

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

### Wednesday, 5 December 2018

The **SPEAKER (Hon. V.A. Tarzia)** took the chair at 10:30 and read prayers.

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

#### *Bills*

### **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (DRUG OFFENCES) AMENDMENT BILL**

#### *Introduction and First Reading*

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:31):** Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Controlled Substances Act 1984. Read a first time.

#### *Second Reading*

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:31):** I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I am really happy to be introducing another measure into this place that supports the work of our police—

**The SPEAKER:** You are the lead speaker, member for Elizabeth?

**Mr ODENWALDER:** I am indeed the lead speaker; thank you for your interrupting my flow, sir. As I was saying, I am really happy to be introducing another measure into this place that supports the work of our police in combatting the scourge of drugs and, in particular, ice in our community.

When I was a police officer, all those years ago, if you had asked me what was the biggest single contributor to antisocial behaviour, to low-level crime and to violence in our community I would have said without a moment's hesitation that it was alcohol. But I talk to police officers now, from very senior officers to managers to prosecutors to intel to patrol cops, and when they are asked what is the biggest problem in all these areas, and indeed the biggest threat to the safety of operational police officers and emergency services workers, they say ice. They say ice every time.

It is incumbent on all of us as lawmakers to do everything within our power to halt the flow of ice and to give police the authority to use their common sense and experience to seek out and discover ice. The bill I am introducing today, the Controlled Substances (Drug Offences) Amendment Bill, obviously applies to the Controlled Substances Act generally, and all drugs fall within its area of authority, but in my mind, at least, it is aimed primarily at ice. Indeed, this measure is very similar to one introduced by the previous government as a result of the recommendations of the Ice Taskforce last year.

The Controlled Substances (Drug Offences) Amendment Bill seeks to amend the Controlled Substances Act in order to give police the authority to search people and vehicles observed entering and leaving a known drug house, that is, a house from which the police reasonably suspect drugs are being dealt and/or trafficked. At present, it is very difficult for police to prove this link. This amendment provides that simply being seen leaving or entering such premises can be cause to suspect and therefore reason to search. Under current law, the police have no particular power to search these people and vehicles for drugs, even if they reasonably suspect that drugs are being sold from that house.

As well as being a measure to combat ice trafficking, in line with the recommendations of the Ice Taskforce, as I outlined, it also disrupts the activity of these houses, which cause neighbours a lot of anxiety simply because of the constant activity. Mr Speaker, if you live near a drug house—and I hope for your sake that you do not—you know about it. There are people coming and going 24 hours a day at all hours of the day or night. The people who live near these drug houses live with anxiety all the time. Knowing that these people may be criminals only adds to that anxiety.

I believe that the police need clear authority to search those people coming and going from these houses, both to stop the spread of drugs and to help gather evidence to shut down the businesses of the drug houses. This measure, when something similar was introduced last year, was opposed by the then opposition. They did offer reasons: they said that it went too far; they said that it gave police too much power. There were arguments about delivery people, Jehovah's Witnesses getting caught up and this kind of thing. These arguments rest on the assumption that the police are idiots. I do not believe that the police are idiots. The police know, and indeed the neighbours know, that these people are up to no good

This government claims to be waging a war on drugs, yet at every turn they oppose sensible measures that will help our police to fight the scourge of drugs. It makes no sense. Whether it is giving police power to search a vehicle for drugs when there is a positive test on the roadside or creating zones around prisons within which drug offences would be amplified, the government seem intent on opposing measures that will disrupt the very people they claim to be at war with. I call on the government this time to see sense and support the opposition in supporting the work of our police. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Pederick.

### **SENTENCING (HOME DETENTION) AMENDMENT BILL**

#### *Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 14 November 2018.)

**Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (10:37):** It is a pleasure to be able to speak on some private members' business in this house and in particular on this very important piece of legislation introduced by both the member for Elizabeth and the Leader of the Opposition, the Sentencing (Home Detention) Amendment Bill.

This bill amends the Sentencing Act to eliminate the possibility of court-ordered home detention for paedophiles. This is something that I think all of us should agree on, something that the community expects and something that all of us would want to see. That is why the Leader of the Opposition brought this to this parliament last week as an urgent matter. Unfortunately, the government saw fit to adjourn it off or, I think, did not even give us leave to debate it as an urgent matter at that time. We then brought it on to private members' business; it got adjourned last week.

But we can deal with this this morning. We can deal with this right now, and all of us in this parliament can agree to this amendment to make sure that particularly over the next three months, when parliament is not going to be sitting, if there were to be an occasion when there was to be a paedophile who was ordered court-ordered home detention, that would not be able to be possible—that our community should be protected.

If we go into the break over summer and if we go over the Christmas break without this legislation having been passed, then there is the potential that court-ordered home detention for paedophiles could happen in any number of our communities. That is not something that we should allow from this parliament. All of us should take our responsibility seriously to make sure that our laws are in the best possible place they can be before we go into the Christmas break. This is an important piece of legislation to do that.

As I said, it amends the Sentencing Act 2017 to make sure that somebody who has committed a number of prescribed different sexual offences—part 3, division 11, rape or other sexual offences or part 12, commercial sexual services and related offences—of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act, where the victim is a child or where the offence is committed in the course of or in circumstances involving the sexual exploitation or abuse of a child, would not be eligible to apply for court-ordered home detention.

We have seen that already in the electorate of Elder. There has been a threat that this could have happened. There was an application made. I am very glad that the court decided not to allow that application, but it could well have done so. If we had not passed this legislation, then that would have proceeded in the electorate of Elder. That is not something I want to see in any electorate, and

that is why it is important that as soon as I finish speaking we do not have the member for Hammond or the member for Newland getting up and trying to adjourn this piece of legislation

Let's have an up or down vote on this right now. Let's decide as a parliament whether we want paedophiles to have the ability to get home detention or whether we do not. We say no. We very clearly say no, and that is why we have put this legislation.

*Mr Patterson interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Morphett will cease interjecting, please.

**Mr PICTON:** The Attorney-General has gone out and said, 'I want to do a bigger review of the act. I want to do a whole bunch of different reforms.' That is fine; she can do a whole lot of other different reforms and come back in three, six or 12 months' time, but this is urgent. This is something that we can simply fix right now, and that is why this can pass this morning. It can go through the upper house tomorrow—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my right!

**Mr PICTON:** —and we can have this legislation in place. The Governor can sign off on it and we can go into the Christmas period in the full knowledge that South Australians will be protected by this amendment to the legislation. If the government choose to try to block this this morning, we are going to have the potential that that could happen over the Christmas period, and that is not something I think they could defend. We heard a lot yesterday from the Deputy Premier about the pub test. I encourage her to go to any pub in South Australia and ask whether paedophiles should be able to get home detention. I do not think that anybody in South Australia will tell her that.

**The Hon. A. Koutsantonis:** Not even in Burnside.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for West Torrens!

**Mr PICTON:** Not even in Burnside, not even down at Burnside Village.

**Mr Brown:** Or at the Feathers.

**Mr PICTON:** 'Or at the Feathers', the member for Playford interjects. However, this is a very serious subject, and that is why we should all agree to this this morning. I call on the government to support this now and not be too frightened of supporting something from the opposition because this is actually about the people of South Australia. It is not about political games; it is about getting this right. I encourage all members to support this. Let's get this through this morning—

**Ms Luethen:** Outrageous!

**The SPEAKER:** Member for King!

**Mr Pederick:** 16 years, a non-event.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Hammond!

**Mr PICTON:** —and make sure that while parliament is in recess there is no possibility that a paedophile could be out on home detention in South Australia.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (10:42):** I move:

That the debate be adjourned.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes .....	23
Noes .....	19
Majority .....	4

AYES

Basham, D.K.B.  
Cregan, D.

Chapman, V.A.  
Duluk, S.

Cowdrey, M.J.  
Ellis, F.J.

## AYES

Gardner, J.A.W.	Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.
Luethen, P.	Marshall, S.S.	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.	Wingard, C.L.	

## NOES

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

Motion thus carried; debate adjourned.

### MOTOR VEHICLES (OFFENSIVE ADVERTISING) AMENDMENT BILL

#### *Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 14 November 2018.)

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (10:47):** I rise this morning to support the Motor Vehicles (Offensive Advertising) Amendment Bill brought to this house by the member for Reynell. It is unfortunate that we have to talk about this because it seems quite simple that this is unacceptable. We want to propose reforms to the vehicle registration laws banning the registration of vehicles displaying obscene, sexist and racist messages.

We have modernised our society. We have called out violence against women, and I, personally, have worked diligently to ensure that our state is an inclusive and welcoming community that treats people with respect. That is why I am so disappointed and appalled by the harmful messages on the Wicked campervans that are freely driving around our state. Our community deserves better. Our community is better than this.

Despite South Australia being the first Australian state to grant women the vote and to stand for parliament, and the first to legally prohibit racial discrimination and sexual discrimination, currently there is nothing that prohibits these vans with offensive slogans from being on the roads of our state. Not only are they not acceptable but they should be removed immediately. Some might argue that we simply cannot see the funny side of these slogans. They are right; there is nothing funny about these slogans. Normalising violence against women and treating it as a punchline undermines all our efforts to reduce violence. They cause immediate offence and hurt across our community by perpetuating sexist attitudes that we are working tirelessly to change.

To quote our most recent former prime minister: not all disrespect ends in violence, but all violence starts with disrespect. This was an incredibly strong statement that he made because we have to call it out; whether it be in the workplace, the sporting field or down the street, that disrespecting women must end. We live in a country where one woman is killed every week by a current or former partner. We have come a long way, but there is still much work to be done. These messages undo decades of advocacy and women's empowerment and this is the kind of thing that we must make sure we stand up against in the future.

Wicked Campers promote their rental vans to backpackers and tourists who are likely to be visiting South Australia's most popular tourist destinations. While we as a state are promoting our festivals, our natural beauty, our food and wine, encouraging people to linger longer and enjoy what

we love about South Australia, our visitors see these outlandish, highly visible vans at these great destinations. We are giving mixed messages to people. We are a global city. Tourism is one of our key economic drivers.

We invite tourists to come and enjoy what we love about South Australia, but in their face, in the car park, are these vans with offensive slogans. How does that match who we are? How does that match who we want to be? Think about our young boys and girls: we need to continue these messages from a very early age. We need to call out disrespect and we need to call out violence, yet we have these very visible slogans on the back of a van. How do you explain to your child that that is okay to be in public?

These are deliberately offensive slogans: 'Drink till she's pretty,' or, 'I've often wanted to drown my troubles, but I can't get my wife to go swimming.' These are vulgar statements. It is not just women that these are offensive to; they are offensive on many levels: sexism, racism, paedophilia. They go to the heart of the attitudes around domestic violence and violence against women. They also glamorise and trivialise drug use. In some cases, they even promote rape and murder. This is not what we want people to see when they visit South Australia. It is not what South Australians want to see in our state. A standard that we walk past is a standard that we accept.

I urge this house to support the motion and remind the house what we are supporting here: the cancellation of a vehicle's registration if it displays advertising material found to breach the code, preventing the refund of part or whole of the registration fee paid, preventing the transfer of a vehicle's registration when cancelled, preventing the renewal of registration unless the offending advertisement is removed, and purporting to prevent judicial review of the decision to cancel a vehicle's registration. This is what the bill does. But what it really does is send the strongest message that obscenity, racism and sexism is unacceptable in South Australia.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (10:54):** I move:

That the debate be adjourned.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes ..... 24  
Noes ..... 19  
Majority ..... 5

#### AYES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Duluk, S.	Ellis, F.J.
Gardner, J.A.W.	Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.
Luethen, P.	Marshall, S.S.	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.	Bettison, Z.L.	Boyer, B.I.
Brock, G.G.	Brown, M.E. (teller)	Close, S.E.
Cook, N.F.	Gee, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.
Hughes, E.J.	Koutsantonis, A.	Malinauskas, P.
Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.
Picton, C.J.	Stinson, J.M.	Weatherill, J.W.
Wortley, D.		

Motion thus carried; debate adjourned.

**CRIMINAL LAW CONSOLIDATION (THROWING OBJECTS AT VEHICLES) AMENDMENT BILL***Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 20 June 2018.)

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (11:00):** It is fantastic to have the opportunity to be able to speak.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members, please leave quietly, if doing so, so I can hear the member for Kaurna. Thank you.

**Mr PICTON:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Yet again we have another piece of legislation—

*The Hon. S.K. Knoll interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure is called to order.

**Mr PICTON:** Hear, hear! Chuck him out.

**The SPEAKER:** I might.

**Mr PICTON:** Yet again we have another piece of legislation that has been put up by this constructive opposition that is trying to improve the laws of South Australia. We introduced this bill many, many months ago. We have been unsuccessful in getting a vote on this legislation. I have been trying to speak on it for probably the last couple of months, so it is a welcome opportunity to be able to do so. This is an important issue for people across the state—

*Mr Patterson interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Morphett is interjecting again.

**Mr PICTON:** —but particularly for people of the southern suburbs where we have seen, sadly, a spate of rock throwing attacks in the south. Sadly, we have seen the damage that has incurred on people. It is an absolutely hideous act to threaten somebody's life by throwing a projectile from a bridge.

When we saw the spate of attacks earlier this year, the opposition, through the opposition leader, the shadow minister for transport and the shadow minister for police, announced an action plan to tackle this issue to make sure that the people on the Southern Expressway were safe. This bill formed a key part of that action plan. It was to make sure that we increased the penalties for people throwing projectiles at cars on our roads.

This could happen not only on the Southern Expressway but also on other roads in South Australia. It has been particularly an issue in the south. Before the current spate of rock throwing started this year, there was an issue last year, or perhaps even the year before, when a woman who lives in my electorate of Seaford was driving her car with her husband. She was pregnant at the time. A rock was thrown from a bridge; in fact, I am led to believe it was a manhole cover for a SA Water or SA Power Networks duct. It was thrown at her car and caused tremendous damage to the car. Potentially, it could have been life threatening.

That was one issue that happened then. Since then, this year we have seen so many attacks happen. This is something where we as a parliament have the ability to take a stand, to say that this is not acceptable and to say that we view these as very serious offences that should see increased penalties. That is why the member for Elizabeth brought this bill to the parliament. It has been languishing on the *Notice Paper* for months and months and months now, but now we have the opportunity to do something about it.

We have the opportunity before we go into the summer recess, before the government puts its feet up over Christmas, to say, 'Let's get this done now.' Let's get this done this morning. Send it to the upper house and get this bill through so that, if we were to have any rock throwing incidents over the summer break in the Christmas-new year period, then this would be able to be in place and those higher penalties would apply. We do know that there is an increase in this sort of activity when

we have Christmas holidays and school holidays. Having this legislation in place before then is vitally important.

I would hate to think that the government, who still act like they are the opposition, would want to block this legislation and prevent it from passing. I would encourage the member for Hammond not to get up and move an adjournment of this debate yet again, for probably the 10<sup>th</sup> time now, but to actually allow the parliament to vote on this subject. Do we believe that throwing projectiles at cars deserves a higher penalty? That is a pretty simple question, and it is something that all members should be able to make a decision on.

We on this side say, yes, we think the penalty should be increased. We think we can do it now. If the people who sit on the other side of the chamber do not believe that there should be increased penalties, then say so. Vote that way. Vote against this and make it clear. Continuing to defer this means delaying laws that can help make it clear that this is unacceptable behaviour in South Australia and that the people who carry out this offence should be prosecuted to a very high standard.

I know the member for Hurtle Vale had personal experience helping people who had been the subject of rock throwing attacks when she worked as a retrieval nurse and ICU nurse. I know there is broad support from within the community, particularly in the south, and I am sure there is the potential for this to happen in other areas as well. We have hundreds of bridges in South Australia; this could potentially happen on any of them.

This is an easy change for us to make, and it will improve the laws of this state. It will send a clear message that if people perpetrate this crime they will face higher penalties. We can do this now. We can vote on this right now, pass this law and make sure it is in place for the Christmas summer break. We can make sure that higher penalties will apply if rocks are thrown at people during that period. I would hate to see this debate adjourned. I would hate to see a disappointing outcome from the government. I urge the House of Assembly to pass this legislation now and not to adjourn it yet again.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (11:06):** I rise to make a contribution to this bill and to say that the government dealt with this issue very quickly upon coming to government. This is not a new issue. This is not an issue that arrived on 18 March; this is an issue that has existed in the southern suburbs for some time. Yes, we saw a ramping up of the number of incidents over March, April and May, but this is not a new issue.

We know it is not a new issue because the originating offence of throwing objects at vehicles exists in the statute book as a previous attempt to deal with this problem. A five-year penalty exists within the current statute, and that offence did not act as an effective deterrent to stop people from throwing rocks off the bridges over the Southern Expressway.

The members of the opposition would like to double the offence. Sure, that is great, in theory—fantastic, in theory—but it does not deal with the fundamental issue that existed in the southern suburbs, and it does not deal with the fundamental issues that we need to address in order to actually fix this problem, as opposed to doing what members of the opposition do: introduce politically opportunistic legislation to make themselves feel like they are trying to do something on the topic.

**Mr Picton:** So do you support it or oppose it?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Kaurana is called to order.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** We on this side of the house have said time and time again that we actually want to enact legislation and non-legislative measures to fix this problem. Do you know what, Mr Speaker? Over the past six months, we have done that. We saw a high number of potential rock throwing attacks and put a series of measures in place, from both an infrastructure point of view and a policing point of view, and dealt with the problem—not by superficial means, but by some actual and real means.

There are two main ways that we have able to do that. The first is that we worked together with SAPOL. South Australia Police undertook to provide extensive extra policing in that area to make sure they could deal with the problem on the ground—to interview potential suspects of rock throwing incidents and to patrol the areas by various means in order to make sure there was enough of a police presence to deter people from undertaking these acts in the first place.

SAPOL then engaged with the community and with high schools and used their resources to tackle this in a community-based way. I think the work South Australia Police has done is fantastic. The reason I think it is fantastic is that the attacks have stopped. Again, these are the kinds of measures that a government needs to put in place in conjunction with the police force to be able to really fix this problem.

The second part of the solution that we put in place is around reducing and eliminating the ability for people to throw rocks in the first place, not to merely stand at the bottom of the cliff but to put the ambulance at the top of the cliff. To that end, this government moved very swiftly to spend \$15 million to fix this problem from an infrastructure standpoint. In fact, we immediately took steps to put mesh over the rocks on the embankments under the various bridges along the corridor to be able to stop people from being able to opportunistically walk up and grab a rock and chuck it off the edge.

We also improved the CCTV cameras around the area so that when these people do these things we give an added resource to SAPOL to be able to pinch the morons who are doing it. Then we moved to put a temporary throw screen solution in place along the various bridges. We are talking now about road bridges as opposed to pedestrian bridges that already had cages put over the top of them to stop people from being able to lob something over the side. Right at this moment, whether it is Honeypot Road or the other roads along that corridor over the next few months, starting this weekend, we are going to see permanent throw screens put in place to stop people from being able to throw rocks off the edge.

That is not something that just makes people feel like a government is doing something. That is what a government does to actually fix the problem. This is going to require constant vigilance. We cannot be complacent about the fact that this issue may come back. But what we do know is that we now have a series of measures that we have tried and tested in a live situation that we know deals with the problem. This is what this government will do, and that is not to try to deal with token measures that try to make people feel good; it is actually to do something that is going to make a difference on the ground.

After having shown the South Australian people that we have taken the steps to solve this problem, and work in conjunction with the police who have done a fantastic job from their end to be able to deal with the community on the ground and provide that policing presence to provide that deterrent effect, we have got on with solving the issue. So we will not be supporting this bill because we are here to deliver and make real change in our community. Where we see real change can be implemented, we will, and where we see that we get positive results, we will continue to do what works.

In the meantime, what I encourage members opposite to do, instead of being opportunistic and political, is to get on board with the solutions that work for their communities, for the electorates they represent—the member for Kaurana, the member for Hurtle Vale, the member for Reynell and others—and to do what works. If we, as a government, continue to focus on delivering solutions that work, then people in the communities will see real change to their living standards and real change to their ability to move in and around their communities, instead of just having a parliament that tries to do something that is at the edge and tokenistic, and they will see us get on and provide real change to people's lives.

**Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (11:13):** I would like to rise to support this very important bill that proposes a change to the sentencing of people who throw projectiles and missiles at vehicles. I would like to talk from a point of view that takes the focus off bridges. While the government would like us to think that they have solved this problem entirely by putting permanent fixtures in place across bridges on the expressway, I would like to take you all back to January 2005. I headed off to work at about 6.15pm ready to do a 12-hour shift in the intensive care unit at Flinders Medical Centre.



I arrived at work, and we took our normal handover. There is a process that happens when a very serious case comes into the emergency department whereby teams are mobilised out of the intensive care unit and out of the surgical units to attend the emergency room and provide expert care as soon as possible. We were notified that a young male with an open head injury was on his way into the hospital after having been the victim of an incident in a car along Happy Valley Drive at Happy Valley.

I was a team leader in the intensive care unit that night, so we prepared a bed space to accept the patient, if needed, from the emergency department or, in fact, from the operating room. Well, this young man was in such a terrible state that they brought him straight to the intensive care unit. At a guess, there were 10 nurses and 10 doctors in that small intensive care suite and there was a young man in the bed who had, reportedly, had a rock thrown at his car. It had come through the windscreen and hit him right on the front of his head. It hit him with such force that it removed his scalp and the bone covering his brain.

I stood there for what felt like forever, but I think it was about three-quarters of an hour, while doctors worked to clear his head. He had a tube in his throat, he was sedated and, basically, his brain was exposed and he was bleeding from the head. It is probably one of the most traumatic experiences that I have ever been through in my life as a nurse. Of course, there are equals, but to stand there while the doctors were trying to save this young man's life and stabilise him enough to even think about moving him to the operating room was something I will never forget.

The story then goes that he did go to the operating room. We waited all night for him to come back. I think he went to the operating room at around 10pm. His family were beside themselves. His girlfriend, who was in the car with him at the time, ended up with this piece of skull on her lap. They were completely traumatised. He did not come back that night. I went home. I did not sleep. I think I got back to work again the next night after having probably two hours' sleep all day after working the 12-hour shift, and he had come back from the operating room.

He survived. His name is Damian DeWitt and he is a friend of mine. He now has a son, he is married and he is one of the bravest blokes I know. He will tell you that rocks do not just get thrown from bridges, that stories like this need to be told and that people may not be deterred by any sentence. I am on record as not being a proponent of bigger sentences stopping crime, but—

**The Hon. S.K. Knoll:** Are you voting against it?

**Ms COOK:** I beg your pardon? Did you want to speak louder, Minister for Transport?

**The SPEAKER:** Could the Minister for Transport, who has already been called to order, not interject the member for Hurtle Vale. Could she also please not respond to those interjections.

**Ms COOK:** Sorry, sir. It was a very quick reaction of mine. What I want to say is that sentencing for longer, however, does keep people who flout this and who are prepared to take somebody's life off the streets for longer. They do not deserve to be out in the public if they deliberately and wilfully throw a missile at a car and destroy a whole community.

With that, I commend our shadow minister, the member for Elizabeth, for responding quickly around this one component that stops crime. It takes education, community support and awareness, good government, good governance and cooperative parliaments to put appropriate penalties in place. Then it takes a good corrections system to spend the time to rehabilitate, support and re-educate people who come from a background of hating themselves so much that they could not care less what they do to other people.

I thank the shadow minister for bringing in this piece of legislation. I thank the government for allowing us to have the opportunity to debate it today, and I would encourage them to go away and reconsider their position and put themselves in the position of a parent whose son or daughter could lose their life because of an idiot who wants to throw rocks at cars.

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (11:20):** I am moved to make some brief remarks in relation to the debate on this bill that would provide a simple amendment to the Criminal Law Consolidation Act in relation to penalty with respect to section 32A—Throwing objects at vehicles.

I listened carefully to the member for Hurtle Vale's contribution, and the member firstly described an incident that occurred in 2005. As I understand it, the alleged perpetrator was apprehended in 2009 and charged with very serious offending, including attempted murder and a number of counts of endangering life. I am quick to observe that the penalties in relation to that offending run to life imprisonment. They are very serious offences, and the member for Hurtle Vale has ably and relevantly described precisely the sort of trauma that results.

The point is that the consequences of these heinous acts lead to very serious charges that carry very serious penalties including, as I say, life imprisonment. While I am quick to observe that the member for Hurtle Vale's contribution and remarks are genuine and born of her genuine experience, it is no substitute for a genuine response to such traumatic circumstances, to see that finding voice in what, frankly, I regard as disingenuous politicking on the part of the opposition this morning, in looking to come along with a heavier penalty for a very specific act in relation to throwing objects.

We know that this is serious criminal conduct, and the possibility that one might cause the sort of harm that has been described by the member for Hurtle Vale is contemplated by the very consequences that occurred in that very case. I do not want to labour the point further by observing that this all occurred a very long time ago, right in the midst of a government that was in power in this state for a very long time—

**An honourable member:** 16 years.

**Mr TEAGUE:** —16 years, yet we did not see this being debated as a matter of urgency during that time. The Minister for Transport's contribution earlier this morning in my view ably demonstrates what we are genuinely about on this side of the house as a new government. We are not about looking to take high moral ground or to express indignation or to try and be first to the punch. We are about outcomes. We are about identifying what practical measures might be taken to address the problem that occurs. Where there is a problem, let's address it. Where there is a problem, let's look for an outcome that can be demonstrated.

For the very reasons that the member for Hurtle Vale has so capably adumbrated, these are the very circumstances in which we should do nothing that relates to opportunism or to taking some chance for a cheap political shot in the final days of a parliamentary sitting year. In the specific circumstances in which the government has confronted a problem and addressed it with a view to an outcome, and in circumstances where we know this relates to offending that can have very serious repercussions, for all those reasons this is a debate that provides the opportunity to highlight the difference between substance and opportunism.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (11:25):** I was not going to talk too much about the member for Heysen's remarks because I do have a high regard for him; in fact, he was my former lawyer and someone I think is very capable in this place. However, I always get concerned when members attempt to judge the motives of other members.

I do not think there is a single member of the Liberal Party in this place who is here to do anything other than the right thing by the people of South Australia but, simply because we disagree on a bill, the government will get up and say that our motives are disingenuous. We are attempting to try to save lives—as is the government.

When the former transport and infrastructure shadow minister stood up at the last election and said that his first act, if he were sworn in as transport and infrastructure minister, would be to immediately issue a tender for the construction of throw screens along the Southern Expressway, no-one in South Australia thought that was anything other than genuine. For whatever reason he was not sworn in as the transport and infrastructure minister. Some internal Liberal Party decision-making changed that and we got a new minister, someone the people of South Australia had not vetted for that role, someone who had not performed in an election campaign for that role, someone the people did not see conduct themselves under the pressure of an election campaign in that role in the third largest budget in South Australia.

The first thing that minister did was not issue a tender for throw screens. He did not do that. He was led there kicking and screaming by public pressure—and probably by some members of his backbench and by the opposition. In the end, no-one questions the motives of the minister to attempt

to save lives, and to question the opposition's motives is, I think, an unfair and poor reflection and does not serve this parliament well. I think it debases the very role of this parliament.

People in this country are now sick and tired of us looking at each other as enemies, and I call on the opposition to rise above it and join me in rising to a new level of political standard in this place—

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I did.

*Mr Pederick interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hammond is called to order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Increasing the penalties from five to 10 years is a good measure. It will not solve the problem, but it will go some way to fixing it, as do throw screens. This is not simply one measure or one solution to fix all. There is a series of programs we can implement, and this is us trying to be bipartisan to assist the government. Do not call us disingenuous.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** You can tell by the laughter opposite how they feel about this.

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (11:29):** I want to quickly thank all the speakers, and I want to make special mention of the member for Hurtle Vale's contribution, which was very moving. The member for Heysen's contribution was, as always, erudite and very loyal. I largely agree with what he said, except that this bill is aimed at deterring people from even taking the risk.

The offences you were talking about were, rightly, offences charged, which were attempted murder and those types of things. Of course, there are life sentences for those types of things, but these measures are intended to address even attempting to do the stupid thing of dropping a rock off a bridge. I commend the bill to the house. I want to thank all the speakers. I, like the member for West Torrens, expect a bipartisan moment, and I hope there are more to come.

The house divided on the second reading:

Ayes ..... 20  
 Noes ..... 24  
 Majority ..... 4

AYES

Bedford, F.E.	Bell, T.S.	Bettison, Z.L.
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.
Malinauskas, P.	Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)
Piccolo, A.	Picton, C.J.	Stinson, J.M.
Weatherill, J.W.	Wortley, D.	

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Duluk, S.	Ellis, F.J.
Gardner, J.A.W.	Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.
Luethen, P.	Marshall, S.S.	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.

Second reading thus negated.

*Motions*

**INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY**

**Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (11:35):** I move:

That this house—

- (a) notes that on Wednesday 5 December 2018 we celebrate International Volunteer Day;
- (b) acknowledges the valuable contribution that volunteers make to the economic and social wellbeing of local communities; and
- (c) calls on all South Australians to thank and show their appreciation to all volunteers in our community.

Every member of this house works productively with volunteers just about every single day of our lives. Volunteers come from a range of backgrounds. Volunteers participate in thousands and thousands of hours of services within our community every week. The number of volunteer organisations is so large that, if I started to name them today in the house, I would absolutely miss some of them. I am sure that all the volunteer organisations have one thing in common, and that is to help people and provide us with a stronger, safer, more productive and happier society.

I started volunteering when I was very young. I think my volunteering origins mirror the member for Waite's volunteering origins. If we get to it, and I am hopeful that we will, a motion will be moved to celebrate our volunteering origins with St John Ambulance South Australia as humble St John cadets. Volunteering can take the form of setting the roots for your future participation in society. It certainly gave me encouragement.

Many of the people involved in St John Ambulance whom I volunteered with and was supported by gave me the energy and the beginnings of what ended up being a career that I loved. I am still a qualified registered nurse. You can start the journey towards a career from your volunteering. I would encourage all people in the community who are not yet volunteering to consider using volunteering as a stepping stone to participate more broadly in the community. I would encourage parents to help their children to find suitable avenues to volunteer.

I will mention one organisation and a person of great standing in the volunteering community, and that is Volunteering South Australia and Northern Territory and Evelyn O'Loughlin, who is the CEO of that organisation, South Australia's peak body for volunteering. As the shadow minister for human services, which includes volunteers, I have been to a number of events this year with Volunteering SA&NT. I have also taken time to visit the organisation and talk to the people there. Unsurprisingly, volunteers make up a big portion of their productive hours helping with the social and economic growth of our state.

On a personal level, I congratulate Evelyn on the wise words she has given me over the years, prior to parliament as well as now as a member of parliament, representing volunteers, and I thank her for her leadership in the community and within the organisation. Evelyn has driven quite a number of campaigns with and against governments, and she maintains a very frank and independent voice. I remember two that stick in my mind; one was around the regulation of charities, where there was some discussion about how that would work and the regulation of volunteering organisations as such.

Recently, there was a change of focus by the federal government around how volunteering peak services were funded and, from memory, it was about changing to just supporting volunteer organisations that served the disadvantaged rather than the support services of volunteering, which are vital because they help with education, recruitment and the support of small, grassroots organisations that work on the smell of an oily rag and have no budget to do those sorts of governance and education activities.

Volunteers in the community, putting their lives at risk and putting time into supporting the community, while they are obvious groups we cannot thank them enough for the billions of dollars they pump into our community in kind. If they did not, imagine the budgets that we, as a government, would have to generate; they would be so much higher and almost impossible to achieve. Take a

step back and think about the organisations behind the scenes, like Volunteering SA&NT, that support these very small organisations to the very large ones in order to be able to do their work better.

Thank you to everybody who volunteers in our community. I am just going to have a guess, but I do not think we are going to have any amendments to this motion. I hope that we have full party support on this motion and see it come to a vote today to celebrate International Volunteer Day.

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (11:42):** I rise to speak to this worthy motion, which provides another opportunity to recognise the vital contribution volunteers make to the economic and social wellbeing of communities, most especially to the more isolated regional communities, whose residents rely on the help of each other for services that more populated areas take for granted.

Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless—but their contribution is priceless. It is not an exaggeration to say that without volunteers more rural townships would not survive, as their residents, the elderly in particular, would be forced to move if they could not rely on volunteers to bring Meals on Wheels, to drive them to shopping and medical appointments, to call in to check on their wellbeing and to include them socially at pensioner associations, senior citizens groups and other such organisations, which are all run by volunteers.

Without volunteers, we would not have events like Christmas pageants, carol nights and show days. Volunteers man museums and visitor information centres just to keep them open and attractive for tourists. Volunteers drive health buses, offer security through community watch groups, Neighbourhood Watch, church groups and support the disadvantaged, and volunteers abound within food banks and charity organisations.

It is volunteers who put out fires, who sandbag properties in floods, who are first on the scene at road accidents, who drive our ambulances, who answer the call from our sick and injured and who are onboard sea rescue vessels. It is volunteers who fundraise for good causes and it is National Trust volunteers who conserve heritage and ensure that our past is appreciated in the present and will be remembered by future generations. It is volunteers who work within suicide prevention networks to provide on-the-ground support for the rising number of people who are being impacted by suicide.

Progress association volunteers work hard to advocate for and develop town projects that improve the lives of residents, beautify townships, instil community pride and attract visitors to the towns for the economic benefit of local businesses. Volunteers administer, coach, time keep and score across the many and varied country sporting clubs, encouraging health and fitness pursuits for young and old. I am an Apex member, so I see firsthand the difference that volunteers of service clubs, including Lions and Rotary, make to their towns, all with the mantra of making their patch a better place to live.

All volunteers across all these groups provide vital services and, equally importantly, promote and provide a connection to community that is essential for social harmony. I firmly believe in the research that shows that participation in volunteering results in positive benefits for not just community members who are being helped but the volunteers providing the service. All of us have a need to be needed, I believe, and the camaraderie and satisfaction of being involved in your local community, as research has shown, do much to improve mental and physical health for a win-win situation.

This motion provides the opportunity to recognise all the great people in communities across the Narungga electorate and around the state who are a skilled and ready workforce who happily and selflessly devote a lot of time to help others and give back, often all done quietly in the background without fanfare or fame.

Just in the last three months, I recall formally congratulating Tony and Wendy Marshall on their 10 years of ambulance service, which may well be brought up later in the motion regarding ambulances. I also congratulated Olga Althoff on 20 years of service to the CWA; Tim and Sandra Wood and Janet Mill on outstanding service to the Australian Plants Society; the SA Sea Rescue Squadron's Edithburgh flotilla on being named most efficient country boat and crew for the second

year in a row; and Stephen Goldsworthy on his Harry Dowling Award for services to Yorke Peninsula tourism.

OAMs were awarded to Ian Ravenscroft for long-time volunteer service to cricket and Stephen Stock for his volunteer service to the Moonta community, in particular with the National Trust, preserving the wonderful history of the Copper Coast. National CFS service medals were presented to Andrew Pearce, Ashley Rowan, Bronte Bruce, Bruce Philbey, Chris Johns, David Bussenschutt, Gary Bruce, Geoff Pearce, Kelvin Stewart, Noel Rodda, Olly Werner, Scott Richardson and Stuart Rodda. Big congratulations to those service medal winners.

I think now is an opportune time to mention the work that the Kadina Apex club is doing, a club which I am a member of, in establishing a new treetop playground in the main square of the Kadina township. It is being installed as we speak, and it will be a tremendous benefit for older kids who perhaps do not fit the profile of those who use the current playground installed in the town square and want something a bit more adventurous to play on. That is wonderful, and I commend the Apex club, in particular Jared King and Neil Sawley, and everyone else who has helped fundraise the significant amount of money that has been needed to install that particular playground.

These worthy recipients show the myriads of services that are provided thanks to the efforts of volunteers. I say to them sincerely: thank you for all you do. Volunteers fill thousands of roles across the arts, sport and recreation, community services, education and the environment. Regarding the latter, I recently had the privilege of speaking at the 31<sup>st</sup> Friends of Parks forum at Innes National Park. Delegates from friends groups across the state were in attendance at the event, hosted by the Friends of Troubridge Island and the Althorpe Islands.

I was amazed to learn that there are more than 5,000 volunteers across SA who do much work as Friends of Parks group members in protecting the state's natural and cultural heritage in parks and reserves for locals and tourists to admire and enjoy. I am aware of all the volunteer hours spent in Innes looking after the flora and fauna, and conserving and maintaining all that makes Innes great. It is a national park that attracts in the vicinity of 120,000 visitors a year, contributing greatly to our local economy. This asset could not be protected without the work of volunteers. This example of the efforts of just one national park within one sector gives a small inkling of the vast value of what volunteers do across multiple sectors in our state.

South Australia can be particularly proud as we celebrate globally today, International Volunteer Day, that we are renowned for spending more time volunteering than any other state and are surpassed only by the Australian Capital Territory. The 2016 census revealed that 21.4 per cent of South Australians said that they did volunteer work through an organisation or group in the previous 12 months. That is well above the national average of 19 per cent, and even further above Queensland and New South Wales, which fall at 18.1 per cent and 18.8 per cent respectively.

Studies have shown that volunteers are worth about \$5 billion to the state's economy each year. That is an incredible financial contribution made. In support of these efforts, in just a small way, those on this side were very pleased to make volunteer screening fees for all South Australians free from 1 November this year—the delivery of another key election commitment.

Previously, South Australians were paying \$59.40 for a volunteer screening check, which was the highest application fee in the nation. Making this mandatory check free for our hardworking volunteers who give so much of their time is a very fair thing to do. These efforts should not come as an out-of-pocket expense for the very people who are saving the government so much money by providing the services that they do.

I was pleased to see that the 2018-19 state budget provides an ongoing funding allocation to abolish all volunteer screening fees, with the Marshall Liberal government committing \$677,000 in 2018-19 and \$1.4 million per year indexed from 2019-20, in recognition of the huge importance of volunteers and the work they conduct across the state. As Volunteering SA&NT Chief Executive Officer, Evelyn O'Loughlin, said at the time of the announcement that the fee abolishment was a win-win for volunteer organisations and individual volunteers. She said and I quote:

For the organisations, these savings can be put to better use in providing services and resources for the benefit of communities, and for a volunteer, it may mean the difference of taking up a volunteer position or not.

I will continue to quote:

With volunteering playing such a significant part in the life of South Australians, we need to ensure their volunteering experiences are positive and rewarding, and to see this result finally come to fruition is fantastic.

I commend the motion to the house and take this opportunity to congratulate every single volunteer who contributes time and effort across the state of South Australia to make it such a wonderful place to live. I look forward to continuing to work with all those volunteers groups going forward.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the next speaker, I welcome to parliament today Mr Michael Cornish, CEO of St John Ambulance Australia, and also Karen Limb, chair and treasurer. Welcome to parliament today.

#### *Motions*

### **INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY**

Debate resumed.

**Mr BOYER (Wright) (11:51):** I, too, rise to support the motion moved by the member for Hurtle Vale, noting that today, Wednesday 5 December, we celebrate International Volunteer Day. Since becoming the member for Wright, I have proudly continued a tradition that was started by my predecessor and that is to present volunteer awards at children's centres, preschools, primary schools and high schools in my local community.

The Hon. Jennifer Rankine started this in 2003 because she felt that volunteers were often omitted from end of year presentation nights, graduation nights and end of year break-ups by community groups and she wanted to do something about that to make sure that they received the acknowledgment that everyone I know in this place agrees they deserve. It is a tradition I have been very happy to continue. I would like to share with the house a couple of observations that I have made while attending those awards nights by way of making a contribution to this motion.

My observation has been that volunteers are, without exception, the most praised and well-received winners at every school graduation night that I go to. Certainly, all the parents and staff are very positive and pleased to see students and sometimes their own children win awards, but when it comes to acknowledging volunteers at the school who do a lot of very important work, the biggest round of applause is often reserved for them. I think this certainly says something about the esteem in which we hold volunteers.

Unfortunately, what I have noticed at these graduation nights and other local events is that it is still the case that it is often one or two volunteers who are doing the lion's share of work by undertaking multiple volunteering roles at these organisations. When I have read out the citations for winners of awards, I have noticed that they almost always serve on multiple committees, whether it be parents and friends, fundraising committees or governing council, and they often volunteer in the school canteen and help on sports days as well.

Last week, I presented an award to Deanna Curnow, a volunteer at Keller Road Primary School, who was an ex-employee of the school for many, many years. Out of the goodness of her own heart, she elected to stay involved with the school and come back when she finished her paid employment. Deanna is a fantastic example of someone who does something that I am sure all the pupils at the school have no idea is done, and that is to collect all the new books from the library every week, take them home and laminate the covers to make sure that generations of school students at Keller Road Primary School can enjoy those books for years to come.

I asked the Principal of Keller Road Primary School, Narelle Kusabs, 'What would you do if you didn't have someone like Deanna offering to do that role?' She said, 'Quite simply, the books wouldn't get covered. It's not something that we can do ourselves. We don't have a budget line for it. We don't have a budget line for it and we don't have a paid staff member who has time to do it, therefore the books wouldn't get covered, they would not last as long and the school would have to spend more money to replace them more often.' It is often the case that volunteers do things in some

of these important local community groups that we all cherish that simply would not get done if we did not have them.

Another thing I take away from a lot of those events is that, on the one hand, yes, it is inspiring to see some of the amazing work people do in our communities without any kind of acknowledgment or financial reimbursement, but I often walk away wondering what will happen if the next generation of volunteers is not prepared to step in and take their place. People's lives are busier than ever before, and we have been saying that for years, but it is incredibly true.

Many families have both parents working, and of course the many families who have one parent are under even greater pressure to manage work and family commitments than they ever have before. It is very difficult to ask those people to squeeze in volunteering on top of things they already do, which includes paid work and looking after kids. One of the things I hear a lot now from young families in particular are the pressures they feel from having to take their children to school sport, and often their weekends are completely consumed with driving their child or children around to soccer, basketball, football or cricket, and they really have no time to themselves, let alone time to give or donate to a community group or organisation. That poses a real problem for society moving forward.

As I said, I commend the member for Hurtle Vale for bringing this motion to the house, and absolutely these volunteers who are doing the work right now deserve our acknowledgment, but I think our role as members of parliament and community leaders in this space is twofold, and that is that we should take the opportunities afforded to us, like this motion today, to acknowledge their work, and we must think about all the things we can do to encourage the next generation of volunteers to take the place of today's volunteers and make sure that the work they do can be continued into the future.

Something we can do in that vein is to make special mention whenever we can of young people who are volunteering now to inspire other young people to do the same thing. Just this morning I dropped off a bag of food for the Foodbank stall at Tea Tree Plaza. We all know that Foodbank is a fantastic organisation. They are doing a Christmas drive at the moment, which is being very generously supported by ABC radio in Adelaide.

I noticed that there were four volunteers there at the stall, all women, interestingly, which is another pattern I often see at volunteer awards. I think that probably 75 or 80 per cent of the awards I have given so far to acknowledge volunteers have been to women. There were four women there today, but one was a very young girl as well, so I made a special effort to congratulate her and say, 'Well done.' I put something up on social media to acknowledge her, so that way some of her classmates might see the great work she is doing and think they can do it as well and provide their own time.

At Modbury Meals on Wheels, where once a fortnight I do a shift and deliver meals in the north-east, there is a young man called Paul, who for many years every week has driven volunteers like me around to deliver meals to the people who need them in our community. The Salisbury SES, another organisation I am involved with in a volunteer capacity in my area, has a large number of men and women in their early 20s who respond to the lion's share of taskings, and are regularly called away at all hours of the night.

During that storm event we had last night, I responded to one tasking and I was there with two other unit members, two young men who would not have been older than 25, both of whom had responded the night before at 8 o'clock and had finished at about 10.30 or 11 o'clock, had gone back and got a little bit of sleep until the pager went off at 2.30 am, and they then responded all the way through to 8 o'clock—an incredible effort. One had young kids as well, so he had left the kids with his partner to go out and do that work. I am pleased to have the opportunity today in this place to acknowledge the efforts of our young volunteers, and I certainly encourage other young people to take their lead and give their time generously as well.

Before I finish, I would like to acknowledge some groups in the north and north-east, too. I am aware that it is always risky business when you start listing groups, because you are always bound to leave one out; nonetheless, I am going to have a go. I would like to acknowledge the Lyell McEwin Volunteer Association; Modbury Hospital Foundation Volunteers; Tea Tree Gully



Community Men's Shed, who just last night, when I was at the Gulfview Heights Primary School end of year break-up, were there cooking the barbecue; Wynn Vale Community Garden; and Meals on Wheels Modbury.

I would also like to thank the local Scout groups; the Neighbourhood Watch groups; the Salisbury and the Tea Tree Gully SES groups; local CFS units, who are of course going to have a very busy next few months, though I hope not, while they are on high alert, protecting us; Rotary groups; Lions groups; the Tea Tree Gully and Salisbury RSLs; volunteers who help in our local councils and operate the community bus services, including JPs at libraries; the volunteers who work at the Tea Tree Gully Toy Library; and many church volunteers.

I would like to make particular mention now of Clovercrest Baptist Church, whose community pathways program have a number of very dedicated volunteers. Each week, they go out to Coles and Aldi and collect all the leftover food, bring it back to their centre and prepare it for hampers, which they take out to people in the community who are doing it a bit tough.

I would like to finish off by commending the member for Hurtle Vale on the motion and thanking all the volunteers I mentioned above and the ones I missed out at well. I would also like to make special mention of foster carers. It is important at times like this that we acknowledge the amazing work they do as well and also use the opportunity today to encourage everyone in this place to think of all the things we can do to encourage the next generation of volunteers to step up and to make sure that all the vital functions that we know are fulfilled by volunteers in our communities are continued into the future. I commend the motion to the house.

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (12:01):** I rise also to support the motion of the member for Hurtle Vale. I note that the motion firstly notes that we celebrate today International Volunteer Day. Importantly, it calls on us to acknowledge the valuable contribution that volunteers make, and I particularly highlight that aspect of social wellbeing in our communities. Further, it urges us, in this house, to call on all South Australians to thank and show their appreciation of all volunteers in our community.

I could think of no better way to do that than by way of one of the very best examples of that in my electorate of Heysen in the Adelaide Hills, bringing attention to the lifelong dedication to volunteer work of one of so many in my community. Before I do that, because I want to emphasise that opportunity to say thanks and to show appreciation, I make the observation—and I spent some time on this in my first speech in the house back in May—that volunteering takes place, particularly in the Hills, in such a diverse range of ways throughout the community. In some respects, volunteering takes the place of work that would otherwise need to be funded either commercially or by public funding. For that, we thank volunteers.

In other ways, it provides for the social fabric of the community and adds to the joy and quality of life that people experience throughout our communities. That is particularly the case in the Hills. From my point of view, I would say that while we acknowledge volunteering, volunteering is very much the new black in the Hills. It is something that we should all understand is not just worthy but something we all want to get on board with. So volunteer, everyone, and thank and appreciate volunteers because it is a wonderful part of what we regard as the building blocks of community.

In this short opportunity today, I want to single out someone who is in the background and who is literally and perhaps too much and too often referred to in the footnote to the main action, and that is Lois Allen. Lois has been a stalwart of the Hills communities in Stirling, Aldgate, Bradbury and surrounds for her entire life. She has in particular made contributions over many decades to, on the one hand, the Stirling op shop and, secondly, and in a very substantial way to our local Meals on Wheels service.

On the op shop side, Lois has been there since its inception. Together with those others who work at the op shop, she raises funds that help to support the cancer unit at the Stirling Hospital. It has also provided funding for the first community bus for elderly people through the community. Lois continues to volunteer at the Stirling op shop. It is a wonderful contribution in a wonderful context. Secondly, I wish to highlight Lois's contribution to Meals on Wheels. Lois has been a constant, really, of Meals on Wheels in Stirling, Aldgate and surrounding districts for a very long time indeed.

I understand that Lois commenced her involvement in delivering meals when her children were very young. After they went to school, she then started what she continues to do, cooking in the kitchen and preparing meals at the Meals on Wheels base at Aldgate. It is a wonderful thing. It is a diminutive, unassuming building. People gather quietly, they go about their work and they deliver large numbers of meals to people who would otherwise not have the social contact, not have the quality of fresh meals and would be much the poorer without it.

Let me say further that Lois does it with gusto and with personality, and she will stand up to those in power who might be inclined to dictate the sort of meals that ought to be delivered. She will stand up for making sure that they get the best, the freshest and the most diverse meals that they can possibly muster there. She makes an enormous difference. As manager these days of the kitchen, coordinating all these vital services, and now in her youthful mid-70s, she is still going strong as ever and has devoted a considerable part of her life to that contribution.

I cannot celebrate Lois without also recognising that this year has been a particularly tough one for her and the Allen family. Another great volunteer of our local community, Lois's husband, Ray, passed away on 30 August this year, aged 83. His funeral was attended to bursting point in early September this year on what was a delightful sunny day in the Hills and an occasion to recognise Ray.

Ray, too, had been a lifelong volunteer. Time does not permit me to catalogue the wonderful achievements of Ray over a lifetime. Suffice to say that his contribution at Bradbury and Scott Creek since the 1950s—indeed as a founder of the local CFS and the person who basically set up the first equipment for the brigade going back all of that way—was almost unparalleled. He was a life member, and I hope that there will be other occasions to detail more fully Ray's lifelong commitment.

I said that Lois was used to being a footnote. She literally has been. When the board of Meals on Wheels thanked those who have contributed, they went so far in a footnote to thank also those who served in a non-board capacity, including Lois Allen. Here you are, Lois: you are front and centre today and, as we celebrate volunteers, I focus very much on you. I commend the motion.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (12:11):** I will make a brief contribution to this debate and fully support the motion. I think it is a really good motion. I thank the member for Hurtle Vale for bringing it to our attention. I will not try to cover ground covered by other members, but something that never ceases to amaze me about volunteers is the scope of areas they cover. In other words, they come from all different walks of life and they are involved in all different walks of life.

I will not mention individual organisations, but I would just like to just mention the various areas of work they undertake in our communities. For example, service clubs have volunteers who do an enormous job in supporting our communities through fundraising and supporting projects. We have sporting organisations. The reality is that most weekend sport in our communities is run by volunteers. Were it not for volunteers, we would not have weekend sport in our communities. Volunteers help run our schools, whether it is by helping with reading, with maintenance on the grounds or with the school canteen or tuckshop, etc.

Our environment is protected by volunteers. A number of volunteers in our community do work in the environment. Our health sector, for example, has volunteers who visit people in our hospitals or who serve in a hospital canteen. Our churches probably would not be able to operate were it not for volunteers. I am talking about not just the people who sit on the boards, the governing councils or the parish councils, but also the people who help maintain buildings and the grounds of our churches and other places of worship and faith.

Our emergency services—for example, our Country Fire Service, our State Emergency Service and also our St John's people—are made up of volunteers. An area that has been mentioned—and I will mention this separately because it is an important category—is what I like to call community welfare. There are a number of organisations in the community welfare area that support our aged community, our veterans, our young people and women. For example, Meals on Wheels has been talked about by the member for Heysen.

Sometimes we see these people do their work and we do not appreciate the importance of that work. Particularly for Meals on Wheels, an area that is of growing concern in our communities is isolation amongst people who are by themselves or who are aged. Meals on Wheels provide not only

a meal but a very important social contact. Sadly, for some people the Meals on Wheels visitor every week or however often they visit is perhaps the only social contact they have with the outside world.

We also have animal welfare volunteers—as you can see, there is not one walk of life in our community that is not supported in some way by volunteers. To understand how important they are, imagine your community without any volunteers for a week. Imagine all the things that would not be done in your community if there were no volunteers for a week. I think most communities would not be able to operate.

In a previous life, when I was a mayor, we did a survey on how many volunteer groups we had in our town. At that time, there were about 330 different organisations in the Town of Gawler that provided some sort of volunteer service. That shows how important they are. The volunteering sector faces some challenges. For traditional ways of volunteering, particularly for service clubs and organisations, there are declining numbers of people who volunteer in that traditional sense by either going to regular meetings or being involved on a regular basis. That does not mean that people do not want to volunteer; what it means is that the groups have to modify the way they operate. They need to make use of the digital world to keep in touch.

I now work with a number of volunteer groups who are using Facebook pages as a way of communicating and keeping in touch with people and, if you like, doing the business of volunteering but online, and that works quite well. One thing I hear, which I think is a little bit unfair, is that young people do not want to volunteer, and I disagree with that. Young people are keen to volunteer. Young people do not want to volunteer in the traditional sense that some other groups have done in the past. They do not want to have to turn up to a dinner meeting every Monday, etc., but they will volunteer for causes that they are passionate about.

So the challenge for us older people is to make sure that we not only provide opportunities for those young people to volunteer but also support them. When there is a cause that is dear to their heart, they do come out, voice their opinion and work. I have never found it difficult to find people to do volunteer work. As I said, our communities would be so much poorer without volunteers. With those few comments, I support the motion and thank our volunteers on this International Day of Volunteers.

**Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (12:17):** With great thanks to the members for Narungga, Wright, Light and Heysen, I again thank all volunteers for everything they do in our community. There is a hashtag today for International Volunteer Day, which is #ivd2018. I encourage all members who participate in the practice of Twitter to thank volunteers and to use the hashtag. I thank everybody in parliament for supporting the great work of volunteers and commend the motion.

Motion carried.

### **ST JOHN AMBULANCE ANNIVERSARY**

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (12:18):** I move:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment in Australia of St John Ambulance;
- (b) acknowledges the significant contribution that St John Ambulance has made and continues to make in support of the health and safety of every South Australian through the delivery of life-saving first aid services;
- (c) acknowledges the invaluable contribution of St John Ambulance's highly skilled and qualified volunteers who dedicate their time to delivering emergency first aid and community care services;
- (d) acknowledges the important role St John Ambulance plays in strengthening emergency preparedness, response and recovery across the state, including through its ongoing support of the State Emergency Management Plan; and
- (e) acknowledges the crucial first aid training St John Ambulance delivers, including through its First Aid in Schools program.

This year marks 135 years since the commencement of St John Ambulance in Australia. I am honoured to be able to move and recognise this motion on behalf of this side of the house and to acknowledge the important contribution of St John Ambulance Australia.

St John is a self-funding not-for-profit organisation supporting the health and wellbeing of people all around Australia. It is Australia's leading provider of first aid services, training and equipment, and with 135 years of experience it is well known and trusted. It is probably one of the most recognised volunteer organisations in Australia. I want to acknowledge each and every person who makes up the St John family, as they provide vital care and a wonderful service to so many within the community and dedicate their time to delivering emergency first aid and community care services.

In particular, I want to acknowledge the Chief Executive Officer of St John SA, Mr Michael Cornish, and Chair of the Board of St John Ambulance Australia SA, Ms Karen Limb, who are both in the gallery today. I want to mention His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, who is the Deputy Prior of St John Ambulance Australia SA and Knight of the Order of St John, even though His Excellency cannot be with us here today. These individuals represent St John Ambulance in our state, and they know the importance of the organisation to our community.

In 2017-18, St John SA attended more than 2,300 public events, treated more than 18,000 patients and contributed nearly 80,000 hours of service to first aid events. Today, as we celebrate International Volunteer Day, it is really important to acknowledge those 80,000 hours of service to first aid events. We cannot actually quantify the dollar value of that importance. These volunteers can often be seen at local events around the state, ready to support anyone who requires assistance. The Mitcham division of St John Ambulance was at the City of Mitcham carols at Kingswood Oval last Sunday, and they were doing fantastic work in my community.

The volunteers can be called upon under trying circumstances, but continue to do their job with integrity, respect, dedication and compassion. We all attend many events in our local electorates and throughout the community, and I am sure many of my colleagues have seen the important work of St John volunteers. I have no doubt that, with a really big event starting in the tomorrow (the Test match) the patience of many St John volunteers will be on show over the next couple of days. St John's contribution is immeasurable. The organisation has truly made an incredible contribution to the wellbeing of many South Australians.

While you might see St John volunteers at local community events, they also teach first aid—something I encourage everyone to learn—and provide first-aid kits. They provide community care services for elderly people and have a focus on young people with their national youth development program. Their services are not limited to Australia; they are also across the world. The organisation also funds and supports ophthalmic services at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital and in East Timor. The international head of St John is of course Her Majesty The Queen, as our Sovereign.

Young people are a really important part of St John Ambulance. St John have a fantastic cadet program, which allows youths to learn important life-saving first aid skills, along with essential life skills including teamwork, communication and organisation. Being part of such a worthwhile program allows young people to build their confidence and self worth. Skills are developed through different programs and, as young people grow, they can begin hands-on practice in first aid.

I know so many young people who joined St John as cadets and have gone on to pursue careers in nursing—as I know the member for Hurtle Vale has done—and medicine, and as paramedics and ambulance officers. The St John cadets program and its involvement with young people is very important. I know St John volunteers are always present at schoolies and they play a very important role. I have two St John Ambulance divisions in my community: Blackwood and Mitcham-Colonel Light Gardens. This Friday night at the Blackwood Christmas Pageant the Blackwood division will be providing fantastic community support, as well as marching in the pageant with their float.

On Monday night, I had the privilege to attend the Mitcham-Colonel Light Gardens cadet division award evening at Mitcham Reserve. It was fantastic to see many cadets learning the lifelong skills of first aid, teamwork and leadership. I congratulate all the award winners who received their awards and badges. It reminded me of my time in St John cadets. Believe it or not, for many years, I was a member of the Unley cadet division.

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**Mr DULUK:** I was in uniform, member for Light. I made this remark on Monday night when I was talking to the cadet leaders and those involved in the corporal and sergeant courses of St John.

The skills that are being imparted to young people today are certainly the skills that were imparted to me, and I thoroughly enjoyed doing the leadership course with St John Ambulance. I have no doubt that organisation and my experience there played some small role in helping me get here today, member for Light. I hope that I never have to put my first aid skills to saving your life, member for Light, because I do not know how it would go. For me, in some small way, I know that organisation exposed me to a lot of skills, teamwork and leadership that are so important.

Another important part that St John plays in my community is in the ANZAC Youth Vigil. Together with the Scouts, CFS and Girl Guides, my local St John cadets participate, not only from the first aid point of view but also in the civic volunteer life of our communities, which is important. By volunteering with St John, you can make a positive impact in your community. You can learn new skills, build strong relationships and work with emergency services to make a real contribution. When you volunteer with St John, you are part of a welcoming team that has the potential to change many lives. Every call-out is a new experience and potentially you can play a role in saving somebody's life. It is a very important organisation with a very proud history, not just in Adelaide but across the state.

One of the other programs the organisation looks after is its community care program with a special focus on supporting the elderly in our community. The program enables the elderly to live healthy, more fulfilling lives by participating in a range of activities. Volunteers assist older people in many ways in helping them to get to appointments and outings.

Of course, there is the First Aid in Schools program which is vitally important. St John SA launched its First Aid in Schools program as recently as 2013, and over 50,000 primary school children have been trained in crucial life-saving skills. A qualified St John trainer comes to a school to deliver a first aid course tailored for young kids. St John Ambulance Australia believes that every child in Australia should have access to vital first aid knowledge which is important.

Of course, there is the broader role that the organisation plays as part of the State Emergency Management Plan. The organisation and its volunteers are there during emergencies such as bushfires, storms and floods. As part of the State Emergency Management Plan, St John SA is integral to the functional service group, being ambulance and first aid. They are volunteers, and not just St John volunteers but all volunteers are ready to respond and work alongside emergency services during extreme events.

In closing, I thank St John Ambulance for the role it has played in South Australia for over 135 years, and over that time its role has changed. Many years ago St John members worked alongside the ambulance service, going out to day-to-day incidents on the road. In country areas, many ambulance stations are still manned by volunteers. Being that first point of call in first aid is important. Its proud history stretches to theatres of war, as it has provided stretcher services and the like.

Today, the modern St John is a first-class institution that provides a vital service for the South Australian community, one that goes along in its daily work providing its services. We call upon their services when we need them for a public event. They complement so much that we do in society, especially in the public sphere. At every Royal Show there are always plenty of St John cadets and adults volunteering their time. As a former member, I would like to thank them for their service and congratulate them on celebrating 135 years of service.

**Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (12:30):** I would like to rise today to commend the motion of the member for Waite. St John Ambulance is in its 135<sup>th</sup> year. It must have been from some pre-life experience that I remember the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As a young person, I joined St John Ambulance cadets and made so many friends. I made lifetime friends from that experience. That also exposed me to some really fantastic leaders, some of whom I would like to thank for the leadership they showed me and the guidance they gave me through my teenage years.

As a member of parliament, I have knocked on doors and reconnected with some of them in recent years. One is Sheila Hayes, who was the most loving and caring woman to all of us at the Noarlunga cadet unit. Sheila used to tell us wonderful stories about her growing up. I understand that when she was younger she was very close to Roger Moore, and we were all very jealous.

Katie Wye also took us under her wing and helped us develop skills for caring and nursing. A number of us, who went through St John cadets together, became nurses, and another became an anaesthetist. We were led down that path by Katie Wye, a wonderful leader. Jenny and Peter Croft live very close to my house, and I have reconnected with them. They are a wonderful couple who have shown enduring leadership for many decades in St John Ambulance. In fact, Jenny's grandson has also been an employee of the member for Kaurana. They continue to be very active in the community, particularly in our local church.

I would also like to thank Lyn and Keith Dansie, who were involved in St John's in the late fifties and early sixties, and their children. They were involved in St John cadets when I was younger, and we spent many hours together developing our skills as cadets. I think that tells a story about what St John's can do for younger people and still does. I have been involved in judging competitions and such in recent times, and the feeling is the same, particularly with the casualty simulation competitions and first-aid. Recently, I got wrapped up really awkwardly in bandages and had a great time.

Some of the highlights that I remember very fondly include the 100<sup>th</sup> year at the Angaston camp, an annual jaunt to Angaston on the train. I understand it does not happen anymore, but it was great fun and we did lots of things. During the 100<sup>th</sup> celebration, I was either Miss Angaston or I won the best hat. I got them at some point, but I cannot remember which one. Great fun was had and lots of long-term friendships were made. We continue to be friends now in our professional lives.

So thank you for that leadership of young people but, broadly, thank you for the hard work that has happened in the evolution of the paramedic, going from the full volunteer brigade right through to now when, I believe, only a few days ago paramedics became part of a national registration process under AHPRA enabling paramedics to register, travel across borders and have their qualifications recognised. Having worked in the retrieval health service, I can attest to the incredible knowledge and skill of the now professional paramedics, many of whom started their lives as cadets in St John.

The comfort that rural brigades and their volunteers give when coming into an accident scene as a retrieval flight worker through MedSTAR or, in past times, the intensive care unit, is second to none. You know that there is a very well-educated, caring and dynamic team of volunteers down there doing their very best, usually for someone they know, be it on a farm or on a rural road. Thank you for the work that St John has done for 135 years. Like I said, I remember a century of St John from my pre-birth experience! Thank you very much for everything you do now and I look forward to continuing to work in this house to support St John.

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (12:36):** I rise with great pleasure to support this motion to recognise the work of St John Ambulance on the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment in Australia. St John Ambulance is a globally respected organisation that has been involved in every natural disaster in Australia over the last 135 years. Whilst their presence is a stand-out at our local events in the Narungga electorate, regularly assisting at events such as Kernewek Lowender, Cavalcade of Cars and YP field days, as well as being at a number of sporting events and concerts—in fact, anywhere a large crowd gathers—the largest recent assembly of St John personnel was their invaluable assistance during the 2015 Pinery fire.

This was the largest disaster that has faced the people of the Narungga electorate in recent years. It claimed two lives; hospitalised 16 people, five with critical injuries; burnt 82,600 hectares; destroyed 97 homes and damaged a further 49; destroyed 546 sheds and outbuildings, and 483 vehicles; 18,000 sheep were confirmed lost; 600 other stock lost; 54,000 poultry lost; and \$30 million of crop, hay and straw were burned. To give an idea of the scale of the event, the fire started at Pinery, 70 kilometres north of Adelaide, and rapidly spread to Mallala, Wasleys, Roseworthy, Freeling, Tarlee, Hamley Bridge, Daveyston, Greenock and Kapunda.

Appliances came quickly and then incident management teams. The state emergency centre was activated, command centres were set up, strike teams and first aid posts were activated and, due to the support of and involvement in the State Emergency Management Plan, in came St John Ambulance personnel. There were 88 volunteers on duty, who donated 775 hours of assistance, including 28 clinical treatments and 122 non-clinical presentations.

Apart from helping on the ground, they launched an appeal in partnership with Bendigo Bank, which ultimately raised \$85,000 for the fire-affected community. The funds were used in partnership with St John Ambulance toward the following projects: to affix fire awareness signage on major arterial roads in the region; to provide six defibrillator units for CFS groups in the region; two St John first aid training sessions, which included mental health first aid training; events in the region, including two women's resilience events; and a number of other things.

The St John Ambulance motto is: For the Service of Mankind, and the charity organisation dedicated to helping people in sickness, distress, suffering or danger has certainly lived up to its motto throughout its 135 years in this country. There are 32 divisions of St John Ambulance in South Australia, including two in the Narungga electorate at Balaklava and Mallala. In addition to the many hundreds of South Australia's major and local community events attended by St John Ambulance personnel every year, a landmark project was commenced in December 2017 that is deserving of special mention.

The Every Heartbeat Matters campaign this past year saw the first 104 of over 300 publicly accessible automated external defibrillators deployed across regional South Australia by 30 June 2018. This project is set to continue over the next two years, aligned with the St John Ambulance mission to build more resilient communities. I am pleased to advise that defibrillators have already been rolled out on Yorke Peninsula as well as across the Hills, the Barossa, the South-East and South Coast, and Kangaroo Island.

With statistics showing that only one in 10 people survives a cardiac arrest outside of hospital, the Every Heartbeat Matters campaign aims to markedly improve the outcomes of cardiac arrest. This is particularly important in regional areas, where access to emergency medical attention can be limited by the tyranny of distance.

Aside from its volunteer hours at events and disaster incidents, St John Ambulance is renowned nationwide for its excellent delivery of valuable first aid training. Its provision of first-aid kits and merchandise is well appreciated by a number of different community groups, and its youth engagement programs resonate strongly with those who attend, leaving a lasting impression on the importance of first aid and safety.

In the last financial year this charitable, non-profit organisation attended 2,324 events and emergencies, treated 18,931 patients, attended 533 community care clients and trained 8,197 schoolchildren in first aid. This is a tremendous effort. Its education and public training programs cater not just for children; they also offer adult instruction certification courses in workplace first aid, advanced resuscitation, advanced first aid, automated external defibrillation, remote first aid and occupational first aid. Indeed, they issued almost 49,000 public training certificates in 2017-18. The same year they sold over \$2 million worth of first-aid kits and equipment for SA homes, workplaces and cars.

This important motion provides a good opportunity to thank the 677 St John event health service volunteers in this state, along with the 507 cadets and juniors, the 462 community care volunteers, the 112 staff, and the 30 historical society volunteers for the work they do and the difference they make to the lives of South Australians. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteer ambulance operators in the electorate of Narungga. There are a number up and down the leg who do an outstanding job in what is, I imagine, an often intimidating task in testing and trying circumstances. I cannot thank those volunteers enough.

I know it is difficult at times to attract new volunteers, and I would also like to extend a thankyou to those people who work tirelessly to recruit new volunteers to the cause. It must be a difficult balance to provide training thorough enough to ensure cadets or new volunteers are capable when they arrive at an emergency but that is also not too onerous that it deters potential recruits from joining the service.

I congratulate all those who volunteer across Yorke Peninsula and provide an ambulance service where there is a need. I would also like to commend all who commit to the extensive training necessary to be involved in St John Ambulance, who give up treasured time away from home, workplace and family to assist people in need at the height of disasters such as the Pinery fire, and

for the event health services and community care programs they deliver. This state would be a poorer place without you. I commend the motion to the house.

**Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (12:43):** It is a pleasure to rise to support the motion moved by the member for Davenport in relation to St John Ambulance and the role it plays—

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**Mr PICTON:** Sorry; Waite now. He keeps changing. I thought it was Fisher at some stage.

**Mr Pederick:** He's held more seats than most.

**Mr PICTON:** That's right, more seats. Maybe one day more parties—

**Mr Pederick:** Anything government, it's great.

**Mr PICTON:** Excellent. Well, I congratulate the member for Waite on moving this motion and thank him for bringing to our attention the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St John Ambulance Australia, particularly its role in South Australia. It has had a very rich history in terms of providing health care, particularly emergency health care, to the people of South Australia and, as the shadow health minister, I am certainly able to add the opposition's support for this motion.

Established in 1883, St John Ambulance is the leading supplier of first aid services and training in Australia. I think we would all be familiar, from our own electorates, with the work that St John volunteers do in our communities. It is a great opportunity for young people to get training and experience and leadership development as part of a St John first aid program. In fact, I understand that some 4,000 people are part of the national youth development program in St John. There are 16,000 St John volunteers who deliver 1.2 million hours of service, treating 100,000 people every year. This is, of course, at various public events, where we will always see St John volunteers helping out, but also, as has been mentioned, in terms of national disaster relief efforts, which is very important as well.

Since I took the shadow health portfolio, I have been lucky enough to attend a number of St John events, having previously exclusively attended those in my own electorate where I am most familiar with the Noarlunga unit of St John who play an excellent role in the southern suburbs. However, I have also now been to a number of statewide events. In June, I attended the St John Ambulance annual Investiture Ceremony at Government House and, on 20 October, I also attended the St John annual awards day ceremony on the grounds of Government House.

Both opportunities were excellent in the sense that we were able to honour those people who have dedicated so much of their lives to helping the community through St John, some of whom had done so for many, many decades. There are a number of very significant traditions associated with St John that I was not aware of until this year, including that they wear quite impressive cloaks at the ceremonies, including the Governor, who has his role.

**Mr Duluk:** You should join so you can get one.

**Mr PICTON:** That is right. I think you not only have to join, member for Waite, but you have to have dedicated a lot of your life to get one of these. It is a very high level once you get to the Order of St John to wear one. At the awards day ceremony in October, I was sitting in the front row, as you tend to do as an MP at these things, and looking around and thinking that the government had not sent anybody to be part of this. There was no government representative, which I note has happened at a fair few things I have been to since the election. However, at this event, I was surprised to see, coming out in the official party, the Hon. Andrew McLachlan in his St John cloak, given that he was a former CEO of the organisation. He was there in an official capacity and no doubt representing the government as well. It was good to see that he popped in to watch a bit of this debate in the chamber today. I am sure he is still a big supporter of St John.

It is a very important role that they have. Of course, St John used to provide all the ambulance services in South Australia and, gradually, over time that has transitioned to be a government role through the SA Ambulance Service. A great number of people got their start working in our health services through St John. I know that a number of people in our ambulance service used to have roles in St John, and it is still providing that training today.



Through all the stories that we heard at the annual awards day, we know how vital these services can be in saving a life. A number of awards were given for people who had saved lives through either their St John training or the skills that they had learnt through attending a St John course. This included people who had had heart attacks at events and people who had passed out and were saved through CPR provided by St John.

St John also now provides a great service in trying to extend the reach of defibrillators. We know that defibrillators can save lives. We know that it is important to make sure there are more of them in community centres, in shopping centres, at sporting clubs and in schools, all locations where people assemble and where there is the potential that somebody might have a heart attack and might need a defibrillator to save their life. I thank St John for that work as well.

I look forward to continuing involvement on behalf of the opposition in Health in supporting St John. I thank Michael Cornish, the CEO of St John—who I note did not get a cloak at any of these things, but I hope one day that will be available to him—for being here in the chamber today. He has taken on the CEO role with relish since he has taken on that responsibility, supporting the work that volunteers do. I particularly thank all the people who put up their hands to be volunteers, going out and helping the community by making sure that they have great training and are available to save our lives. Thank you very much to all of them.

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (12:49):** I thank the member for Kaurana and the member for Narungga for their contributions and the member for Hurtle Vale, who reminded me that I was a Mr Angaston in my day as well. I put on the record my thanks to Mrs Raelene Denham, Margaret and Bob Nunn and Gloria Curtis, who were very much involved in my time at St John. I will finish with the wonderful Cadet Code of Chivalry, which I was reminded of when I went to the division on Monday night:

I promise,

To serve my God,

To be loyal to the Sovereign and to my Officers,

To observe the mottoes of the Order, which are:

Pro Fide—for the faith; and

Pro Utilitate Hominum—for the service of mankind,

To be thorough in work and play,

To be truthful and just in all things,

To be cheerful and prompt in all I do,

To help the suffering and the needy,

To be kind to all animals.

With that, I commend the motion to the house.

Motion carried.

#### ITALIAN COMMUNITY

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (12:51):** I move:

That this house—

- (a) notes that the Italian people across the world celebrate their national holiday on 2 June each year to mark the passing of the referendum that created the modern republic, which came into effect on 1 January 1948;
- (b) acknowledges the important contribution that migrants from Italy have made to the economic, social and cultural development of the state of South Australia; and
- (c) thanks all those volunteers who work tirelessly in not-for-profit organisations across the state to support the community and, in particular, those with an Italian cultural heritage.

I would like to speak briefly to this motion. It is probably the last motion we will deal with this year in terms of private members' business.

**Mr Picton:** We will be here next week, hopefully.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** We are not here next week. The leader has already told us that.

**Mr Picton:** Doesn't the government have anything to do?

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** Mr Deputy Speaker, I think I need your protection from my side as well.

**Mr Pederick:** I thought you spoke as one.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** We do.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Time is running short, member for Light. Continue.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** In moving this motion, I would like to bring to the house's attention that this is a very important year in the history of the Italian people: it is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the modern Italian Republic and the modern constitution of Italy. The modern constitution was passed by the Constituent Assembly of the Italian parliament on 22 December 1947, with 453 voting in favour of the constitution and 62 voting against it. It came out of a dark time in history not only in Italy but also across Europe. From the ashes of fascism came the modern Italian Republic.

The modern constitution came into effect on 1 January 1948, so this year there have been a number of celebrations, across both Italy and places where Italian people have migrated and now live, to celebrate the modern Italian Republic. We have to remember that the Italian economy is the sixth biggest in the Western world. It plays an important role not only in Europe but across the world. In a moment, I will touch upon the influence of Italy in this country. The Constituent Assembly was elected at a ballot held on 2 June 1946 under universal suffrage. All citizens above the age of 18 were entitled to vote at that ballot to elect the Constituent Assembly, which would then form the constitution.

Importantly, on that same day, a referendum was held to abolish the monarchy. The monarchy at that time were sent packing in part because they had failed to protect the Italian people from the rise of fascism. The monarchy, like a lot of European monarchies to that date, were more concerned about their self-importance and role rather than the welfare of the people of their nation. As a result of the referendum and the ballot that elected the Constituent Assembly, Italy now declares 2 June as its national day. There are celebrations not only in Italy but right across the world where Italian people live.

In South Australia, there are 100,000 people who were either born in Italy, like me, or who have Italian ancestry, so we are an important part of this community. There have been waves of migration to this country and into this state, obviously after major events like the First World War and the Second World War. Probably the biggest influx of migrants to Australia, particularly South Australia, came after the Second World War when Australia was very keen on getting migrants into this country to help build the nation, and the Italian people arrived.

However, it is interesting to note that in the early days, when Australia had the White Australia policy, they let northern Italians come first. Northern Italians had lighter skin than southern Italians, were a bit taller and were probably more blue-eyed; therefore, they were deemed to be more acceptable than southern Italians. We had different waves of migration because the northern Italians were invited to come to this country in between the first and second world wars, while the second wave, post World War II, was mainly people from southern Italy, from the Campania and Calabria regions. These are probably the two major communities, and I belong to the community from the Campania region.

As a quick aside, I would like to note the way in which people often end up in Australia or other countries. Our family migrated to Australia in March 1963; we came 10 years after my uncle and aunty had migrated. My uncle was actually a POW in Australia, and he worked on the farms at Gumeracha. He was sent down to Loveday once Italy surrendered and then sent back to Italy after the end of the war. The farm where he worked sponsored him and his family to come and live in Australia. As a result of my uncle's family coming to Australia, my family, including me, came to Australia 10 years later. My parents certainly never regretted the decision to migrate to Australia.

I think the Italian community, like all migrants, have made an enormous contribution to the development of this nation, not only economically but also socially and culturally. The great nation we are today is a result of all those migrants coming to this nation. When you think about it, we are a migrant nation. Apart from the Australian Aboriginal people, we are a migrant nation.

In terms of constitution, there is often ill thought-out comment made about the Italian constitution and how often they have regular changes of government in Italy. However, we also have them now, federally. In our federal parliament, we have had quite a few changes in government too, even in between elections. The Constituent Assembly, which was made up of liberals, Christian democrats and people on the left of politics, were determined to have a constitution that was anti-authoritarian.

They had come from the ashes of the fascist period in Italy, and they were determined to make sure that no individual or group in Italian society would again obtain the sort of power to literally bring a nation to its knees. So the Italian constitution has some very distinct rights and liberties, but it also has responsibilities. It makes it very clear that there are certain inalienable rights of individuals, and it talks about the responsibilities individuals have to the wellbeing of the nation and to protect the constitution.

Speaking to the second part of the motion, the Italian people in this state have made an enormous contribution to a whole range of industry areas, including building and construction, the food industry, hospitality, medicine and law. There are very few areas of society today that people with an Italian background are not involved in, including farming and agriculture, particularly around the Riverland areas, Mount Gambier and Virginia. They have also made an enormous contribution to fishing in Port Pirie.

There have been a couple of blights on the history of Italian people in this country. Once, Italians were interned during World War II—quite unfairly, I think, but we have integrated well. Sometimes we have some commentary about the latest wave of migrants from other countries, and my message is that the same commentary we hear today is one we also heard 30, 40 and 50 years ago. That commentary was wrong then and it is wrong today. The new migrants to this country will, over time, integrate well into our society and enrich our nation.

In closing, the only comment I would like to make is that Australia and Italy enjoy a very good relationship, although a recent blip occurred when the Australian federal government decided to award the submarine contract to the French, rather than the Italians. Now we are starting to hear stories that perhaps that decision was not the right one. With those comments, I support the motion.

Debate adjourned on motion of Ms Luethen.

*Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.*

#### *Petitions*

### **TORRENS TO TORRENS PROJECT**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition):** Presented a petition signed by 720 residents of South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to complete landscaping associated with the Torrens to Torrens project according to advice provided to residents for 50,000 plantings, including 800 street trees and installation of brick street furniture across the project area; for the planting of trees along South Road; to re-establish the Community Liaison Group to operate until resident concerns are addressed and landscaping works are completed; and for the retention of a parcel of land located on the corner of Hurtle Street and South Road, Croydon, excess to requirement for the Torrens to Torrens project, for community use and incorporated into existing public open space.

### **SERVICE SA MODBURY**

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey):** Presented a petition signed by 100 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.

**MALLALA POLICE STATION**

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga):** Presented a petition signed by 154 residents of South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to maintain the current level of police presence and resources in Mallala, including a manned police station.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

**ANSWERS TABLED**

**The SPEAKER:** I direct that the written answer to a question be distributed and printed in *Hansard*.

**PAPERS**

The following paper was laid on the table:

By the Speaker—

Local Government Annual Reports—Port Adelaide Enfield, City of Annual Report 2017-18.

*Ministerial Statement*

**COOBER PEDY DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:04):** I seek leave to make a ministerial statement. Leave granted.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** On 4 December 2018, the Auditor-General tabled his report on his examination of the District Council of Coober Pedy under the Public Finance Audit Act 1987 as requested by the former treasurer on 1 May 2017. This report raises serious issues, and I will therefore give it careful consideration. The report from the Auditor-General is in addition to a report published by the Ombudsman on 30 July 2018, which also raised serious issues about the council.

Under the Local Government Act 1999, I may take action on the basis of a report of the Ombudsman, or a report of the Auditor-General, or information provided by the Independent Commissioner against Corruption. On 2 October 2018, I received a submission from the council on the Ombudsman's report. This was provided in response to a letter that I sent to council that, as a result of the Ombudsman's report, I was considering taking action under section 273 of the Local Government Act 1999 to recommend to the Governor that the council be declared defaulting and an administrator be appointed.

As local government elections were already underway, I advised the council that following the elections I would provide the council with an opportunity to make a further submission to me before I decided on the most appropriate action to take. The council should provide any further submissions to me by 13 December. 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 Auditor-General's Report indicates other irregularities in the council's financial governance than those identified by the Ombudsman. However, if I consider that the findings of the Ombudsman's report and the submissions from the council in relation to this report indicate serious irregularities in the conduct of the affairs of the council, then I may proceed to take action solely on the basis of the Ombudsman's report. In this circumstance, however, I expect that all matters raised by the Auditor-General in his report will be properly dealt with.

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Light is called to order.

*Mr Pederick interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** If the member for Hammond continues to interject so spiritedly, I will chuck him out as well.

*Parliamentary Committees***PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION**

**Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:06):** I bring up the first report of the committee, entitled Annual Report 2017-18.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:07):** I bring up the 12<sup>th</sup> report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

*Question Time***TRAIN SERVICES**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:07):** My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier provide free public transport to compensate for the cancellation of all train services this weekend—the Adelaide Test match weekend—and a busy retail weekend?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:08):** No.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**TRAIN SERVICES**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:08):** My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier aware that free substitute bus services have been provided in the past to compensate public transport users for the disruption?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:08):** My understanding is that people who have purchased tickets to go to the cricket will be able to use the public transport at no cost.

*Mr Boyer interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Wright is called to order. The Leader of the Opposition has the call.

**TRAIN SERVICES**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:08):** Thanks, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier agree with his deputy leader that asking commuters to pay for public transport during disruption adds, and I quote, 'insult to jury'?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:08):** I have already made the government's position on this very clear, and I refer the honourable member to my previous answer.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the member for Newland, the member for Badcoe is warned, the member for Wright is also warned—

*Mr Picton interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** —and I think the member for Kaurna is called to order. The member for Newland has the called.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Dr HARVEY:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I will come back to the leader.

### SPACE FORUM

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:09):** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier update the house—

*The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Primary Industries is called to order. Sorry, could you start again?

**Dr HARVEY:** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier update the house about the South Australia Space Forum and the opportunities in the space industry?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:09):** I thank the member for Newland for his question on the future of the space industry in South Australia. Today was a very important day for our state. I was very fortunate to be invited along to open the 6<sup>th</sup> South Australian Space Forum. I was joined by the member for Morphett, who has a very longstanding interest in this area and has been ably assisting me in the very important work that we have had to do to put in a compelling and competitive bid for the Australian Space Agency.

As I said, this was an important day for South Australia. There were plenty of very important people who were at that event, including Anthony Murfett, who is the Deputy Head of the Australian Space Agency; Michael Davis, who is the Chairman of the Space Industry Association of Australia; Caroline McMillen, who is the Chief Scientist for South Australia; Jim Whalley, who is the Chief Entrepreneur for South Australia; and, importantly, Mr Nicola Sasanelli, who is the Director of the South Australian Space Industry Centre and somebody who has been doing a huge amount of work advocating on behalf of this very important sector for our state.

I was overwhelmed by the number of registrations this year. Over 480 people registered for this event and I think this clearly demonstrates how much interest is building in the opportunity for this state and this nation around a space agency. Most people in this place would remember that last year the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) was held in South Australia, with every single agency from around the world coming here to South Australia. This was an audacious bid put in by Michael Davis and supported by the state government. I think it was an excellent opportunity to showcase the real interest we have here in South Australia in the future of this industry.

Importantly, at that event, the Hon. Simon Birmingham, federal cabinet minister, came to South Australia to announce that the federal government would be establishing a national space agency. That was followed up in the budget that was handed down by the Coalition earlier this year with \$41 million put into—

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —the budget. Dr Megan Clark, the former head of the CSIRO, was appointed as the inaugural head of the Space Agency. That was opened on 1 July and we have not wasted a single solitary second in advocating for a significant node to come to South Australia. I know that I am competing with all my colleagues around Australia. I would like the headquarters to come here. This will not be an easy task, but I think that we have the best offer because we have a great history in South Australia in terms of the Space Agency. We have great capability in terms of the Space Agency but, more than that, I think the government has a great ambition to bring jobs and investment and know-how to South Australia around this incredible opportunity.

I think one of the other benefits of bringing the Space Agency to South Australia, or a significant node, is the inspiration that it will provide for students in South Australia around STEM subjects going forward. In fact, I can't think of anything that would be more inspiring for kids at school to get involved studying their STEM subjects than having the National Space Agency based here in South Australia.

One of the themes that the federal government always talk about is that link with industry. I think we have excellent links with industry, and if they are going to have an industry-led space agency, then it needs to come to South Australia. Evidence of that is the very compelling bid that we put in for a cooperative research centre, which is going to be called the SmartSat CRC, to come to South Australia. That bid, which will be finalised on 7 February next year, is now up around \$200 million. A big chunk of that is cash from the industry because industry are getting behind the incredible opportunity that space provides for our state.

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the Leader of the Opposition, I call to order the member for Playford and the member for Lee.

#### TRAIN SERVICES

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:13):** My question is to the Premier. If the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure can overturn a decision to close some sections of the Southern Expressway, will the Premier act and instruct his minister to overturn the decision to close the train network on the Adelaide Test match weekend?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13):** No.

#### HOSPITAL SERVICES

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:13):** My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier rule out using corporate liquidators to run any other parts of our hospital system here in South Australia?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:14):** We will take every step necessary to clean up the mess that we were left by those opposite.

#### CENTRAL ADELAIDE LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK

**Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (14:14):** My question is to the Premier. Will the two KordaMentha partners, Mr Chris Martin and Mr Mark Mentha, be appointed as Public Service executives for the Central Adelaide Local Health Network during the term of their contract? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr PICTON:** In a briefing with me and the shadow treasurer on 27 November, the Chief Executive of SA Health, Dr Chris McGowan, said that he was to appoint Mr Chris Marden and Mr Mark Mentha as executives within the Central Adelaide Local Health Network.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:14):** I thank the member for his question. I don't have the details at hand. I am more than happy to follow that up with the chief executive and come back with an answer to the house.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DISCLOSURE SCHEME

**Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:14):** My question is to the Attorney-General. Can the minister update the house about the statewide trial of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme introduced by the government in October?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:15):** I thank the member for King for this important question, and for her continued diligent work in this space, because we certainly are very proud of the reforms that we announced prior to the election and our commitment to deal with and provide a comprehensive suite of actual actions to deal with the scourge of domestic violence. We were over listening to announcements, reports, pamphlets, ideas and recommendations with not very much done. So I am very proud to say that having announced, as soon as the formation of this government, that \$11.9 million over the next four years was identified for the establishment of the 40 new emergency crisis beds, the interest-free loans to be available to non-government organisations to fund—

*Ms Hildyard interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Reynell is called to order.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —new domestic violence housing, extending the Women's Safety Services Domestic Violence Crisis Line to the 24-hour service, the development of a personal protection app and, of course, peak body funding for the Coalition of Women's Domestic Violence Services. As an update generally on these commitments, the Hon. Michelle Lensink—

*Ms Hildyard interjecting:*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I can hear something yapping over there, but I would—

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Reynell continues to interject and she is warned. The Deputy Premier has the call.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —certainly hope that members would be keen to find—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —that there have been significant advances in these areas and I hope would be proud to report it to their constituencies. The government had already provided funding through our initiatives for the coalition of women's domestic and Aboriginal family violence, which is \$624,000 over four years; we are working through the identification of locations for the new crisis accommodation; the interest-free loans; and also the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, which started in early October.

On the whole, the government is and should be very proud of this range of initiatives and, with the support of the Office for Women, continues to roll them out in close consultation with the sector and people with lived experience. As members can see, we are acting to deal with the scourge of domestic violence. The last two months alone have been devastating for women in particular, with multiple deaths occurring at the hands of male partners across Australia. Any reform that provides a possible preventative measure for domestic violence should be progressed.

One of those key reforms, as we have discussed in this house before, is the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme. As members would know, this is based on the Clare's Law model, operating in the United Kingdom. Let's consider the update of that. Importantly, a link was formed between the applicant and the domestic violence service. This is the key part of the scheme, particularly in connecting those who are a bit unsure about their relationship or the behaviour of a partner and who need some assistance or guidance.

On the data, at the end of November, the DV Disclosure Scheme received 51 applications in total. Of those, 45 applications have been assessed and completed. Of those 45 applications assessed, 25 have met the criteria for disclosure. This number is important as it shows that we have a situation in South Australia where at-risk people are needing support from other services and potentially have not been in contact with an appropriate service in the past. Beyond this number, 21 have not met the criteria for disclosure, but Women's Safety Services SA are making contact with this cohort regardless, to ensure the appropriate service for their situation is provided.

As is crucial with the scheme, if an application is received and is deemed higher risk, the police action these applications within 48 hours and begin action swiftly. Since the scheme rollout on 2 October, five applicants have been assessed from their application as being at imminent risk. The final key figure I would like to share with the parliament is the number of regional applicants. As members would be aware, this government made the conscious decision to make this a statewide trial. They might like to hear this.

**The SPEAKER:** The Deputy Premier's time has expired.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Since the rollout—

**The SPEAKER:** Time has expired, Deputy Premier.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order better be a good one, minister.



**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Yes. Early on in the minister's reply, she was interjected upon. The capacity is there for the Speaker to provide further time—

**The SPEAKER:** Has the Deputy Premier finished her answer?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** No, Mr Speaker, I haven't. If I may, I would hope that members opposite would be very clear—

**The SPEAKER:** With all respect to the Deputy Premier, you did have ample time to answer that.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Thank you. We will deal with it in a supplementary.

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you. Member for Kaurna.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:20):** My question is to the Premier. Will the two KordaMentha liquidators, Mr Chris Martin and Mr Mark Mentha, be subject to all the requirements of the Public Service, including legislation, Treasurer's Instructions, minister's instructions and Public Service commissioner policies and procedures?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:20):** As per my previous answer, I'm more than happy to follow this up and come back to the house.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:20):** My question is to the Premier. Will the two KordaMentha liquidators, Mr Chris Martin and Mr Mark Mentha, have the power to direct any public servant? Surely that is something you would know, since you are responsible for the Public Sector Act.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir: standing order 97 does—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left! Standing order 97, yes, for?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Several standing orders. These interjections are utterly disorderly but, secondly, standing order 97 does not allow the sort of blatant, gratuitous commentary that was in that question.

**The SPEAKER:** Could I have the question again? There was interjection during the question. Could I have the question again, please, member for Kaurna?

**Mr PICTON:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Premier. Will the two KordaMentha liquidators, Mr Chris Martin and Mr Mark Mentha, have the power to direct any public servant?

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier will be seated for one moment. Has the member for Kaurna corrected a potential question that was in breach?

**Mr PICTON:** Yes.

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you. The member for Kaurna—just so I can understand what's going on—has altered the question. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:21):** As you would appreciate, that was, in its most recent form, orderly, unlike the earlier question, which was disorderly.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left will be quiet. The Premier has the call—

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I have already answered two questions on this line.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** —and will be heard in silence.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I will give a similar answer to this question as I have to the previous two questions; that is, I am very happy to take up this issue with the Minister for Health and provide an answer to the house.

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Fourteen minutes in, they have run out of questions. They are asking the same question over and over again. Where are the questions about TAFE or the education system?

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, there's a point of order. Could the Premier please be seated.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Debate, sir—

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order is for debate. I have the point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —and relevance.

**The SPEAKER:** Before I adjudicate on the point of order, I warn the member for the Badcoe for a second and final time. I understand that the Premier has made some comments that may have provoked the opposition, but I ask him to be better behaved than that or members will be departing today. I ask the Premier to respectfully return to the substance of the question. Thank you.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The substance of the detailed question would have been better directed, of course, to the Minister for Health in another place, but they have run out of questions. Get on the blower. Ask your mate in the Legislative Council to ask the minister.

**Mrs Power:** Or just read *Hansard* from yesterday.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Elder is called to order. The member for Kurna and then the member for Hammond.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, the member for West Torrens is the father of the house and knows better than to act like that. If he continues in this manner, he will be leaving the chamber.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order, sir: I would ask the Premier to withdraw that insult about mental illness.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** What was the insult?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** That I wanted to get therapy, sir. Withdraw it.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Angrier and angrier and angrier.

**The SPEAKER:** Has the Premier withdrawn that comment?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Yes.

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier has withdrawn that comment. I would like to get on with question time, if that's okay, members on my left and my right. We will move to the member for Kurna and then we will switch to the member for Hammond. The member for Kurna has the call.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader is called to order.

#### **KORDAMENTHA**

**Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:24):** My question is to the Premier. Will KordaMentha corporate liquidators have to sign off on every staff appointment at the Central Adelaide Local Health Network? If so, what health experience do they have to do so?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:24):** I wouldn't imagine that they would have to sign off on every single decision which is made in the Central Adelaide Local Health Network. I don't think that's ever been envisaged, but I am happy to find more information on the line of questioning that the member has asked and come back to the house.

#### **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CRISIS LINE**

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (14:24):** My question is to the Attorney-General. Can the minister share with the house an update on the women's domestic violence crisis hotline that has now begun operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:25):** I thank the member for Hammond for this question, and his continued work in regional South Australia. He has a clear understanding of the significance of isolation and distance that historically make access to services difficult.

In his own area, I'm sure he will be pleased to know that in respect of our domestic violence service that has been operating under the disclosure scheme, some 14 applications have been received in the non-metropolitan areas. These applicants will be linked with the safety service providers in their area to ensure no gaps occur in providing that important service.

This is a reform that will save lives and I am pleased that it has been rolled out and been so successful to date. I commend the minister in the other place for her work on this scheme, and the police for their vital role in assessing all of those applications, which I point out is now statewide rather than just an isolated geographical area in the state.

The Domestic Violence Crisis Line extended to a 24 hours a day service, seven days a week, because we know that domestic violence doesn't happen between nine and five and it needs to be addressed. The funding and rollout, along with the personal protection app, of course are very significant in this area. It's a service which is run by the Women's Safety Services SA, led by Maria Hagias, and I again commend the work of the Hon. Michelle Lensink MLC in progressing this reform as urgently as she has.

In providing \$1.66 million in funding to the Women's Safety Services, more and more at-risk people can now contact the service and receive critical support when they need it most. Along with the member for Elder and the minister, we attended the Women's Safety Services. Of course, we were able to welcome the opportunity to meet with a number of the women who operate this service, and their extremely dedicated service is greatly appreciated.

Clearly, the extra funding means that the crisis line will be able to staff their operations around the clock and that hundreds of women living in a violent or abusive relationship are able to access immediate specialist support when they need it most. Prior to this, the statewide hotline had only been able to afford to operate nine to five on weekdays, with calls outside of these hours diverted to the homeless service run by Uniting Communities. This government has prioritised further funding to support this program and will continue to monitor its use.

The house may be specifically interested to know that, last year, the DV Crisis Line responded to 7,756 calls; of those, 1,552 people being registered clients of the service. We know from experience that domestic violence does not occur, as I say, during business hours. It may often be the case that those at risk need to strategically pick a time to contact the service—i.e. when their partner will not know that they are making their call—so that they remain safe.

Quite simply, this government is delivering on its domestic violence election commitments and will continue to ensure that women feel safe and supported, and importantly, know where to turn for help when they need it.

#### **CENTRAL ADELAIDE LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK WHISTLEBLOWER HOTLINE**

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:28):** My question is to the Premier. Will staff members who make complaints to the new Central Adelaide Local Health Network whistleblower hotline be offered whistleblower protections and, if so, what protections?

**The SPEAKER:** Could the member for Kaurna start again.

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** He wasn't concentrating.

**The SPEAKER:** I was, member for Lee.

**Mr PICTON:** My question is to the Premier. Will staff members who make complaints to the new Central Adelaide Local Health Network whistleblower hotline be offered any whistleblower protections and, if so, what protections?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29):** Again, that is a question of detail that I will be happy to follow up with the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and come back to the house.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:29):** My question is to the Premier. Will KordaMentha corporate liquidators have access to any patient files?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29):** I am happy to answer not only this question but also any questions that the shadow minister has regarding the appointment of the Central Adelaide Local Health Network or regarding the appointment of KordaMentha to help with the clean-up. It is now well documented that the Central Adelaide Local Health Network is operating well below what the community expects. We make no apologies for the fact that we have taken action to address the issues we inherited. The public expects to have—

**Mr Malinauskas:** Good health care.

**The SPEAKER:** The Leader of the Opposition is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —services provided by the Central Adelaide Local Health Network that are of a high standard. This is a reasonable expectation by the people of South Australia.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** What we have done is (1) give a new board for the Central Adelaide Local Health Network; (2) provide a new chairperson for that board, Mr Raymond Spencer; (3) provide a new chief executive, Lesley Dwyer, for the Central Adelaide Local Health Network; and (4) provide both her and the board with additional support to ensure that they can manage and improve—

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —outcomes for the people of South Australia. This is a local health network that has had a huge amount of taxpayer dollars go into it in recent times: \$2.4 billion was provided by the taxpayers of South Australia to establish a new Royal Adelaide Hospital. Whilst we would all expect there to be some teething problems associated with the transfer of a hospital to a new site, we now learn that there are more significant problems.

We don't hide from those problems. We do not sweep those problems under the mat. We will address those in a logical way, and we have already taken action. I emphasise to the people of this chamber that the clinical decisions will continue to be made by clinicians. But when we read reports—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left! The member for Kaurna is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —from KordaMentha that outline financial mismanagement over an extended period of time, we will take notice because—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —we are operating on behalf of the taxpayers of South Australia. We shouldn't be spending money when it is very clear, from what KordaMentha had to say—

**Mr PICTON:** Point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order, Premier. If you could be seated, please. Member for Kaurna.

**Mr PICTON:** This was a very specific question—

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order is?

**Mr PICTON:** Will they have access to—

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order is what?

**Mr PICTON:** It is debate. Will they have access to patients' files?

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you. Sit down. The point of order is for debate. I think the Premier is attempting to stick to the substance of the question. I will listen carefully to the rest of his answer, though, to make sure he does so.

**An honourable member:** Will they have access to records?

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Thank you very much, sir. As I have been outlining to the house, we have a problem. It is a pity some people can't take responsibility for the roles they have played in that. Regardless—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Regardless of who—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The leader will cease interjecting.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Regardless of who has created the problem, we are now taking responsibility for the clean-up. It is completely unacceptable. This local health network operates well above the national efficient price. It's not like we have issues within the Central Adelaide Local Health Network that are peculiar only to that local health network. The reality is we need to improve output—

*Dr Close interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The deputy leader is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —and we need to improve patient outcomes, but we need to do that in a financially responsible way. In the budget in September this year—

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order, sir: debate. The question was about whether KordaMentha—

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you. I have the point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —has access to public patients' files.

**The SPEAKER:** I have the point of order. I think the Premier is wrapping up his answer.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Yes, what I was just saying was that, far from running away from the issues, what we've been doing is putting more money—

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —into health. In fact, you remember from the September budget that we put more than \$800 million of new money back into the budget to address the issues we inherited, and we will fix them.

### NATURE-BASED TOURISM

**Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (14:33):** My question is to the Minister for Environment and Water. Can the minister please update the house about recent developments in the nature-based tourism sector in South Australia and outline the government's commitment to growing the industry?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:34):** I thank the member for Finniss for his question, noting that nature-based tourism is such an important industry within the area he has the good fortune of representing. It has been good to see the recent partnership between the state government, led by my department, and Oceanic Victor on Granite Island, which will see the reinvigoration of the tourism offering on that island, providing better hospitality opportunities on Granite Island and drawing people to that neck of the woods.

I particularly want to talk today about the opportunities in nature-based tourism across the state, particularly on Kangaroo Island, building on the work that the previous government undertook in 2017 calling for expressions of interest looking for business opportunities that could leverage our natural assets under the care and control of my department. As I said, that body of work was initiated by the previous government and enthusiastically embraced by this government, recognising that the unique natural assets that are part of this state are such a drawcard within our state's tourism industry and recognising that our tourism industry can very quickly create jobs when given the right support. Those jobs can particularly be created in regional South Australia.

One project that the previous government brought to fruition was the Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail, a project that has been particularly successful. It is a five-day walking trail on Kangaroo Island. Recent studies have shown that that piece of tourism-based infrastructure delivers more nights of people spending their time on Kangaroo Island than it takes to walk that trail, so we are seeing significant value-adding. People are staying in other accommodation, not just walking the trail.

I am pleased to announce that the government has entered negotiations with the Australian Walking Company to look at the provision of high-end tourism accommodation associated with the Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail. That will see the Australian Walking Company provide a couple of luxury lodges sensitively sitting within the landscape to provide a high-end accommodation experience for people who want to walk that trail with a little more comfort than perhaps a traditional camping experience. Not only will a couple of lodge experiences be delivered but cottages at Cape du Couedic will be restored and reinvigorated to provide another accommodation option.

We believe that this will be very attractive to the high-end tourism sector, bringing people to South Australia to enjoy our natural environment and spend money while they are here. Those are the sorts of visitors we are very keen to attract because those are the sorts of visitors who expand our tourism economy and really provide a stimulus to our overall economy here in South Australia. I look forward to bringing more information to the house as we explore further opportunities to reinvigorate our tourism sector in South Australia and leverage our natural assets in a sensitive way to do that.

### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:37):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier stand by his answer to the house today that he wouldn't expect KordaMentha to have to approve all appointments in CALHN? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr PICTON:** Page 27 of the KordaMentha recovery plan says, and I quote:

Any additional employees will be subject to the rules of the Appointments Committee as set out in this document. For clarity however, any appointment will require Appointments Committee approval and, separately, specific approval from one of the Administrators representatives.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left! There is a fair bit in that question, so I will listen carefully. I don't want to hear points of order for debate unless there is a very good reason for it.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:38):** I would just encourage the member to check the *Hansard* as to precisely what I said in my previous answer.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:38):** My question is to the Premier. In the appointment of KordaMentha, did the government and cabinet follow all advice that it received from probity advisers?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:39):** I'm convinced that we made the right decision to appoint KordaMentha.

**Mr Picton:** That's not the question.

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I'm sure we have made the right decision. I am very satisfied with the decision. It was a cabinet decision. We will work with KordaMentha, as we will with the new chief executive, the new board chair and the new board of the Central Adelaide Local Health Network to clean up the mess that we inherited. We are looking forward to reporting back to this parliament on the progress that we make.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:39):** My question is to the Premier. In the appointment of KordaMentha, did the government follow all advice, recommendations, policies and guidelines of the State Procurement Board?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:39):** I will just refer the member to my previous answer: it was a cabinet decision. We are very satisfied with the decision and now we are getting on with cleaning up your mess.

**The SPEAKER:** The opposition's mess, not the Speaker's mess. The member for Elder.

#### WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC VICTIMS

**Mrs POWER (Elder) (14:40):** My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Can the minister please inform the house about events held to mark the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims?

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:40):** I thank the honourable member for her question and her interest in road traffic safety in particular. At this time of year, as we head into the Christmas period, we know our senses are heightened and we do ask everyone to stay safe on our roads.

The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims took place on 18 November. It was an important day. It provides us with the opportunity to remember the millions of people worldwide killed and injured on our roads. This day was introduced by the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims. It was held in 1995 for the first time. It was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2005. Since then, it has grown to become a very significant event to pay respects to those who have passed on our roads.

In South Australia, since 2010, nearly 900 people have died on our state's roads and there have been more than 6,800 people who have sustained serious injury as a result of more than 5,500 road crashes. We know that the impact of these incidents can be everlasting and wide ranging. The statistics represent tens of thousands of families, friends, sporting clubs, community groups, schools, religious groups and entire communities who have had their lives irreversibly changed due to the death or serious injury of a loved one on our roads.

It was a true pleasure to be at the memorial service. Superintendent Bob Gray from SAPOL was there; the Commissioner for Victims' Rights, Bronwyn Killmier, was also there, and Rod

Campbell from the MFS spoke, a man who has run the RAP program for a long time. Rod has done an outstanding job.

**Mr Malinauskas:** A good man.

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD:** He is. He goes around to the schools with the RAP program and speaks to young people about what the emergency services people see at these road crashes and tries to encourage young people to stay safe on the roads so they don't come across each other in an unfortunate situation. These incidents also change the lives, of emergency services personnel, who are often the first responders. People whose job it is to be on the scene of a crash include, of course, SAPOL police officers, SA ambulance paramedics, MFS firefighters and CFS and SES volunteers.

When I hear from these workers and volunteers, over and over again I hear that attending these crashes can be the hardest part of their job. The incidents, they say, stay with them for life, as you would imagine. This is especially true of our emergency services personnel based in the country areas. These workers and volunteers will often receive call-outs at all times of the day and night and they will attend a crash, and often in those local communities they are people they know well.

Earlier this year, I attended the opening of the Loxton SES headquarters in the Riverland. This unit was equipped to deal with road traffic crashes in the local area. I thank them for their work in this area. It was great to be on site to see the SES volunteers and hear firsthand their stories about the challenging areas they work in and, of course, all the SES and CFS volunteers and the MFS workers as well who do that work.

As well as the personal impact, there is, of course, also the economic impact from road crashes to consider. The economic cost of road trauma in South Australia is estimated at over \$1 billion a year. Of course, this does not come just from the human cost of pain, grief and suffering from road deaths and serious injuries, but it does make a big sum total of the cost of these incidents. Improving road safety requires a multifaceted approach. It is great to work with the Minister for Transport in this area to make sure that we do all we can from a policing perspective and also to improve infrastructure to make sure we keep our roads as safe as possible.

I stress again that we are heading into the Christmas period, the holiday period when we have more people on the road. So far this year, we have had 73 fatalities and 545 serious injuries. We want to keep that to a minimum in the run to the end of the year. We hope everyone is safe on the road and has a safe Christmas period.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:44):** My question is to the Premier. With KordaMentha's \$18.9 million contract expiring in 12 months, how much has the government budgeted for future extensions of this contract?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:44):** We have budgeted to have some savings. They were outlined when we put the case to the people of South Australia what we had committed, but there is nothing committed beyond the contract that we have announced to the people of South Australia.

#### KORDAMENTHA

**Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:44):** My question is to the Premier. Is the \$18.9 million payment to corporate liquidators KordaMentha a capped amount, or is there potential for additional costs or bonus payments?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:45):** All the details have been included in the contract, and we have made those clear.

**Mr Picton:** No, you haven't.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Heysen. I will come back to the member for Kurna, who interjected after the Premier concluded his answer. The member for Heysen has the call.



## WINE INDUSTRY

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:45):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister update the house on how the state government is working with the wine industry to deliver key projects?

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:45):** Yes, I can. I thank the member for Heysen for his very important question. We know how important the wine industry is to the South Australian economy and particularly to the member's wineries in his electorate: Geoff Hardy wines and Deviation Road.

I know that Richard Dolan from Wines by Geoff Hardy, and Hamish and Kate Laurie from Deviation Road are extremely passionate about their wine businesses, and rightfully so. In fact, I have just written to Shane Harris, the winemaker at Geoff Hardy's, who has just been announced as the 2018 Winestate Magazine Winemaker of the Year for the second year in six years—so an outstanding achievement by another winemaker here in South Australia.

In South Australia, we have a unique agreement between the state government and the wine industry under the Primary Industry Funding Schemes Act, and I am pleased to announce that I have recently signed off on \$300,000 from the Clare Valley wine industry fund towards key projects to grow that local industry. The Clare Valley Wine and Grape Association is the peak representative body for Clare Valley winemakers and grapegrowers, and it is recognised as the body that best represents the industry in that region.

The funds will be used to promote regional wine brands and tourism, to undertake regional projects, to carry out work to determine additional vineyard capacity and the long-term water supply for the region. Contributions paid into the wine industry funds by industry participants are invested into activities that will help the local wine industry. That wine industry fund supports profitability and sustainability of our \$2.35 billion wine industry here in South Australia.

South Australia's wine industry is an outstanding success complemented by the Clare Valley region. There are a number of projects and the Clare Valley Wine and Grape Association are using those contributions to develop the region's wine and grape strategic plan; a regional wine tourism industry that involves promoting more fresh air from Clare; international tourism for the Clare Valley, particularly into the Asian markets; long-term water supply options; a feasibility study; establish a regional database of vineyards; develop a series of promotional videos, featuring the Clare Valley and its wine varieties; and, of course, create a red wine cellar-door marketing toolkit, including the products that come from the Clare.

Also on Saturday, I was a guest of the Pike winery. I note that the member for Frome has worked very closely with the Pike family and their recent expansion into their facility. It is an outstanding success story: a family wine business that is doing a remarkable job. I was there to open up the Pike's tasting room. Particularly, the Slate Restaurant is an outstanding destination for anyone who is looking to go out into the regions and enjoy great wine and great food. I know that Max the chef has been imported from Mona in Tasmania. He is a renowned chef who does outstanding food that I can thoroughly recommend.

I also want to pay tribute to Andrew and Cathy Pike. Their success story is almost second to none in the wine industry. Andrew's brother, Neil, is the winemaker; his son, Jamie, is the marketing executive; and Alister Pike is the head brewer of a really good beer. What I would say is that this responsible government will continue to work closely with the wine industry in our regions to make sure that we can grow that industry and produce better, bigger wines that represent South Australia globally.

**The Hon. A. Piccolo:** No hashtag?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Light is warned. The deputy leader has the call.

## STRATHMONT POOL

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:49):** My question is to the Minister for Education. How many students with disabilities will have reduced access to swimming therapy as a result of the government's closure of the Strathmont pool?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:49):** I thank the member for the question. It is a serious question, and it is a pleasure to receive a question from the shadow minister for education on—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee is warned.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I was trying to say something nice about the opposition's—

*Ms Cook interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hurtle Vale is called to order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I am uncertain—

*Mr Brown interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Playford is warned.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** —why it has provoked such a strange reaction.

**The Hon. D.G. Pisoni:** From her colleagues.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** From her colleagues, yes. I will indeed provide more information to the member. Of course, the Strathmont Centre's swimming pool has been accessed primarily by virtue of the fact that it was located with the disability site, which has been there for some time, and actions taken appropriately by the former government have led to that. The pool, I understand, is no longer going to be continued as a result of the—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my right and left, please! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The pool is not in a condition that is deemed to be appropriate for continued use, is my understanding, and as I have advised—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The member has asked a question. Those opposite have interjected when I tried to say something nice about her, and her colleagues continue to interject—

**The SPEAKER:** Makes you wonder why you bother!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** —on me trying to provide quite genuinely information to the house. I don't understand why the opposition is so provoked by me simply providing information.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I previously answered this question, but I will provide further information.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** As I said, there is a range of schools that have had access to the service at the pool there. The department has been working with those schools to provide whatever new provision will be available for next year once the pool is no longer there.

The pool is no longer there largely as a result of historical decisions taken by the former government. I am not criticising those decisions. I note that the member for Cheltenham is the only person on the other side not interjecting, because he possibly has some historical perspective on those decision., Nevertheless—

*The Hon. J.W. Weatherill interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Cheltenham is called to order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The member for Cheltenham is still here. It's a very exciting day that the member for Cheltenham is still here and he is excited to be here. I look forward to him continuing to serve his electorate for years to come. The fact of the matter is that this is an important question. The details—

**Mr Duluk:** Irreplaceable!

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Waite is called to order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** —in relation to the services available for these students are important, and I will bring them back to the house.

#### STRATHMONT POOL

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:52):** My question is again to the Minister for Education. How much will parents of students with disabilities have to pay for the alternative swimming therapy arrangements being made for their children following the government's closure of the Strathmont pool?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:52):** In relation to the question, I will also try to ascertain the number of students overall. I am not 100 per cent sure that it is just students with disability necessarily, and, indeed—

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** It is remarkable that during this question time those opposite have interjected on reasonable answers to questions about domestic violence, now about services provided to students with a disability. The ministers and the government are trying to provide reasonable information, and those opposite don't want to hear it. It is disappointing. I will bring back information to the house.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Flinders, and I will come back to the opposition.

#### AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES

**Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (14:53):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister advise the house how the government's policies are helping grow agricultural industries?

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:53):** I thank the member for Flinders for his very important question, and I am sure that he could express his delight with the season at Edillilie on south Eyre. It has been an outstanding season over there, but sadly the state has seen varied results, particularly over recent weather events.

With respect to agriculture here in Australia and right across regional South Australia, people tell me how happy they are to see a new government in, how happy they are to see a government that actually understands what goes on out past Gepps Cross and above the tollgate. They are happy that they have a minister who is out there visiting their regions, visiting farms, that they have a government that is out visiting the regions on a regular basis.

The Rabobank this week has released its latest farmer confidence survey, and the results for November are great news for agriculture. Thirty-five per cent of South Australian farmers expect—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** —agricultural economic conditions to improve in the next 12 months and that is up from 24 per cent last quarter. In total, 72 per cent of South Australian farmers expect agricultural economic conditions to improve or remain the same over the next year.

**The Hon. A. Koutsantonis:** What are they complaining about?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens will cease provoking the member for Narungga.

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** By and large, a change of government puts a lot of confidence into the farming sector. The number of South Australian farmers with a negative outlook has fallen from 43 per cent in the last quarter to 25 per cent in this quarter. Ninety-six per cent of South Australian farmers surveyed—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** —said they were somewhat or very prepared for drought. I note that the visit by the Deputy Premier and myself—

**Mr Malinauskas:** Therefore, they get nothing.

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** —to Canberra recently to support the Coalition's \$5 billion droughtproofing our farms effort was an outstanding success and it shows—

**The Hon. A. Piccolo:** They took it away from people with disabilities—shame, shame, shame!

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Light can leave for half an hour under 137A, thank you.

**The Hon. A. Piccolo:** That's a bit harsh, Mr Speaker.

**The SPEAKER:** It's one of those days. It was either him or the member for Badcoe.

*The honourable member for Light having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The SPEAKER:** The minister has the call.

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** While acknowledging the challenges facing farmers this season, farmers are receiving higher prices across some of the key commodities, and while we have seen a change of government, we have also seen an increase in the price of lamb, beef, wheat, barley, canola—

**Mr Hughes:** That's got nothing to do with your government.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Giles is called to order.

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** —and wine grapes. It's amazing what a change of government can do to the confidence of the industry. It's amazing what it does.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** Yesterday, I attended the industry's briefing—

*Mr Patterson interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Morphett will stop laughing.

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** Yesterday, I attended the national dairy—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE:** —briefing at Hahndorf. We looked at the outlook report and the new Dairy Australia CEO, David Nation, disclosed that here in South Australia we are reigning above the nation's average. We are expected to see a 1 per cent production growth over the next 12 months. This is in contrast to the rest of the country, which is expecting, in contradiction, in milk supply nationally, including in New South Wales and Queensland and particularly Victoria's Goulburn Valley, significant decreases.

We see optimism here in South Australia with developments such as the new Beston mozzarella plant. I note that the Premier was there to open that plant up in October—another outstanding South Australian success story. Our agriculture industries are more confident because they know they have a government that is listening and supporting their needs.

We have delivered, strengthening our biosecurity measures to address Queensland fruit fly pressures, particularly on our borders. We have employed dog trappers to deal with wild dogs, as well as a coordinated baiting program. The farm debt mediation legislation has passed, exempting small farm businesses from payroll tax and, particularly, ESL bills. We have legislated to abolish stamp duty on multiperil crop insurance. Sir, there is more because hashtag #RegionsMatter.

### STRATHMONT POOL

**Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (14:57):** My question is to the Minister for Education.

**The Hon. Z.L. Bettison:** Except for the *Overland*. You cut it. Did regions matter then?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Ramsay is called to order. I'm trying to listen to the member for Torrens.

**Ms WORTLEY:** My question is to the Minister for Education. Did the minister seek advice from his department on its capacity to fund the \$300,000 upgrade to keep the Strathmont pool open?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:58):** I'm not entirely sure that I accept the premise of the question and that level of detail about a \$300,000 capacity to keep the pool open.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Deputy Premier and the deputy leader will cease interjecting.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I don't know if the member for Torrens is suggesting that that \$300,000 will keep it open for one year, or \$300,000 to keep it open permanently. At any rate, that is not a matter under the responsibility of the education department. What I sought advice about, in relation to this matter, when this was previously a matter of conversation in this house—I think the member for Reynell might have asked questions in relation to this matter—was what the impact was going to be on South Australian schools. There are a number of schools that have a relationship with the swimming pool at the Strathmont Centre, as there are indeed schools around South Australia that have other relationships with other swimming pools.

Those schools have a service that is currently provided at a pool that is no longer going to be there as a result of it no longer being fit for purpose. The suggestion that I put to the department was that it is appropriate that we have oversight, that we have some line of sight over what services these schools may be using in the future. The advice at the time was that the department was engaged with those schools, to talk to them about their future plans, and that further advice would be provided to me in due course. I look forward to receiving that advice. In relation to the deputy leader's questions—

*Dr Close interjecting:*

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Sorry, I can't—

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, could you please not respond to interjections. Deputy leader, please.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The deputy leader chastises herself for her interjections and I forgive her.

**Mr Malinauskas:** If you're looking for something to talk about, why don't you just answer the question you have been asked?

**The SPEAKER:** The Leader of the Opposition is not assisting and is called to order.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Again, sir, I am providing information to the house that is directly relevant to the question asked. The information at that time was provided. It was not finalised what the information would be for those schools and when it is, as I have indicated to the deputy leader and the house, I will provide further information to the house.

#### STRATHMONT POOL

**The SPEAKER:** The 20<sup>th</sup> opposition question for the day, the member for Torrens.

**Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (15:00):** My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Human Services. What alternative arrangements have been made for the users of the Strathmont swimming pool from the community, Autism SA, Tea Tree Gully Swimming Club and the Swim Safe Swim School as a result of the government's closure of the Strathmont pool, and how many users are yet to be accommodated elsewhere?

**The SPEAKER:** Again, a fair bit in that question. Minister.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:01):** I am happy to take the substance of that question on notice, but say that the discussions I have had on this topic with the Minister for Human Services are such that discussions are being had with all the groups that currently use the Strathmont Centre.

As I understand it, there are a number of pools around the place, including the ARC at Campbelltown, as well as Angle Vale repat. There are a number of pools that are being provided as options to be able to relocate people. As I understand it, there are one or two groups yet to find a suitable alternative home, but Human Services is working through that and has been in consultation with these groups for a long period of time.

This is a pool that has for a long time been slated as a pool that will become dangerously inadequate and unsafe. I think that the first responsibility that governments have is to ensure safety. In this regard, this is the responsible course of action that the Minister for Human Services is taking. I am happy to take the detail of that question on notice, but say that the minister is doing everything that she should be doing to make sure that we keep people safe. There have been consultations that have been undertaken over a long period of time, and the department is working to help relocate and find alternative arrangements. We look forward to that continuing and being completed in due course.

#### HAMPSTEAD REHABILITATION CENTRE

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (15:02):** My question is to the Premier. Is KordaMentha conducting a review of Ward 2A at Hampstead with its 25 beds, and how long will these beds be open for? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr PICTON:** Ward 2A at Hampstead has 25 beds and it was originally proposed by the government to be closed in October. The minister agreed to continue to have it open following objections from clinical groups. The Premier told the parliament through a response to a question on notice last week: 'Ward 2A will remain open while the ongoing need for the beds is reviewed.'

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:03):** It's difficult to add anything further to that answer that I have already provided to the house. You have woven KordaMentha back in again. The reality is that KordaMentha have been appointed to do work and provide services to the chief executive and the board of CALHN on the financial mismanagement of that local health network.

We really are astounded at the question regarding services at Hampstead. This was a position of the previous government to close services on that site, and we have stopped any closure of those pending further advice. I think that is the responsible way to go. I am happy to get an update on the deliberations that are taking place regarding Hampstead and come back to the house.

#### PROJECTS PIPELINE INDUSTRY BRIEFING

**Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (15:04):** My question is to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Will the minister inform the house about last week's capital projects industry briefing?

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:04):** I thank the member for Morphett for his question. I note his interest in this area, especially in a number of the key infrastructure projects that we've been discussing of late in his beautiful electorate. Can I say that the forum held last week was, as I am advised, the best attended forum there has been for a long time. There was standing room only, and I would estimate the crowd as somewhere between 400 and 500 people. They came along to work with the government to deliver on our record infrastructure investment program—\$11.3 billion worth of money that we've put on the table over this four-year cycle to deliver.

There were people from different sectors, from those who provide the strategic and consulting basis under which we make these important decisions to companies that provide engineering expertise, financial expertise, as well as advice on procurement options—an extremely important part of the sector. Really buoyed in that room was the commercial construction sector, which sees the fact that we are spending over \$1 billion on upgrading our schools over this four-year period—some \$1.3 billion—and around \$1 billion worth of hospital upgrades.

Essentially, from my discussions with these groups both in and around that forum but also previously, we need the commercial construction sector to partner with the government to deliver on these projects. It is why we have also worked to reduce the sovereign risk that the former government left us on dealing with commercial construction businesses right across the country. We need to put faith back into that sector so that those businesses can get on and help the government deliver its ambitious program.

We then have \$2.3 billion worth of road program that is going to be delivered over the next four years and a billion dollars worth of public transport infrastructure that is going to be delivered over the next four years, again working with those tier 1 and tier 2 companies—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Leader of the Opposition is warned for a second time.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** —to make sure that we provide the strongest level of local jobs we possibly can on these projects. On coming to government, the cupboard was pretty bare, but we didn't sit back, we didn't blame others, we didn't point the finger somewhere else. We grabbed—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Davenport is called to order.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** We grabbed the flower by the thorns and we took charge of the situation. We did that because we need to provide a strong pipeline of work so that we can keep jobs here in South Australia, so that we can grow the skills base in South Australia and so that we can continue to push forward our economy.

The other part of this equation, though, is that this is a government that wants to deliver on a stronger population growth agenda. This is something that the Premier has set out and something that this government is keen to deliver on. The best way to do that is to continue to invest in infrastructure so that South Australians right across this state—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Leader of the Opposition is on the edge.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** —know that they have a government that isn't going to wait until after the horse has bolted to be able to deliver an infrastructure program, that we stay ahead of the game, that we deal with the congestion issues that exist, that we deal with the externalities that come from population growth so that South Australians can know that we can create jobs and that at the same time as creating those jobs we can also build a better, more productive and more beautiful city.

Those in that room have signed on to the government's new agenda. They are willing to work with this government to deliver, to create jobs, to grow our beautiful state and our beautiful economy. I look forward over the next four years to continuing to work with them to deliver for the people of South Australia.

#### *Grievance Debate*

### **PARLIAMENTARY SITTING PROGRAM**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:08):** Today, I want to talk about just how important is the management of the business of parliament and what a shocking job the government have made of it in this first year of their attempt to govern this state.

If you cast your mind back to the election, we were promised that within the first seven days of a Marshall Liberal government we would have an agenda for the sitting dates for the year. Four weeks later, we still had nothing. It took the Labor opposition to highlight this to the media for the digit to be removed and for a sitting schedule to finally be provided to the parliament and to the people of South Australia.

That would be one thing. What was worse was that the dates were changed. They were not changed once, they were not changed twice, they were not even changed three times: four times they changed the sitting schedule. When it came to the budget, they could not even decide when they wanted the estimates hearing to be. They were originally scheduled to start on the Wednesday, the second day of the traditional sitting week, but the penny dropped that that might not be so good for the government to try to manipulate the media cycle, so they moved the first sittings of the estimates committees to a Friday. Unfortunately, they also organised them in such a way that members of parliament had clashes and could not be in two places at once. It is incompetent—absolutely incompetent.

We have also seen the government run out of legislation—run out of business—four times this year. This week was the most egregious example you could imagine. Not only did they not have legislation but private members' bills were deferred, particularly those introduced by members of the opposition. They made the problem even worse. They did not have any of their own bills to deal with, yet they would not allow the opposition or crossbench to deal with any of theirs. You have to wonder who is in charge of this government.

Traditionally, the government has always controlled the management of parliamentary business because the government is meant to have the numbers in the house. But as we saw last week, they cannot even manage that. They cannot even control the numbers of the house. They cannot even make sure that members of their own political party, who are meant to be voting with the government, know which side they are meant to be sitting on—not once, not twice, but three times. It has been a shambles.

We then come to that all-important hour of question time. It is the responsibility of the parliament to hold the executive to account with regard to what they are doing in the state; instead, they choose not to answer questions but to gobble up question time with Dorothy Dixers. I am sure we are all richer for the soliloquy by the Minister for Regional Development about how much he enjoys Pikes Wines and Pikes Beer and about the guy who was poached from Mona.

This government sets a pretty low standard in being accountable to South Australia. Not only will they not answer questions during question time but they will not answer questions outside question time either. The Premier is the most guilty of not answering questions placed on notice. Of course, we know why: one of the questions that remains unanswered is about which lobbyists he has met with since 17 March. That might be a curiosity for some, but it is important because some of the deals that have been announced by this government are reprehensible.



I look forward to the opportunity to prosecute the issue of the Stadium Management Authority's \$42 million taxpayer-funded loan. But it is not just that; it is the \$2 million given to Mitsubishi. I understand that Mitsubishi approached the former government asking for the same handout in 2016 and were knocked back. The Treasurer says that it is not important to provide industry development grants, yet he sets aside \$100 million for these grants in his own budget

The difference between the former Labor government's future jobs fund is that it required a business case—not so under the current Liberal government. They cannot manage the state's finances, they cannot manage industry support, and they cannot manage the business of the house. It is a disgrace!

**The SPEAKER:** The member's time has expired.

**JAMES, MR S.**

**Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (15:13):** Today, I want to place on the record my acknowledgement and admiration for an achievement by a constituent of the Finniss electorate, Sid James. Just days ago, Sid finished the Ironman triathlon, which is no small feat. Most people would generally struggle with the triathlon, but Sid is a C3 quadriplegic, and such an achievement takes on an entirely new meaning. Sid, together with his good mate Kevin Fergusson, competed in the Ironman Western Australia event held in Busselton last Sunday. This achievement is national news this week, and rightly so. Sid, aged 60, is a resident of Victor Harbor in Finniss.

Unfortunately, Sid had an accident while training for his first Ironman triathlon in 1993, which left him a C3 quadriplegic. The accident has not dimmed his enthusiasm for the sport. He is the race director of the Victor Harbor triathlon, and the coming event in March next year is the 25<sup>th</sup> Victor Harbor triathlon. Sid has been in the lead of the events for all those 25 years. Victor Harbor is the biggest and most successful triathlon run in South Australia.

Sid's mate Kevin Fergusson, a well-known figure in the sport of triathlon, is also aged 60 and has competed in many events. Just looking at some of the stats on him on the triathlon webpages, in his first triathlon in 2003 he finished 22<sup>nd</sup>. Obviously he decided that was not where he wanted to be, so he trained a bit harder and from 2006 through to 2015 in his six starts he had six wins at his age level. So he has certainly excelled in the sport himself. The Western Australian event has meant three years of preparation. We have seen many things, including Sid and Kevin looking to compete in the Hawaiian triathlon last year.

Unfortunately, Sid was not able to compete in the end, it being deemed he was not fit enough to do so, so they had to postpone participating until this year's Western Australian event. Kevin starts the triathlon by towing Sid in an inflatable kayak during the swim leg, tows him in a custom three-wheel wheelchair during the bike part of the race, and then pushes Sid in the running leg of the triathlon. Sid had to prepare as well, modifying his diet and dropping quite a bit of weight to make himself lighter for Kevin to push around the course.

The full triathlon course is a 3.8-kilometre swim, a 180-kilometre ride, and a 42.2-kilometre run: certainly no mean feat for either of them. It would be hard enough for many of us to compete, and it is certainly not easy for Sid, even though he is the passenger in the event. Sid, being a C3 quadriplegic, has difficulty in managing his own body temperature, meaning he has to be constantly monitored to make sure his temperature is not getting outside key parameters and risking his health.

The community has complete admiration for Sid and the effort he has put in, and we very much thank Kevin for his efforts in taking Sid on the course. It took them just over 14 hours to complete, and meant that Sid's lifelong dream of completing the triathlon has been achieved. He has ticked that off, and I thank Kevin for his efforts in helping Sid do so. Sid is a famous figure in my community, and I am sure everyone would wish to congratulate him on becoming an ironman.

**MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MINISTER FOR PLANNING**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:18):** Ministers of the Crown are in a position of trust bestowed on them by the people of South Australia. That is why the Ministerial Code of Conduct states:

Ministers should avoid situations in which their private interests conflict, have the potential to conflict, or appear to conflict with their public duty.

The member for Schubert became a minister on 22 March this year. The member tells this house that he sought the advice of the Premier as to what steps he should take to remove conflicts between his business relationships and his responsibility as a minister. The minister told the house that:

Since becoming a minister...I have distanced myself from anything that the family undertakes

and:

The best thing that I can do to make sure that I do not have a conflict of interest is, to the greatest extent possible, divorce myself from any understanding of what the family business does.

The member repeatedly told the house that his interests are declared on his 2018 register. It declares that he is a director of Sausage Boys Proprietary Limited. The same directorship is shown in his 2017 register of interests, as is another directorship, that of Knoll Consultants and Investments Proprietary Limited. That company holds the trading names of various successful and admirable businesses of the Knoll family, including Barossa Fine Foods, Schulz Butchers, Clean Catch, Angelakis Brothers and HR Smallgoods.

Those businesses operate in outlets across South Australia, including some major retail centres. As the minister confirmed, one also operates the food concession Barossa Fine Foods inside Adelaide Oval. Official ASIC records show that the member resigned his position as a director of Knoll Consultants and Investments Pty Ltd on 10 April 2018, 19 days after being sworn in as minister. That is a fit and proper response to concerns regarding conflict or perceived conflict of interest, but there is another step that we believe should have been taken that has not been taken.

There is an associated entity called Sausage Boys Pty Ltd. It has four directors: the member for Schubert and his three brothers, each fine business people. The company's secretary is the member for Schubert (the minister). The official ASIC records show that four directors of Sausage Boys are also current or former directors of Knoll Consultants and Investments. There is a direct link between the two entities.

The member for Schubert told this house last week that he has 'handed over permanent proxy' related to his roles in Sausage Boys Pty Ltd. That is not enough. If you do something by proxy, you merely appoint someone else to do it on your behalf. You can even direct how they vote. ASIC guidelines make no mention of a permanent proxy; a proxy can be revoked at any time. So where does that leave the member for Schubert?

1. He is a current director and secretary of Sausage Boys Pty Ltd.
2. That company has common directorships with Knoll Consultants and Investments, which operates major retail businesses in South Australia, including one that has a contractual commercial relationship with the SMA and Adelaide Oval.
3. Sausage Boys Pty Ltd has an interest in the financial performance of the businesses operated by the Knoll family through its company.
4. Despite the existence of a proxy, he remains a direct beneficiary of Sausage Boys Pty Ltd by way of his directorship and his ownership of 25 per cent of the company's shares.
5. As a current director, he is required under the Corporations Act to act 'in the best interests of the company'.

The minister misunderstands his ministerial responsibility. I suggest that he reads the code of conduct one more time and then asks himself, 'Have I, as a minister, avoided situations in which my private interests conflict, have the potential to conflict or appear to conflict with my public duty?' I am not, as the member claims, 'coming after the family business'. I am seeking to protect South Australians, including the Knoll family, from conflicts and perceived conflicts.

I ask the member and the Premier: have they considered the conflicts and potential conflicts with Sausage Boys and benefits that may accrue to it from a range of commercial relationships, including its relationship with Adelaide Oval? If you have properly considered it, you would see that you cannot serve two masters—that is what conflict is. On the information that the minister has given

to this house to date, the parliament cannot be properly satisfied that he has, as he says, divorced himself.

There is no blind trust; there should have been. There has been no recusal by the minister from the decision to loan the SMA \$42 million; there should have been. He should have divested and resigned as director and secretary of Sausage Boys; he did not. If Barossa Fine Foods does well at Adelaide Oval because of this loan, so does the minister's company, his shareholdings in Sausage Boys and his family. That is a problem that he and the Premier must address.

**Ms Stinson:** Silly sausage.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Badcoe is called to order.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**Mrs POWER (Elder) (15:23):** All across the world, people and community groups are marking the 16 Days of Activism with events, rallies and calls for action. Today marks the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 16 Days of Activism. It runs from 25 November, which is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to 10 December, which is international Human Rights Day. While these days are marked by the UN, it is the local campaigns and grassroots activities throughout these 16 Days of Activism that truly support the empowerment of women and girls throughout our communities and reach out in preventing violence against women.

I rise today to acknowledge those individuals and groups in our state who have volunteered their time, come together and worked hard to shine a light on gender inequality and violence against women and their children. I have attended some powerful community events held during these 16 Days of Activism. They were events that have provided not only an opportunity for us to unite our voices and speak out about violence against women but also an opportunity to hear from women and their children who have been impacted by domestic violence and from those people who are working on the front line every day to provide support, assistance and safety to women and their children escaping violence.

On Saturday 17 November, the Liberian-Australian Service Foundation, in collaboration with the African Communities Council of South Australia, the Australian Migrant Resource Centre, the Liberian Men of South Australia and Shamshir—A Human Rights Campaign, organised a march from Victoria Square to Parliament House. The march, known as 'Strides4Strength: a walk to end domestic violence' was well attended. It was quite an event, with the road closed off and the march led by incredible African dancers and drummers. To all those who organised this event and to those who participated in it, I congratulate you on not only the event, where we all chanted very loudly, 'No more violence,' but also on your work in your local communities day in, day out to challenge beliefs and attitudes that allow domestic and family violence to exist.

White Ribbon has continued to champion this issue with its annual White Ribbon Breakfast, which was held on Friday 23 November at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Thank you to the White Ribbon Breakfast committee, including convenors Cintra Amos and Gillian Lewis, for organising this incredible event. I would also like to acknowledge the panel of students who shared their experiences and what they are doing to create a place free from violence, starting within their own school community.

White Ribbon also held its fifth annual White Ribbon March from Parliament House to Victoria Square, and I would like to thank Lisa May and the White Ribbon March committee for organising a march that not only recognised the women and children who experience domestic violence but signified hope with a focus on prevention and change.

At the march, a young girl named Holly courageously told her story, saying that she did not fear the monsters under her bed; rather, she feared the monsters under society's bed and that monster is family violence. Thank you, Holly, for your moving words at that march. I would also like to acknowledge the mayor, elected members and staff at the City of Charles Sturt council and in particular Khadija, the Safe Communities Coordinator, for all their work in preventing and responding to domestic and family violence.

On Sunday 25 November, the council launched *An Act of Love: A Portrait Story*, which was a moving display of artwork and videos capturing those who have survived domestic and family violence. Following that emotive event, the next day the Spirit of Woman, a not-for-profit organisation, held a very special celebration unveiling its plans for a memorial to be known as The Place of Courage. The Place of Courage is the brainchild of Helen Oxenham, who was the driving force behind one of the first women's shelters in South Australia located down at Christies Beach. The Place of Courage will be a place of comfort and healing, promoting the courage to speak up and out and raise awareness, providing a powerful symbol of a peaceful and unified community.

It will be the first dedicated artwork and space in Australia to recognise and confront the impact of family and domestic violence and provide a positive catalyst for change. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Helen Oxenham, who has campaigned and worked tirelessly for women and children affected by violence. Her initiative is a way to ensure we will continue to shine a light on the impact of domestic violence for families, communities and our society. Thank you, Helen, for all the work that you do.

### ARTS SECTOR FUNDING

**Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (15:28):** I rise to put the spotlight on the quite sudden and shocking defunding of the arts sector here in South Australia. In the September budget, the Liberal's first budget in 16 years, we saw a total of \$31.9 million ripped out of a sector that is vital to our economy, our state identity and our wellbeing as individuals. These brash, unexplained and haphazard cuts were thrust upon the sector without warning. I cannot recall the part of the Liberal Party election slogan that talked about cuts to arts. But, just like so many other valuable sectors—Housing SA, Service SA, those 800 jobs to go in Health, child protection, public transport—the arts is no different: it is being slashed and slashed with no rhyme or reason, and to what end?

The latest Australia Council for the Arts report demonstrated the value of the arts to tourism, in particular, to our regional areas here in SA. Hashtag #RegionsMatter, but not when it comes to the arts. Surely support for our arts is support for our regions and our economy as a whole. And it is not just me. It is not just this side of the house calling it out: it is the arts sector itself.

On Saturday night, at the state's premier arts awards, the Ruby Awards, speaker after speaker subtly mentioned, then talked of, then railed against the cuts to the arts sector dealt out by the Treasurer and the man who is meant to advocate for the arts: the Premier. The presenters of awards and the winners of those awards alike called out the massive funding cuts—\$31.9 million—and the dismantling of Arts SA itself. They spoke of how difficult the last few months have been, how tough it continues to be and how much tougher it is about to get.

There was a team spirit in the room about making the best of a bad lot, but certainly no thanks to the man who dished that lot out. Artists also paid tribute to the abruptly axed former executive director of Arts SA, Peter Louca. To quite rapturous applause from all the artists in the Queens Theatre, Mr Louca was praised for his passion, leadership and huge contribution, and his untimely departure was lamented. His role has still not been filled permanently.

Artists like Emma Webb, who runs Vitalstatistix theatre company, gave a stirring address about the importance of the arts to small and medium groups and about the importance of individual artists themselves. She made the point that the biggest funder of the arts in this state is artists. They are the ones who sacrifice and who chip in their own cash to realise an artistic vision that is then shared with our state. She spoke of the need for the government's support and appealed to the man sitting just a few feet in front of her to listen.

Jane Doyle, 7 News presenter and chair of Carclew, was not backwards in coming forwards about the importance of the arts either. In a rousing speech, she talked about the value of art to our lives and the need for it to be respected and supported. I was not sitting in the front row and I was not on the table with the Premier, but the chatter around the room was that it got pretty awkward—pretty awkward—more and more awkward as each award-winning performer took to the stage and spoke out against the decision of a man sitting right in front of them.

The Premier is very happy to celebrate the contribution of the arts, as am I and as is everyone in this parliament, but you cannot heap praise with one hand while raking back the cash with the other. The impact is not just in the city. I have been lucky enough to soak up a lot of art in our regions

over recent weeks. I was fortunate to visit the Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery, which does a lot with little, and then to see the State Theatre Company's world premiere of *The Gods of Strangers* at the Northern Festival Centre—and an outstanding performance it was.

That theatre is one of three regional theatres to benefit from a million dollars in this budget. That is welcome money, but it is not to upgrade or improve the experience at all, or to attract more shows; it is simply to stop the theatre burning down or being shut down due to fire protection rules. That is not an investment in arts: it is routine maintenance.

I was also fortunate, as part of this side's commitment to country cabinet, to visit artists in the Riverland; among them were the Chaffey Theatre and the amazing Riverland Youth Theatre. It is easy to see when you meet these groups how every dollar is put to work, and that is before these cuts. On this side, we urge the Premier to listen to these groups and to understand the full impact of his cruel cuts.

### HALL, MR R.S.

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (15:33):** I rise today to speak about former premier Steele Hall and to celebrate 50 years since the Hall government was elected. In fact, last week Steele celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr Hall was a farmer from Owen prior to entering this house in 1959 as the member for Gouger. He remains the only Australian to serve as the Premier of a state as well as a member of three legislatures.

His parliamentary career exceeded 33 years, and for over 20 of those he sat on the opposition or crossbenches. After his election to this house in 1959, through a tough eight-way preselection for the blue ribbon seat of Gouger, Hall's streak of independence was soon noted in the young MP, most notably when, as a private member, he sponsored the Book Purchasers Protection Act 1963. In 1965, the then premier, Sir Thomas Playford, made the young Hall opposition whip.

On 17 April 1968, Hall became the youngest ever premier of South Australia, and in 1970 for a short period he served as both premier and treasurer. Under his leadership, reform was heavy on the agenda. Social welfare and reform in Indigenous affairs were central to the government's more moderate approach to governance, often angering some members of the then Liberal Country League (LCL). Arguably, the most important reforms made by the Hall government were those of electoral reform.

The end of the Playmander electoral system saw the start of a more even redistribution of population within both rural and metropolitan House of Assembly seats. During the Playmander, the number of the seats in rural areas was as few as 5,000 people per seat, while safe suburban Labor seats often had more than 40,000 electors. Hall's government fell mainly thanks to the policy issues relating to the difficulties of minority rule, where the LCL and Labor both had 19 seats apiece.

Hall's move to reform the House of Assembly to a fairer model and the bipartisan approach to try to reform the Legislative Council were met with division, especially over the redistribution of House of Assembly seats. The nature of the Hall government hung entirely with the Speaker of the house, Independent Tom Stott. In relation to dealing with the water issues, Hall favoured the use of the Dartmouth Dam in Victoria, rather than continuing with the build of a new dam in Chowilla, which was started by Playford.

Tom Stott was the member for Ridley, which contained localities along the River Murray, including Lyrup, Loxton and Morgan. He was the member for that area. Originally, Hall and the LCL backed the plan to build the Chowilla Dam in return for confidence from Speaker Stott. When Hall decided to abandon the plan, Stott rescinded confidence and supply and sided with Labor, which had promised to stop the dam in his area. Inevitably, Hall lost the 1970 election on the back of this issue around water. Ironically, though, Labor decided against the Chowilla Dam after coming into office in 1970.

One tangible piece of Hall's legacy that remains today is the placement of the Festival Centre. While overseas, cabinet and city council decided on placing the Adelaide Festival Centre on the site of Carclew House. Upon return to Australia, Hall disagreed with that decision and decided that the Festival Centre should be placed on the site of the City Baths. Hall saw the sloping banks of

the River Torrens as a natural choice for the home of the Adelaide Festival and the cultural heart of the city. While the Festival Centre is often incorrectly seen as Dunstan's legacy, it is Steele Hall we have to thank for this.

His premiership was short lived, but I think that as time passes we can see Hall as one of the great reformers in South Australian politics who, by his own decisions, essentially saw the demise of his government. Subsequently, Hall went on to form the breakaway Liberal Movement and represent South Australia in the Senate from 1974 to 1977, and he finally went back to the Liberal Party as the member for Boothby between 1981 and 1996. In the federal parliament, Hall was very much an Independent, which saw him sidelined for his independent streak in the federal party.

Hall's legacy as a leader and a reformist has helped shaped the modern Liberal Party in South Australia. His conviction to the Liberal Party and the Liberal Movement has been evergreen. Hall's fight for a fairer society and a fairer electoral system remains a lasting impression on our party and this wonderful state of South Australia.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Mr Speaker, I draw your attention to the state of the house.

*A quorum having been formed:*

#### *Bills*

### **FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL**

#### *Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 28 November 2018.)

**Mr HUGHES (Giles) (15:41):** This is an interesting amendment bill. Of course, the short history of this amendment bill is that it turned up in this house—

**The SPEAKER:** Is the member for Giles the lead speaker?

**Mr HUGHES:** I might well be.

**The SPEAKER:** I will take that as a yes until further notice, thank you.

**Mr HUGHES:** I am more than willing to take the lead. The bill was introduced into this house last week with completely clean hands, it would appear, when it came to any effort to consult on it, which was pretty disgraceful. You would wonder whether anyone opposite had been consulted about the bill because I am absolutely sure that nobody out in the farming community had been consulted.

**The Hon. C.L. Wingard:** Five years ago you started working on these, Eddie.

**Mr HUGHES:** How many years ago?

*The Hon. C.L. Wingard interjecting:*

**Mr HUGHES:** Five years ago is a big gap.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr HUGHES:** I think some of the members opposite—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Giles is being provoked.

**Mr HUGHES:** I am very much provoked, and I thank you for your protection. It is interesting that the peak bodies, Grain Producers SA and others, did not feel as though they had been consulted when it came to the bill. It has been said a few times that farmers in this state are incredibly responsible. They have been operating under a code of conduct and that code of conduct has worked quite effectively over an extended period of time.

Some people might feel as though this is a bit of overreach on the part of the government and the CFS. That might be the case or it might not be the case, so we are more than willing to tease out those issues. As the minister might be aware, it was our intent yesterday to introduce a motion into the house, but with the way the cards were played by those opposite we did not get the opportunity to do that.

I think it is a good response that the member for Flinders moved the motion to refer this to a select committee, but I have to say that it is probably something that was not needed if effective consultation had happened beforehand. It was interesting that the bill was introduced a day after four members crossed the floor on three occasions. Four members crossed the floor on three occasions—I will repeat that four members crossed the floor on three occasions—and they did so on the basis of a lack of consultation. On that occasion, there was actually an election promise that there would be consultation and that consultation did not occur.

I am more than happy to see this go to a select committee because that is what we intended to do in relation to this amendment bill. It is good that there will be a Liberal member, a Labor member and I think a crossbencher, the member for Frome, on that select committee. So we will get to hear from the farming community. We will hear from the peak bodies and others what their views are. We will also hear from the CFS and the professionals in that area about the merits or otherwise of this legislation.

If this had been handled in a different way, if the consultation had occurred in a timely fashion before the introduction of the bill, we would not need to discuss this here and now and we would not need a select committee. There is an incredibly important lesson there. I think it is an important lesson because I am someone from a regional community. I have been involved in fairly metrocentric consultation processes in the past, where you get the great and powerful and the wise from the metropolitan area coming out to the regions to consult.

Over an extended period of time, I have been exposed to a number of those consultation processes. Some of them have been adequate, some of them have been good and some of them have been incredibly poor—tick-a-box type processes. What that does for those of us who live out in the regions is engender a degree of scepticism and, even worse, a degree of cynicism about consultation processes.

It is important that when ministers, ministers' officers and departments undertake a consultation out in regional communities, and indeed in the metropolitan area, they do it properly. I support the amendment bill going to the select committee. Let us thrash it all out. Hopefully, we will then come back to this house with a piece of legislation that we can support in a bipartisan fashion, with the crossbenchers on board as well. Nearly always it is my preference to work out problems, do your homework and come up with a result that is good for the people of South Australia.

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (15:47):** I rise to speak on the bill and support the intent of this government to provide all who work so hard to keep our community safe with all the support they need to be effective firefighters. Keeping communities safe is a prime responsibility of any government. I rise today in support of the vital collaborative effort that is needed from so many across the state to ensure this responsibility is met.

In the Narungga electorate, brigades of volunteers across all communities and districts assist with the provision of emergency services. To say that CFS crews are vital is an understatement. We all remember the catastrophic Pinery fire near Mallala and Balaklava in November 2015. I have talked about that twice already today in this chamber and, as devastating as it was, it stretched everyone to the limit, killed two people and burnt out 85,000 hectares. The area is still recovering.

I drove through there recently with a constituent and the scars remain and are quite remarkable. The charred trees along the side of the road must provide a daily reminder to those who lived through that experience of the ordeal they endured. Even the plethora of brand-new houses that now populate the area must be a reminder of all the homes that were lost in that terrible fire. It was a dark day in the Adelaide Plains' history, but excitingly there are currently plans afoot to erect a memorial at Grace Plains to commemorate that dark day. I congratulate Mr Peter March and the group working towards erecting that memorial and look forward to seeing it in its full glory.

In April, another serious bushfire occurred in the Narungga electorate at Stansbury, which saw everyone swing into action again with farmer water units and dozens of volunteer CFS from local brigades working to get ahead of the blaze which was only three kilometres north of the town and ran uncontrolled towards the St Vincent Highway. There was no way such bushfires could be controlled quickly without locals putting their own lives at risk and pitching in. If my memory serves me correctly, I believe that particular fire was the result of a burn-off that got out of control. They can be quite dangerous when that does happen.

Another more recent fire, this time threatening the township of Maitland, occurred just a couple of weeks ago. Given my electorate office is in Maitland, we saw the action close up and personal and the alert system at work. As I said, I will talk on that later.

We had a harvester fire in Mundoora on 1 November. In this case, the farmer parked his harvester because conditions were worsening. It had been parked for three to four hours before it caught alight. The farmer was in town at the shops and completely unaware until he arrived home. Fortunately, and again thanks to our CFS volunteers from Port Broughton, Mundoora and Ward Hill, as well as 25 farm firefighting units, the fire was contained quickly before it did any damage. Sometimes, despite following all the rules and procedures, as this farmer did, accidents are unavoidable and will happen inevitably.

Of course, recently an out-of-control fire was burning near Minlaton, which was caused by lightning during that frightening storm of a few weeks ago. Not much can be done to prevent that, but that fire alone required 100 CFS volunteers alongside water bombers and farm units, which minimised the damage to 400 hectares. We certainly have a lot to be thankful for on Yorke Peninsula and the Adelaide Plains because of our local CFS groups. I would like to acknowledge in particular group officers Matthew McDonald, David Bussenschutt, Andrew Cadd and Steve Cornwall, as well as every other volunteer and group officer around the electorate. We have a tremendous group of volunteers in Narungga.

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**Mr ELLIS:** He does a terrific job, David Bussenschutt. It is a difficult time for all of them. As I said, I would like to take this opportunity to thank them wholeheartedly. I support this bill's intent, which is to ensure that all that can possibly be done to prevent such fires occurring in the first place is done for the protection and wellbeing of all, including the CFS crews and farmer units that it takes to control such fires.

I particularly support the establishment of a select committee, which I understand to be the direction in which this government is heading, which specifically addresses questions from the farming industry and Grain Producers SA relating to the consideration of amendments to section 82(2), which include new powers to allow a CFS officer or a superior to direct a person to refrain from carrying on any activity deemed to be presenting great risk to cause fire, to legally reduce the risk of a fire starting through inappropriate use of equipment or activities being undertaken.

I welcome that call for the establishment of a select committee and am particularly pleased that there is representation, or likely to be representation, on it by regional MPs. It is exceedingly important, I think, that this committee is populated with people who understand the challenges faced by farmers because the contentious issue here is indeed harvesting. It is pleasing to hear the member for Giles imply that the member for Frome will also, hopefully, join the committee. Hopefully, he himself joins that committee. He would be a tremendous addition.

We need a committee that has people who understand things both from the farmers' perspective and from the perspective of the CFS. I am certain that those members from this side of the chamber who populate that committee will have that insight. I look forward to making a submission to my learned colleagues and encouraging the plethora of constituents from Narungga who have contacted me on this issue to do so as well. The proposed amendments expand on current powers which, to my mind, work quite well. Being a regional MP, I can vouch for the efficiencies of the current system, but, as in all things, improvements can always be made. Thus I look forward to the findings of the select committee.

The Pinery fire itself was not started by a harvester but reportedly by a car battery left near a wire fence in a paddock on a property. The Minlaton fire started from unavoidable lightning and the



Stansbury fire started from a burn-off which jumped the boundaries, so there are instances of other fires being started. However, the recent fire near Maitland was started by a harvester, but it is noted in this contribution that that was on a day that was not announced as a fire ban day, so it is accepted that sometimes such events just happen despite best efforts.

The best efforts are vast. I give the example of a local SMS alerting system currently in place on Yorke Peninsula, which is an initiative driven by local responsible farmers who are invested in each other and in together protecting their operations. The example shows how local information is crucial, that broadscale blanket bans can not only be inaccurate in ever-changing weather conditions but can drive angst among grain growers, especially when there are millions of dollars of grain yet to be harvested, losing quality, and thus price, quickly with unforeseen delays.

The text message system that notifies local users of current harvest fire danger index risk conditions is considered to work well across Yorke Peninsula and is successful because it is trusted. Specific data is connected locally via automated weather stations, of which there are 170 across South Australia. Such a system empowers local communities to make decisions relevant to them and allows for harvesting to occur to its fullest extent without delays, which naturally can be frustrating if they are not absolutely necessary.

I give the example of a council-wide ban that is called the night before but cannot be easily adjusted and circulated when conditions change—either worsening or improving—and often lasts for 24 hours. As the select committee works towards improvements in the fire risk mechanisms, I will highlight the practices that are already working. I give the example I have referred to: the SMS system developed by Agbyte, which is used on Northern Yorke Peninsula by some 360 recipients. Estimations are that over 700 farming businesses and community stakeholders utilise harvest FDI information generated by these Agbyte weather stations.

As such, the localised system is popular because it is trusted, accurate, reliable, up-to-the-minute information, meaning there are fewer occurrences of farmers pushing the limit to reap as much as possible fearing a blanket ban is coming. By using this system, there is confidence that, should advice be given to stop reaping, it is for a valid reason and likely to be for a specific period only as long as is absolutely necessary.

The system I cite is coordinated by a trusted person—in this case, David Bussenschutt—to make critical decisions, often in association with the CFS. In some regions, a group of farmers undertakes this task for a year and then rotates because the responsibility is taken very seriously and can be quite stressful. Having the human factor in the SMS alert chain is recognised as crucial to ensure data is up to date, as opposed to automated systems that can fail in effectiveness, resulting in irrelevant, inaccurate or old information being distributed. This leads to a lack of trust in the alert, and the advice is therefore not heeded.

There are over 30 public weather stations in the Agbyte network, but the majority are privately owned by grain growers. At this point, I have to acknowledge Leighton Wilksch for the work he has done on this initiative. This work was recently acknowledged when he won the prestigious Prime Super Agricultural Innovation Award. The fire danger alerting system communicates through text messages to farmers so that they better understand fire risk during harvest and can make more informed decisions. I have made the Minister for Emergency Services aware of Leighton's work, and I know he has communicated with the Minister for Agriculture. I will certainly be encouraging him to make a submission to the select committee if it is formed.

The relevant local data from the 50 or so weather stations dotted within my electorate, as part of the network of 170 specialised stations, allows for farmers to safely maximise their harvesting hours. With much of our grain industry working within 20 kilometres of the coast, conditions vary greatly from those inland, so the local weather station network empowers users to make sound decisions about harvest fire risk. Thus, it is recognised that the majority of farmers operate responsibly and comply with the existing harvesting code of practice, and they are commended for it.

In my view, the best part is that this is a self-regulated policy that works exceedingly well for the most part. The view of these farmers, particularly in the areas that have diligently worked to install these text messaging systems, is that they do not need to rely on government regulation or police

intervention; they simply need to regulate themselves. I think it is great that cross-sections of our farming industry get on with doing it themselves.

It is a win-win situation, too, because farmers I know feel as though full fire ban days are cumbersome, not agile enough and deprive farmers of scarce, valuable harvesting time. With this text messaging system, farmers can be warned when the fire danger index is too high for harvesting. My understanding is they can also be told when conditions are abating and it is safe to resume harvesting. This could only be done with localised, personalised and accurate weather testing.

Conditions on the coast may make it too windy to harvest, while conditions inland might be calmer and fine. Localised information needs to be provided. I hope the group that developed this initiative will present to the committee, as I said, when and if it is established. My view is that this is the future of managing fire risk: agile, localised, instantaneous reporting of weather conditions. The farming community I know is close-knit. Community members collaborate with like-minded effort, help each other and regularly down tools to assist each other when required.

That said, we are all at the mercy of nature, and accidents happen. It is understood that fires started by headers are often unlucky—a bearing failure, a header cone hitting a rock—and that reaping low-lying lentil crops can be particularly challenging, even on days that are not fire ban days. I am advised that was the case on 19 November, just a couple of weeks ago, when the fire near Maitland started.

It moved quickly and threatened the township, starting about five kilometres west of the town and, with a northerly wind, travelled south. I was not in the Maitland electorate office that day, but my staff related to me what was happening: the black sky of billowing smoke out their window, the regular alert text message advice they were receiving, the ABC broadcasting regular advice and the automated landline message they received—albeit with a robotic voice mispronouncing the word 'Maitland', but they got the gist of what it was trying to say.

They found it comforting watching the online emergency services scanning system, too. It alerted them about when and what crews and brigades were being sent from where to the incident, which in this case included five water bombers being dispatched. They found the system worked well overall, which was commendable to all, and the fire was contained without loss of property. It burnt out 50 hectares of grass, cropland and scrub.

With the electorate office being opposite the bakery, my staff could also tell when the crisis was over even before the system advised it. As soon as firefighting was no longer required, the multitude of farmer units that had helped put out the fire, driven by farmers who had got off their own headers and downed tools in a race to assist their fellow farmers in trouble, as is always the case in these instances, all started pulling up to the bakery and piling out of their utes and trucks to get a pie and a drink before going back to work. With 100 firefighters called in and 33 firefighting appliances, I can assure this place that the bakery did a roaring trade.

Such incidents remind us of the vast number of services and people it takes to keep our community safe and of the many people who are impacted by such incidents; thus, it is crucial that such systems are effective. They also reiterate the camaraderie and support systems that are in place in our rural communities, and that value the help of each other in any time of need, and the absolutely crucial and willing work undertaken by CFS members, many of whom are farmers themselves.

I will watch the passage of this Fire and Emergency Services (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018 with interest and await the recommendations that come from the select committee if it is formed. I will also be encouraging Narungga constituents and stakeholders who have specific valuable knowledge and experience to bring to this topic to make submissions to the committee for consideration. I commend the formation of the select committee to the house and eagerly anticipate its findings.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (16:02):** The member for Narungga makes a lot of sense.

*Mr Ellis interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** He says, 'All the time.' The opposition has not been briefed on this bill by the minister. Indeed, the opposition was informed by the minister's office that it would not be debated this week, so something has occurred, and I will attempt to inform the house of what I think has happened. We all know what occurred last week when four brave and, I think, patriotic—

**The Hon. A. Piccolo:** Honourable.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —and honourable members put the community before their party. Pretty tough stuff to do, but they did it. That had a number of impacts. One, obviously, was that the voice of farming communities in South Australia suddenly got a lot stronger very quickly. Kudos to those four brave members who stood up for farming communities. I bet a lot of other regional members who did not do that are thinking to themselves, 'Why didn't I, as well?'

What occurred then was that the government's legislative agenda was put into disarray. This bill was introduced quickly, and I have been informed by some members—I do not know the veracity of this, so I give it to the house as gossip—that this did not go to the party room meeting before it was introduced. I have been informed that there was no consultation on this bill and that at the party room meeting in the evening members were informed that the Labor Party would move for a select committee to be established on this bill.

I understand that the government very quickly moved to say that it would establish its own select committee; indeed, the Deputy Speaker himself gave notice in the house yesterday that today, at the conclusion of the second reading debate, he would move that it be moved to a select committee. That was a wise decision by the member for Flinders. Why? I will tell you why: the member for Narungga makes sense. Why? Regional communities have not been consulted on this bill.

You have to ask yourself: if hashtag #RegionsMatter so much, why were regional members not consulted on this? If the member for Narungga says that there was consultation with the grain growers' association, farming communities and regional members, then I take it all back, but I have received information that says that consultation was not done appropriately by the minister. That is concerning because this bill is basically a harvest ban.

I am not a farmer. I do not pretend for a moment to know the stresses and burdens of having to operate a family farm knowing that the future of that farm lies out there in a paddock, that the future of your family lies out there in a paddock and that the repayments to a bank lie out there in a paddock. I can imagine the anxiety and tension caused by a Liberal government bringing in a bill that outsources a decision about harvest to a third party.

*The Hon. C.L. Wingard interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** The minister shakes his head and says, 'No, it does not do that.' It is an interesting interpretation of what the bill does. Then again, I would not take much advice from the Minister for Emergency Services. What the member for Narungga has outlined, I think quite eloquently, is that regional communities are very keen to hear and give their views to a select committee, which means that this bill was never intended to operate this summer.

**The Hon. C.L. Wingard:** It was put together under your government.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** The minister interjects that it was put together by our government. If it was put together by our government and the consultation was adequate, why the select committee?

**The Hon. A. Piccolo:** Why seven months?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Why wait seven months, just before summer? I suppose somewhere in there is the genius political strategy work of the Minister for Emergency Services, the hidden prince, the Machiavelli of the Liberal Party. Wait seven months, just before summer, then spring on the rural backbench a harvest ban.

**The Hon. C.L. Wingard:** Fixing up your mess.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yelling out slogans is, I suppose, one way to avoid any type of critique. The opposition does support a select committee. We do think it is important that rural

communities have a say on this, that rural communities are able to talk about the impacts of harvest bans on their work. But the minister assures the house that there has been adequate consultation, that the party room was well informed and that regional communities are unanimously in favour of all this. Well, we will see what the select committee finds.

I also find it interesting to see that there are Independent rural members in this parliament who would like to serve on that committee but the government will not allow them. I think this is also interesting. I know that the member for Mount Gambier and the member for Frome have a lot to contribute to regional communities and have a lot of experience, but the metropolitan Minister for Emergency Services, who knows all about harvest, is the one who is going to be telling—

**Mr Odenwalder:** Farmer Joe.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Farmer Joe, the friend of the farmer, who does not support a right to veto mining on farmers' land. I have to say that I think there is a bit of disquiet about the way the minister has conducted himself. It could be from rural members pulling their hamstrings crossing the road to speak to me about how he has stuffed it up, or it could be because of the phone calls I have received from rural members about their dissatisfaction with the way the government has conducted themselves. It could be because of the number of rural members who were very keen to know what our position would be on a select committee, whether we would support one or not and whether we could give them that answer before their party room meeting, which we did.

It was interesting to see the government actually begin to listen. The lesson in all this is that, rather than those four members who crossed the floor being traitors, self-indulgent or self-interested, what they have actually done is strengthen the arms of rural communities in South Australia within the government. But of course you have to ask yourself about those rural members who did not do that, who decided to stick with the miners and to stick with the metropolitan member who wants to bring in a harvest ban.

Those are the considerations and the tensions that are in the Liberal Party as we speak. I am sure the CFS and the agency in charge of our emergency response have very good reasons for the measures that are in the bill. I think it is beyond the minister to explain them to us, which is why his party, his government, have taken the decision away from him and given it to a select committee of this parliament. I think that is pretty humiliating to start with, but I do not think there is much that can humiliate the Minister for Emergency Services—pretty thick skin there.

But I have to say it will be interesting to see who the government nominates to be on the select committee and who will chair it. I hope the member for Narungga is on it because I think he has a passion for regional communities. I hope he is on the committee and is able to take evidence and inform this house in the select committee's report about the best way to improve this rushed bill. I am interested to know whether the member Finnis will be on the committee. I understand he will. He is probably a lot more compliant than other rural members. Perhaps he is more interested in climbing the greasy pole than other rural members who are prepared to perhaps shake the establishment and stand up for their local communities. There are slightly different ways of operating within the Liberal Party.

I do not, for one moment, pretend to understand the internal byzantine workings of the Liberal Party, but what I did see was a shift change last week and that change brings us to this select committee. I have to say, Mr Deputy Speaker, your community, more than most, knows the ravages of bushfire and the way bushfires are changing and the way communities respond to that, as does the member for Narungga, as do a lot of rural members. I think it is important that we hear the views of those communities.

I was fascinated to hear the member for Narungga talk about a blanket fire ban potentially not being the right solution for different parts of rural South Australia. But do you know what? That makes a bit of sense because there are some areas where there will be high winds and other areas where there will not be. Do we risk an entire harvest, an entire business, an entire family's future? With regard to risk mitigation, make no mistake about it, public servants and the department will do everything they can to minimise risk to the public and make the public safe. That does not necessarily help a farmer who has a very small window for harvest. I think what the member for Narungga is

telling the house on behalf of his community is that that needs to be understood by not only the bureaucracy but the suburban minister in charge of this portfolio.

It is not the minister's fault that he is from suburban Adelaide—not at all. Not for one minute does anyone expect the Minister for Emergency Services to be an expert on harvest or rural firefighting. That is not his job. His job is to administer the act and give it the resources that are required to respond to these things. However, when you have in your caucus a wealth and depth of knowledge of rural communities, you would think maybe they would listen.

Had it not been for the events of last week, we would not be here today. Had it not been for the events of last week and those four brave members who crossed the floor, the bill would not be going to a select committee: the bill would be passing tonight and rural members would be out there in their communities explaining why the Liberal government has introduced a harvest ban without any consultation, without any advice or advanced warning to rural communities.

So I congratulate the shadow minister for regions, the honourable member for Giles, the four brave rural champions in the government and the Deputy Speaker on moving this amendment that is before the house, on which I will be speaking once it is actually considered by the house at the conclusion of the second reading contributions. Had it not been for them, the minister would have arrogantly done what the mining minister attempted to do, which is to just push through legislation simply because they are the government, they have the numbers and they will do what they like. I think that what we are now seeing is a democratisation of the Liberal Party, and that is the first step towards real independence.

The second step is independent thought—I think we have reached that now—and, of course, the third step is that they will stop being politicians and now become legislators, and we will see more and more amendments. If any member wants any advice about amending legislation, my office doors are always open. I am happy to assist regional members of the Liberal Party to amend government legislation in the best interests of their regional community. The Labor Party is here to help. We are the farmers' friends. We are here to assist regional communities hold the government to account.

On reading the editorial of *The South Eastern Times*, a paper that is part of the stable of *The Border Watch*—which is no friend of mine and no friend of the Labor Party—which said that this current government is dominated by city-centric moderates and that brave conservatives stood up in the interests of regional people, it brought a slight tear to my eye. Think of the courage it would have taken to stand up to Chris Pyne in his jackboots—to stand up to the moderates of the Liberal Party who attempt to dominate regional people.

Since the recent election, regional people were promised a lot. What they have received, which the member for Light will talk about in his remarks, are cuts. Despite what the government said, that the former government used regional country cabinets as a tool to try to get votes or PR, the answer to that is no. I can assure the house that we never thought on visiting Port Lincoln that Flinders would be in play for the Labor Party. I can assure members that when we visited the Riverland we never thought that we would win the seat of Chaffey. When we visited the South-East, we did not think that Mackillop and Mount Gambier were in play.

We did our job because cabinets are responsible for all 47 districts, not just the ones you hold; and cabinets should be seen across the entire state. There is something powerful about an entire cabinet sitting in a regional hall answering questions unfiltered—democracy in the raw, if you will—from regional people getting up and saying, 'These are the issues.' I remember when I was transport minister between 2013 and 2014—

*The Hon. C.L. Wingard interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Again, the personal attacks on a bad day—yell it out. I could talk about how the minister was sacked as a sports journo, but I will not; that would be unfair.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Except, member for West Torrens, you will be talking about the bill at hand, will you not?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Exactly.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I think there is something very powerful about a regional community—

**The Hon. C.L. Wingard:** You were a taxidriver.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Again, criticising my experience because I drove taxis while at university—again, this sort of soft racism.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yes, that is what it is. There is something powerful about a regional community being able to ask the transport minister, 'Which road did you come in on? What did you think of the quality of that road? On your way out, can you travel this road so that you can see the quality of that road.' There is something powerful about a regional community being able to take the Treasurer down to a local community that needs assistance, or speak to the water minister about an issue that they can see, touch and feel all at once, and there is something especially powerful about raising those issues in front of the Premier, and the Premier directing the minister at that time to deal with that person's concerns right then and there.

We invited to every country community cabinet the local member of parliament, and they came along. They were empowered, they were made to feel welcome and, of course, they were also able to bring delegations to the cabinet. What is wrong with that process to assist regional communities? If there had been more country cabinets, we would not be in this humiliating position of the minister having to have a select committee because he would have known about the issues that the member for Narungga raised, the issues the member for MacKillop may raise and the issues the member for Mount Gambier is going to raise about a harvest ban.

I am being told from regional members in this place and in the other place that this bill has excited a lot of attention in regional newspapers and regional communities about what it is attempting to do, which is why we are at this position. You just wonder: could we have avoided the humiliating situation of the minister being forced to set up a select committee by his party room if he had just done the job of actually asking regional members, 'How do we improve the bill? How does this impact on people? Do we need to put more resources into forecasting in regional South Australia? Do regional CFS stations need different types of equipment in place to deal with harvesting?' There is none of that. There is 'my way or the highway'.

Because of the independence now of some members of the government, the minister has been put on the highway—the highway to regional South Australia to go out and consult and to listen. Now, of course, he is having to listen to the concerns of regional South Australians, as he should have before this bill was put here. The proper process in a Westminster democracy for introducing legislation should be, obviously, to consult widely on legislation before you bring it to the parliament, before you bring it to the cabinet, before you bring it to the party room—not the other way around.

But this minister thinks, 'Ram it through cabinet, get it to the parliament, then go to the party room, then go and consult' is somehow appropriate. That is not good governance. That is poor governance, and you get poor outcomes from it. That is why we are in this situation now where we have to have a second reading speech after summer has started, because the minister tells us this is urgent, but it has to go to a select committee now because he did not do his job for the seven months over winter and spring to get this ready for the CFS to have this to go.

So the question then becomes: what happens if there is a disaster over summer because the government was not ready with the tools the emergency services say they need? Because of the poor planning, the poor foresight and the laziness of the minister, we have to have a select committee to consult with groups he should have consulted with first.

*The Hon. C.L. Wingard interjecting:*

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Mumbling will not fix incompetence. I cannot put in what God left out, and that is why we are in this situation where the Labor Party will be supporting a select committee because of the minister's incompetence.

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (16:22):** I rise and am moved in part by the remarks of the member for West Torrens. It reminds me of the review of the late payments legislation, under the watch of the

member for West Torrens whose attention span, it appears, has quickly run out after he has finished his own political jibing on this point—nothing like an opportunist.

In the case of the late payments legislation—another bit of legislation we fixed up in the early days of this government—and the 2013 act, which contemplated the automation of payments, a review was required to occur. In that case, the review occurred at the very last minute. The review led to no change.

**Mr HUGHES:** Point of order.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** There is a point of order. Member for Heysen, could you be seated.

**Mr HUGHES:** Relevance.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It is relevance. Honestly, the member for Heysen is still in his first minute. I expect this is a preamble to his contribution on the bill. The member for Heysen.

**Mr TEAGUE:** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. In that case, the review came at the last moment. The review was cursory. It recommended no change because it was all a bit too hard, and it left us with the Orwellian titled Late Payment of Government Debts (Interest) Act, which did nothing of the sort and left us having to fix up the mess

In this case, we have precisely the same structure going on. We have section 149 of the Fire and Emergency Services Act requiring that a review occur and that it occur prior to a certain date in 2013. The reviewer, Mr Holloway, was required to review. That is very much the subject of what we are talking about here today, and I know that we have lost the attention span of the member for West Torrens but, for those who are present, we are focused on the review, the review that occurred five years ago.

The review duly occurred and was presented at the very last moment. Mr Holloway conducted a thoroughgoing review in accordance with section 149 of the act, as the act required. It would appear that the matter lay there for the better part of the next five years. As under the Late Payment of Government Debts (Interest) Act—something that we fixed up hastily, quickly and without fuss so that we move from an Orwellian environment to an actual environment in which outcomes are appreciated and received by business that deals with government in this state—we are now in an environment where we are dealing with the outcome of a 2013 review—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**Mr TEAGUE:** Yes, for those who are having trouble following, section 149 of the 2005 act required that a review occur. So far, so good? That review duly occurred and was then sat on by those on the other side, so it does not sit well in the mouths of the opposition in late 2018 to come into this house, and for the member for West Torrens to give dictation to those on this side of the house—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Heysen, could you take a seat for a moment. The member for Light will have his opportunity in a moment, I am sure, and would appreciate the opportunity to be heard in silence; therefore, we will give that same opportunity to the member for Heysen.

**Mr TEAGUE:** As I was indicating, it does not sit well in the mouths of those on the opposition benches, and it particularly does not sit well in the mouth of the member for West Torrens, to be talking about attention to a thoroughgoing review of legislation and implementation of the outcomes of such a review where it is legislated. The track record on the opposition side is one of 16 years of government based upon mismanagement and inaction, as exemplified by reviews that took place under legislation, just one example of which I have drawn by way of comparison, particularly in light of the member for West Torrens' direct responsibility for the production of the review in that case.

None of the critique that we have heard from those on the opposition benches sits well in their mouths when it comes to the consideration of regional South Australia because those on the government benches are well and truly acquainted with, engaged with, understanding and in daily

dialogue with those in the regions. For us, it does not take a leader's listening tour with a roster and taking a map to somewhere outside metro Adelaide to see if you can find something that is described as a regional area.

We live, breathe, work and operate in our electorates in the regions in South Australia and proudly so. So, when it comes to legislating in this area, we are consulting, interacting, living, breathing and receiving real feedback daily from those to whom we are responsible. Long may that be the case because that is what leads to timely action to reform based on reviews, as opposed to inaction over many years. That is precisely what leads to good thoroughgoing legislation that will have real beneficial effects in the interests of our volunteers and those in communities with whom those volunteers and emergency service providers interact and benefit from. Good legislation ensures that that interaction can happen in the most fruitful way possible.

We all know that the Holloway review is a document that was before the previous government for many years and led to no change; we know that. We presume, because the contributions so far from those opposite appear to focus on some notion that there has been little notice of this legislation, or that they were unaware or that somehow this has come to them lately, that they have had the benefit of this review for all those years yet have done nothing. As in so many other cases in this 54<sup>th</sup> parliament, the opposition, in my view, would be far better off perhaps providing a brief apology, sitting back and getting out of the way so that the new government can get on with ensuring that it implements legislation for all South Australians.

We know that the report on the review outlines a number of important recommendations, and those recommendations go squarely to addressing issues related to the provision of emergency services throughout our state. They include the question of employment insecurity for those who are committed to volunteering in local brigades, with the result that in some cases they find themselves absent from work when they are providing that volunteer effort to respond to an emergency; the structure and framework in which breaches of permit conditions imposed by authorised officers occur and how that is dealt with; and, as one would expect with a bill that has been on the books for nearly 15 years, the various technical issues raised by the emergency services organisations from time to time. They might go to apparent ambiguities or anomalies in the way the legislation under which they have to operate applies.

It seems to me to have been a wholly sensible approach to structure matters in such a way that a review of the act ought take place a reasonable time after the enactment of the bill has occurred, and what we are left with is a situation in which many years of inaction are now being addressed. It is natural, in my view, that as a new government we would want to have a thorough look at all aspects of the environment affected by a review of this kind and that, in implementing this new legislation that will reform the act and also deal in a limited way with the Emergency Management Act 2004, we are looking to improve the ability of the emergency services to deliver public safety outcomes at a minimal cost to government and to ensure that the community service provided by those volunteers is one that is backed by the government's commitment to them and appreciation for their voluntary service in the interests of the safety of the community.

In terms of framing where we have come from and what is, sadly, a story of mismanagement and inaction over many years past that we need to come along and fix as a new government, I certainly note that the select committee that will consider more specifically the circumstances in which emergency events and dangerous conditions are responded to is an important part of that process. I note that it has been proposed that a select committee will contribute to that process. I fully expect that it will add to the depth and the thoroughgoing ability of the new legislation to serve all those in the community.

I hasten to add in this context that it is important that the government consults, as it has and will continue to do, with all in the community—with those who are volunteering, with those who may be imperilled or otherwise affected by emergency events and need to have the confidence that the response from all emergency services providers is as quick and effective as it can possibly be. Indeed, for those in industry, it is important that there is maximum confidence that all will work together in the interest of public safety, in the interest of the community's wellbeing and in the interest of ensuring that, as far as we possibly can, we avoid emergency events taking place at all.



I specifically note that the government, as it has regularly and continues to benefit from doing so over a range of subject areas, has met with and appreciated the work of industry bodies, including Grain Producers SA. I want to single out the considerable body of work that has been done by Grain Producers SA in relation to the code that GPSA has developed and implemented. There may be others in the house who might in due course have more to say about the effect of the code, the work that was done to arrive at it and the way in which it binds and brings together those in the grain industries by providing a standard.

Members of that industry, and particularly farmers harvesting at this time of year, can have confidence knowing that they have a standard that has been prepared and documented and is clear, accessible and nimble for them to be able to respond. I am quick to recognise that when it comes to considering appropriate reforms with the benefit of a review, albeit a review that is a few years old, we on this side of the house do so in light of best practice that emerged from the review and came into practice in recent years. I am sure that is just one element that will play a part in the consideration of the work of a select committee.

In the short time available to me, I want to recognise the diverse work of volunteers. I am somewhat well placed to do so from the perspective of the Adelaide Hills, within the electorate of Heysen. Our CFS volunteers in particular are called to a wide diversity of emergencies. It is far from just bushfires. In many respects, volunteers in the Adelaide Hills—particularly the Stirling and Bridgewater brigades, which are near the South Eastern Freeway—are regularly called to emergencies on the freeway.

There might be a stereotype that CFS volunteers work on bushfires; they certainly do, but they are also doing incredible work in responding to serious events, including emergencies on the freeway in particular, insofar as Heysen is concerned. In responding to their needs, we should ensure that we appreciate the range of work they do. With those remarks, and in that context, I look forward to participating further in this debate.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:42):** I would like to make a contribution to the debate on this amendment bill. First of all, I would like to put on the record my thanks to everyone working within our emergency services. In that, I include not only the volunteers in the CFS and SES but also those who volunteer in marine rescue. I think marine rescue volunteers are often overlooked, and they play a very important role in keeping our coastlines and rivers safe. They also help people when they get into trouble. In talking about those who work in emergency services, I would like to acknowledge the work of the MFS. Sometimes, in acknowledging—quite appropriately—the work undertaken by volunteers, we seem to omit or diminish the important role of MFS officers. They also put their lives at risk when attending building fires.

Sadly, the reality is that more people die in building and house fires than in wildfires. That is not to say that one is better or worse, but that is the reality. As such, those who work for the Metropolitan Fire Service are equally important in keeping our communities safe. Most of us who have been in this place for a while are certainly aware of the role of volunteers. Volunteers within my local Country Fire Service, Dalkeith CFS, attend a lot of road accidents and undertake a lot of hazardous work. In fact, at last count they were probably the CFS brigade with the most call-outs.

I would like to respond to some of the comments made by the member for Heysen and others. The member went out of his way to talk about how this new government has listened to the people and listened to rural voters, etc. It is interesting to note, on the mining legislation, that four members of the government's own party actually had to cross the floor to get the government's attention about how displeased some of its rural members were, as well as how displeased people in rural communities were, with the way the government was handling that particular issue.

So they have been forced to consult on that issue, and my understanding is that history has repeated itself and that the government has been forced to consult on this bill, which was supposed to go through before Christmas. This government has again been forced to consult by the rural members of its party, and that is why we now have the potential referral to a select committee. I believe that is a welcome step, but I will get to that select committee in a moment. This government mocked the fact that we had community consultation. Community consultation and regional visits are important because it is about accountability; we were actually there, accountable at the time.

I notice that this government is a bit reluctant to go out there in force because it does not want to make itself accountable. The government talks about understanding rural areas better than we do. One thing I did when I was minister in this area was to introduce the farm fire unit program. I acknowledge that it was a modest program, but it was one that was really supported by people in rural areas; there was a huge subscription to that program. The program was important for two reasons. One was that I learnt that the first responders to fires are the farmers themselves, or the landowners. They are the first people who respond, particularly on private land.

If you can stop a fire from spreading by having the right equipment you can obviously stop a fire from becoming a bushfire or a wildfire, so it is very important that farmers have the capacity to stop those fires on their properties. This government has now abolished that program, and there will therefore be no more increased capacity for people in rural areas, for them to build capacity on their land to fight fires.

The second thing I learnt was that at any major incident CFS brigades and other volunteers are supported enormously by the farm fire units: in fact, in any fire there could be up to 70 to 80 farm fire units fighting fires alongside CFS volunteers, etc. For some reason this government does not believe that is important anymore, because it abolished that program. It abolished a program to build capacity in our rural communities to fight fires.

More importantly, it was not only about building capacity to fight fires; the program also had an important element to it regarding safety. The grant was contingent on farmers also accepting certain safety equipment and using what was purchased in a safe way. The idea of the program was twofold: first, to improve capacity and, secondly, to improve safety. We now have a government that thinks that is unimportant. If the government thinks it is okay to do that, its members should read the *Stock Journal*, because some of the comments in that talk about how out of touch this government has become.

We then come to this bill where, again, the government has been forced to consult with rural communities. That is paragraph (b) of the proposed contingent notice of motion, the select committee referral, being forced to consult with stakeholders, again, by members of its own governing party. That was not the case when this was introduced last week; I think it was designed to go through, but then, within the party structure, rural members made it very clear that their constituents were displeased. I think I saw a couple of media stories, in both the *Stock Journal* and also *The Advertiser*, reporting that rural constituents were quite displeased with the direction this government was taking. So the government has been forced to do that.

This select committee is a bit unusual compared with other select committees. Most if not all select committees have a final part to the terms of reference: 'any other related matters'. It gives people a chance to voice their opinion on issues relevant to that broad subject area. This select committee's terms of reference deliberately avoid that. They are very tight. They are designed to make sure that people in rural communities do not have a real say. It is a token process and a sham process because it is designed basically to get the minister out of trouble on this issue once again.

**Mr Brown:** It is a fig leaf.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** It is a fig leaf; that is correct. On the one hand, the government is trying to pretend that it is going to listen, but I am sure that the community out there will see it for what it is worth. I certainly hope that they make submissions to the select committee. I think it is important that they do that. I am also hoping that they are not limited in both their critique of this bill and other real issues, particularly how they have been treated by this government.

If the government was genuine in its consultation, it would amend the terms of reference to add a paragraph (c) 'any other matters'. It would give people in rural areas a free hand to talk about what is important to them on the ground rather than just being asked for an answer to one question in a very limited way. This government is basically saying, 'We only want to hear about the opinions we like, not the opinions we do not like. We do not want to give farmers the opportunity to express their true views about a whole range of issues in relation to this bill.' With those comments, I look forward to this bill going to a select committee.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (16:51):** As I have remarked before in this house, it is known in our state that we can expect serious fires in six or seven years out of every 10. The majority of those

fires will be in rural and regional South Australia, including in the Hills. The danger of fire is deep in the psyche of my community. We know and understand how dangerous fire can be and how quickly it can spread through the Hills.

It has been a privilege to visit many CFS stations and volunteers in my district, including with the minister. The professionalism and dedication of local CFS volunteers cannot be overstated. Also within my electorate is the CFS training centre at Brukunga and the CFS air operations airstrip. Put simply, the Hills depend on the CFS and other emergency services volunteers. It follows that we are eager to make any improvements as may be necessary to emergency services legislation, and to do the work that was quite plainly left undone by the previous government.

To hear a lecture from the opposition, as I have heard this afternoon, on who really cares about South Australia is outrageous. It is outrageous. We are the party that looks after the interests of regional communities, including my own community. The careful and thoughtful commentary from the member beside me, the member for Heysen, accurately reflects how we all together best represent regional and rural communities in this state. One point made particularly well by my colleague is that the nature and scope of the work left undone is significant.

What we had was obfuscation and prevarication for years—for 16 years. Here we are now, at the earliest opportunity, making and taking those steps that must now be taken. I commend the minister for all his work in that regard. Managing fire in rural communities is vital. I acknowledge the significant work that the minister and our government are doing to manage and address the risk of fire in my community. Amongst other matters, the minister and our government have moved quickly to enhance aerial firefighting resources. More than \$9 million will be made available over the next four years to boost the CFS air wing from 17 to 26 aircraft.

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**Mr CREGAN:** What did you do about that? That is a significant investment. It is one that I welcome and one that all Hills communities welcome. To assist us all in planning and preparing for the upcoming bushfire season, the CFS are hosting a number of community events across the state. I recently attended a forum at Hahndorf in my electorate.

As the member for Heysen has outlined, CFS volunteers provide extraordinary and necessary services in our community. We are deeply grateful. Of course, we are also very grateful for the scope of services provided by the SES, police, ambulance officers and others. We are deeply grateful. As has also been mentioned, the range of those services extend, by volunteer effort, to road crash assistance, which is incredibly necessary, including this morning on the freeway where there was a serious accident that I myself saw.

Turning to the bill, the report on the review of the Fire and Emergency Services Act outlines a number of important recommendations to address issues relating to emergency services in South Australia. As the minister has outlined, issues include employment insecurity of volunteers who are absent performing emergency duties, breaches of permit conditions, various technical issues raised by emergency services organisations to address drafting ambiguities or other ambiguities in the act—a number of important and necessary improvements that were not attended to by the previous government.

I commend the minister and the government for establishing a select committee to examine the bill and note that the minister has in particular indicated ongoing commitment to working with Grain Producers South Australia and other stakeholders in relation to the bill and its powers. I anticipate that the committee will examine the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice in the context of the wider review, and I look forward to the committee's report.

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (16:56):** I rise to make a brief and rather unexpected contribution to the Fire and Emergency Services (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2018. I want to start off, too, by expressing my deep gratitude and admiration for the work of all emergency services workers, obviously, but of the CFS in particular, since they are largely the subject of the bill.

As a police officer, I worked very often hand in glove with the CFS in the peri-urban areas of Elizabeth and also the electorates of the members for Light and Taylor. I saw firsthand the quality work they did. They were volunteers but they were extremely professional in their approach to their

work. I have nothing but admiration for them. My involvement with them as a police officer and also as a member of parliament has been nothing but exemplary.

As I said, I will speak very briefly on the bill. I intend to make a much more substantial contribution after the select committee, which I assume this house will recommend. Given the lack of consultation, I think other members have ranged across these issues quite adequately. I listened to the member for Light's contribution. I listened to the member for West Torrens' contribution with great interest. I think he made a valuable contribution to this debate, perhaps the most valuable contribution. Notwithstanding all of that, I will be brief because I do not want to frustrate the rest of the government's fulsome agenda this week. I support the amendment brought by I think it was the member for Narungga—

**An honourable member:** It was the member for Flinders.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** I beg your pardon. I am sorry, sir. It was not an amendment: it was a notice of motion. I support the motion brought by the member for Flinders. Let *Hansard* reflect that I have nothing but the deepest admiration for the member for Flinders and all his motions. I support the motion for the bill to be examined by a select committee of this house and recommendations brought back for the house to then debate that report, which is where I intend to make a more fulsome contribution.

I will not be seeking to be a member of this committee, but I will follow its work with interest and I look forward to it consulting widely, broadly and deeply with the communities that are affected by the bill: the state districts of Narungga, of course, of MacKillop, of Stuart, of Heysen, and many others. It seems clear to me, at least, that no-one in these districts was consulted in the preparation of the bill, least of all the local MPs and the loyal members of the minister's own party, but as the member for West Torrens has outlined very succinctly, the lack of consultation was thorough.

Not only were regional communities, farmers, grain growers, rural MPs not consulted, but, in an omission which is extremely rare and certainly unheard of in my eight years of this place, nor were the opposition even offered a briefing before the bill was brought on. In fact, I have learnt more about the practical effects of the bill from the member for Giles than from any effort from the minister's office, so I want to thank the member for Giles and acknowledge his contribution so far to the debate, both in this place and in the public arena.

This bill was introduced late in the afternoon last Wednesday. I knew that the minister was in discussion with the crossbench for a long time over the issue of volunteers charters. Indeed, I have had conversations with the minister myself about those. I did not know where that was heading. I have discussed the idea of volunteers charters with the member for Light, too, and the member for Kaurna. Charters may well indeed have merit, and we would have teased that out in this debate, had this been a proper second reading debate leading to the committee stage and then to the third reading. Whether they are worthy or not, we may not know for a while.

In fact, I first heard of the existence of this bill from a crossbencher from the other place. As I said, the bill was introduced on Wednesday—

**Mr Pederick:** You might want to talk to your whip.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** No, I was the first person in my party I am aware of who was aware of this bill, member for Hammond. I was informed of it by a member of the crossbench from the other house. Then of course the bill was introduced, and so on, and then no briefing was offered.

On Friday, I spoke to the minister's office and was assured that, although the bill was on the paper by then, a briefing was being organised. Despite all that, the bill almost certainly would not be debated in this place this week, yet here we are. Perhaps I am too trusting, member for Hammond, but I took the minister's adviser at his word. So I have not been briefed on this bill, and I have not been in a position to recommend any position on its several provisions to shadow cabinet or to the caucus.

The irony, of course, is that if the minister had approached the opposition with a briefing, if we had been properly briefed as is the custom for certainly as long as I have been in this place, he might have found me in a good mood. Who knows? I may have recommended the bill to the caucus.

Who knows? He may have had his bill despite his broken, dysfunctional party room. He may well have had his bill. We may well be debating the third reading now as we speak. We will never know.

I will not hold up the house. I know that we have important things to do today and tomorrow. I look forward to this bill being examined by the select committee, subject to the proper scrutiny of rural MPs, rural people and the people it will affect most closely.

**Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (17:01):** I rise to speak on this bill, and it perhaps gives me a great opportunity to emphasise the important role and contribution the CFS and the SES volunteers make and also the role that their predecessors, the emergency fire service, have played in the past.

Volunteers do not do what they do for recognition, but they do serve our community and keep it safe. Even when there are times when we put ourselves in danger—such as driving through floodwaters and not heeding advice—our volunteers will risk everything to help us and make sure we survive. Looking around the electorate of Finniss, and under its previous name of Alexandra, there have been some significant fires in my area that have affected my family directly in our farming enterprises over time.

The first one I would like to mention was on 17 January 1959. That fire started at the top of Cut Hill above Victor Harbor, near the intersection of Crows Nest Road and Victor Harbor Road. It burnt from there right down to the beach, and the seaweed burned for days following the fire on the beach and destroyed seven homes. Over 3,000 sheep had to be destroyed and more than 6,000 hectares were burnt in the fire, which equates to about 5 per cent of my electorate in today's terms.

The interesting thing is that back then there was not a lot of equipment to help put out or control the fire, so 1,500 firefighters were involved in fighting it. The Port Elliot showgrounds were severely damaged in that fire. Also, on researching this fire I discovered that my grandfather, Bunny Basham, who was a supervisor of the emergency fire service at the time, actually collapsed while fighting the fire and had to receive medical attention. He crashed his car into a tree when driving down Crows Nest Road, with flames underneath the car at the time, and he had to restart the car and get out for his own safety. Luckily for him and for me, he was able to get out of that circumstance.

There have also been other significant fires in the region. Ash Wednesday 1980 certainly affected the current area of Finniss. Numerous homes and buildings were destroyed across the state, many animals, etc., were burnt and 3,700 hectares were burnt out in that fire. Then we had Ash Wednesday 1983 when 28 people died in South Australia, including CFS volunteers. A further 47 people died in Victoria, including 14 CFA volunteers. That fire is certainly something I remember from my childhood. I was in year 10 at the time attending a school in Adelaide, and I looked out on the Adelaide Hills and saw the smoke, the dust and the intense orange glow that came through that dust and smoke across the Hills.

There was the fear of what was actually occurring, knowing that there were fires all over the state but not knowing how it was affecting my family in particular, because communications at that time were very limited with just landline phones and there was no-one inside that day because everyone was out fighting the fires. It was a very distressing day as a child to see that, and I certainly had friends in the boarding house who lost their farms, who lost their homes and who were severely directly affected by the fires. Fortunately, my family was spared.

We have had fires directly affect our farm. I remember coming back in the early 1980s from a VACSWIM program down on the coast, arriving home, driving down the hill, getting out of the car and turning around to see a fire coming across the hill from where we had just come. I believe that the then department of road transport's roller that was heading up the hill probably started it as a result of a spark from the roller going up the hill to see the fire, which burnt about 30 hectares of our place on that day. In that time, our response was to jump in the ute with some wet bags and do what we could to save the hay shed full of hay. Luckily, we were able to keep the flames at bay until the CFS arrived.

In 1997, there was a significant fire in the Mount Compass region, in the Tooperang Valley. That fire also came to our farm. We were the most southern point of that fire. It was certainly a very nasty day at the time, with strong north, north-westly winds blowing and fairly high temperatures. The

fire started in the late morning, which is a particularly difficult time of the day for a fire to start because of the risk that it could keep burning all afternoon. Probably the community—the Mount Compass community, the Tooperang community—was lucky in that regard in one way because the terrain was such that we were lucky enough to still have some green areas of pasture growing on our place that slowed down the fire so that it did not get away from us.

Also, when it travelled further along towards the east, as it moved sideways it was travelling up a very steep valley, getting to the top and being blown out, which also made it easier for the firefighters to control. Interestingly, that fire is believed to have sparked another one down at Double Bridges at Currency Creek with embers travelling that distance, so we saw a significant jump in a fire just through the embers travelling. That fire was started by someone doing something they should not have done: they were unloading hay from a hay shed and a hay bale fell on the exhaust of the tractor. Unfortunately, even though they were able to get the CFS relatively quickly, the problem was that the CFS actually ran out of water and the fire got away from them before backup crews were able to get there to stop it going any further.

More recently, on New Year's Eve of 2015, there was a fire that started on another very hot day. I remember it clearly. I was sitting inside. I think I was watching the cricket and trying to keep out of the heat when our air conditioner packed up. I was a bit annoyed that we now did not have a house with air conditioning. We were trying to keep cool and keep the house as cool as we could. About half an hour after the air conditioner stopped, I started to receive messages of a fire at Mosquito Hill on Goolwa Road. The most concerning thing about that was that we have about two kilometres of frontage of our farm on Goolwa Road at Mosquito Hill and there is only about five kilometres in total with that area name having that frontage.

It certainly was something very concerning to us and I immediately tried to find out what was occurring. Luckily again for us, it was just south of our farm and wind conditions were such that it was very unlikely to come to our place; however, we saw over 310 hectares burnt that day. We had some very good luck that day in the community with some wind changes that occurred that stopped it travelling in a direction that would allow it to become a large fire.

In January this year, there was another fire just north of us. Again, that one was of concern because the wind conditions were such that, if it had got away, it was heading straight to our place, including our home. That ended up being only a very small fire, but, again, it was a difficult day. We were able to see that fire controlled very quickly with aerial bombers. I understand that it was actually caused by some powerlines coming down in the wind.

There are many causes of fires and many things that farmers have to deal with in getting their properties ready and being prepared, but I also think it is about making sure that we have legislation that is appropriate and prepared to deal with what is needed to protect our farms because we could see our farmers put at risk if we do not get this legislation right.

In the last financial year, we saw the CFS and the SES respond to approximately 15,000 incidents, with volunteers contributing more than 525,000 hours of their own time. This is an amazing thing that I am very proud of. I am also very proud of my grandfather for the time he gave as a volunteer. He continued to volunteer well into his older years and he continued to be involved as a radio operator when he was no longer able to be on the ground.

One of the important things about the bill is recognising the volunteer charters. We need to make sure that we understand the structures and functions of the CFS and the SES and that we do what we can to enshrine the fundamental concerns of some volunteers with the arrangements on the consultation process that were insufficient. We need to provide confidence that we are there to make sure we deliver what is needed.

I have asked the parliamentary library to do some investigation into this space. Something that people have raised with me is that they believe police have the power to stop farmers doing the wrong thing, such as a rogue farmer out there with his angle grinder or slashing his paddocks, etc. Something that I am very concerned about is harvesting. Can they stop people harvesting? My understanding from the advice that I have been given so far from the library is that the only piece of legislation they can find that might give police the opportunity to stop a farmer harvesting is if they believe it is going to cause environmental harm under the Environment Protection Act of 1993.

This certainly is not an adequate way to manage this. If a person is operating outside the industry code, operating outside the expectations of the community and continuing to do things that they should not do because they believe they have the right to, we need to make sure that there is an opportunity to protect their neighbours and to protect the towns downwind from them if they do not do the right thing.

It is very important that we have a select committee inquire into this, to make sure there are no unintended consequences and for the committee to make sure that the changes being made to the bill actually deliver what we want them to—that is, not stop farmers from doing what they should be doing, reaping when they should be reaping, but to stop those who are not following the industry codes.

I applaud the grain industry for what they have done. Many years ago, I was involved in discussions with the grain industry in preparing their code to make sure there were no unintended consequences for dairy farmers. I certainly support what we are trying to do here with this bill and I very much support the introduction of this select committee to make sure we do not have any unintended consequences. On that point, I close my remarks.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (17:16):** I rise to make a contribution to the Fire and Emergency Services (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill. I applaud the direction in which we are going on this, especially with regard to setting up the select committee so that we get the right outcomes in relation to the legislative framework around managing bushfire risk in this state.

I am a member of the Country Fire Service (CFS), as many members on either side of this house are. I have seen a few fires. I have seen fires started by lightning strikes. Sadly, a neighbour lost their harvester in the middle of the night. There were perfect reaping conditions and they had stopped during the heat of the day. It was still over 30° at night and the header blocked up and she burnt to the ground. Due to the swift movements of both neighbours and the CFS vehicles, we kept the fire pretty well to just around the harvester. Sadly, on that occasion, the harvester was basically burnt to the ground. I have never seen anything quite like it.

This is something that farmers take very seriously. There are fires that have been accidentally lit by vehicles. There are stories about catalytic converters. I have heard stories of police cars with catalytic converters going into a rural property and the next thing is they have accidentally started a bushfire. It was an accident; they just did not understand that it was not the right thing to drive through. Other people have done the same thing, certainly in rural areas. That is why there are thousands of farmers—not just farmers obviously—who are members of the CFS.

What we have seen over time is that many of these older CFS trucks, as they are changed over, end up in the hands of farmers. So they have some pretty handy four-wheel drive fire units with 3,000 litres of water. A lot of these trucks have not done many kilometres in their 20-plus years of service to the Country Fire Service, so they are pretty handy units.

I have seen a fire go through my own property. In the old days, about 20 years ago, when we talked about bags per acre, watching a 14-bag wheat crop go up was a scary sight. It makes a lot of black smoke, and that does make you operate very quickly. We were very fortunate to have many neighbours—in fact, hundreds of people—turn up, shifting vehicles, basically encircling the house and sheds to save them. In the end we lost only minimal crop. It was close on 40 acres, in the old language.

If it were not for the neighbours and locals and CFS that turned up, it could have been a lot worse. Certainly we have had the issue of lightning strikes with scrub fires. There is quite a bit of heritage scrub around Coomandook. My property is on both sides of the highway. We have had fires come out of that scrub and come sweeping across. It has been that bad that they have actually had to shut down the Dukes Highway because of the smoke. I did not see it, but I was told afterwards that Aerotech fire bombers were just flying straight down the highway, water bombing to tone it down. I guess we were fortunate to a degree that there was a legume stubble, a lupin stubble, harvested already right against the road.

When you have a fire like that coming through your property and you have reasonably high mallee trees and the flames are going 15 or 20 metres above them, you know about it. And it was

hot. It was quite hot. Between my property and Coomandook was a neighbour's farm with barley stubble. If you think a wheat stubble or wheat crop fire burns bad, this might have been a barley crop, from memory and that would have really gone up.

I have a pretty handy fire cart. It is a trailer with 4,600 litres on it. We had that behind an eight-wheel tractor so we could go wherever we liked, and we just had to pour the water at the base of the fires and the trees to tone it down. The CFS were pulling in, as was the local earthmoving contractor. I said, 'Just cut a hole in the neighbour's fence. I will pay for the gate later on,' and they graded firebreaks. It just shows what the resilient rural communities can do when it does it the fan, because that is exactly what it was doing.

It is one of those things where the whole community gets on board. People are delivering drinking water to crews, because you have just jumped in vehicles in a heck of a hurry and jumped out there, and they are bringing drinking water out, or they are getting direction for people to race back into town and fuel up with diesel so they can keep fighting the fire. Not just that, it is what happens with the catering and the services that come on. You get a big event and the Salvation Army come on board or it might be community groups. It might be just local groups that get together. When you have a big event, everyone gets on board.

I will never forget this big fire that came through from the scrub. We had a wedding the next day for the community up in the Barossa. It was quite a hot weekend, over 40°. I remember going to bed pretty late on a Friday night thinking I would be battling to get to that. I managed to round up one of my brothers to babysit the farm because I wanted to go and see my friends get married. What a great sight to get up in the morning and see trucks further down the South-East from Avenue Range and down around Naracoorte that have come on board to take up the fight for those weary firefighters who have been through the day before and those who have been there overnight. We did what we could for as long as we could with our private units around them.

I must commend what has happened more recently with the use of Aerotech as the prime contractor for the water bombing, going into the spots like up on the hillside slopes. It is very difficult to get in there even on foot. They just go in there and tidy up places you cannot get to. They can eliminate some patches, some hotspots, very quickly.

In fact, a friend of mine and his family were caught out in their house, and a water bomber went over the top and dropped a load on their roof. They had sheltered in the bathroom, filled up the bath and had done all the right things. If you plan ahead, you can survive a burnover; it is just how you manage. You have to have a bit of courage. If you are caught, it is better to do what you can and deal with it, rather than panic. It was certainly swift action by the fire bombers and they did a great job.

We have seen some tragic events over time, such as Ash Wednesday in 1983. A lot of homes and lives were lost, not just in the Hills but in the South-East, and some very good people paid the ultimate price. Technology in fire trucks and water bombers has come a long way since then. You can see it in the aftermath of Sampson Flat or Pinery, which were huge fires. Pinery had a pretty good growing year and it was right on harvest when everything was ripe, and there were wall-to-wall crops for hundreds of kilometres.

I remember going through and looking at the aftermath of that fire. The fire had jumped the Sturt Highway and the next stop was Gawler; that shows how close it was. While it caused devastation to open farming land and some houses were lost, and sadly some lives were lost as well, there would have been more loss of life and property if not for the fantastic work of farm fire units and CFS volunteers. Most of these people are one and the same—farmers and volunteers—doing such a great service for this state.

With regard to this legislation, there is some discussion about CFS officers having the ability to direct farmers to stop their harvesters. We already have a voluntary code of practice in place, developed under the old South Australian farmers federation and carried on through Grain Producers SA. I want to go through a briefing we had on this the other day. I want to thank Rob Kerin, Caroline Rhodes and Adrian McKay for coming in to share their point of view. They talked about the history of the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice, the importance of the code for the South Australian grain industry, and about the campaign encouraging growers to 'Know your code'.



When you have been involved in a few big fires, you do not want to see another one. They are terrifying. Even though we have developed better facilities over time—we have 3,000-litre and 4,000-litre fire trucks, we have water tankers in areas such as Coomandook, and the planes are never far away—if you can leave everything parked in the shed or on the ground, it is a lot better for everyone. No-one in their right mind wants to go out and instigate a fire.

As I indicated, the Grain Harvesting Code of Practice was discussed when SAFF was still in operation, so it has been around for approximately 10 years. It is a voluntary code and applies to all grain harvesting and handling operations in the paddock. It relies on calculating the Grassland Fire Danger Index to determine when it is safe to harvest. The code outlines a range of legislative requirements and required and recommended practices.

Legislative requirements are focused on the use of stationary engines to auger a crop, carrying a shovel or rake and portable water spray, and using a compliant engine exhaust. Many people wet down around their auger motor when they start it up. You must make sure it has a good muffler and, as I said, a compliant engine exhaust.

Required practices focus on ceasing harvest when the GFDI exceeds 35, maintaining machinery and removing crop residues, reducing potential for static electricity and having immediate access to a UHF or mobile, which pretty well every farmer would have. Our discussions included harvester design and add-ons that you can put on your equipment. You can put on blower equipment so that it is readily available when you need to blow the harvester down, whether you are reaping lentils or wheat or barley or beans or anything, just so that you can keep that valuable servicing up, which means you are going to lessen that risk.

Also, in regard to required practices in the harvest code overview, you stop harvest when the local actual GFDI exceeds 35. That is a pretty good point, the local GFDI, because things can vary as far as conditions go in a pretty close proximity. It might be that only 30 or 40 kilometres away there are completely different weather conditions, or you might be having different winds. It just depends on the day. You get a harvest like this one—which has been really dodgy, actually, after a dry year and drought conditions in some areas—and the rain that has fallen during harvest is not helpful at all. We have had some interesting weather, and we are just coming into some warmer weather now.

Obviously there are practices like removing crop residues from the machine, particularly in areas of high fire risk such as engines, exhausts or brakes; regularly maintaining machinery both before and during harvest and assessing wearing parts and bearings; reducing any potential for static electricity through harvesting, as I said before; and having that immediate access to a UHF CB radio or a mobile phone.

Part of the overview of the code is that, if conditions deteriorate, you increase maintenance and vigilance and actively seek information on harvest bans, monitor media fire ban information or advice or consult the Bureau of Meteorology for its advice, establish a four-metre firebreak around areas to be harvested or, alternatively, review the property layout and establish strategic firebreaks surrounding groups of paddocks, keep the appropriate maintenance records and keep a firefighting unit with at least 250 litres in the paddock where operations are taking place. Many farmers would have units that have far more capacity than that, as I indicated earlier.

Recommended practices include making sure your local fire unit, your home unit, complies with the joint guidelines for operating farm fire units, having some appropriate firefighting clothing available, and planning for protecting yourself, your equipment and your community. If you need training, get it and establish a fire prevention and emergency response strategy in regard to fire safety for staff, contractors and machinery operators.

This code is absolutely vital to the South Australian grain industry because when you have to get your crop off you have to get your crop off. I indicated earlier in my contribution how tough it can be in a harvest like this, where you have a bit of rain come through, where you have a bit of cool weather. It just does your head in. I have been talking to people over the weekend who managed to get 12 hours in for the week; obviously they are getting into better times now, but when you have had a tough year you want to grab every bit of harvest you can while you can and get it in. However, you always have to do it safely as well—do not get that wrong.

I know what happens in Western Australia. I was there during the eighties in summer time, in harvest time, and they have a total harvest and vehicle movement ban on a fire ban day that basically shuts down operations. Victoria has a voluntary grain harvesting guide based on our model here. I talked before about if you have a total ban it does not take into account that the grasslands fire index could be totally different maybe only 40 or 50 kilometres away, so it is whether or not operations should stop.

Grain Producers South Australia obviously recognises that it is imperative that South Australian growers adopt and work through the voluntary code. I note that Grain Producers South Australia is working with the CFS and the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) to identify gaps in knowledge about measuring fire danger specific to grain. Grain Producers South Australia is seeking information on how the agriculture industry is having input to the fire danger ratings review.

Grain Producers SA and others are very keen to make sure that we get the right result in this legislation, and I know that they are very keen to keep the voluntary code in place. I applaud that we are going to move this legislation to a select committee so that we can have those further discussions. We do not want to get the wrong outcome, which is a real possibility, where people could be stopped by overzealous officers. It then becomes an issue of, 'Do we stop or not?'

Do not get me wrong; as I indicated before, fires are devastating. We must have the right outcome but, when your income is on the line, you have to harvest as much as you can when you can, especially in a difficult harvest year like this one. That is not to say that farmers do not understand the value of stopping when they have to to protect themselves and their communities. I wish the deliberations of the select committee all the best so that we can get the right outcomes for farmers, the CFS and the community of South Australia.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (17:36):** This is a very important issue. Let me be really clear: rural communities, whether they be people who live in towns or people who live on farms, would be lost without the CFS. Equally, the CFS would be lost without rural communities, without the support of people who live in small towns or on farms. We country MPs all know that there is a very strong, important and helpful overlap on this issue. There are many farmers who are CFS volunteers and, vice versa, many CFS volunteers who are farmers. It goes without saying.

Our government wants to make sure that we get this exactly right. I commend the Minister for Emergency Services for his approach to this. He has brought forward legislation for consideration and consultation which, in fairness, has been years in the making. He also now suggests that we establish a committee to look into it a little more deeply, and I think that is exactly the right thing to do. It does not actually matter where this lands as long as we get it right. We need to have a situation that ensures that rural communities, homes, farms, the environment and other assets are made as safe as possible. We need to harness the skills and energy of as many people and organisations as possible in the right way so that we can achieve exactly that.

I would like to clear up a few things. The code of conduct that is in at the moment, which I remember very well was brought in approximately 10 years ago, is very important. It is very good. I remember what a positive step forward it was when it was brought in. I also remember how it was not easy to bring it in. There were people who had concerns, but it was a very positive, good step. That code has worked well for us for 10 years or so. Of course, it needs to evolve, improve and get better over time as circumstances change, but that code has worked very well for us.

As a government, we are not trying to throw out the code or take away the responsibilities that exist in it at the moment. One of the reasons that code was brought in is that typically fire ban days as determined by the CFS go from midnight to midnight. They also cover very large regions, very large chunks of the state. So it is not right to think that one midnight to midnight fire ban—and let's just stay away from catastrophic and all the rest; just call it a ban for the purpose of this contribution—in a huge region would be exactly right to determine whether you should or should not be reaping in a particular paddock in a smaller part of that region where circumstances might be quite different. It is not at all reasonable to think that in a midnight to midnight fire ban you would not be safe to be reaping up until 10 or 11 in the morning, or it would not be safe to go back to work at nine or 10 at night.

They are the sorts of things we want to work with constructively. They are the sorts of things that the code of conduct has contributed to enormously. As a government, we are trying to see what is the next phase of improvement that we can work through. Nobody is suggesting that any CFS volunteer could just bang on the door of a header and tell that header operator that he must stop reaping right then and there; that would be crazy. It is not what the minister is suggesting and it is not what our government wants to suggest.

Our government knows that, overwhelmingly, farmers are very responsible for a range of reasons: because they are generally responsible people anyway, all the way through to the fact that if a farmer or an employee of a farming business starts a fire with their header on their paddock, the very first thing that is going to go up in smoke is that year's income, let alone the fact that they do not want to start a fire on anybody else's farm that spreads in any other way. There are 100 reasons why farmers have more incentive than anybody else not to start a fire on their property. We recognise that. We respect that.

What we want to do, though, is see if there is a responsible way to enhance the protections of the broader community so that, if by chance there is somebody working at a time when perhaps they should not, there is another layer of opportunity to give that person a message to say, 'Look, you just really need to rethink this. Hypothetically, you are going to stop at 10, but the reality is that you probably should have stopped a 9 o'clock in the morning today.' We just want another responsible way of sharing that information.

It is not about sending CFS volunteers who are able to just throw their weight around in any inappropriate way. It is not about suggesting that the overwhelming majority of farmers do not know how to make these decisions for themselves. It is about trying to put a system in place that is as safe as possible and has the opportunity to cater to as many possible situations that might arise as humanly possible. The reality is that if the system we have right now is 90 per cent right, our government and the minister want to make it 95 per cent right. We are just doing everything we possibly can to protect the communities. We are not saying that the first 90 per cent is in any way wrong: we are just saying that we would like to tweak it and make it a bit better again.

To send this off to a committee to investigate these things and to take evidence from stakeholder groups that have genuine information to share is a very sensible thing to do. I support that wholeheartedly. Let me just finish where I started. On this issue, we all need each other. I live in a very small town of about 200 people, 300 kilometres north of Adelaide. I am a CFS volunteer. Most of my friends are farmers around town. This is trying to get the best for both. Farmers would be lost without having the CFS to call on, and, do you know what? The CFS would be lost if there were not farm firefighting vehicles that typically get to rural fires quicker than the CFS anyway.

We are in this together. We need to make sure that we use our combined resources the very best way that we possibly can, without inhibiting positive judgements and decisions and business operations—particularly reaping—but just trying to find another way to give some additional protection if and when it is required. I strongly endorse the approach that the minister is taking and I hope that this parliament supports our desire to ask a committee to investigate this thoroughly for the benefit of everybody who may be negatively impacted by a fire in a regional area.

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (17:44):** I thank all members in this chamber for their contributions, most recently, the member for Stuart, who was very insightful as always. I thank him for his input. There were a number of other very sensible contributions as well. The member for Narungga was outstanding, the member for Heysen eloquently made some very sensible points and the member for Kavel also had plenty of things to add. He knows very well how important the CFS and the emergency services are in his area. We also had great contributions from the member for Finnis, a farmer himself, and the member for Hammond, who I know is a CFS volunteer. Again, I thank them for their contributions.

Just to reiterate what the member for Stuart said, and this was made evident in my second reading speech and all the way through, on this one little aspect of the bill we acknowledge that people do the right thing 99 per cent of the time. We acknowledge that and do not inhibit those people in any way, shape or form. The intent is to have a mechanism here where that slim number of people

who do not do the right thing can be called to account to make sure that they are not endangering anyone else around them.

We know that some of these systems are in place, and we have talked about the harvest code. In regions it works incredibly well, and I have made that point in this place before. But in the one instance where it does not, what is the mechanism and how can we have the best mechanism to keep people as safe as possible? That is the intent of the bill and what we want to do. I acknowledge the member for Flinders as well and his move to take this to a select committee to examine it even further.

Listening to people is vitally important. That has happened along the way over a period of time with these amendments, but I am very happy to listen again. The member for Flinders has suggested a very sensible motion that I think will give everyone the opportunity to have their say around this bill. With that, I commend the bill to the house, given the motion that is going to be moved by the member for Flinders.

Bill read a second time.

*Referred to Select Committee*

**Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (17:47):** I move:

That the bill be referred to a select committee with the terms of reference as follows—

- (a) to examine clause 23—amendment to section 82—power to direct; and
- (b) to give consideration to the views of all relevant stakeholders.

I am very pleased to move this. Obviously, as has been highlighted, questions have been raised in relation to the proposed changes, particularly to section 82. As this select committee takes evidence in the coming weeks and months, all stakeholders will have the opportunity to consider this amendment, particularly in relation to the current code of practice as it operates.

Motion carried.

**Mr TRELOAR:** I move:

That a committee be appointed consisting of Mr Basham, Mr Teague, Mr Hughes, Mr Bignell and the mover.

Motion carried.

**Mr TRELOAR:** I move:

That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, and that the committee report on 19 March 2019.

Motion carried.

### *Resolutions*

#### **RETIREMENT VILLAGES**

The Legislative Council informs the House of Assembly that it has passed the resolution transmitted herewith, and desires the concurrence of the House of Assembly thereto:

1. That, in the opinion of this council, a joint committee be appointed to inquire into and report on—
  - (a) valuation policies of the Valuer-General and their impact on some residents of retirement villages; and
  - (b) options available to both state and local government to alleviate any impact on SA Water and local government charges of these policies.
2. That, in the event of a joint committee being appointed, the Legislative Council be represented thereon by three members, of whom two shall form a quorum of council members necessary to be present at all sittings of the committee.
3. That this council permits the joint committee to authorise the disclosure or publication, as it thinks fit, of any evidence or documents presented to the committee prior to such evidence being reported to the council.

The Legislative Council has also resolved to suspend standing order 396 to enable strangers to be admitted when the joint committee is examining witnesses, unless the joint committee otherwise resolves, but they shall be excluded when the joint committee is deliberating.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining)**  
(17:50): I move:

That the house do now adjourn.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes ..... 21  
Noes ..... 14  
Majority ..... 7

**AYES**

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

**NOES**

Bedford, F.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Boyer, B.I.
Brown, M.E. (teller)	Cook, N.F.	Gee, J.P.
Hughes, E.J.	Koutsantonis, A.	Malinauskas, P.
Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.
Picton, C.J.	Wortley, D.	

**PAIRS**

Speirs, D.J.	Close, S.E.
--------------	-------------

Motion thus carried.

At 17:55 the house adjourned until Thursday 6 December 2018 at 11:00.

*Estimates Replies***PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUND**

In reply to **the Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light)** (27 September 2018). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised of the following

The following table shows contributions made into the Planning and Development Fund for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 financial years. Please note contributions made into the fund for 2018-19 are up to date as at 4 October 2018.

Council	Fees Paid in 2017-18	Fees paid in 2018-19 (as of 4 October 2018)
Adelaide Hills Council	\$92,866	\$20,490
Adelaide Plains Council	\$30,022	\$6,830
Alexandrina Council	\$328,450	\$75,130
Barunga West Council	\$0	\$2,849
Berri Barmera Council	\$37,037	\$0
Campbelltown City Council	\$2,270,778	\$770,045
City of Adelaide	\$2,491,770	\$129,086
City of Burnside	\$319,618	\$81,036
City of Charles Sturt	\$3,748,398	\$903,202
City of Holdfast Bay	\$549,318	\$195,572
City of Marion	\$2,610,305	\$763,074
City of Mitcham	\$436,642	\$181,246
City of Mount Gambier	\$42,397	\$17,094
City of Norwood, Payneham and St. Peters	\$1,893,544	\$288,786
City of Onkaparinga	\$1,773,927	\$587,056
City of Playford	\$725,538	\$75,211
City of Port Adelaide-Enfield	\$2,511,480	\$677,732
City of Port Lincoln	\$62,678	\$11,396
City of Prospect	\$545,068	\$33,654
City of Salisbury	\$1,422,234	\$633,531
City of Tea Tree Gully	\$1,609,191	\$417,764
City of Unley	\$240,252	\$53,614
City of Victor Harbor	\$113,698	\$33,124
City of West Torrens	\$1,990,278	\$492,602
City of Whyalla	\$8,547	\$2,849
Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council	\$5,698	\$8,547
Coorong District Council	\$2,849	\$5,698
Copper Coast Council	\$72,274	\$14,434
Corporation of the Town of Walkerville	\$125,434	\$13,660
District Council of Ceduna	\$0	\$2,912
District Council of Cleve	\$0	\$0
District Council of Coober Pedy	\$0	\$0
District Council of Elliston	\$0	\$0
District Council of Franklin Harbour	\$0	\$0
District Council of Grant	\$5,698	\$5,698
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	\$0	\$0
District Council of Kimba	\$0	\$0
District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula	\$14,245	\$2,849
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	\$8,547	\$8,547
District Council of Mount Remarkable	\$0	\$0
District Council of Orroroo Carrieton	\$0	\$0
District Council of Peterborough	\$0	\$2,849
District Council of Robe	\$5,698	\$0
District Council of Streaky Bay	\$0	\$0
District Council of Tumby Bay	\$2,849	\$0
District Council of Yankalilla	\$94,392	\$47,656
Kangaroo Island Council	\$0	\$2,680
Kingston District Council	\$0	\$0

Council	Fees Paid in 2017-18	Fees paid in 2018-19 (as of 4 October 2018)
Light Regional Council	\$98,712	\$6,830
Mid Murray Council	\$57,294	\$2,849
Mount Barker District Council	\$359,792	\$26,824
Municipal Council of Roxby Downs	\$5,698	\$0
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	\$36,868	\$8,547
Northern Areas Council	\$17,094	\$0
Port Augusta City Council	\$39,886	\$2,849
Port Pirie Regional Council	\$10,886	\$0
Regional Council of Goyder	\$0	\$0
Renmark Paringa Council	\$59,829	\$5,159
Southern Mallee District Council	\$0	\$0
Tatiara District Council	\$5,698	\$0
The Barossa Council	\$105,500	\$0
The Flinders Ranges Council	\$0	\$0
The Rural City of Murray Bridge	\$330,280	\$102,142
Town of Gawler	\$118,864	\$0
Wakefield Regional Council	\$2,849	\$0
Wattle Range Council	\$22,792	\$0
Wudinna District Council	\$0	\$0
Yorke Peninsula Council	\$30,577	\$11,459