is essentially a form of peer education or peer learning where people who have retired from the professions or trades share their knowledge and wisdom with other people who would like to learn about that. So in U3A we have a huge amount of knowledge and wisdom that have been accumulated over decades and we are not losing that because we have this organisation that enables these people to transmit and teach others in those areas.

There is a whole range of programs from what you might call recreational to some more academic ones, including languages. I am pleased to say that as an office in the Light electorate we are very keen to support them. Both Margaret Travers, the president, and Fran Mason, the secretary, run a great organisation, and I am pleased to talk about not only the teaching they do but also the other important role they perform.

U3A helps older people in our community to remain connected to community, which I think is very important. They encourage people to leave their homes and come in to learn but also to make those valuable community connections, which are associated with better health. If you look at all the studies, those people who are better connected to community, particularly those people who volunteer their time, enjoy better health. That community interaction is obviously important to the wellbeing—particularly the mental wellbeing—of people.

Over the years, they have had a number of leaders and life members of the organisation, and I have known quite a few. In fact, some of the leaders and life members—unfortunately, some have passed away—were actually teachers at my school when I was in high school. They went on to pass on their subject area skills into this new group. I would like to congratulate all the people who have made U3A Gawler such a huge success. I look forward to joining them for their 40th birthday.

Another form of education that I would like to recognise is that this Friday is World Teachers' Day in Australia. World Teachers' Day is celebrated in over 100 countries and acknowledges the efforts of teachers and support staff in an increasingly complex multicultural and technological society. I deliberately mention that because the art and practice of teaching is ever changing. As technology changes and as our community changes, teachers also have to change the way they teach.

It is not the case where what you learned when you went to university or some teachers' college stays the same, but you are continuously required to update your skills to be a great teacher. Importantly, this is a day when students, parents and the community at large can demonstrate their appreciation for the contribution that teachers and support staff have made to their community. World Teachers' Day was initiated on 5 October 1994 by Unesco to recognise the importance of competent, qualified and motivated teachers and the role they play in society, as well as the important role of other staff.

I would also like to mention that in our school communities we have teachers, support staff and volunteers. When they work together well, we have thriving school communities. I congratulate all the teachers in my electorate on World Teachers' Day.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (15:27): I rise to note that today, 24 October, is United Nations Day, marking the 73rd anniversary of the entry into force of the UN Charter. The UN is a remarkable institution, something I developed an interest in back when I was flag monitor when, on 24 October, I got to put up the UN flag for that one time of year.

Australia is one of the UN's strongest supporters, both today and throughout its history. Contemporary perceptions of the relevance and role of the UN have changed over the years and across the world. However, from any objective viewpoint, the UN continues to remain a positive force for good overall, both in principle and with regard to the practical work it does around the world.

To provide some background into the UN, the concept of the UN was first articulated in the Atlantic Charter issued by the United Kingdom and the United States in August 1941. It was later ratified by 26 allied nations, including Australia, on 1 January 1942 as the Declaration of the United Nations. This occurred not long after the USA's entry into the Second World War.

The UN Charter was signed in San Francisco by 50 nations, including Australia, on 26 June 1945 after the Nazis surrendered in Europe but before the Imperial Japanese surrendered in the Asia-Pacific. Australian forces were still fighting in the closing stages of the Second World War and thousands were still prisoners of war. The UN Charter key principles are the sovereign equality of all members, meaning that all nations are equal; peaceful resolution of international disputes; refraining from the use or threat of force against territorial integrity or political independence; and not interfering in individual nations' domestic affairs.

Certain articles of the UN Charter allow for nations to defend themselves and for the Security Council to employ military forces from member states in the interest of restoring and maintaining international peace and security. International economic and social cooperation is also important, as is international justice. It is fair to say that these principles have not always been met, even by the permanent members of the Security Council, both historically and recently.

A key part of the United Nations is peacekeeping. The UN comprises many specialist organisations and has undertaken a range of missions around the world. Peacekeeping is an important function. The UN has completed more than 50 such missions since 1947 and is currently engaged in 15 peacekeeping missions, with over half of those in Africa.

The very first peacekeeper personnel deployed by the UN were Australians—military observers sent to Indonesia during the independence struggles in 1947. Since then, more than 65,000 Australians have served in 62 multilateral peacekeeping operations in more than 20 countries. Australians are currently deployed on UN missions in Ethiopia and Eritrea, East Timor, Sudan, Cyprus, Israel and Korea.

There are a number of other notable UN facts involving Australia. For instance, Australia was the first nation to preside over the UN Security Council in 1946. In 1948, Australia became the third country to preside over the UN General Assembly. Australia is the 11th largest financial contributor to the UN. Key UN specialist organisations include the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), active in 191 countries and raising around \$US5 billion a year. The United Nations is an amazing organisation and must be commended for the work it has done over its 73-year history, and I commend these comments to the house.

VETERANS' HEALTH WEEK

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (15:32): I rise to talk about Veterans' Health Week, which was held from 22 to 30 September 2018. I was pleased to attend my local Salisbury RSL for their inaugural barbecue cook-off event on Sunday 23 September. Whilst the Salisbury RSL previously held events during Veterans' Health Week, this was the first event with a focus on healthy eating and nutrition. The event was very well attended and it was a great day for all involved.

This year, the Department of Veterans' Affairs partnered with ex-service organisations and community groups to help veterans and current serving Australian Defence Force members and their families to eat better and smarter. Nutrition was the theme of more than 140 events and activities held around Australia during Veterans' Health Week 2018. Good nutrition is essential for an individual's health at all ages, and eating well plays a key role in reducing the risk of developing a range of chronic health conditions.

Events across our country included the Sunshine Coast RSL's cooking masterclass with celebrity chef Matt Golinski, the Darwin RSL's triservice long table cook-off, the Vietnam Veterans' Association's Nutrition Expo in Melbourne, Western Australia's Armadale RSL's 'How to eat cheaper but better' cooking expo, and the Department of Veterans' Affairs Sydney office's 'Bike N Blend' pedal-powered healthy smoothie-making event. However, the headline act as far as I am concerned was our very own Salisbury RSL's event, described as the barbecue cook-off of the century, with three teams going head to head, cooking a healthy two-course meal on the barbecue for more than 60 RSL members and guests.

The Salisbury RSL club committee, with leadership from Lyne Leahey, applied for a DVA grant and were thrilled to receive around \$500 towards hosting the barbecue cook-off event. The purpose of this event was to show veterans easy and nutritious meals that they can cook with nothing but a barbecue. Three teams competed in the event: the RAAF Association of Elizabeth and Salisbury, the Salisbury RSL club and a small group of Salisbury RSL members, who called themselves the Three Wise Men. Their task was to cook a healthy, tasty and simple two-course meal on a barbecue. The resulting dishes were exceptional and showed how versatile a barbecue can be.

There was more than a little speculation prior to the meals being brought out about the qualifications of the various chefs, but I can personally attest that all three teams did an amazing job. The RAAF presented barbecue chicken and mandarin salad with forest fruit crepes and a berry coulis. Team Salisbury RSL presented satay beef skewers with a roast vegetable marinade mix and glazed fruit pikelets. Last, but not least, the Three Wise Men presented honey garlic Dijon mustard pork medallions and spiced glazed pineapple with mascarpone.

I had the honour of being one of the judges of these dishes, along with the Salisbury mayor, Gillian Aldridge OAM, and veterans' health coordinator from DVA, Mr Neil Davies. Points were awarded for flavour, presentation and nutrition, and those attending got to mix and match their mains and dessert. They got to pick what they liked. I have to tell you that it was very difficult to judge and that it was a very close call. The Three Wise Men did try to corrupt me by buying me a butcher of lemonade, but I was not swayed by that. I took it merely as a wonderful part of their hosting. In the end, it was the Three Wise Men who won due to the popularity of their pork medallions.

A big shout out to Salisbury president, Don Prider, and his teammates, Dale Woodhart and David Brown. With assistance from the DVA, all attendees were given a show bag, which included resources relating to veterans' health, free gifts, such as a tape measure and a heat pack, as well as recipe cards for all the dishes of the day. It did take a lot of coordination and planning for this event, and I would like to thank Lyne Leahey for the extensive work behind the scenes and congratulate her on running everything like clockwork on the day, as well as secretary, Kris Willis, and president, Don Prider, and all the volunteers. Well done. I look forward to the 2019 Veterans' Health Week.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:37): Thank you, Mr Speaker. It is great to be back. The four-year election cycle of local government is fast approaching, with voting slips hitting mailboxes this week. Unlike state and federal elections, it is not compulsory to vote for local government; however, we are privileged to live in a democratic society, and this is democracy working at its best.

Some council elections may go by quietly, with not much change seen, and this may be due to the fact that the council's ratepayers are happy with the council and subsequently candidates are elected unopposed. On the contrary, we may see a tough election due to the unrest and dissatisfaction of ratepayers, as is being witnessed in the Coorong District Council, my home council. For some time now, Coorong ratepayers have been expressing their discontent in relation to the operation of their local council. Issues vary from development applications, road maintenance—or the complete lack thereof—and council charges and functionality, just to name a few.

It is one thing to have some discontent in your ratepayer base; however, it is another when almost 600 people attend ratepayer meetings expressing concern. Furthermore, in addition to these ratepayer meetings, I have received many phone calls and emails presenting serious concerns in relation to the Coorong council's road maintenance program and other issues. You need to admit that there is a problem when a council is experiencing such high rates of discontent—no pun intended—from their ratepayers, including me as one of them, with my home being at Coomandook.

I have the view that if you believe there needs to be change you, too, need to be willing to stand up and make change. After all, this is how I became the member for Hammond. Often, we do not envisage ourselves as a councillor or a politician, but sometimes people who do not have political aspirations are so passionate about change that they turn out to be great representatives.

In Coorong council, we are seeing a group of ratepayers who did not intend being councillors but who want change and are willing to stand in order to achieve this. The team for change is a group of seven people collectively running for election for Coorong council. They are Paul Simmons, Jeff Arthur, Brenton Qualmann, Glynis Taylor, Fiona Paech, Lisa Rowntree and Tracy Hill, who has been elected unopposed. The team for change is made up of individuals from various backgrounds, including business and farming.

So far, through this election, I am astounded by the lack of camaraderie and professionalism being exhibited by retiring councillors and some of those renominating. Notwithstanding some negative media commentary by current sitting members, I would like to reflect upon statements made at the final council meeting recently. A retiring councillor used his concluding statement to call the team for change 'bastards' and claimed that these candidates have no respect for themselves.

It is disappointing that a councillor was allowed to speak of ratepayers in this way, and I think it is reflective of the council's disregard for the valid concerns being raised by ratepayers who in some instances have had holes put in their petrol tanks due to the roads or have genuine and serious concerns for safety as a result of the road conditions.

A council is elected through the will of their ratepayers; therefore, it is pertinent that ratepayers be treated with respect and that concerns are considered. Council's disregard for serious ratepayer concerns was further highlighted when they released the roads tender contract during the caretaker period. Since this information came to fruition, ratepayers have expressed their opposition to securing a roads tender, as it should be an election issue.

It is time for change in Coorong council, and ratepayers have the power to make this change in coming weeks. With the short turnaround period for postal votes, I urge people to use their democratic right and to make their vote truly count.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I acknowledge today in the gallery former senator Teague. Welcome to parliament, sir. I hope that you enjoy your time here—no doubt you will.

Bills

STATUTES AMENDMENT (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (15:42): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Bail Act 1985, the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935, the Evidence Act 1929 and the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (15:43): I move:
That this bill be now read a second time.

Domestic and family violence is a blight on our community. As part of the government's election commitment to implement a suite of measures to combat domestic and family violence, I am pleased and indeed proud today to introduce the Statutes Amendment (Domestic Violence) Bill 2018.

As a government and as a community, we stand united in our view that domestic violence is unacceptable in any form. The bill, which was the subject of a four-week public consultation process, seeks to put in place a range of legislative measures that will complement other key initiatives of the government's domestic violence reform agenda, such as the statewide trial of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, which commenced operation on 2 October 2018.

Part 3 of the bill makes two amendments to the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935. Clause 5 amends section 5AA(1)(g) to broaden the definition of an aggravated offence to include all the relationships incorporated in the definition of domestic abuse in the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009. An expanded definition will mean that a person's criminal record would more clearly indicate that an offence of domestic abuse as an aggravated offence will list the specific circumstances of the offence.

Clause 6 inserts a new stand-alone offence of choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting. The new offence has a maximum penalty of seven years' imprisonment and will apply if a person who is or has been in a relationship with another person, chokes, suffocates or strangles that person without their consent. There is no requirement that harm be intended or caused. Rather, it is the conscious and voluntary act of choking, suffocation or strangulation that proves the offence.

The creation of a new offence, rather than simply relying on existing offences such as causing harm or serious harm, endangering life or attempted murder, serves a number of purposes: firstly, it increases the penalty for this behaviour where no harm is caused; secondly, it recognises the inherent dangerousness of this conduct in a domestic setting and its indication of escalation to domestic homicide; thirdly, it educates police and the community; and, finally, it assists in the assessment of risk to the victim. In addition to the new offence, new subsection (4) provides for an alternative verdict of assault where a jury is not satisfied beyond a reasonable doubt that the strangulation offence has been established.

Linked to the new strangulation offence is an amendment to section 10A of the Bail Act 1985 that creates a presumption against bail in certain circumstances. For example, there is a presumption against bail if the applicant is taken into custody relating to a breach of an intervention order that involves physical violence or a threat of physical violence, or where an applicant is charged with an aggravated offence involving physical violence or a threat of physical violence if an aggravating circumstance of the offence is that the applicant is alleged to have contrived an intervention order and the offence lay within the range of conduct that the intervention order was designed to prevent. As strangulation is one of the highest predictors of future serious or fatal domestic violence incidents, the government considers that there should be a presumption against bail for such offences to ensure the continued safety of the victim.

Another key feature of the bill is the insertion of new section 13BB into the Evidence Act 1929. This new provision will help to reduce the stress for victims associated with the court process and to address the problem of complaints being withdrawn in domestic violence cases by allowing the evidence in chief of a victim to be admitted in the form of a recording made by a police officer. In order to be admitted under this section, the recording must be in the form of a prescribed recording and it must meet certain preconditions unless the court is satisfied that the interest of justice requires the admission of the evidence.

A recording is a prescribed recording if it occurs as soon as practicable after the commission of the offence; is taken with the victim's informed consent; and includes a statement by the victim about their age, that they are being truthful and any other matter required by the regulations or rules of court. The preconditions for admissibility include a requirement that the court is satisfied as to the victim's capacity to give sworn or unsworn evidence, that the court is satisfied that the defendant has been given a reasonable opportunity to listen to or view the recording and that the victim is available, if required, for further examination, cross-examination or re-examination.

Part 5 of the bill makes a number of amendments to the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009. An intervention order may be issued for the protection of a person against whom it is suspected the defendant will commit an act of abuse. Section 8(2) of the act states that acts of abuse are acts intended to result in physical injury; emotional or psychological harm; an unreasonable and non-consensual denial of financial, social or personal autonomy; or damage to property in the ownership or possession of the person or used or otherwise enjoyed by the person. Section 8(4) provides examples of what can be considered emotional or psychological harm.

Clause 9 of the bill expands this list of examples to include forced marriage, threatening to distribute invasive images without consent and preventing the person from entering the person's primary place of residence. Proposed new section 26A gives the court the ability to make an interim variation to a final order on application by a police officer. At present, an application for a variation of a final intervention order can be made pursuant to section 26 of the act. However, subsection (5) provides that, before varying an order, the court must allow the Commissioner of Police, the defendant and each person protected by the order a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the matter. This does not allow for a process to immediately increase the protections for a victim.

An interim variation will be able to be made in the absence of the defendant and will come into force as soon as it is served on the defendant. Once served, the intervention order acts as a summons for the defendant to appear before the court for the purposes of proceedings to finally determine the application for variation of the final intervention order under section 26.

Clause 12 of the bill inserts new section 28A into the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009. This amendment is linked to the amendment to the Evidence Act and is another measure being introduced by the government in order to reduce the trauma for victims associated with the court process. Pursuant to this section, evidence in the form of a recording made by a police officer can be admitted in proceedings for the making or variation of an intervention order if the court is satisfied that it is in the interests of justice to admit the evidence in that form. If evidence is admitted pursuant to this section, the person cannot be further examined, cross-examined or re-examined on the evidence so admitted without the permission of the court.

Proposed new section 29ZCA has been included at the request of the Chief Magistrate and allows the Youth Court to declare a domestic violence order made in any jurisdiction to be a recognised domestic violence order. At present, only the Magistrates Court has the power to declare an order to be a recognised order for the purposes of the National Domestic Violence Order Scheme, which came into operation on 25 November 2017. As the Youth Court has the power under section 7(c) of the Youth Court Act to make, vary or revoke an intervention order if the person for or against whom protection is sought is a child or youth, it is appropriate that they also have the power to declare an order to be a nationally recognised order.

Finally, clause 14 of the bill implements the government's election commitment to introduce legislation to toughen penalties for abusers who repeatedly breach conditions of court orders put in place to protect their victims. Under section 31 of the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009, there are two separate breach offences. Pursuant to section 31(1), a person who breaches a term of an intervention order imposed under section 13 is liable to a fine of \$1,250 or an expiation fee of \$160. For any other breach under section 31(2), the maximum penalty is two years' imprisonment.

Clause 14(1) amends section 31(2) to add a pecuniary penalty of \$10,000 to the existing penalty of two years' imprisonment. Clause 14(2) inserts a new subsection (2aa), which doubles the penalty for a breach to \$20,000 or four years' imprisonment where the breach constitutes a second or subsequent breach, or where the breach involves physical violence or a threat of physical violence. Beyond all aspects of the bill, we must remember that prevention is key to combating domestic and family violence. This bill goes a long way in actioning key legal implements and will work alongside the already functioning Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme in stopping domestic violence before it starts.

Members, in your presence I wish to acknowledge the contributions made by members of the public, significant stakeholders and, in particular, Judge Hribal, who is the Chief Magistrate of the Magistrates Court. She and her court clearly work at the coalface, at the front line, and I am indebted

to her for the wise advice she has given in respect of this bill. I commend the bill to the house. I seek leave to insert the explanation of clauses into *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Bail Act 1985*

4—Amendment of section 10A—Presumption against bail in certain cases

This clause provides for a presumption against bail for a person taken into custody in relation to the new offence proposed by clause 6 of the measure (choking, suffocation or strangulation in a domestic setting).

Part 3—Amendment of *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935*

5—Amendment of section 5AA—Aggravated offences

This clause broadens the concept of an 'aggravated offence' for consistency with the *Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009*.

6—Insertion of Part 3 Division 7AA

This clause creates a new offence of choking, suffocating or strangling a person where the defendant and the victim are, or have been, in a relationship (which is defined in the proposed section consistently with the concept as defined in the *Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009*). The offence does not require proof of harm (unlike the existing offences in Part 3 Division 7A) but has a maximum penalty of 7 years imprisonment, so is more serious than the assault offence in Part 3 Division 7.

Part 4—Amendment of *Evidence Act 1929*

7—Insertion of section 13BB

This clause inserts a new provision allowing a court to admit in evidence, in proceedings for a domestic violence offence, an audio record, or audio visual record, made by a police officer of a representation made by a complainant when questioned by a police officer in connection with the investigation of the offence. The provision sets out certain preconditions and matters that the court must be satisfied of, ordinarily, before such evidence can be admitted and also gives the court a broad discretion to admit such evidence if satisfied that the interests of justice require the admission of the evidence. The clause also imposes limits on the ability to further examine, cross-examine or re-examine the complainant on the evidence and sets out matters that the judge must put to the jury if the court admits evidence in the form of an audio record, or audio visual record, under the provision.

8—Amendment of section 73—Regulations

This clause amends the regulation making power to make it more consistent with current drafting practice and to ensure that the provision is flexible enough to allow the making of the kinds of regulations that may be required to support proposed section 13BB.

Part 5—Amendment of *Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009*

9—Amendment of section 8—Meaning of abuse—domestic and non-domestic

This clause seeks to include additional examples of circumstances that will constitute acts of abuse, namely forcing a person to marry another person, preventing a person from entering the person's place of residence and taking an invasive image of a person and threatening to distribute it without the person's consent.

10—Amendment of section 21—Preliminary hearing and issue of interim intervention order

This clause makes a minor change to the wording of section 21 for consistency with proposed section 26A.

11—Insertion of section 26A

This clause allows for the making of an interim order varying an intervention order where the application is made by a police officer.

12—Insertion of section 28A

This clause seeks to insert a new section 28A. The amendment is related to the amendment to the *Evidence Act 1929* and allows evidence in the form of an audio record, or an audio visual record, to be admitted in proceedings for the making or variation of an intervention order where a police officer is the applicant in the proceedings and the Court is satisfied that it is in the interests of justice to admit the evidence in that form.

13—Insertion of section 29ZCA

This clause allows the Youth Court (in addition to the Magistrates Court) to declare any DVO made in any jurisdiction to be a recognised DVO in this jurisdiction.

14—Amendment of section 31—Contravention of intervention order

This clause amends section 31 to add a \$10,000 fine to the penalty for breach of a term of an intervention order (other than a term imposed under section 13). The provision also creates a higher maximum penalty for a second or subsequent such breach or for a breach that involved physical violence or a threat of physical violence.

15—Amendment of section 42—Regulations

This clause amends the regulation making power to make it more consistent with current drafting practice and to ensure that the provision is flexible enough to allow the making of the kinds of regulations that may be required under proposed section 28A.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING FUND (BOARD) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Industry and Skills) (15:55): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Construction Industry Training Fund Act 1993. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Industry and Skills) (15:55): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The Construction Industry Training Fund (Board) Amendment Bill 2018 aims to modernise the process for appointments to the Construction Industry Training Board. The board is responsible for managing and expending funds raised through the construction industry training levy to improve the quality of training in the industry and coordinate industry-based funding. The board appointment process under the current legislation is among the most prescriptive in the nation and has not been amended since the act's inception. This is despite recommendations in a 2004 independent review to modernise the appointment process and voting provisions.

The changes will bring the act into line with equivalent legislation in other states and territories and legislation governing the appointment of boards in the state's education and training sector. The intention is to enable board members to be appointed based on their merit and experience in the sector. These changes will enable the board to respond to the government's Skilling South Australia strategy to support an additional 20,800 apprenticeships and traineeships over the next four years. I now detail the amendments.

All appointments to the board will be made by the Governor on nomination of the responsible minister and will comprise persons who have the knowledge, skills and experience to enable the board to carry out its functions effectively. The presiding member will now be entitled to a vote, including a casting vote in board proceedings. The board will comprise up to eight industry representatives, who are nominated by the minister following a public expression of interest process, as well as two independent members.

The veto voting provisions will be removed to enable decisions of the board to reflect a majority position, not the majority position of a prescribed sectional interest, as is currently the case. The Construction Industry Training Fund (Board) Amendment Bill 2018 will result in a board that is better equipped to serve the industry's workforce needs and development needs. I commend the bill to the house. I seek leave to insert the explanation of clauses into *Hansard* without reading it.

Leave granted.

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Construction Industry Training Fund Act 1993*

4—Amendment of section 5—Composition of the Board

This clause amends section 5 of the Act in respect of the composition and appointment of the Construction Industry Training Board. Sections 5(1) and (1a) are to be deleted and substituted with proposed subsections (1), (1a) and (1b).

Proposed subsection (1) provides that the Board will consist of the following members appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister:

- (a) 1 person to be the presiding member of the Board;
- (b) at least 4 (but not more than 8) persons who have knowledge of, and experience or expertise in, the building and construction industry;
- (c) 2 persons who are, in the opinion of the Minister, independent of the building and construction industry.

Proposed subsection (1a) provides that the Minister must, in making nominations for appointment to the Board, seek to ensure that the membership of the Board comprises persons who together have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to enable the Board to carry out its functions effectively.

Proposed subsection (1b) requires the Minister, before nominating a person for appointment to the Board under subsection (1)(b), to make a public call for expressions of interest for appointment to the Board and to take into account any expressions of interest received within the specified period.

5—Amendment of section 7—Procedures of the Board

This clause makes amendments to provisions about the procedures of the Board in section 7 of the Act. Firstly, the quorum is changed to consist of one half of the members of the Board (ignoring any fraction resulting from the division) plus 1. Secondly, the voting procedures are changed to give each member of the Board 1 vote on any question before the Board (with a casting vote to the member presiding) and to provide that Board decisions are to be by majority of the votes cast by members present at a meeting of the Board.

6—Amendment of section 10—Allowances and expenses

This clause amends section 10 so that Board members' allowances and expenses are those approved by the Minister. Currently, the allowances and expenses are capped by the Minister after consultation with the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment.

7—Amendment of section 21—Rate of levy

This clause is consequential on the amendments in clause 4 and amends section 21 of the Act to delete references to categories of Board members that will no longer exist under section 5 of the Act (as amended by clause 4).

8—Repeal of Schedules 2 and 3

This clause is consequential on the amendments in clause 4 and repeals Schedules 2 and 3. Schedules 2 and 3 list the employer and employee associations that will no longer be required under section 5 of the Act (as amended by clause 4).

Schedule 1—Transitional provisions

1—Office of member vacated

This clause provides that the office of each member of the Construction Industry Training Board under the Act holding office immediately before the commencement of clause 4 of the measure is, on that commencement, vacated.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Picton.

SENTENCING (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 5 September 2018.)

Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (15:58): I indicate that I am the lead speaker in relation to the opposition on the bill. Sadly, I also indicate that the opposition is forced to reserve our position in relation to the bill at this time, and that is not something that we like to do lightly. Sadly, it is something that we have been forced into doing, due to the incompetence of the Attorney-General.

This bill has been a complete shambles from the government—a complete and utter shambles. I think it was Ray Martin who once said in relation to the Deputy Premier, 'How could a politician get it so wrong?' We have yet another example of that here in the Sentencing (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018. The Attorney-General said that we need this bill because we need to fix up the Sentencing Act in relation to concerns from the federal government. The federal government want us to amend it to ensure that certain commonwealth offences do not have home detention sentences applied to them.

That sounds reasonable. That is the basis upon which we considered the matter, and that is the basis upon which we were briefed on the matter many weeks ago when this was introduced. That is the basis upon which the Attorney-General gave her speech to the parliament, outlining why she was introducing this bill, but that all crumbled pretty quickly. It crumbled at exactly 2.29pm on Friday, when we had an email from the Deputy Premier's office informing us that the Sentencing (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill, which is currently before the House of Assembly, was likely to be debated this week. We were certainly ready for that and had considered the matter. The email read:

It was introduced on 5 September.

As you may know that Bill deals with miscellaneous fix ups since the commencement of legislation recently and also aligns with the Commonwealth home detention arrangements for specific defences.

Since that time the Attorney has been contacted by the Commonwealth DPP about their suggestions.

Therefore, this amendment removes all references to prescribed offences against the law of the Commonwealth that were to be inserted in section 71(5). This amendment was drafted in order to clarify the availability of home detention orders for certain federal offences, and is now being withdrawn—again at the request of the Commonwealth.

The situation is that the Attorney-General introduced this bill and said that it was being introduced on the basis of the commonwealth requesting this amendment to clarify matters in relation to commonwealth offences, in terms of both serious sexual offences and organised crime and serious organised crime matters, but perhaps she did not actually talk to the commonwealth as part of this, despite saying that to the parliament. Perhaps there was no actual discussion because she introduced the bill and now she is having to pull the guts out of it in an amendment before this house.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: That's one clause.

Mr PICTON: This is the guts of the bill. You brought this bill in saying, essentially, that there is a whole series of minor amendments and then there is the significant amendment we are making at the request of the commonwealth. At 2.29pm on Friday, we had this request. Of course, between then and now we were not able to be properly briefed on the matter or to properly discuss it in shadow cabinet and in our party room.

I am sure that members of the public would want any political party to go through the proper process in considering such major amendments to a bill, yet we have had the Attorney-General say that she continues to want to progress this bill even though the guts of it are being pulled out, only minor amendments are now being dealt with and the opposition has not been briefed. That suggests to me that this is not a fact of needing to debate this legislation right now: it is actually a matter of the government running out of business to debate in the house.

We have had so many speeches on everybody's primary school teachers and the education bill—that used up a bit of time in the parliament—and now we are going to have to try to deal with this bill, even though the guts have been pulled out of it, to use up some time in the parliament. This

is a government that you would think, after 16 years in opposition, would have a bit of an agenda. You would think that there would be a whole series of laws they want to see amended.

Mr Brown: Brimming with ideas.

Mr PICTON: Brimming with ideas that they have been working on for 16 years.

Mr Brown: A real action agenda.

Mr PICTON: That's right—a real action agenda. But the truth is that there is very little. The action we have been promised by the government has not materialised. The government has run out of business. Embarrassingly, the Attorney-General is being forced to pull the guts out of this bill, and she is progressing it through the parliament this week without the opposition being properly briefed on the matter for the simple reason that they have nothing else to talk about—nothing else to debate before the parliament. They have a tiny little agenda for this state after 16 years in opposition.

We are very disappointed with the attitude of the Attorney-General. You could almost open a random page of *Hansard* over the past 16 years and find the Deputy Premier complaining about how she was not properly given notice of things when she was in opposition. It was so common that you could almost open a random page and find that, yet her approach since being the Attorney-General is to make the situation worse. She no longer sees the importance of briefing the opposition before debating things and pushing things through the house.

Sadly, we are going to be in the situation today where the Attorney-General is going to try to push this bill through the house. The opposition has not been able to be fully briefed on the embarrassing backdown she has had to do in moving these amendments. We have not been able to properly discuss them in our party room, so we will have to reserve our position to the upper house. But I hope the Attorney-General is able to explain what seems a very mystifying series of events where she has had to back down from the reason why she said she would introduce this bill, which was supposedly on behalf of the commonwealth, yet now the commonwealth wants her to pull those sections out of the bill.

We are sorry that it has come to this. We reserve our position in relation to this bill. We will be asking a series of questions in relation to this monumental stuff-up when we get into the committee stage. We look forward to being properly briefed on it, as you would expect a government should do, and then we look forward to debating it properly in the other place.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (16:06): I rise to commend the bill to the house. The Sentencing (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018 attends to a number of uncontroversial matters, and I will address those in a moment. As I have done on many occasions over recent months, I commence by observing that this is yet another piece of legislation brought before this house in the course of the new government's prosecuting its ambitious agenda in this 54th parliament. I take the opportunity to make those observations in a rather more fulsome way in light of the observations of the member for Kaurua just now.

We will all recall that not only did the Marshall Liberal team prosecute a well-articulated and well-documented range of commitments in the months leading up to the election but it published a 100-day plan and it made a series of businesslike and outcome-driven commitments ahead of the election. It then delivered on every single one of them, and we saw that most recently expressed in the government's budget delivered on 4 September. The opposition has had the opportunity most recently to look over the excellent work displayed in that budget in the course of the recent budget estimates process.

Far from there being circumstances in which this house is anything other than fully occupied, I might further observe that, as I have sat here into the late hours week after week in the course of the early sittings in this 54th parliament, it has impressed me very much as a new member in this place to see the diligent, professional and businesslike approach that I have had the privilege to assist my colleagues with in delivering for all South Australians as we set out to right the wrongs that this state has been left with after 16 years of chaotic, incompetent, negligent and deleterious government on the other side.

Far be it for the member for Kurna to stand up in this place and give the Acting Premier or anybody on this side of the house a lecture and commentary on the agenda of this new government. It is an agenda that I am very proud to be part of debating as we go about delivering on each and every one of the commitments we made to the people of South Australia over the course of the last year and, indeed, in the time since we were fortunate to be delivered government by the people of South Australia on 17 March.

Let there be no doubt that, in debating the Sentencing (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018, we are very much in the context of a government program. If the member for Kurna or any other members on the other side of the house would care to do any work on—

Mr Picton: Do you want to talk about the bill? What is in the bill? Do you know what is in the bill?

Mr TEAGUE: The member for Kurna interjects and asks: do we want to debate the bill?

Members interjecting:

The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey): Order!

Mr TEAGUE: Having address the question of the agenda of this government, I would ask him to cast an eye over the index of bills, for example, to 19 October, which is readily available on the parliament website. He will see there a very ambitious agenda indeed.

Mr PICTON: Point of order: I think it would be nice if at least once the member for Heysen could talk about the actual bill we are debating.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey): It is a wideranging debate. I would call the member for Heysen more closely to the substance of the bill, but it is indeed a wideranging debate.

Mr TEAGUE: Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. As is plain to all of us on this side of the house—it is obviously not quite so plain to the member for Kurna—the Sentencing (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018 is but one of the very many pieces of legislation that have been—

Mr Picton: What's in it?

The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey): Order!

Mr TEAGUE: —efficiently prosecuted in the course of this new government. The Sentencing (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018 contains a number of uncontroversial and orderly reforms to the Sentencing Act.

Members interjecting:

Mr TEAGUE: I welcome participation on the other side, even in the form of interjection. I would simply ask that it be expressed coherently. I would invite any of those two members who are paying attention to the debate this afternoon who wish to participate in the meaningful exchange of views on this legislation, or indeed any other, to engage in a meaningful way and not to gratuitously hop up and complain about what this government is doing to address the mess and mayhem that we were left with after 16 years under Labor rule in this state.

The bill contains a number of amendments and reforms to improve on the situation that stands under the Sentencing Act 2017. We see that there is an amendment to the definition of an intervention program manager. An intervention program manager, for the benefit of those opposite, performs an important role pursuant to the act and an important role for the purposes of section 29 and section 30 of the act in particular. The new definition makes it clear that for certain purposes, that person will be employed by the Courts Administration Authority, and for others:

...an employee of the administrative unit of the Public Service that is responsible for assisting a Minister in the administration of the Correctional Services Act 1982.

It is far from controversial. It is simply a necessary refinement of the definition as is appropriate and in line with the requirements for the management of the intervention program by an intervention program manager.

The bill further provides for better particularisation around an arraignment date for the purpose of the relevant discount. For those who are interested in following the detail of what is being amended—and perhaps for the benefit of the member for Kaurna, who appears to have decided to be present for the course of this debate simply to score some cheap political points—I make the following observation. As it is presently set out, in reference to the date of the arraignment appearance, section 40(3)(d) of the Sentencing Act provides that a sentence for a guilty plea may be reduced by up to 15 per cent where the plea is made immediately after the arraignment appearance of the defendant.

The issue addressed in clause 5 of the bill is for the purpose of better particularising what that date needs to be and not letting it drift. As might be apparent when one turns one's mind to the language that is used there, as presently expressed, the arraignment appearance of the defendant in a superior court is a date to be fixed. In some circumstances, the arraignment may be adjourned so that the appearance does not occur until a later date, after the arraignment might have been listed.

So as to avoid circumstances being in play in which there is somehow an artificial incentive for the purposes of that reduction regime, which is potentially an inappropriate procedural incentive, as it perhaps might be seen or described as—and no-one would wish that on parties or the courts administration process in the system of justice—so as to avoid a situation in which there is the potential for an incentive to cause or seek to have that arraignment appearance of the defendant in the superior court adjourned to a later date for the reason of preserving the level of the reduction that is referred to in section 40(3)(d) of the act as it presently stands, the amendment would delete the words 'arraignment appearance' and would substitute in their place the words 'first date fixed for the arraignment'.

That puts the question of the timetabling for the application of that element of the reduction back in the hands of the court, as opposed to causing there to be, even if inadvertently, some perverse incentive in the terms of the act itself for there to be some adjournment or other irregularity in the course of moving through the arraignment process. Clause 5 of the bill provides for an amendment in those terms in relation to section 40(3)(d) of the act and, in like terms, also so far as it relates to section 40(3)(e) where, in the same way, the words 'defendant's arraignment appearance' are deleted and the words 'first date fixed for the arraignment of the defendant' are substituted in their place. Those are the amendments to section 40 that are contemplated by clause 5.

In the short time that is still available, I propose to address, albeit briefly, clause 6 of the bill dealing with section 71, and also clause 7, dealing with section 79 of the act. Firstly, clause 6 deals with the relevant definition for the purposes of home detention orders and the definition of 'serious and organised crime offence'. Once again, for the benefit of those who are interested in following and understanding the course of the amendment, the effect of the amendment, the subject of clause 6, is to expand the definition of 'serious and organised crime offence' to include attempts to commit any of the relevant offences there described.

In relation to section 71(5), as presently described, 'a serious and organised crime offence' means offences under the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935 that are there described, all of which are offences under that act. The amendment in clause 6, firstly in relation to section 71(5)(a), inserts a new subparagraph (iv), being an attempt to commit any of the offences referred to in any of those subparagraphs, and in like terms, in relation to the offences pursuant to the Controlled Substances Act 1984 that are specified under section 71(5)(b), similarly an attempt to commit any of those offences. Those are the amendments that are the subject of clause 6, and are all readily able to be understood, including by those opposite.

Very briefly, in clause 7 there is the expansion of the application of an intensive correction order to include sentences that would otherwise have been up to two years, rather than confining it to sentences that would have otherwise been for up to 12 months. The balance of the bill attends to other matters in an orderly way, and I commend the bill to the house.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (16:27): I thank the member for Kaurna and the member for Heysen for their contribution to this debate. It is fair to say that it has had a strange history, but it is important that I explain its gestation and, to some degree, partial abortion at present. I think the member for Kaurna will be pleased to hear that this

relates to amendments to an act passed by the parliament under the former Labor government and correspondence that was sent from the Commonwealth DPP to the former attorney-general, now member for Enfield, Mr Rau SC. Although the former government did not pick up this matter, or indeed any of the minor matters that were starting to show through as a weakness in respect of the legislation they passed, the new government this year did so.

Having done so with an indication of support of other eminent people—and I am going to name a few of them—we agreed to progress the bill with the support and advice from the state Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Adam Kimber—a man also appointed by the previous Labor government. I make no direct defence of that in any way. He is an excellent Director of Public Prosecutions. He continues to serve this state very well, and I would urge members to read his annual report that was presented to the parliament this week. He, too, joined in the chorus of debate to ensure that the new sentencing law that the previous Labor government introduced—with its shortcomings—be remedied and be as good as it could be.

Another great advocate of the presentation of this bill in its current form was the former victims of crime commissioner, Mr Michael O'Connell.

Mr Picton: Before you sacked him.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Well, of course, the member for Kaurna calls out that this is before he was sacked. As he well knows, he continued his employment pursuant to the terms of his contract. He, too, wrote to us on 2 July this year endorsing the approach that had been presented because, whilst there had been some anticipated, at least, change of employment, he was the Commissioner for Victims' Rights at the time of invitation to make a contribution to the reforms proposed, and I have a letter from him of 2 July 2018, which says, and I will just quote a few of his paragraphs:

I concur with the federal DPP's request and support the Attorney-General's proposed amendment. It is important to have consistency, or at least some harmony in criminal law, and in seeking to achieve such that victims' interests are considered fairly, justly and equitably in relation to the state's and defendant's interest.

He then goes on to explain that in his view:

Home detention is not home incarceration as is often suggested in the rhetoric. Instead it is better likened to a community service with a home-based curfew.

He goes on to indicate support for the other amendments, which have been referred to as minor amendments but which are important corrections to the new Sentencing Act regime, which is operating but with current defects and clearly does need to be remedied.

I will not go on to read the entire contents of Mr O'Connell's submission. It has scribbles all over it, but I am happy to provide a copy to the member. Similarly, I come now to the correspondence from the then chief magistrate, Dr Andrew Cannon (as he was then, acting chief magistrate), by letter of 22 June 2018 thanking me as Attorney-General for the opportunity to comment in relation to the matter, and he confirms that he has no difficulty in supporting the bill that is there.

He also identified examples where there had been a need to clarify whether or not a court ordering that the suspended sentence be carried into effect under section 114 can be an order served on home detention and so alerted us to other matters. I had not proposed to publish this, which I would not do of a judge, but I indicate to the parliament his endorsement of it. Similarly, of course, we had submissions from the Law Society and the Legal Services Commission, all of which, I am sure, would be available to the member.

However, let me say this: when the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, under the hand of Megan Voller as the assistant director, wrote to the former government, she did so pointing out from one independent statutory body to the former attorney-general in letters, dated 7 July 2017 and 26 October 2017, that we as the new government do not have access to those two letters. They were letters sent to the former government and they are somewhere or other in storage, presumably under the State Records Act for ultimate filing and identification for indexing in some way for the purposes of storage.

We on this side of the house were quite prepared to look at the work that had been undertaken—and on the advice we received from the independent advisers to government, that is,

our legislative services and in this instant one of the senior legal advisers who had the conduct of this matter—to ensure that if there was any deficiency in our Sentencing Act law, especially as it was a new model and we needed obviously to make sure that it was going to be operating as effectively as it could even without sighting the original letters by our new government, we were prepared to accept that there was a continuation of work being undertaken to actually bring that into fruition.

We prepared a draft bill and sent it out for consultation. You have heard some of the endorsements by those some would describe as the usual suspects, who agreed that this was an important thing to do; that is, someone who is being prosecuted in South Australia under federal jurisdiction for a federal offence should not be able to avail themselves of home detention options, as might apply in similar legislation under state law.

Let's consider what has happened since then. The new government, having accepted that it was important and genuine in respect of the Commonwealth DPP's presentation to the Attorney-General's Department and to the former attorney-general, decided that we would progress this. By letter of 11 October 2018, received last week, the Commonwealth DPP wrote to me as the Attorney-General in respect of the aspect of amendment that they had sought. I am going to read the letter—only because my copy has writing all over it—so that the position is clearly on the record as to why they have withdrawn their invitation to the Attorney-General of South Australia to make the amendments, as originally sought.

The only thing I could add to the contents of this letter is that I am informed (and I have no reason to believe that this is inaccurate) that, as other jurisdictions around Australia were being asked to look at this measure to make sure that they had some consistency with their serious and organised crime penalty options in sentencing, a matter covering this scenario had gone before the New South Wales Courts and that the complications in relation to how that matter operated were exposed by that. New South Wales had been in advance of South Australia in acquiescing to the request of the Commonwealth DPP and had passed their legislation some time ago. The weakness in it had been exposed and, I assume, had firstly been brought to the attention of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions and ultimately to us here in South Australia.

I will attempt to read this letter, in its original form, as quickly as possible. This is from the Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions on Victoria Square in Adelaide and is dated 11 October 2018:

The Hon. Vickie Chapman MP
Attorney-General
GPO Box 464
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Attorney,

Home detention orders for federal offences

I refer to my letters of 7 July 2017 and 26 October 2017 in relation to the Sentencing Bill 2016 SA ('the bill'), in which this Office invited the then Attorney-General to consider amendments to the provisions regarding the availability of a home detention order in relation to certain federal offences.

I understand Ms—

I will not name the person in the department, but it is a senior person in the department—

of your Department is presently working on potential amendments to the Sentencing Act 2017 (SA) ('the State Act') and the associated Regulations to include certain federal offences within the definitions of 'serious and organised crime offence' and 'serious sexual offence' in s 71(5) of the State Act.

The purpose of this letter is to withdraw this Office's invitation to amend the State Act to preclude a home detention order being made for certain federal offences. This Office has had cause recently to reconsider this issue. For the reasons that follow, we now consider it is likely such an amendment would be invalid due to the inconsistency with the federal law. Home detention orders for federal offenders

By way of background, in South Australia a home detention order ('HDO') is made available as a sentencing alternative for a person sentenced for a federal offence, pursuant to s 20AB of the Crimes Act 1914 (Cth), which

expressly picks up and applies certain State sentencing alternatives that are either expressly listed in s 20AB, or via regulation.

The extent to which a HDO can be made in respect of the federal offence is the subject of a Crown appeal recently heard by the Court of Criminal Appeal (CCA). That appeal related to HDOs under the former Criminal Law (Sentencing) Act 1988 (SA). The CAA has reserved judgment. The CAA will hear a second Crown appeal on 21 November 2018 in relation to the ability of a HDO for a federal offender pursuant to the current State Act.

The abovementioned appeals focus on whether a HDO can be made simultaneously with a recognizance release order, which is the federal equivalent of a 'suspended sentence'.

A further issue, which is unlikely to be addressed by the present appeals, is whether a HDO can be made in respect of a federal sentence of imprisonment that exceeds 3 years. This Office's position is a HDO cannot be made in respect of such a sentence, as a federal sentence exceeding 3 years cannot be 'suspended', pursuant to ss 19AB and 19AC of the Crimes Act 1914 (Cth) ('the Crimes Act').

The validity of the proposed amendment

Where a sentencing court imposes a HDO in respect of a federal offence, the court is exercising federal jurisdiction. Through s 20AB of the Crimes Act, the Commonwealth Parliament has made HDOs available as a federal sentencing alternative in South Australia.

Section 20AB does not limit the availability of a HDO to any particular federal offence, nor does it preclude a HDO from being made for any particular federal offence. Rather, s 20AB(1)(b) provides that inter alia a HDO can only be imposed for a federal offence if the court would be empowered to make such an order 'in respect of a State offender in corresponding cases'.

In the event that the State Act were amended to preclude a HDO from being made for particular federal offences, the State Parliament would be purporting to command a court exercising federal jurisdiction as to the manner in which the court could exercise the power vested in it by section 20AB of the Crimes Act. Put another way, the State Parliament would be purporting to limit when a HDO could be made for a federal offence in circumstances where the Commonwealth Parliament has made a HDO available without any such limitation.

On reflection, this Office considers that, were the State Act amended as proposed, the amendment would likely be beyond the legislative power of the State Parliament and would therefore be invalid.

Similarly, such an amendment to the State Act would be inconsistent with s 20AB of the Crimes Act, which makes comprehensive provision for the circumstances in which a HDO may be imposed for a federal offence. Section 20AB reflects the Commonwealth Parliament's intention to cover that field. The amendment would therefore also likely be invalid pursuant to s 109 of the Constitution.

The corresponding case

In the absence of the proposed amendment, this Office, nevertheless, considers a HDO will not be available for any federal offence that is analogous to a 'serious organised crime offence' or 'serious sexual offence', as defined by s 71(5) of the State Act. That is because s 20AB(1)(b) of the Crimes Act only makes a HDO available for a federal offence if a HDO could be made for a State offender in a 'corresponding case'.

Whilst this issue is yet to arise in any matter prosecuted by this Office in South Australia, our position is that a HDO cannot currently be made for a federal offence that is analogous to a State offence for which a HDO is precluded. For example, certain State drug trafficking and manufacture offences, punishable by life imprisonment, are prescribed as 'serious and organised crime offences'. This Office considers such offences represent the 'corresponding' State case to a number of federal offences in the Criminal Code (Cth).

I note this Office has not identified any judicial consideration of the phrase 'corresponding case'. Whether the appeals presently before the CAA provide authority as to the proper construction of that phrase remains to be seen. In the absence of authority, the position adopted by this Office to date is that the phrase should be interpreted to mean the 'similar or analogous' State case.

Conclusion

For the forgoing reasons, we invite you not to include any federal offences in any amendment to s 71(5) of the State Act, or the associated regulations.

Thank you for considering the above submission.

If you wish to discuss the above submission with this Office, please don't hesitate to contact John Clover (A/Principal Federal Prosecutor)...

A number and email address are provided.

Yours faithfully

Megan Voller

Assistant Director

I think that the opposition should be reassured, as the government has been, that the former government was requested to undertake this matter. It had been investigated by the legal minds of the state department and, presumably, the former attorney-general. Much consideration was given, and we are grateful for the complimentary indications from a wide variety of stakeholders on this matter. Until we had this letter in mid-October, apparently received last week, there was nothing to suggest that there was any reason why legislation would not be progressed.

If the opposition want to take that further, then of course they are entitled to make that inquiry themselves. I heard the plaintive pleas of the member for Kaurna about not being kept sufficiently apprised or informed on this matter, that somehow or other he was being denied access to a reasonable consideration with the support of briefings. This is a bill to amend a principal act to deal with the issue that is the subject of the invitation of the Commonwealth DPP and three other minor amendments, which have been referred to. The member for Kaurna and members of the opposition were provided two briefings. They took them up and had the opportunity to make statements.

Furthermore, upon receipt of this letter and the indication of what had occurred, an email was sent on Friday last week to the opposition representative. It may also have gone to the Hon. Kyam Maher; I am not sure. He is the official opposition spokesperson for legal matters, although I think even the Premier said to me the other day, 'Who is the opposition spokesperson for legal matters?' I think he thought it might have been you.

Mr Picton: I think you digress.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Not me, Attorney. It was not me, Attorney.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: In any event, I informed him, of course, that the Hon. Kyam Maher is the official spokesperson. I hardly ever hear from him, actually. The member for Kaurna obviously has the carriage in this house of parliamentary matters. It was appropriate that, as soon as the government became apprised of the withdrawal of the invitation on this particular issue, the opposition should be informed. Furthermore, the terms of the proposed amendment to this bill were simply to withdraw the legislation relating to it, that is, one clause to remove the words to implement the original invitation. There is nothing new other than to say that, of the four things we want in this bill, we are just taking one out.

Notwithstanding that, just in case the opposition had some questions about the drafting, the timing or anything else, a further briefing was offered this week, as soon as possible, so that they could ask questions and presumably tease out whether there was some genuine request or the like. I think it is quite reasonable that, if a government bill is before the house and any member of the parliament has questions in relation to it—after all, it is a government bill—we need to be able to put our case as to why it should be accepted by the parliament. Members should have available to them full and comprehensive briefing advice, and that has been offered in this case. The withdrawal of one portion of it is pretty simple.

We are not saying we are withdrawing this and we are introducing some new model or some other new formula or some other substantive change: we are just taking it out. As to the bit that the previous commonwealth DPP wanted in order to ensure consistency of home detention in these serious offence circumstances where a commonwealth law is being prosecuted in a state court, there is no change to that and no substitute proposed. Quite frankly, I would have thought the member for Kaurna's crocodile tears on this evaporate from any consideration because that is completely absurd.

He has all his colleagues here in the parliament. Why could he not ring up Mr Maher and say, 'The government has had a late request from the Commonwealth DPP. You remember he wrote to our previous government about this. They are letting us know that they do not need it anymore; in fact, it is complicated by the fact that it might cause a constitutional challenge; therefore, we need to note that. But we will just agree with the government with the other three minor amendments'? After all, we are fixing up their act that they passed under their regime in 2017.

No, he did not do that. He has come in here and given his whole crybaby speech about not being able to have another briefing about one clause which he has been provided with which states: 'Amendment No. 1—Delete subclauses (3) and (4).' That is it. I find it extraordinary that here we are

trying to fix up a major piece of law reform by the former government for which we had round tables to work it out with all the people who have to deal with sentencing in this state—the Parole Board chair, corrections department, police representatives, the Law Society, barristers, judges. We had the whole lot. There needed to be a very clear new approach.

There were aspects of that law reform that, as an opposition at the time, we did not agree with to which we moved amendments and the like. But at the end of the day, we have proposed a new model of sentencing and a complete new act in relation to sentencing law, which I should acknowledge had some support at the time from Mr Sulan QC, a former judge of the Supreme Court and chair of the then sentencing council. There has been a lot of work put into this, so on balance it was a good initiative. Sometimes you just need to do it, a bit like the education bill currently before us. You need to rewrite these things to make them contemporary and effective.

That is exactly what we worked on with the former government to do. Even the best people, even Mr Rau SC, get it wrong sometimes. But I cannot even really blame him. Clearly sometimes only by the implementation of a new law, especially when it is a new model, does it expose some of the weaknesses. Cases come before courts. Magistrates then find some inconsistency. Our state DPP raised some concerns as to the implementation of this new model. So we need to come back to the parliament and ask the parliament to remedy that, and that is what this bill is all about.

To suggest that the opposition in some way has been deprived of information about this matter I find galling. Nevertheless, the information has been conveyed. The offer of a briefing has been made. Now, at the very least, I have put on the record the full letter. As I said, I cannot offer to put on the full letter of their original request because they are tucked away in the John Rau SC records of the former attorney-general's department and are presumably on their way to somewhere out north to be put into storage forever.

If necessary, we could try to retrieve them or the member for Kaurana could ring up the former attorney and ask, 'Is this right? Is this what you got last year? A couple of letters apparently were sent to you.' He could authorise their being released and bring them out of storage as the former attorney-general if he wants to, if the member for Kaurana is in some way sceptical about either his word or the reliability of the independence of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

He may have those concerns, but we do not. We are satisfied that the events that have occurred in the development of this reform and the tidying up of the legislative amendments that are proposed were reasonable requests at the time, are still necessary and, except for one element, is sought to be progressed by the parliament today. Of course, if we need to go into committee then we are happy to do so.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

In committee.

Clause 1.

Mr PICTON: Did the Attorney-General, her department or her office send a copy of the draft bill to the Commonwealth DPP before its introduction into parliament?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Yes.

Mr PICTON: On what date was that sent to the Commonwealth DPP?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: On 30 May this year.

Mr PICTON: What was the response that you had from the Commonwealth DPP at that time?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Apparently there was a response in June. I am advised that apparently a copy of it was sent to our office. The adviser just told me that, and I think the bill was in order. They confirmed the request to proceed.

Mr PICTON: So no other comments? They just said 'proceed'?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I do not know. I do not have the letter in front of me. I am indicating that I am advised by the senior adviser from the Attorney-General's Department that a letter was received. It was dated 21 June 2018—my birthday; you should remember that next year—confirming the request to proceed. It seems consistent with that because I also received a letter from the Hon. Chris Kourakis, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia, dated 5 June, received on 7 June. He confirmed that he had no comments to make in respect of the proposed amendments, so everyone is ticking off on it except the opposition.

The CHAIR: Member for Kaurana, we are still on clause 1. You have had three questions and a supplementary so far. This is your last one.

Mr PICTON: Thank you, Chair. So everyone has ticked off on it except the Commonwealth DPP, I think the Attorney meant to say.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, they did. They accepted it.

Mr PICTON: No, they wrote to you and said they did not like it.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: For the record, as at 21 June 2018, the commonwealth, having received the bill, confirmed their request to proceed with the amendment. The letter I have read out today in response was dated 11 October 2018. I am sure the member for Kaurana was listening intently. It not only sets out their opinion but, obviously, cases that have been progressed in jurisdictions which related to these matters.

Mr PICTON: Will the Attorney-General either table or provide to the opposition between the houses the three pieces of correspondence from the DPP that she has referred to today—one that she said was from last year, one from the middle of this year and one from the last couple of weeks?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am advised—and I think that this is alright—that there are actually four. I will be clear about this. I mentioned a letter that we just received dated 11 October. We will see that a clean copy of what I have read out will be made available. That refers to two letters from last year, dated 7 July 2017 and 26 October 2017.

Originally, there were two letters requesting that this be done. There was a letter dated 21 June confirming the progress, and then there is this final letter. I do not think there is any impediment to providing that once I have a copy of the two 2017 letters. They were addressed to the former attorney-general so, subject to any advice I might have received saying that I am not allowed to give them to you, they will be made available.

Mr PICTON: You already have them.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, I do not have them here at all. I have since made the point that we acted on this without them. Apparently, they are on their way. You are asking me whether I will table them between the houses. I am advised that I can, so a copy of all four will be made available as soon as practicable.

Clause passed.

Clause 2.

Mr PICTON: I was wondering whether the Attorney-General can outline the urgency of debating this matter this week.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The Sentencing Act 2017 is obviously over a year old. We have been alerted to the amendments that have raised some questions, largely in the minds of judges and I think the state DPP, whether there is a weakness—for example, in relation to the issue of recommendation to amend the terminology in a provision relating to sentencing reductions to ensure it is not interpreted in a way that allows a defendant to adjourn their arraignment hearing purely to preserve the maximum sentencing reduction.

In other words, the fact that someone might use the current law to seek to subvert the processes to achieve a higher discount that they should not otherwise be entitled to has been brought to our attention. We do not want people to get away with this or access things to which they are not

entitled. We want this fixed up, and until this parliament says that is the case there is a risk that people will get away with it.

Secondly, another recommendation was clarification of the maximum length of a sentence of imprisonment applicable for an intensive corrections order. That clearly needs to be identified to ensure that we do not fall foul of it and end up with laws we cannot enforce. We need clarification of the application of the definition of 'intervention program manager' to be defined, and we also need to amend the reference to a 'case manager' to instead refer to a 'community corrections officer'.

These are in relation to the provisions relating to conditions that may be imposed on bonds. The wrong job description was put in the act. We need to clarify that so that again these things do not become the basis of an appeal for some QC who takes a technical point and is able to subvert the clear intent of the legislation. Clearly, we need to be able to remedy these things. There is also the deletion of an obsolete reference relating to the term of bonds. As I said, it is obsolete, so it is probably not going to offend anyone, but we are cleaning that up while we are there.

I will say this in order for members to appreciate the significance of progressing these things. We set out sentencing laws to give people a fair process so that they receive an appropriate sentence in a reasonable manner. If a weakness in this law is identified, there is a risk that a person might benefit, in an unscrupulous way, from something they are clearly not expected to access under the intent of this legislation. I submit to the parliament today that we cannot stand by and allow that weakness to prevail so that people get that unfair advantage.

That is why when the bright minds of prosecuting officers and courts come to us and say, 'In relation to the legislation you gave us last year, these are the weaknesses and the inconsistency here, or the error, or the apparent need of clarification, that expose us to being exploited,' then frankly, yes, we do have an obligation to sort these matters out. This legislation was introduced into the parliament on 5 September 2018. The opposition had two briefings on it.

Mr Picton interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am advised there were two separate briefings on the bill. There may have only been one at which the senior adviser here was present, but I am advised that there were two. It may have been that the member for Kaurua had a briefing and then someone else came along from the opposition and said that they wanted to ask some more questions, so we provided a second briefing.

Mr Picton: It is still the parliament.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: But, in any event, it is still the parliament, obviously. As I said before, we think it is reasonable for the parliament to be properly apprised. When we take a bit out, we do not expect some obtuse, juvenile behaviour of the opposition saying, 'Mummy, I can't do this because I haven't been told.' That is just not acceptable, for goodness sake.

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

The CHAIR: Attorney, there is a point of order, and I accept the point of order.

Mr PICTON: Point of order: I refer you to the mountain of times the Deputy Premier complained when she was in opposition.

The CHAIR: Thank you, member for Kaurua. I accept the point of order. Attorney, could you come back to your answer, which I think is coming to an end, is it not?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I think so. If he wants me to refer to the mountain of times that I complained, I can very clearly recount to the parliament where we were expected, by the government of the day, to deal with matters expeditiously—

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

The CHAIR: There is a point of order, Attorney.

Mr PICTON: No-one invited the Deputy Premier to go on a rant about her time in opposition. We were merely asking a question about the bill. I ask her to be succinct in relation to the bill.

The CHAIR: I uphold the point of order. Attorney, have you finished?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I have finished.

The CHAIR: We are still on clause 2. Member for Kaurna, do you have a second question?

Mr PICTON: No, let's move on.

Clause passed.

Clause 3 passed.

Clause 4.

Mr PICTON: Can the Attorney outline the genesis of this amendment; that is, who requested it and how the Attorney-General believes that this will clarify matters?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am advised that our understanding is it was the Courts Administration Authority, the agency that attends to the administration in relation to the courts, that advised us of this weakness. What is occurring by this proposed amendment is to delete the current definition of 'intervention program manager' and make it absolutely clear what their responsibility is in relation to different sections of the act because they are different, and that is why it is clarified in that way.

Mr PICTON: Is the response that the Attorney-General has had from the Courts Administration Authority, having sighted the bill, supportive of this change?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I do not have a copy of any response from the CAA, but my understanding is that all the agencies as such were supportive of this. What I do have is the Chief Justice's letter, which I have referred to. I also have here, at the parliament, the Law Society's submission and the Legal Services Commission response. Apparently there was no response from Mr Ian Robertson SC, who was then the president of the SA Bar Association, and I do not have anything here from Ms Axleby, who is from Aboriginal Legal Rights, but I am told she also did not send a response back.

The judges of each of the relevant courts that deal with criminal matters obviously—the Magistrates Court, District Court and Supreme Court heads of jurisdiction—the Legal Services Commission, Law Society, Bar Association, ALRM, and then the Director of Public Prosecutions, Commissioner for Victims' Rights, and the assistant director of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. I have just found a copy of the email of 21 June 2018, which shines out at me as being my birthday. I am happy to read that, but I have indicated that I am happy to provide a copy of it in any event.

The CHAIR: Thank you, Attorney, and your birthday is now in *Hansard*—congratulations. Member for Kaurna, do you have another question on clause 4?

Mr PICTON: Thank you, Chair. I assure her that I will not be providing any presents. I am happy to move on to clause 5.

Clause passed.

Clause 5.

Mr PICTON: In relation to clause 5, I understand that the issue is that there is a concern that the act, as currently drafted, potentially provides a stacking effect of discount for pleading guilty at a certain time. I wonder if the Attorney-General can clarify if that is the issue that this is trying to address, and how does this amendment address that?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I thought I had made that clear before, but if I have not, yes is the answer to what you describe as a 'stacking' process to get access to sentencing. The redrafting basically prohibits the defendant from being able to adjourn their arraignment to get the benefit of that discounting.

Mr PICTON: Is there any evidence that this supposed loophole has been abused at all?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am not aware of any cases, but this in particular was an issue raised by the state Director of Public Prosecutions in his correspondence to me in relation to some of the weaknesses in the legislation. He may have thought that this was something that someone got away with; it might have even been inadvertently, but he clearly did not want it to be a practice that was going to be adopted as a means of circumventing the legislation to be able to still get discounting.

As the member may be aware, under the sentencing law up to 40 per cent discounting is available for an early guilty plea, and then it pares down according to the length of time after the initial arraignment that can be sought by counsel or the defendant and taken into account by the sentencing judge. In theory, this law is there to give some incentive to encourage people to enter a plea of guilty early to save the resources of the court. There is the difficulty for witnesses and problems for the victim, etc.

It is currently under review by Mr Brian Martin QC as a result of a review initiated by me, so it is an important area of the legal process. It is also one about which the public in recent times, not to mention historically, have expressed their considerable disquiet at people even getting access to the discounting. If there were cases starting to be applied for or manipulated to enable people to get further discounting when they do not deserve it, and they are going to manipulate the rules so that they get the benefit of something they should not have, then I imagine the public would be very angry. We on this side of the house want to make sure that this is fixed up before anyone attempts to exploit it, if they have not already.

Mr PICTON: The Attorney-General sometime then was beginning to answer my question and said that this was in relation to advice that she had from the DPP. Is she able to table that advice from the DPP or otherwise provide it to the opposition to consider between the houses?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No. I think I have made this clear in previous bills, and I will repeat it again for the benefit of the member for Kaurna. In respect of our statutory officers and/or departmental advice that we receive, as a matter of course that is not available, and we would not make it available. We do not expect to have either advice, legal or otherwise, from within our department or from other departments to which it is relevant—for example, the Courts Administration Authority—unless we had their specific permission to do so or there was some merit in doing that.

In respect of judges writing to us, no, same thing. In respect of what we would call stakeholders in respect of the criminal law world—and they might be barristers, solicitors, legal service commissions, community legal commissions, Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement, the Law Council of Australia—these are all bodies of interested parties who present arguments to government in respect of draft bills. It is quite reasonable, I think, for any member of parliament to view these submissions, and most often they are available on the websites of the various associations or entities.

There may be a union, for example, because it might affect the workplace entitlements. These are all people who have a stake in the development or advancement or amendment of laws. I think that their views are important, and I think that all the members, if they are following these debates, should take the opportunity to inform themselves on them, speak to them if they wish to and be able to contribute to the debate here. So, no.

Clause passed.

Clause 6.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I move:

Amendment No 1 [DepPrem-1]—

Page 3, lines 22 to 27 [clause 6(3) and (4)]—Delete subclauses (3) and (4)

This amendment removes the reference to prescribed offences against the law of the commonwealth that was to be inserted in section 71(5). This amendment was initially proposed at the request of the commonwealth in order to clarify the availability of home detention orders for certain federal offences. It is now being withdrawn, again at the request of the commonwealth, on the grounds that it may be invalid due to inconsistency of a federal law.

Deletion of this provision from the bill does not mean that home detention will become available for those federal offences. The position will be that the court may only impose home detention where 'under the law of the state or territory the court is empowered to pass such a sentence, or make such an order, in respect of a State or Territory offender in corresponding cases'. I refer to section 20AB of the Commonwealth Crimes Act.

Mr PICTON: I am wondering whether the Attorney-General can outline, in the past financial year, how many offences under the federal law were made in South Australia for offences in particular that were originally going to be covered by this section? When we did have a briefing, when this was going to be part of the legislation, there was some information being provided by the Attorney-General and her office in relation to what those offences were likely to be under the commonwealth offences.

They were quite a long list in terms of the number of issues, whether it be using a carriage service for child pornography material, aggravated use of a carriage service for child pornography material or using a carriage service to engage in sexual activity with a person under the age of 16. That is just a sample of some of the sexual offences, and then in relation to serious and organised crimes, there were issues such as traffic a commercial quantity of controlled drugs, manufacture commercial quantity of controlled drugs, import/export, border-controlled drugs and plants, etc.

There was a whole range of particularly drug offences, and also committing an offence for the benefit or at the direction of a criminal organisation. So, there was a wide range of offences. I wonder whether the Attorney can outline how many of them happened in the past year in South Australia.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Unfortunately, I am advised that a request was made and that the information is not available. That is because the justice analytics does not currently have it and the courts do not have that information. So, in answer to your question, I cannot answer it, but it is fair to say that obviously we had not even reached the stage of identifying what the overlapping offences were going to be. That raises another question as to what was going to be in the regulations for that purpose.

Quite obviously, we are talking about the high end of serious and organised crime and the high end of sexual offences that need to be captured by this. Remember, the whole essence of this was to say, 'Whether you are being prosecuted under a state law in a state court or under a federal law in a state court, if a South Australian had done these really bad things, they would not get access to home detention as a sentencing option.' That is what we were trying to deal with here, at the time. As you know from the letter from the Commonwealth DPP, it could be frustrated by being unconstitutional and therefore invalid. Secondly, it is their view that it is already covered by the existing provisions that overlap with our Crimes Act application.

Mr PICTON: Could the Attorney-General clarify her answer. She referred to the fact that there had not even been thought given, in terms of—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: Not thought given—they were not finalised.

Mr PICTON: I do not think that is what the Attorney-General said. She is now saying that they were not finalised. At the time, the opposition was provided with a list, which, as I said, was quite lengthy in terms of the number of offences under the Commonwealth Criminal Code that would fall under these sections. We were given it on the basis that these were being proposed to be included in the sentencing regulations. I wonder if she can clarify whether she and her office considered these, or whether that was incorrect and was not considered as the proposed list of offences.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I cannot allow there to be some kind of mischievous interpretation of this, so I will try to be absolutely clear. The list of offences that this was going to apply to had been identified, as best could be worked out, for the purposes of the law that was foreshadowed here, but they are not in the act. They were going to be identified on a regulatory basis, so it is impossible for me to say that that is a complete list because, as the member well knows, we pass the statutes. Very often, we do not even start drafting the legislation until after—well,

previous governments used to do this, and I used to be critical of it because I used to think that they should get off their backsides and actually get the drafts going.

Mr Picton: Yes, I remember.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Anyway, you will be pleased to know that in this case they were getting going. You were given a list of what had been prepared at that stage, which identified, as best as could be at that stage, the offences that were intended to be captured in drug and sexual offences, and serious and organised crime, to ensure that people who are convicted of these offences are not going to get eligibility for home detention. You heard the words of the then victims of crime commissioner that I read out. He thoroughly endorsed that concept.

So everyone has ticked the same box about what should happen here and what these people should not be able to get. The brightest brains in the Commonwealth DPP have said, 'We don't want our endeavours to do this to fall foul by virtue of invalidity as an unconstitutional piece of state legislation. In any event, in withdrawing our invitation for you to do that, be alert to the fact that we consider that it's already covered.' I am comforted by that. I do not know why the member for Kaurna is not.

Mr PICTON: This is yet another proposition by the Attorney-General that I do not support. In any case, I am wondering, following the Attorney-General's receipt, in the last couple of weeks, of the letter from the Commonwealth DPP that she read out, whether there was any other analysis of the constitutional position of the state and of this legislation. That is, did she go to the Solicitor-General or did she go to any outside counsel to consider this matter, or is it just that the Attorney-General accepted the advice of the DPP and decided to withdraw the guts of this bill?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: To make the amendment that we are currently discussing, having received the correspondence last week, I am advised that the Crown Solicitor's Office reviewed that matter. I did not ask any other person to do that. I did not specifically ask the Solicitor-General to consider the matter. Sorry, I meant Legislative Services, not the Crown Solicitor's Office.

Legislative Services, of course, is the particular unit that attends to all these matters. I think you are familiar with who they are. As Attorney-General, I did not say, 'I don't accept this,' or, 'I don't accept your assessment of members of the Legislative Services that this is the better way to deal with it by acquiescing to their invitation.' I did not demand that the Solicitor-General come in and say, 'I need your opinion on constitutional law on this matter.' No, we did not do that. We were satisfied, based on the material that we had.

The CHAIR: I will allow one last question on this amendment, member for Kaurna.

Mr PICTON: You are very kind, Chair, as I have always said. In relation to that, given that there was no subsequent advice that the Attorney-General sought or received, other than her departmental officials looking at it—and this is something that we will pick up whenever we are deemed able to have that briefing between the houses—is the Attorney-General able to assure this house that, regarding the list of offences that her office has provided us, in terms of serious sexual offences, child pornography and the like, as well as serious and organised crime offences and, in particular, a large number of drug offences, none of those offences could possibly have home detention applied to them in South Australia without any change to the Sentencing Act?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I think the process is important here because, as was alluded to in the Commonwealth DPP letter in respect of the corresponding case process that we would go through, the corresponding cases for the purpose of sentencing and home detention would be precluded in any event, which is what they are saying.

Essentially, instead of having a statutory bar, by virtue of this proposed amendment to the Sentencing Act, what would be required, I am advised, is that commonwealth prosecutors will need to make sentencing submissions in each individual case on how a commonwealth offence and state offence are similar to satisfy the court that they are a corresponding case; that is, while it may have been neater to have offences set out in the regulation as intended by the bill in an attempt to avoid this case-by-case approach, the same offences are expected to be precluded by operation of the existing provision in the Crimes Act in any event.

I just want to make two points. We could have listed them and then deemed them by statute to be corresponding cases and therefore no judge needs to be able to say, 'This commonwealth trafficking law is similar to the state trafficking law and we would be able to accept that.' But it is true that if the judge says, 'No, they are not corresponding cases in respect of these matters,' it is open to the sentencing judge to then deal with the commonwealth law sentencing as they would have. I am getting a nod from my adviser.

Mr PICTON: It is up to the judge.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: It is up to the judge to determine if it is a corresponding case and then, of course, the submissions would go to the judge if that is accepted, and he is she is bound to then comply with the statutory law which is there, which has been outlined neatly in the Commonwealth DPP's letter, which would require them to then take into account the state law for the purposes of sentencing. So the issue for determination by the judge is: is it a corresponding case? If it is, it is effectively automatic. Does that make sense?

Mr PICTON: Sort of.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Thank you.

Mr PICTON: So you are happy?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am very happy.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The CHAIR: Before I move on to clause 7, I am going to welcome members of the Golden Grove Lions Club, who are visiting us today in the gallery. Welcome to you. They are guests of the member for King.

Bills

SENTENCING (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

Committee Stage

Debate resumed.

Clause 7.

Mr PICTON: I will provide some scintillating entertainment for the members of the Lions Club from Golden Grove, I hope. In relation to clause 7, can the Attorney-General confirm that this amendment ensures the internal consistency of the act?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I think that is correct because it deals with the purpose of the intensive correction order. There was an anomaly; therefore, we needed to have consistency in the act. The short answer to that question is yes. It is specifically set out to clarify that section 79(1)(a) is amended to read '2 years' to marry up with section 81(1)(a). It is to make that consistent. As the member may recall from the very extensive debate we had on the Sentencing Bill, which became the principal act here, the Sentencing Act, a new option in sentencing was developed. A regime was set out in the act for how an intensive correction order would be available and how it would operate. That was a new regime.

I do not know if any intensive correction orders have even been made. I must say that at the time I was a bit sceptical whether judges would ever use them. I have not heard of any being used, but the act only came into operation earlier this year. I will tell you why. When this initiative was presented to the parliament by the former government, I pointed out at the time—and I think this was well known in the profession—that, although the Victorian parliament had passed similar legislation, judges over there just simply did not make these orders.

If you thought there was a chance to have somebody out of custody, in the community but under intensive supervision in the circumstance of an intensive correction order, why would you not

use it? It would surely be a lot cheaper, and I would think that on the face of it, with the appropriate intensive provisions over it, it would be a better model for rehabilitation of the offender. That is at first blush. But what they were saying to me, and I think it was well known, was that we had hardly enough provision for the ordinary orders of people being out, let alone intensive orders.

I think that there was some scepticism on the part of the judiciary in Victoria about the availability and resources to support the offer of this option in sentencing. As a personal satisfaction, I might make some inquiry about whether anything has happened in the last few months since this act came into effect. I might be wrong; it might be that it is often used, but I have not heard of any case so far.

Clause passed.

Clause 8.

Mr PICTON: Similarly, can the Attorney-General confirm that this amendment ensures the internal consistency of the act? Can she explain the basis of the error being corrected here and whether 'case manager' appears elsewhere?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Apparently, it does not appear elsewhere. It was just in the drafting that it was referred to as 'case manager'. Obviously, we are replacing it with 'community corrections officer', which is the new description in the current act of the person responsible largely in respect of the imposing of bonds. Section 98, the conditions of bonds under the act, refers to 'community corrections officer' correctly throughout except in one spot. That is why it is being fixed.

Clause passed.

Remaining clause (9) and title passed.

Bill reported with amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (17:35): I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Ministerial Statement

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (17:35): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to the goods and services tax made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Treasurer.

Bills

OFFICE FOR THE AGEING (ADULT SAFEGUARDING) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 17:36 the house adjourned until Thursday 25 October 2018 at 11:00.