

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 23 June 2021

The **SPEAKER (Hon. J.B. Teague)** took the chair at 11:00 and read prayers.

The SPEAKER: Honourable members, 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

STATUTES AMENDMENT (ELECTRONIC MONITORING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDERS) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (10:32): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Bail Act 1985 and the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009. Read a first time.

Second Reading

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (10:33): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I rise today to introduce the Statutes Amendment (Electronic Monitoring of Domestic Violence Offenders) Bill 2021. In essence, it is a bill to enable authorities to electronically monitor those who stand accused of serious domestic violence offences and who have been placed on bail by the courts. It is a reform that is sadly needed because there are some in our community who continue to fail to understand that violence against women and children is never an option and who, despite numerous cautions, continue to harass, intimidate and assault former partners.

As I have said in this place before, and in numerous other speeches, forums, meetings, workshops, rallies, gatherings outside of this place, and community events, this is the type of bill I wish we did not have to introduce but, unfortunately, it is desperately needed. There are also words in this speech today that I feel I have uttered a million times, way too many times, words that I wish were no longer needed. But, as I have also said in this place and indeed in many other forums on many occasions, every single one of us in this place has a deep responsibility to do whatever is within our power to speak up, to act, for as long as is needed to prevent and end the horrific scourge of domestic violence and abuse towards women to ensure that there is not one more.

It is a responsibility that I take deeply seriously. It is a responsibility that I know many others in this place take seriously, and it is a responsibility that so many of those extraordinary workers who work in domestic violence crisis accommodation, in legal services, in advocacy organisations and groups in our community and in the media take very, very seriously. And take it seriously we must, because the scourge continues unabated, as does the gender inequality at the core of disrespect, abuse and violence towards women. Women continue to be disrespected, harassed, controlled, assaulted and, tragically, they continue to die at the hands of partners or former partners, as do children.

As I spoke about just a few short weeks ago when introducing another bill that lies waiting to be debated on our *Notice Paper*, a bill to include the experience of domestic violence as a ground for discrimination in the Equal Opportunity Act, the recent horrific, tragic murder of baby Kobi by her father, the person whose fundamental role was to protect her and to keep her safe and free from harm and abuse, shocked and devastated our community. Following her murder, we witnessed an outpouring of love and support for her mother and all who loved her. I say again: may they have strength in the horrendous weeks, months and years ahead as they contemplate their journey ahead without baby Kobi, and may baby Kobi rest in peace.

The reports of women assaulted, controlled, subjected to psychological and other forms of abuse continue apace, and the reports of women trapped at home with their abusers during periods of COVID lockdown are truly frightening. The New South Wales Women's Safety CEO, Hayley Foster, who has worked in domestic violence support for 15 years, said:

2020 will be remembered as the worst year for domestic violence that any of us...in the sector now have ever experienced...[with] so many more strangulation cases...threats to kill...more serious head injuries, and sexual assaults...

Shocking—as are the statistics in last year's SAPOL report, which outlined that there had been a 19 per cent increase in domestic violence crimes relating to property and a 7 per cent increase in domestic violence crimes relating to persons.

I continue to have women attend my office scared, worried, frustrated and desperately wanting to live their lives without fear, for the abuse, the violence and the control to cease, and wanting accessible and meaningful choices to change and rebuild their lives. In conversations with these women, a theme often emerges, a theme that informs us of a deep frustration with the efficacy of intervention orders when a perpetrator is determined to continue to wreak fear and havoc in a woman's life.

Too many times I have been told by women that it has been a long and difficult journey to secure an intervention order and that when they finally have 'he just ignores the intervention order' or 'by the time I can report a breach, he has left and then lies about where he has been'. For the sake of these women, we have to do better.

As I have also spoken about in this place many times before, we must also do better in terms of stopping violence before it starts. We desperately need a huge injection of funding into domestic violence prevention and early intervention. It is a need that I spoke about at length in this place when more than 3,300 petitions were tabled on behalf of members of our southern community who are campaigning for a funded domestic violence prevention hub in the south. As I said that day, campaign they must because, despite the City of Onkaparinga region being the largest council area in South Australia, there are no funded prevention services whatsoever to support women experiencing domestic violence.

Our community is an incredibly strong and resilient one in which people look out for each other, look after each other and collaborate with compassion and determination. Our community's strength and compassion is formidable, but without targeted funding for prevention services it is difficult to make a difference because women at risk of violence need the earliest possible access to therapy, counselling and other services to keep them safe.

They need more preventative services and community education, as well as clear pathways into appropriate services, because current support for women experiencing domestic violence in the south, and indeed sadly in so many other places, is through a system focused on acute crisis and because the lack of appropriate prevention services to support women in the south experiencing domestic violence is appalling and because every one of us is sick and tired of calling and scrambling around desperately trying to find somewhere to send women when they most need support before they are harmed.

I have searched the budget papers for any clear commitment to a funded southern domestic violence prevention hub and, sadly, I cannot locate such a commitment. The budget papers identify domestic violence programs broadly, but it is unclear what those programs are. It also states that there has been work to support the existing hubs and there will be work to continue to support the establishment of safety hubs, but again it is unclear about what funding may be provided to enable those hubs to flourish in the way that happens when something is adequately resourced and coupled with that community strength and willingness to make change.

Unfortunately, the minister identified during last year's estimates hearings that there is no ongoing funding to support these hubs, leaving outstanding yet stretched domestic violence and other workers trying to do their existing work to make these hubs work. Women experiencing domestic violence, and indeed our communities in their entirety, deserve better. They need better. They matter. Their safety matters. Prevention of violence towards them matters and funding for that prevention matters and is desperately needed.

So, much more must be done on prevention and our voices will continue to be collectively raised to ensure that more is indeed done. I know that all who have been engaged with Southern Women Matter are tireless, courageous, formidable, relentless campaigners, a number of them with

their own story of terrible domestic violence. They will not rest until this funding commitment is made and, crucially, until every woman is safe.

Whilst we continue to work towards ensuring that violence is prevented before it starts, we must engage every possible legislative measure to keep women safe. In preventing and ending domestic violence, we must simultaneously engage multiple strategies—legislative and programmatic—that are focused on prevention.

Sadly, more than ever the criminalising of coercive control and the raising of community and stakeholder awareness about this awful, insidious form of domestic abuse is urgently required, which is why I have also moved that bill. Eliminating coercive behaviour that is designed to intimidate, harm and control women is one of the next frontiers in ending this scourge. The bill to include domestic violence as a ground of discrimination in the Equal Opportunity Act, which I mentioned earlier, is a crucial step in ensuring the financial and job security of women who have experienced domestic violence by providing them with recourse, with an avenue to complain and to seek redress, and above all else to be heard.

Today, with the commitment that Labor has and my own commitment and deep sense of responsibility I feel to attempt to progress every piece of legislation and take every step we possibly can to keep South Australian women safer, I proudly introduce this bill that represents another step on the path that we must take to end violence against women.

This bill will require those who have been charged with serious domestic violence offences to be fitted with electronic monitoring devices as a condition of any bail granted to them. It is a bill with clear, simple steps that have been proven to make a difference, and any step that keeps any woman safer is one worth taking. It is one worth working through to also identify any other supports that need to sit around the bill and resulting legislation to ensure its efficacy.

In April this year, renowned journalist and multiple media award winner for her reporting on domestic violence and child protection Lauren Novak, whose commitment to preventing and ending domestic violence and ensuring 'not one more' I deeply admire and am grateful for, wrote about a study conducted by our state's Department for Correctional Services. The article states:

Between January 2017 and November 2018, corrections staff and academics tracked the movements of 394 men who had been released on bail after being charged with domestic violence crimes, such as assaulting their partner...

The article goes on to report:

Half the men (197) were monitored 24/7 via GPS-enabled ankle bracelets—

and that 27 in that group committed another offence compared to the other half without bracelets, amongst whom 64 men committed another offence—a 163 per cent increase.

Lauren's article went on to quote the wonderful Arman Abrahamzadeh, who said that the study 'speaks for itself', that authorities should 'definitely' consider making electronic monitoring the default option and that by doing so 'You're sending the message that you're holding perpetrators to account.' I seek leave to extend my time by 15 minutes.

Leave granted.

Ms HILDYARD: These are compelling words from a person who, together with his wonderful sisters and all at the Zahra Foundation following the most heartbreaking loss, works tirelessly to support and empower women who have experienced domestic violence to build new pathways and to ensure their financial independence and the opening up of new study and work opportunities. They know that:

Creating pathways for women into further education, training and employment is crucial to supporting women to break the cycle of violence and poverty in their lives.

They bring that aim of theirs to life every single day, and I thank them for what they do.

In 2018, Dr Heather Nancarrow and Ms Tanya Modini from the remarkable Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) wrote the 'Electronic monitoring in the context of domestic and family violence' report for the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General. In that report, Dr Nancarrow and Ms Modini make several observations about the need for other supports and systems to operate alongside the use of an electronic device and speak

about the fact that electronic monitoring is not a standalone mechanism. They also speak about the importance of considering the sort of domestic violence being perpetrated and the particular characteristics of a perpetrator and their determination to harm their former partner.

They conclude, however, that harms associated with domestic violence are preventable and electronic monitoring can contribute to reducing reoffending and enhancing safety for victims and survivors. They also conclude that most identified limitations are neither insurmountable nor reasons not to proceed with electronic monitoring in the context of domestic violence. Rather, they need to be considered and managed in the development and implementation of electronic monitoring.

They speak of the three main benefits of electronic monitoring in the criminal justice system generally and they list those three main benefits in their report as enhanced community safety, reduction in recidivism and reduced incarceration rates. Crucially, they refer to the perspectives of both victims and survivors, and defendants and offenders, in the literature and outline that victims and survivors of interpersonal violence report an increased sense of safety and also of independence when an electronic monitoring device is used.

Similarly, offenders report benefits from the structures associated with exclusion or inclusion zones, curfews and programs that can accompany electronic monitoring and the benefits that can come from maintaining family relationships. With consideration of these perspectives, the corrections department trial and this report, the excellent advice, as always, of parliamentary counsel, the experiences of women who live in fear and our desire to relentlessly bring to life our commitment to do whatever is possible to reduce the incidence of domestic violence, I bring this bill to the house.

The Statutes Amendment (Electronic Monitoring of Domestic Violence Offenders) Bill 2021 amends the Bail Act 1985 and the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009. It amends the Bail Act by inserting a new section 2ae to require that an applicant for bail, who is a serious domestic violence suspect, must be subject, in the granting of bail, to a condition that they agree to be fitted with an electronic monitoring device of a kind approved by the chief executive. It further amends the Bail Act to include a definition of serious domestic violence offence suspects with reference to relevant provisions of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act and to an offence being aggravated when they behave in a particular way toward a partner or former partner.

The bill also amends the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act 2009 to ensure that a term is included in a prescribed intervention order so that, whilst the intervention order remains in force against the defendant, the defendant must be fitted with an electronic device of a kind approved by the chief executive for the purpose of monitoring the whereabouts of the defendant and that the defendant must comply with all reasonable directions of the chief executive in relation to the electronic monitoring device. It also amends this act to ensure the meaning of a serious domestic violence offence is clear.

This bill absolutely represents another step forward that we can take together as a parliament to prevent and end domestic violence. Together with the other bills that I have mentioned and Labor's bill to toughen penalties for breaches of domestic violence intervention orders, which recently passed this house, this bill can make a difference.

It can make a difference to the lives of those who live in the utmost, and often constant, fear of being harmed, or even killed, by a violent partner or former partner who is going through the legal process in relation to an alleged assault. It may even make a difference to the lives of the roughly 60 per cent of offenders, as shown in the South Australian trial, who reoffended, because they will be more closely monitored and will subsequently have to address their offending if they do not wish to lose bail and their freedom and connection with others should they be incarcerated.

In saying this, I draw members' attention again to the statistics revealed in the trial, statistics that spoke to a reduction in offences against women when those on bail were fitted with these electronic monitoring devices. I also point to the sense of security and the sense of safety that this measure can provide to women who for too long have lived in fear. As I articulated earlier, I wish that I no longer had to talk about domestic violence, but I do—we all do. We must all speak, and above all else we must all act, however we can, until there is not one more.

As has been the case with all the domestic violence measures I have introduced into this house, I introduce this bill with a determination to collaborate with all parliamentarians in this place,

with the remarkable, extraordinary South Australian domestic violence organisations, workers within them and within the community sector, advocates, police, and members of the legal profession, and always—always—with those who have experienced or are experiencing domestic violence, to secure support for this bill, a bill that is another clear step in our collective efforts to ensure violence against women ends.

The devastating prevalence of domestic violence goes on and on relentlessly, seemingly unabated, across every corner of our state, harming too many children, too many women, too many families. Every time we speak of the relentless statistics, we are speaking of women and children all around us, in workplaces, in schools, in shopping centres, at sporting institutions, picking up kids from child care, literally everywhere.

I refuse to accept this, and I know that many of those opposite also refuse to accept this. I know, as sadly do so many others in our community, the lasting impact that domestic violence has: the fear, the shame, the embarrassment, the questioning of oneself. We cannot rest until no-one has to deal with this dreadful impact, until every woman is safe wherever she is, is never scared in her home, never feeling controlled or unheard but rather always experiencing the freedom that comes with deeply knowing that you are safe and that you have choices.

Every woman, every person deserves to feel that way, and this of course cannot be done properly until we address the underlying issue of disrespect for women and girls, which is at the very heart of gendered violence. In our schools, in our workplaces and in our homes we must not tolerate disrespect, abuse or violence against women and girls.

From snide and creepy remarks through to physical intimidation and assault, we must as a community call it out. We must do this because we know that that is where abuse and gendered violence start: with disrespect. As many in our community recount, not all disrespect towards women ends in violence, but all violence towards women begins with disrespect. Another crucial, important part of the conversation we are currently having around gendered violence as a community, as a nation, is to do with consent. While I will talk more broadly on this issue in the coming days, weeks and months, I will briefly touch on it in the context of this debate.

Many of the voices driving this conversation around consent to sexual activity and about what constitutes consent and assault are in fact high school students or those who have only recently finished their secondary education. Amongst them is courageous former Sydney school student Chanel Contos, who exposed the abuse and toxic culture among some students at Sydney's elite private schools and whose petition calling for earlier sex education in schools has empowered many school-age girls and young women subject to sexual abuse to stand up and tell their stories.

This is why it is so fundamental to get this right from an early age and it is why we urgently need an overhaul of laws and education relating to consent to sexual activity. Consent is about respect and it must be given affirmatively and enthusiastically. If we address these issues of respect, of gendered violence and of consent, we will not need to devise and construct more laws designed to impose harsher penalties on offenders who simply refuse to accept that violence is never an option and never a solution.

In the meantime, until we achieve gender equality in all areas of community life, this is indeed what I and others will do because nobody wants to mourn another woman, to see another family torn apart or to hear of women being intimidated and controlled to the point where they literally feel, as a number of women have directly said to me, like they are losing their mind to think that another child is living in fear and with shame. Let us take every single action that we possibly can to ensure that this is not the case.

This bill is real action. It has the potential to save lives. I wholeheartedly commend this bill to the house and wholeheartedly plead with those on the other side of this house to find their way to supporting it. Rather than thinking of reasons not to support it or to leave it languishing on the agenda for months, I plead with you to talk with me and to decide to progress this together as a parliament. This is a step our parliament can take. I invite you to take it forward together and, in doing so, to demonstrate to our community the priority that this parliament and everyone within it gives to ensuring that women are safe and that there is not one more.

Debate adjourned on motion of Dr Harvey.

**PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (SHOPPING CENTRE PARKING)
AMENDMENT BILL**

Introduction and First Reading

Mr BOYER (Wright) (11:03): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. Read a first time.

Second Reading

Mr BOYER (Wright) (11:03): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I rise to speak to the introduction of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Shopping Centre Parking) Amendment Bill 2021. I am proud to have the opportunity to introduce this bill, which, if it is successful in making its way through this place, I think will provide communities at least some modicum of control or power over deciding whether or not they want paid parking in their shopping centres.

There are a lot of factors that go into the opposition's decision to introduce this bill today and one of those is the rising cost of living. If we look at that compared to or alongside the decline in real wage growth, I think it is fair to say that South Australians are really feeling the pinch in a lot of different areas—and not just South Australians, of course.

This is compounded by the ongoing economic damage we have seen from the coronavirus. Despite the fact that we have had an excellent health response here in South Australia, our economic response or recovery has been sluggish and much slower than the economic recoveries we have seen in other states in Australia, including states like Victoria, that were affected much more acutely by the effects of the pandemic itself.

Of course we are also still burdened with the highest unemployment rate in the country and a very high level still of underemployment, which I think is something we are thankfully only just now beginning to really talk about as a society; in the past, we did not. We spoke a lot about unemployment, which is an easier concept for people to get their heads around, particularly in the context of this bill, as it will in some way go to help people who are employed in the retail sector, which is one of those sectors that is highly casualised.

Underemployment, where people may have a job or jobs of some sort but not be able to secure enough hours collectively across those jobs to support themselves and support their families, is something that really needs our attention. I think we need to do everything in our power to support people who work in those sectors that are highly casualised, such as the retail sector, such as the people who work at shopping centres.

It is in this economic climate that Labor understands that local communities do not deserve another fee to add to their weekly budget. Parking fees at shopping centres impact pretty much everyone, but they disproportionately impact the most vulnerable in our community—pensioners, people living with a disability and people living on low incomes. For them, an extra few dollars mean all the difference in terms of their weekly disposable income.

These are the insights I have gleaned from my few years in this place and the time I have spent as a candidate and as a member of state parliament doorknocking in the seat of Wright in the north-eastern suburbs and talking to residents, in particular many older residents and pensioners as well, about the things that are important to them. Some of the most instructive experiences I have had as a member of parliament or candidate have been on the doors, talking to pensioners and residents of Housing Trust properties.

A few occasions I remember very clearly, which certainly helped form my own views about what the role of state government needs to be and why bills like this one are important and can make a difference, are doorknocking in the peak of summer and the depth of winter and having the door opened by an older resident, most likely a pensioner or perhaps a lower income earner in a Housing Trust property, and seeing that the heater is switched off (or in summer that the air conditioner is switched off). Instead, they have just got up from the couch where they are covered in rugs, doonas,

blankets and things like that because they quite simply feel that they cannot afford to run heating or cooling.

I do not seek to apportion political blame for this; it is a fact that has been around for a long time and it is not unique to South Australia. Those people talked to me very openly and candidly about how they manage their budgets, and it really is incredible just how much difference a few dollars can make to these people. One need only visit some of our major shopping centres on what is colloquially known as pension day and talk to some of the cafe owners about their busiest time of the week. Routinely, it is pension day, when older residents have just received their payment and decided that they then have a few dollars to spare to go and treat themselves to a coffee and a muffin, whether it is at somewhere like the Village in Golden Grove or Westfield at Tea Tree Plaza.

In terms of the experiences I have had as a member of parliament that have led me to work on the bill that we have before this place now, in talking one on one with people in the electorate I often find—and I am sure that other members in this place would agree with me—that it is very hard to engage with older people, more vulnerable people or people on low incomes unless you doorknock.

They are not people who will answer a phone, because they are sick of being called by someone offering to paint their roof for a certain cash price or someone offering a cheaper phone deal or someone who tells them that all their passwords have been exposed and they need to urgently change them. They do not answer the landline any more, and they may not have a mobile number or they may not own a mobile phone, so the only way to really engage with people this bill in many ways seeks to protect is to get out on the streets, pound the pavement and knock on doors.

I have made it a habit to try to do that every week, first because it is an important habit to keep up—like lots of things, if you break a habit, it is hard to get back into it—and also because I firmly believe that it is the only real way to stay in touch with the views of a broad cross-section of your community, keeping in mind that many people will just not engage. You will not see them at the local community group, you will not see them at the local sporting organisation and they do not answer the phone, so the only way to find out what is really important to them is to knock on their door and ask them.

When I do that, I speak to a lot of older north-east residents who for a long time have found it very hard to manage their household budgets. There are a whole range of things that they go without that certainly everyone in this place (including me) and many South Australians outside this place would regard as basics and necessities, which sometimes include things like air conditioning in summer and heating in winter so that they can afford to pay their bill.

These are the same people who will be disproportionately affected by plans from large shopping centre groups like Westfield to introduce paid parking. I think it is a sad truth about modern society, and one that we tend to gloss over or pretend is not there, that a lot of vulnerable or single older people spend an incredible amount of their day at shopping centres. I could list several of them; I know their names and I talk to them regularly. Apparently, the member for Elizabeth is one of those people who hangs out at the shopping centre all the time.

There are lonely people in our community who have no-one in their lives and the way they fill their days and get at least a fraction of the personal contact we all need and crave is to drive to the local shopping centre in the morning and stay there until it closes. It is one of those things that you perhaps do not see if you are a private citizen who goes to the shops and does the shopping in a hurry and then leaves, but if you are a member of parliament who might be there to meet with constituents or who might have a stall for a large part of the day to talk to residents, all of a sudden you see this hidden part of our society that in many respects we try to pretend is not there—people who essentially live at the shopping centre.

That is their community, the only people they know are there and it is the only place they have to go. It was those people who were firmly in my mind when I was working on this bill and deciding that we needed to take action to prevent this or at least provide local councils and communities with some kind of ability and influence over the decision-making process that would allow paid parking to be introduced.

I would like to make a few remarks specifically in terms of the proposal that is currently live from Westfield at the Tea Tree Plaza shopping centre in the north-eastern suburbs, which, as many people in this place would know, has been the source of intense scrutiny for some months now.

The Scentre Group, which operates under the name of Westfield, which of course is a name that we are all far more familiar with, has applied to install ticketless, paid parking infrastructure at the plaza. This will allow for parking fees to be introduced at the shopping centre, although the exact fee structure has not yet been publicly disclosed by Westfield.

I point out that I think there is a genuine sense of frustration in the north-eastern community now about Westfield's delay in at least being transparent with the public about what form the paid parking might take—for instance, what would the fee structure be; will there be a period of free parking, as has been the case in some other Westfield shopping centres where paid parking has been introduced; will there be a section of the car park that is reserved for staff; and, if so, how big will that car park be? Will the parking be completely free, what hours will it operate and what kinds of measures will be put in place to ensure staff safety?

We know, as I said at the beginning of these remarks, that the retail sector is disproportionately casualised and that the hours might be very irregular. Staff might be called in for a shift for late-night shopping. There is also, I believe, an over-representation of women in retail jobs, which raises concerns around personal safety in travelling back and forth from one's car to the worksite. These are all questions that the public needs answers for, in terms of actually being able to make any kind of decision about whether or not this is something that is right for them.

I note that the initial media release issued by Westfield in regard to this proposal had words to the effect of—and I am not quoting directly but paraphrasing—"The introduction of paid parking at our Tea Tree Plaza shopping centre will ensure a better car parking experience for all users." I know that we here in political land are probably often guilty of issuing statements that are incredibly vague and without any kind of substance, but the Westfield statement really takes the cake.

It is gobsmacking to think that there is someone somewhere in the Westfield Group, who is probably being paid a pretty healthy salary and whose job it is to write these things, whose response to the outrage—and I do not think 'outrage' is too strong a word—about the proposal to introduce paid parking was, 'Don't worry. This will ensure a better car parking experience for all of you.'

Having shopped at Tea Tree Plaza on many occasions, I can tell you that it is true that it is an experience—but not the kind of experience I think the Westfield Group or Scentre Group are talking about. It is certainly not an experience that people would like to have. Mr Speaker, could I take this opportunity to seek leave to extend my time by 15 minutes?

The SPEAKER: Leave is sought pursuant to the sessional order.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, Deputy Premier! I note that leave is sought pursuant to the sessional order. Before I inquire as to whether leave is granted, I note, for the benefit of members in respect of this matter and generally, that members may also avail themselves of the procedure in standing order 240.

Leave granted.

Mr BOYER: I might just address the point of why I am introducing this bill and not the member for Enfield, who sits next to me. The member for Enfield has been the architect of this bill and knows it in intimate detail, and that is why she is sitting next to me. I am very pleased that she provided me, as a member for parliament in the north-eastern suburbs who has been campaigning on this issue for a number of months now, with the opportunity to be involved. I take this opportunity to thank the member for Enfield for her collaborative and team-orientated approach. I am very pleased to be the one who is introducing this bill to the house today.

I will just touch now on that campaign that Labor has been working on with the SDA, which represents a large number of workers at TTP, a large number of retail workers, who will be disproportionately affected by the introduction of paid parking at the site. I thank them for their efforts.

They have at last count, from memory, in the vicinity of 10,000 signatures on their petition and 4,000 signatures on Labor's petition.

When you consider that this is a localised area in the sense that we are talking about one shopping centre here that resides in the north-eastern suburbs, and therefore does not affect the whole metropolitan area by any means but only a relatively small section, I have to say it is incredible that collectively we have managed to get 14,000 signatures on the petition calling for Westfield to cease their plans to introduce this paid parking. I think that shows the level of anger and the lack of support there is in the north-eastern community for these changes.

I note some of the comments we have had from local residents in the north-east who have spoken out publicly about these changes, including Allyson from Wynn Vale who said the move is appalling and that it was a money grab, and Nikki, also from Wynn Vale, who said that 'it is a bit rich to be slugging residents in little old Tea Tree Gully'. It is a reflection from people like Allyson and Nikki of how the broader north-eastern community feels about this.

I have done a lot of doorknocking, encouraging people to sign the petition of course, and also just talking to people generally in the area about what issues they are concerned about. The things that have been coming up in my area are ambulance ramping, which is number one and comes up everywhere, but I have been genuinely surprised by how many people have raised of their own volition, without being prompted in any way by me, that they are disappointed and against the paid parking at Tea Tree Plaza.

These are the kinds of local issues that people care about because they affect their daily lives. If you are one of those people who lives in the suburbs around the plaza, if that is the place that you go to not necessarily to have a meal or watch a movie or shop for the basics or necessities but to do your daily shop, you are angry about this because it affects your daily life and it affects your hip pocket. It is a sign of just how many people are unhappy with this proposal that 14,000 people to date, in what is a relatively short period of time, have signed that petition.

SDA delegates have asked staff and customers at the centre to sign and share the petition. That has been very successful as well because, although I am sure that the majority of those 14,000 signatures are local residents' who shop at the centre, there would no doubt be a number of people on that petition who work there. I have had the opportunity on a number of occasions now to speak with them personally about what it would mean to them.

Some of these people are young—not even 20, perhaps, or early 20s—and some of them are older people who might be just looking for a few hours a week to supplement their income. They have spoken to me about their concerns. If paid parking at Westfield goes ahead and if the model that is introduced looks something like the model that has been introduced elsewhere—like West Lakes, I think—they have concerns about what parking will be quarantined or provided for staff.

I would like to elaborate on that point a little more. What we are told about the introduction of paid parking at West Lakes is that, yes, there was an area put aside for staff. It is a small area. The car park is generally full by 8am. At that point, if you are one of the many staff members who does not work an 8am to 4pm shift or regular hours but you might have a shift that changes each week or you might be on later in the day, by the time you arrive at the shopping centre and try to find your free or subsidised car park, there is nothing available.

Currently, I believe those staff have no choice but to park in the regular car parking space where shoppers would park and pay full parking rates. This raises a number of issues and one, of course, is safety. The staff car park is designed to be close to the centre because people are parking there regularly, and you try to do what you can for your employees to make sure they are safe getting to and from work. That is one issue, as to whether or not a staff car park arrangement like the one that currently exists at West Lakes would mean that retail staff would need to walk long distances to their car when they finish or start their shift.

The second issue is cost. No-one likes to pay for car parking, I understand that. But when you are retail worker on a pretty low income and when you might be one of those underemployed members of the South Australian workforce who does have a job but who does not have enough hours to support them, if you are then asked to come along for your afternoon shift and you are unable to find a vacant spot in the free staff car park section and you have to pay the full rate of the

car park, it really raises a question about whether or not it becomes viable for you to do your shifts anymore.

Potentially, we are talking about paying close to a couple of hours' worth of your shift towards the luxury of parking at your workplace. These are issues that staff at Westfield are currently concerned about. As I said earlier in my remarks, there has been no clarity or further information provided by the Westfield Group about exactly what that model will look like. That is something that we are certainly concerned about. We would not like to see a situation where staff are forced to park a long way away from their workplace and forced late at night or very early in the morning to walk to and from their car, or to see a situation where people decide that it is almost not worth taking a small shift at work if they have to go along and pay some pretty hefty car parking fees.

In the name of being balanced and not representing just one side of the picture, I would like to provide at least some acknowledgement for some of the upgrade work that has taken place at Tea Tree Plaza in the last few years. Most recently, there has been a very big upgrade to the dining and cinema area, and I think that has been really welcomed and embraced by local residents in the north-eastern suburbs. Certainly, I have used that on several occasions. Hoyts has been completely refurbished. There is now a boulevard area that has new restaurants and cafes and children's play areas. I think that has been well used by local residents, and they have been pleased that Westfield made that investment in their local shopping centre.

That said, that development came at the cost of existing car parks, and quite a number of existing car parks. What was already on occasions a pretty diabolically difficult place to park—particularly around Easter and Christmas, public holidays or occasions like Mother's Day—has become even more so. That is because the plaza has made the decision to upgrade the centre, which is a good thing. But the consensus from local people is that this proposal to introduce paid parking at the centre is in some way an attempt by the Westfield Group to essentially push the cost of replacing the car parks that were taken up by its own refurbishment onto people who shop at the centre, and they do not feel that is right. I would agree with them; I think that is not right.

It worries me that in all the months that have passed between this proposal first being made public and today when introducing this bill, all we have from Westfield is that pretty strange comment about making sure that there is an improved car parking experience for all people who use the centre. There has been no explanation from Tea Tree Plaza about why exactly the revenue that will no doubt be raised from paid parking is necessary and exactly what it will be put towards.

If we are to take on face value that comment that it will mean an improved car parking experience for all shoppers, I think we can probably assume that the idea is indeed to bill users of the shopping centre to add car parks or, really, to replace car parks that have been removed as part of the upgrade from the centre. I do not think local shoppers, local residents of the north-east, should have to foot the bill for Westfield's upgrade.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge some of the advocacy that we have had from Tea Tree Gully council.

Debate adjourned.

Motions

REGIONAL MEDIA

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (11:30): I move:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the importance of independent media platforms as both the voice for regional communities and a trusted information source;
- (b) provides financial assistance to help support both new and established platforms to continue to serve their communities;
- (c) recognises that print is a vital information source for regional people; and
- (d) commits to an annual spend for communication in regional communities.

The importance of print media to regional areas cannot be underestimated. For regional communities, they are a source of information, a journal of record, a regular publication where you find accurate and balanced news in the public interest. For many people, it is the only place where you find out government news and how it will affect you and your family.

There has recently been a push to modernise the advertising of government news and public notices online and reduce the commitment to advertising in regional print publications. The simplify bill was just one example of this. It was a bill that was introduced by this Liberal government. I spoke extensively against that bill, but it was passed. Now we see another bill introduced, the Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Bill, which seeks to do exactly the same as the simplify bill.

For example, in four amendments, the requirement for the notice or alteration in a newspaper has been removed and substituted with the council merely giving public notice. If we are serious about this, not many people are visiting local council websites on a regular basis, keeping up to date with all of the notices in their local area, yet most in the regions will buy or read a local newspaper where that information is presented.

Regional print remains strong. The readership of *The SE Voice*, one of our papers, is 18,000 people, and 15,500 copies of *Lifestyle1* are distributed across Limestone Coast and south-west Victoria each week. Of course, we have *The Border Watch*, which is a paper that has been going strong for over 160 years. These are vital places where our community remains informed and up to date, particularly with government notices and information.

It is also true that regional papers depend on advertising. When I am sitting down talking to my local papers, they clearly indicate to me that the cost of purchasing a paper barely covers, if it indeed does cover, the print cost and distribution. Advertising is a very important part of a newspaper's viability. Viability is an easy word, but what we are talking about here are jobs—jobs in regional areas that contribute not only directly to the printing of the paper but of course to the distribution and every other aspect that goes along with it.

At the beginning of the pandemic, the Victorian government—sometimes I think I live in a parallel universe—committed to a minimum advertising spend in regional papers. I believe this spend was \$4.7 million, and it gave certainty to those papers and also helped contribute to the jobs that underpin the industry. Most importantly, it was getting the government's message about the COVID-19 pandemic and the steps the government was taking out to the readership. This continued for a further six months beyond the initial term and they have now, just recently, committed to a half page per week for a further 12 months.

That is a Victorian Labor government supporting regional papers with a guaranteed commitment to underpin the viability of that industry. This action demonstrates a proactive relationship between the Victorian government communications team and their regional media outlets. It also demonstrates a commitment to regional people, and an understanding of how print continues to be a vital source of information for regional audiences.

However, it seems that our state government's relationship with regional papers, as expressed to me by some in the media, is one-sided. What I mean by that is that media releases are pushed out by government ministers—quite rightly so—and these papers give serious consideration and almost always print and give prominent space to the message being distributed to regional audiences.

When a minister or senior politician comes down to regional areas, regional media show up, take photographs and attend press conferences, all of this without paid advertising going along with it—not that they are complaining about that service. It is a longstanding expectation and agreement between both sides because it is newsworthy. However, what I am calling for is a commitment to an annual spend for communication in regional communities to help underpin this very important industry.

Like any other industry impacted by the pandemic, regional print deserves economic support measures to ensure its longevity. A regional newspaper supports far more than just journalists and sales staff. It has a trickle-down effect to delivery drivers, stockists, fuel companies, newsagents and many, many more. Combined, *Lifestyle1*, *The Border Watch* and *The SE Voice* support around 25 full-time jobs and many more part-time and casual roles.

It is in the best interests of the state government, no matter of which persuasion, to ensure the survival of print media or we will lose a valuable information service for our regional people. People consume information in very different ways, and any government's communication plan should always include a variety of platforms, including online, radio, print and social, to reach these audiences.

As has been said in recent legislation and in legislation coming up, there are moves to push the publishing of public notices online, to skip the requirement to publish in newspapers entirely. This is often referred to as 'modernising community consultation', and giving governments and councils more flexibility in the way they communicate with the community.

In regional South Australia, print continues to be a vital source of information. The last year has been a perfect example of why traditional media is incredibly important to provide accurate and balanced reporting on issues in the public interest. Misinformation is rife on social media platforms, which do not fact-check and allow public commentary. Unbelievably, a politician's Facebook page is not where most of Mount Gambier finds out government news that affects them.

This government proudly displays the motto Regions Matter. The communication budget is already there, and I am asking this state government to commit to an advertising spend in regional areas so that our regional papers can plan, with some degree of certainty, a future budget that includes their full-time equivalents, and it would give some certainty and some support to a vital industry in our regions.

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (11:40): I am pleased to rise today to speak to the motion put to the house by the member for Mount Gambier in relation to regional media. As a member for a regional electorate that sits adjacent to that of the member for Mount Gambier, I understand and appreciate the importance of independent media, and in particular print media, in our communities.

My electorate and the member for Mount Gambier's electorate share several providers of independent media that deliver news across the Limestone Coast. The delivery of the news by independent media platforms is fundamental to ensure that our communities are informed and engaged. It is a foundation upon which our democracy is able to effectively function. It enables us as state representatives of our communities in government to be questioned and held to account for our actions, policies and advocacy efforts.

Local independent media platforms also connect people to each other, to the decisions of our federal and local governments, our businesses, our sporting groups, our social groups, our networks, our public services and, importantly, to the issues that affect people's daily lives. The media helps us to share our celebrations and achievements and share our sorrows. It helps us to signal our rituals, like funerals and memorial services, and highlights life events, including marriages and milestone celebrations.

The Limestone Coast has what I believe is an enviable rich combination of independent print, electronic and radio outlets that deliver national, state and local news and entertainment. At the risk of missing some, I know my constituents appreciate the opportunity to read or listen to a range of publications and outlets that have both a local and an increasingly regional outlook on news. These include *The Border Watch*, which covers Mount Gambier and surrounds; in Naracoorte, *The News* covers Naracoorte and further regions; the *Border Chronicle* is Bordertown's rural press; the *Naracoorte Herald* is Naracoorte's rural press and covers other areas as well; the *Stock Journal* is really a statewide regional agricultural paper; *The SE Voice* covers Mount Gambier and districts; and the *East Coastal Leader* covers the news of the Kingston district and also Robe.

To the north of the MacKillop electorate, there are *The Murray Pioneer* and *The Murray Valley Standard* publications that continue to provide local news for the townships of the River Murray and Murray Mallee. Radio coverage includes both ABC South East SA, Triple M in the South East, Flow FM and community radio stations like 5tcbFM, based in Bordertown, and 5TheFM, based in Millicent.

The shutdown of local and regional print media in the Limestone Coast in the mid-2020s, associated with COVID-19, was a time that left a vacuum for local news. It was a time that brought a focus on the need for print media in particular. It was an absence that our community felt deeply

and added to the uncertainty felt by many who were experiencing income loss, business closure and disruption to their lives. It was unprecedented.

Thankfully, though, it was a time when a number of individuals rose to the challenge and moved to establish new print media publications. This bucked a reported broader trend away from print media. New publications to emerge in the Limestone Coast included *The SE Voice* and the *Naracoorte Community News*. The establishment of these publications has been embraced by the community and local businesses, who have rewarded the commitment to deliver news with their support through purchasing papers, ongoing subscriptions and advertising.

Subsequently, there was the return of Australian Community Media publications, including the *Naracoorte Herald* and the *Border Chronicle*, and the *Coastal Leader* has also been welcomed back. I am a firm believer that our government and our government departments need to seek to continue to engage through advertising with regional independent print media. Our state and democracy would be much weaker for the neglect of our regional publications to communicate news, post public statutory notices and flag community engagement initiatives. The print media is a long-established and trusted source of information for our regional communities. If we are to meaningfully engage with our communities, we need to use all media formats to communicate information and share our stories.

Even as our media landscape continues to seek to adapt to the delivery of digital news that can be accessed freely by anyone with a smart phone, the importance of print media in our regional communities is without question in my mind. This brings me to the sorts of topics that we now see the print media covers, and always has covered, and how important they are. Print media and local radio stations are often in our council chambers during council meetings, taking notes and minutes, bringing to the attention of the community all the discussions and perhaps even bringing another perspective, another a view, to the council via the media.

It is an ingrained and established type of process that I have seen right throughout my career, not only in my short career in politics but also right through my career in agriculture and on the farm, when print media send out messages, discussions and information about those who move certain motions through council, making us aware of all that is going on. It is very much appreciated that they spend time in council chambers highlighting these issues. If there is a problem, the community can then go to the council, councillors and the mayor to raise these issues once they have been raised through the media outlets. If the media is not there, this sort of connection is lost.

Another thing that I see—and know that the communities are very much engaged with our print media, perhaps radio stations as well—is the recording and photographing of sporting events. When I was young, 40-odd years ago, to see any photo of me in the paper at junior colts football or a sporting event, just like all young people, was a highlight of the damned week let alone the year. A lot of grandparents would come up to me and others and say, 'I saw you in the paper. You were out playing football.' This is how the community works. This is why they buy the paper.

Today, those grandparents are still out there. They are not engaged with Facebook or other social media outlets; some of them are well versed, others mostly are not. The print media brings that sort of news across our region right into family homes and to the aged-care centres, wherever the aged may be. I know they really appreciate it. They feel like they still belong. They can still watch their grandchildren and see them in the papers and know what is going on through print media, and it is not lost.

Papers and print media have done and will continue to do a terrific job covering and publishing regional and rural events such as agricultural field days, best technologies, grassland conferences and field days, such as the South-East field days. They cover them like nothing else, with lots and lots of photos, highlighting that there were 20,000 people on one day and 25,000 on the Saturday—those sorts of things that emphasise just how big and important these events are to our regions.

Then there are times of adversity, such as Ash Wednesday and other major fires like the Keilira fire and the Blackford-Avenue fire, that are covered media, with photos highlighting the damage, those who suffered, how we are moving forward, where the social engagements will take place to look after and care for people and how people can help once these events have taken place. They also notified that BlazeAid was in the area; it was well covered by our media. People in the local area, locals, then turned up at BlazeAid to help other locals. Without the media covering these

types of events, showing the way it all works, I can tell you that the message would get only halfway across if we relied only on television, for example, or we used social media outlets.

I really do support this process. I hope our government can do all it possibly can to support our regional media. We represent only 400,000 people in the state. There are over a million people in the city, with city papers. We are just as important. We do not have the majority of figures and numbers to advocate, but we are diverse, we are spread over huge distances and we are just as important and need to be looked after. We need messages put out there, bringing our communities together and making our communities stronger. Resilience will be that much better for regional media. I commend the motion to the house.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (11:49): I would like to make a contribution to this debate and support the motion and acknowledge the important role that local media plays in our communities. I have spoken on this matter before and I only wish to add to what has already been said. The two previous speakers covered the field very well. While it was good to hear the member for MacKillop speak in support of this motion, it was disappointing that he also voted for those changes to laws that take income away from local media because it does not require government demand to do so. On the one hand, I appreciate the fact you are speaking in support, which I think—

Mr Whetstone: It sounds like fake news.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: No, he is acknowledging it. He is actually acknowledging it, unlike you—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Member for Light, could you take a seat for a moment. Order in the chamber, please! I would remind the member for Light that he has just been reflecting on the vote of a house.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: I was reflecting on the vote of an individual member, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It was the vote of an individual member, but it was a bill before the house. Continue without referring to or reflecting on the vote of a house.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: It is unfortunate that the laws as they now stand do not support this motion, which is sad; however, this motion is worthy of support. Unfortunately, our local media has been taken for granted and not really appreciated or supported by successive governments. It is good to see, though, that industry is now fighting back to make sure that it does survive.

I refer to some new research that has been undertaken with the support of Country Press Australia. Deakin University are doing a major research project into country papers, particularly print media. The first part of this research is based on a survey, the 'Local newspaper audience survey national report 2021', which is part of the 'Media innovation and the civic future of Australia's country press' project. This research is very important because it does two things: firstly, it will talk about what people's expectations are from local media in their country and regional communities and, secondly, what people think needs to be done to make sure we have a sustainable country press in Australia.

I will quote from the report, and this quote covers very well what I think is the importance of country press:

When practised well, country journalism informs, educates and entertains a public that is often marginalised in favour of their big-city counterparts. It contributes to a functioning local democracy and public sphere, creates a shared sense of community, and fulfills a watchdog role by providing a check and balance on institutions such as local government, courts, churches, schools and police.

That quote from the report covers very well what I think country media does and the role country media plays. In addition to print media, we also have country radio stations, both community and for-profit. In terms of print media, my own area is covered by the *Plains Producer* at Balaklava, *The Bunyip* at Gawler and *The Leader*, which is based in Angaston. I think we still have the Barossa and Light *Herald*, which is part of Australia country media, but it is only published occasionally online. Certainly, the print media version has not been available for some time. We also have community radio BBB FM based in Nuriootpa.

As part of this research that was undertaken, there was a survey of 4,200 local newspaper readers from semirural or peri-urban regional and country South Australia. They made a number of findings, but I think a couple of the findings were very important and instructive. One is as follows:

- Audiences believe local newspapers should be collaboratively funded by a range of relevant stakeholders to ensure their future.

It is interesting that our community believes that *The Advertiser* has a role to play, readers have a role to play and newspaper owners have a role to play, but also that governments have a role to play to ensure that local media does survive.

That role is the role of perhaps providing advertising dollars. As a number of country press operators have said, the governments of the day are more than happy to have local newspapers print their media releases and, when they come out, as the member for MacKillop said, to cover their media events and take photographs, etc., but when it comes to actually ensuring that the paper is there for the next week and the week after and the week after that, they are now no longer prepared to put the money as advertising dollars in. It is important because of all the functions that the country press plays.

It is interesting, also, what the audience of this survey said. They overwhelmingly indicated that additional funding for local news should be directed to employ more local journalists to report news rather than to increase digital connectivity and digital innovations. In other words, people said they still had a strong preference for print media over digital media. The reality is that a lot of people cannot actually access digital media.

It is clear from the research that has been undertaken that people in country areas and regional areas appreciate and value their country papers. The reality is that for newspapers right across the country—not only those in local areas but also metropolitan papers—the advertising dollar is getting harder and harder to come by, and they are finding it harder to survive.

As a parliament, we need to make sure that we protect our local democracies, make sure that governments of the day do provide support to our local newspapers to make sure they are able to do all the things they do. When I undertake some research about my own community relating to 50, 100 or 150 years ago, where do I go? I go to my local papers to see what is the history of an event and what happened in those days and at those times.

They actually are important journals of record not only for political or local government news but in terms of all those other things that are important to local communities: school events, church events, births, deaths and marriages—all those things that are important to local communities. Local newspapers help keep our communities connected and importantly keep all of us accountable. With those few comments, I would certainly support the motion. Without reflecting on a previous decision of this parliament, I draw members' attention to the fact that we need to do more.

We need to do more and we can do more to ensure that our country papers stay in print. I think it would be a sad day if we lost our country papers. Sadly, we have actually lost about 200 papers across the nation over the last year or so. Most of those were owned by the Murdoch press and other big media outlets, but in my own town of Gawler we did lose *The Bunyip* for two weeks. It was only two weeks, but there was a sense of great loss, and fortunately community action did bring the paper back after only two weeks. However, some papers have disappeared not to return, and those communities are the poorer for that. I certainly support the motion.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (11:57): I rise to support the member for Mount Gambier's motion because it is an important motion. It is important for a number of reasons. We here in this place, and particularly regional MPs, rely on a balanced set of voices that come into our newspapers, and those voices are critically important not only for state governments, federal governments, local governments and organisations in terms of having their voice heard and having their voice put out there, but also for sharing messages and about sharing information in our communities.

In regional South Australia, we are in some way isolated, away from some of the mainstream media, and to have a voice, to be heard in the regions, is critically important. It is critically important for that train of voices to be heard right across different areas so that we can actually understand what is going in our neighbours' towns and districts and also to let the locals know exactly what is happening in their backyard.

Just recently we have been through the pandemic and many of our regional newspapers became almost unviable. We know that advertising is the bread and butter that keeps the lights on, the bills paid and the presses continuing to churn out those papers. The great work of the commonwealth government, particularly with JobKeeper, has seen those papers supported and they have survived. Now that we are getting a level of normality back into our local economies, those papers are starting to see the light of day.

In the electorate of Chaffey, an electorate of around 24,000 square kilometres, that news platform is an important part of the fabric of isolated regional communities, and keeping people informed of local events is critically important. It also holds some of the institutions to account—for example, the three levels of government—because people need to have a voice. Not only does it inform the readers but it also gives a bit of balance.

We know that good, balanced journalism is critically important for democracy and it is critically important for both sides of the story. We, here in this place, know that there are always two sides to a story and we like to think that our side of the story is the correct side. It gives people the opportunity to be a part of that conversation.

In Chaffey, we have one Riverland-centric newspaper and six newspapers that are circulated throughout the region. Through the impacts of COVID, *The Murray Pioneer* has now been wound back to one distribution per week of approximately 22,500 copies. The amalgamation of *The River News* and *The Loxton News* has seen them now merge with *The Murray Pioneer*. *The Border Times* in the Southern Mallee continues with great support. *The Murray Valley Standard*, a very good paper, publishes some of the Mallee content in the member for Hammond's electorate. In the Barossa there is *The Leader*, which publishes into the lower river area of Swan Reach and surrounding areas.

We also rely on radio. The radio waves speak loud and clear in the Riverland. We have 1062 ABC Riverland, Magic 93.1 and 5RM, which are longstanding radio communication and media in the Riverland, as are Flow FM and Life FM. Obviously, the role of social media has become incredibly dominant in this modern era and that is putting continued pressure on the viability of our regional newspapers.

We need to understand and accept that we are moving into a modern age and that is where the regional newspapers need to come to the fore. They need to look at new ways of expressing and putting the news out there. As I have said, advertising is critically important to viability. That is why the federal government's \$50 million PING program support package for regional media is very important. It continues to support public interest journalism delivered not only by the newspapers but commercial TV and radio. Obviously, that injection of funds, along with JobKeeper, has helped with the impacts of the pandemic.

As I have said, communities in regional areas have faced significant challenges, not just the impacts of COVID but the different challenges and competition in the marketplace, particularly for advertising, and that puts more pressure on our regional newspapers. *The Murray Pioneer* newspaper has been around for a long time. The Taylor Group has been run by a great Riverland family since 1892. *The Murray Pioneer* is an institution and in its current title has been around since 1942.

Local newspapers rely on good, balanced journalism. I think the Country Press Association gives reward for effort. I should mention that a lot of the regional newspapers are the incubators or the budding ground for journalism that is coming in, or journalists, young cadets, coming in. They are looking for rewards. They are looking for recognition so they can go on to greater things. That is why the Country Press Association continues to reward good balanced journalism. It really does give a shot in the arm to those journalists who are there to expand their careers or are there for recognition, just to be good at what they do.

The regional media sources will continue to face the different challenges, the task of providing that high-quality news. As an example, I would like to highlight something. I think *The River News* at Waikerie played a significant role when the previous government, the previous state Labor government, wanted to close the Cadell ferry. The Cadell ferry plays a critical role for those communities down there but also for a lot of heavy vehicles that come across the river.

The then government did not realise the backlash that they were going to face from the local communities, which was demonstrated in those local newspapers. It was not only demonstrated in *The River News*, *The Loxton News* and *The Murray Pioneer*, but soon gained momentum. It shifted the story out of a regional paper into the metropolitan, into *The Advertiser*. Even *The Australian* made mention of a government that failed to consult, failed to recognise the importance of a river-crossing ferry.

Not only did that coverage gain momentum but the decision was quashed and the Labor government backflipped on that decision. It was a great win for a local community, a very small local community that needed some recognition. They needed the light shone on that local issue. These are the sorts of stories and that is the sort of journalism that regional newspapers are renowned for. They are there to fight the good fight for some of those local issues.

They are also there to hold institutions to account. I know that *The Murray Pioneer* continues to not only give the journalists an opportunity to have their say but also give the readers an opportunity to have their say, with letters to the editor, texts to the editor, opinion pieces and the like. That is why the regional newspapers, the regional media platforms, are so important to living in a regional community.

Regional communities deserve to have that balance. They deserve to have that voice. Whether it is a voice on either side of the argument, it is critically important that our regional newspapers survive. I would like to think that all levels of government will continue to support and advertise in our regional newspapers and not use the digital age. Our regional newspapers are the fabric of a regional community, and that is why I am very supportive of this motion.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (12:08): I rise also to support this incredibly worthy motion. Over many years, I have been an avid reader of the local papers in my region. One of the sad things I have seen is the decline of the print media in regional South Australia. When I was elected, we had the *Roxby Downs Sun*, obviously in Roxby Downs, part of the Fairfax rural press empire. That paper, unfortunately, closed in 2015, so a degree of accountability was removed from that community with a non-elected council in Roxby Downs. That was a paper that used to shine the light on the expenditures of that council and represent, to a great degree, the voice of the people in Roxby Downs. That paper has now gone.

When I was elected, the *Eyre Peninsula Tribune* was still in play. As the Deputy Speaker would know, it was a good little paper. It covered Cleve, Kimba and Cowell. That paper also has now gone. We had the *Coober Pedy Regional Times*, which used to be in print. It is not a professional paper as such, but Margaret Mackay, the editor and journalist, did a lot of work to keep that paper going. It is still available, but it is only available online now.

We still have the *Whyalla News*, obviously in Whyalla, that started way back in 1940. It used to be a biweekly and in the sixties it turned into a triweekly. It is now printed just once a week. It was a paper that had an editor and a number of journalists some years back, and what we have seen over the years is a steady decline. There is now just one journalist who works part time and has to cover everything.

I remember the days when I was on the Whyalla City Council. You would always have the media there at the meetings, shining a light on the goings-on of local government. You would have the print media there and you would also have GTS/BKN—Southern Cross these days—turn up. That is largely gone. The *Whyalla News* still does reasonable local coverage, given the resources available, and Southern Cross also still covers the region, usually trying to do a story for each community each night over a vast area.

We have seen the decline of print media in my part of the world and indeed throughout the nation. As the member for Light said, over 200 papers have closed over recent years in regional communities. We have seen changes in ownership structure. The *Roxby Downs Sun* was part of that Rural Press and Fairfax. They closed early in 2015. It was the Wilson family who started the *Whyalla News* and they are still involved with rural media in this state. They owned that paper for many years until it was bought out by Rural Press and Fairfax, which in turn went to the wall and then was bought out by Australian Community Media.

It is incredibly important that we retain print media in regional communities because it is an important voice on current affairs. A lot of people read the papers because of the sport, because of

the pictures and because of the social goings on. It is an important part of the fabric of regional communities and when they close it is a loss that is very hard to replace.

Social media is not an alternative. Some of the stuff I have seen locally on social media has been an absolute disgrace. There is no filter; there is no responsibility. Some of the stuff that is put out there is so factually inaccurate it is disturbing. In some ways, social media represents a long-term threat to a well-functioning democracy. At least the papers had a responsible filter. They would look at the stories and run with the stuff that actually had some semblance of factuality about it.

To lose the print media in regional communities would leave a real hole, so it is important that government at a local level, at a state level and at the federal level support local print media and put their dollars into advertising. I know in my limited budget I make an effort to put dollars into the local papers that still exist because those papers represent a voice for the community and a way that the community can have reflected back on itself what is going on. Rural print media is incredibly important and deserves all the support we can give it.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (12:14): I acknowledge this motion by the member for Mount Gambier, Troy Bell:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the importance of independent media platforms as both the voice for regional communities and a trusted information source;
- (b) provides financial assistance to help support both new and established platforms to continue to serve their communities;
- (c) recognises that print is a vital informative source for regional people; and
- (d) commits to an annual spend for communication in regional communities.

I note that the Marshall Liberal government recently launched a regional development strategy focused on growing our regional communities and seeking to overcome the challenges our regions face. We recognise that all forms of regional media play important roles in each community they cover and have been valuable news sources for decades.

The member for Mount Gambier I note largely referred to the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2019, which amongst other things amended 27 acts to add the option of publishing government agency notices online. That change has given government departments the discretion to publish notices online in regional newspapers and newspapers circulating across the state as well as in the *Government Gazette*. The ability to publish notices in regional and local newspapers does remain available and is certainly utilised by government departments.

Advice we received at the time from our departments indicated minimal negative impact on regional newspapers, and departments certainly continue to advertise in regional newspapers where this is the best medium to reach this audience. I think generally right across the state in regional areas it is the best medium to reach the audience. I note the member for Chaffey said that, given the impact we have seen of COVID-19 on regional media across Australia, the commonwealth government announced initiatives to breathe life back into Australian journalism, including a \$50 million fund to support regional news media.

We have seen a hit on print media just by the effluxion of time and progress, to a degree. We have seen online sources of media or information come on board. We certainly see some people—too many people—living their lives online with things like Facebook, which is an interesting way to run your life, but it is how some people choose to do it. You have to have those steady, serious forms of communication that print journalism can bring to communities right across the state.

In regard to print media in the seat of Hammond, we are very well served. We have *The Border Times*, as mentioned before by the member for Chaffey, a long-running paper in the Mallee centred around issues in Pinnaroo, Lameroo and up towards Peake, with the local Mallee Football League, which obviously also has the town of Murrayville and the surrounding area on the Victorian side that would receive that paper as well. Coming back closer to the centre of Hammond, we have *The Murray Valley Standard*, which has been in place for many years. When I was growing up, which was a couple of days ago, it was a one-day-a-week paper on a Wednesday, and I always

thought it was a pretty good paper. Back in the day it was chock full of information for the local community.

Down the track, and this is quite relevant to what we are talking about today, it went to a two-day-a-week format on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and I believe that was mainly based on the ability to capture more advertising spend. It was interesting that some people would not buy Tuesday's paper but would buy Thursday's paper, so it was slightly counterproductive in that way, but in more recent times it has switched back to a one-day-a-week format on a Thursday.

Also serving my community is *The Southern Argus*, which has recently been modernised, with new ownership introducing colour back to the paper—real modernisation—and it is a fantastic look for *The Southern Argus* coming out of Strathalbyn. *The Courier* from Mount Barker captures the upper reach of my electorate, up towards Harrogate and the outskirts of Nairne.

We are also serviced by electronic means: we have the ABC in the Riverland, we have other FM stations such as Flow FM based in the Riverland, we have Radio 5MU, which has recently gone onto the FM band with three frequencies, and Power FM is still on there as well coming out of Murray Bridge, so there is a range of media that people can reach out to. I acknowledge Peri Strathearn and his Murray Bridge News, as he went out on this own, doing an online news service.

It is interesting when we talk about things like 'online', as I think that has caused some of the demise of regional papers. As someone—and I am talking about myself—who only switched on his first computer when he was 42 (and I enjoyed that until I had to do it), now the first thing I do in the morning is switch on and download a digital paper, whether it is a regional newspaper or *The Advertiser* or *The Australian*. It just goes to show how things have moved on.

I have many friends and there are many people, as has already been indicated, right across the regions who enjoy buying a regional paper so they can have the actual paper in their hands. It is a bit of an experience: it is like reading a book instead of having an audiobook. There will be those traditionalists who will like to read papers forever, and it certainly does make a difference seeing how your kids or grandkids won at footy or whatever else happened. Regional papers give that absolute community coverage of things like community football, netball, bowling, lawn bowls, cricket—whatever is going on—and it is magnificent coverage.

In recent times, we saw the Transcend program from the group that owned papers like *The Murray Valley Standard*, which was basically a cutback of that paper. *The Murray Valley Standard* used to print in Murray Bridge and print a swag of other regional papers. Sadly, that printing press has closed down, the paper is printed somewhere else and I believe the block has been sold to Emmett's farm machinery, the John Deere dealer locally. The site will be put to good use, but it is a real pity, as I believe the press was an emergency press to print *The Advertiser* if the main option for *The Advertiser* broke down, and I think they had a second option somewhere else.

I commend the motion and long may we keep up advertising in the papers. I certainly see plenty of government advertising in regional papers, including from the government and also from the parliament, whether it be select or standing committees, letting people know about things that committees are looking at, about government jobs and other advertising the government puts in regional papers. I commend the motion.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (12:24): I would like to acknowledge and thank the member for Mount Gambier for bringing this motion to the house:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the importance of independent media platforms as both the voice for regional communities and a trusted information source;
- (b) provides financial assistance to help support both new and established platforms to continue to serve their communities;
- (c) recognises that print is a vital information source for regional people; and
- (d) commits to an annual spend for communication in regional communities.

In a previous role as the head of the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance, I used to travel around South Australia and the Northern Territory to our regional communities, visiting the regional media—the newspapers, our ABC in regional communities, the television and radio stations—and meet with journalists, photographers and, of course, the management of the papers. It became apparent very

soon that the regional media have a significant role to play in their community. It is so important that we do whatever we can to ensure that that role is able to continue.

I know that I was in a committee meeting recently when they were looking at where they were going to advertise an inquiry, and the regional media had been left out. This was of great concern to me, and I requested of the secretariat that regional media be included—and it was.

We have newspapers like *The Border Watch* in Mount Gambier, *Barossa Herald*, *The Murray Pioneer*, *Port Lincoln Times*, *The Bunyip* at Gawler, *The Times* at Victor Harbor, *Northern Argus*, *The Recorder* at Port Pirie and *The Transcontinental*. To go through them all would take much more time than we have today, but there are also *The Murray Valley Standard*, *The Naracoorte Herald*, *Plains Producer*, *The Loxton News*, *Whyalla News* and, of course, the television stations like Channel 8, and there used to be GTS/BKN. They are all important.

If we do not advertise in our printed newspapers in regional South Australia, many people will miss out on the information that could be included—and that was the case with this inquiry. It is so important because very often in regional communities access to reliable internet is not there. Some of the more senior people in our community do not have access to smart devices, and some do not even have a computer, but newspapers, although printed on fewer days now in regional communities, are extremely important. I wholeheartedly support the motion moved by the member for Mount Gambier.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (12:27): Again, like other members in this house, it is my great privilege and pleasure to speak to the member for Mount Gambier's motion about the importance of media platforms in regional South Australia.

Many years ago, we all had our regular newspapers in our own communities. In my community of Port Pirie, we had *The Recorder*, which appeared three times per week, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Port Augusta and Whyalla were similar, as the member for Giles has indicated. In those days, we also had two editions of *The News*—from memory, one in the morning and one in the afternoon—plus *The Advertiser*.

Each edition of our local paper was eagerly awaited for the local news plus sporting results and, very importantly, as the member for MacKillop said, the photos of people playing football and things like that. It was not only football but also other social events, whether it was weddings and engagements or other social events. It was one of the biggest things that sold papers: not only the advertising but also the fact that you could buy the paper and see your photo, or a photo of one of your loved ones, and it was absolutely fantastic for those people.

Slowly, these independent newspapers were taken over by various multimedia companies, which in turn have, in my opinion, lost the really local feel in the way they report the news. These papers rely on local business operators placing their advertisements, which not only assists with the cost of production and distribution but, very importantly, is a way of promoting business operations.

These newspapers across all our regions relied on the advertisers and the general public who purchased the papers, whilst at the same time numerous newspapers would promote an event, especially if it was a fundraiser or a sporting event, as well as include council information.

As the member for Giles has indicated, we would always have the local paper in our council meetings in Port Pirie, even when I was on council as the mayor. Unfortunately, at the moment that is not happening because of the lack of two things: they do not have a business premise there because they are all working from home, and the number of staff now being utilised by these organisations as a result of dwindling sales and dwindling cost-effectiveness.

At one stage, governments would also promote their services, such as their events that were paid for by the relevant departments. However, in the past few years this operation has been getting less and less by the state and federal governments, and in particular local government.

I just want to reflect on a couple of moves that have gone through this house, and I will not mention or reflect on the two bills, but the situation is that the organisations 'may advertise' instead 'shall advertise'. Even with the local government at the moment, it is not, 'You shall advertise or promote in the local newspapers,' it is, 'You may do this at the discretion of the CEO.' And 90 per cent

of councils these days are actually putting it on their websites or on social media, and I believe that is not the right way to go.

It is not the way to get the message out to our communities because, as members have indicated previously, not everybody is on the computer all day and not everybody has access to a computer. The member for Hammond opened his first computer at 42. I have to agree with what he is saying. The first time I had to go on a computer I was so scared of it I made an excuse. When I was in the shipping section of the smelters I had to say, 'No, there's something wrong with the vessel. I have to go down and look at it.' It is a traumatic experience for people who have not grown up with it.

Like the member for Hammond, I like to actually have the paper in front of me, I like to be able to turn the paper over and I like to see it and actually feel it. But that is not the way it is going at the moment, and I think it is to the demise of our printed newspapers across all the regions and even South Australia in general.

These days it appears to be more fashionable to place any information on social media outlets, being Facebook, Twitter and websites. These activities do not have any financial impact on the organisations. There is nothing in that for the organisation at all, but very importantly it does not assist the local newspapers to provide the service with a paper, which most of us read by having the actual paper in our hands.

The operators of these newspapers not only provide vital information for our communities but also very importantly provide employment for journalists, and in particular training for people wanting to extend their knowledge and future employment opportunities in our regions. It is becoming very disturbing that in lots of acts of parliament there is a tendency for the local council and other government departments to not have to place any communication in the newspaper but rather on social media or a website, which takes revenue away from those who employ the journalists, and very importantly not everyone is glued to a computer, their mobile phone or other apps.

Before I close, I would just like to pay tribute and say that in my electorate of Frome and the surrounding areas we are very blessed because we have the Southern Cross GTS4. We also have the radio stations with 5AU, 5CS and Magic FM, plus ABC 891 and also Trax FM. In the print media, we have the *Northern Argus*, the *Plains Producer*, the *Yorke Peninsula Country Times*, *The Flinders News*, which is now printed in the Clare area and which is a free publication, *The Transcontinental* from Port Augusta, the *Whyalla News* and the *Port Pirie Recorder*.

I will say that lots of people in the media in Adelaide have actually started their media career in newspapers and also the TV and radio stations in Port Pirie. You only have to look at Jane Doyle and Rosanna Mangiarelli and others who actually started their careers in those areas. Without these newspapers these people would not have had a chance, and the scary part about it is that if the newspapers are dwindling down then the next thing that will not be available is our local TV and radio stations, and everything will be coming from the metropolitan areas and the capital cities.

We are seeing that with the ABC on the radio sometimes, after a certain period of time; it is not from Adelaide, it is from Sydney. We in this state and in our regions need to be very proactive about it. I am very happy and pleased to see members on the other side endorsing this motion from the member for Mount Gambier and I hope it gets traction. I commend the motion to the house.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (12:34): I, too, rise to commend and wholeheartedly support this motion. The member for Mount Gambier obviously comes from a town that has *The Border Watch* as its major newspaper. I think it is still in the Guinness book of records as having the longest serving editor of all time. I think it was a period of 50 years that the editor was in the job.

It is also where I got the first of many thousands of headlines that I have managed to get over my life. Back in about 1972, in the tiny tots graduation, *The Border Watch* in Mount Gambier gave me a fair run. I still have that photo at home—it is a ripper. That is the sort of thing that country newspapers do. They are out there covering the really big issues and then the little things like the tiny tots parades and things like that.

In my local area, *The Islander* is a really important newspaper in Kangaroo Island and we are well served by an award-winning journalist Stan Gorton, who has done an amazing job since he took up that role. I first met Stan when he was working at the *Port Lincoln Times*, during the Wangary fires back in 2005. In about 2018, Stan moved from southern New South Wales back to Kangaroo

Island, and last year he did an amazing job in telling the stories of the bushfires as they were happening on Kangaroo Island and then the aftermath of those bushfires as well.

He was duly rewarded by being named the best regional journalist in South Australia and also being a finalist in the Walkley awards, the highest honour you can get in journalism. As a former journalist—I am still a paid-up member of the journalists' union—the demise of the mainstream media in Australia saddens me. We see that with News Corp here, the *Sunday Mail* and *The Advertiser* have been really gutted in the number of journalists and photographers that they have, which has put an enormous amount of pressure on them. It also means that they get out to the regions a lot less than they used to.

When I worked at *The News* or *The Advertiser*, it was nothing to grab a four-wheel drive and head bush for 10 days with a photographer with a couple of stories lined up, but then you would end up in outback Queensland, New South Wales and other parts of South Australia and come back with fantastic stories that needed to be told. The people in Adelaide are richer for those stories being told and so are the people who you are telling the stories about in regional South Australia.

They have been gutted out here, but we have seen country newspapers around South Australia unfortunately gutted out as well. I have always been a big supporter of the Manuel family up in Balaklava with the *Plains Producer* and of Fraser's family with the *Yorke Peninsula Country Times*. Michael and everyone who runs the papers up there do a tremendous job. I am really saddened to see the hollowing out of these newspapers.

Part of it can come back to the government spend, and I wholeheartedly agree that the government needs to be spending money advertising in these papers, but we can all take responsibility by not going onto Amazon and those types of sites and ordering shoes and clothes and all these products from other parts of the world. When the local shoe shop in Port Pirie or in Kingscote or the local dress shop or jeans shop in one of these country towns loses out on sale after sale from people going online and ordering their goods, it means that they have less money in their cash registers, which means they have less money to buy ads in the local paper, which means the paper produces fewer pages of news and employs fewer journalists.

It has been a sad demise for a lot of country newspapers, and we need to stop that spiral downwards. Any move to cut government advertising in country newspapers would be a backwards step and I wholeheartedly support the member for Mount Gambier's move to make sure that the government is held accountable and that they do help prop up and support country newspapers in South Australia.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:39): I will keep the conclusion very short because the member for Cheltenham has the next motion, and a very important motion at that. Thank you to all the speakers from both parties in this house and, of course, the Independents. I think this will pass, and I am encouraged by the commitment to an annual spend for communication in regional communities—a good step forward if it does pass.

It is remiss of me not to talk about Country Press SA as an industry body. Their awards nights are always well attended. They do a great job for the cohesion and promotion of country newspapers, and it does sadden me that the committees that I am on have had to fight to make sure that advertising in regional papers is part of the course of business. It is a reflection that some people perhaps only think of one newspaper, but in fact we have many newspapers in our regions that contribute greatly to the fabric of South Australia. With those few words, I commend the motion to the house.

Motion carried.

WORLD REFUGEE WEEK

Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham) (12:40): I move:

That this house—

- (a) notes that World Refugee Week 2021 runs from 20 June to 26 June;
- (b) notes communities, schools, businesses, faith groups and people from all walks of life who are taking big and small steps in solidarity with refugees;

- (c) notes that migrants and refugees have made a social and economic contribution throughout our nation's history;
- (d) notes that Australia is, and always will remain, a society drawn from a rich variety of cultural, ethnic, linguistic and religious backgrounds, building on the over 40,000-year-old history and culture of all our First Nations peoples;
- (e) notes that according to the UNHCR's Global Trends Report, there were 26 million refugees and people seeking asylum worldwide at the end of 2019, amongst the greatest humanitarian need since the end of World War II;
- (f) notes the federal government's reduction in yearly humanitarian intake to 13,750, while continuing to spend \$1.19 billion per year on offshore detention and processing of asylum seekers;
- (g) notes assistance under the Status Resolution Support Service (SRSS) program administered by Centrelink has been cut from \$139.8 million in 2017-18 to just \$19.6 million in 2020-21; and
- (h) commits to understanding the many challenges refugees and asylum seekers have experienced coming to Australia, both historically and currently.

I am proud to stand here in this chamber today and every day to speak about refugees in this country. I have done it before, and I proudly do so on this occasion of World Refugee Week. Since 1947, nearly one million refugees have found sanctuary in Australia but still, sadly, 30 million people worldwide—and nearly half of those people being children—continue to seek asylum.

This week is particularly important to me. My father, a Hungarian refugee, arrived in Australia in 1957 from Hungary, like so many did in the 1950s. I would not be here, I would not exist, were it not for the care and compassion that was extended to my father when he arrived in Australia. Others have come as migrants, with every single one of those people seeking a better life for their families—a better, safer and more prosperous future for them.

The theme of National Refugee Week in 2021 is 'Unity: the way forward'. It is a reminder to us all that we are not only to survive here but we need to work together to ensure that we create fair opportunities for every single one of us. There has been no greater reminder of this than during the past 18 months, when as a state, a country and a globe, we have been tackling the coronavirus pandemic. We have done so together and we have done so for each other.

Refugee Week is one of those occasions when we can remind ourselves of what we can achieve when we work together. In 2021, the aim of Refugee Week is not only to shine a light on the issues that refugees face but to celebrate all that we as a nation, as a country and as a state have achieved and how we have grown as a result of their arrival and contribution to our state, country and this wonderful nation of ours.

If it were not for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, we are all migrants in this country. Our freedom has come at a cost to them, and we simply cannot move forward as a nation unless we acknowledge this and work with our First Nations people to find true reconciliation because the refuge that I speak of, the sanctuary that I speak of—that sanctuary that my father sought and found—has at times come at great cost to our First Nations people. This cost and suffering continues to this day, and the traumatic effects of colonisation, disadvantage and suppression continue.

Underpinning this great nation of ours is also a history that we must reflect on. One of the first bills that was introduced into Australia's new parliament upon Federation in 1901 was the Immigration Restriction Bill aimed specifically at restricting non-white migration. Sadly, it was a policy supported at the time by both sides of politics and by the majority of Australians, and this went on for many decades. As it became known, the White Australia Policy was not only intended to keep Australia white but also enabled discrimination of our First Nations people. It is a past that we have to reckon with. The White Australia Policy meant that people who look like me—white and from a European background—were welcomed, and others were not.

Underpinning all of this was the idea that cultural difference within society should be accepted and celebrated. With the changes that we saw in the 1970s, we could finally celebrate this. This diversity that we know in Australia today creates a much more tolerant and just future for all Australians, not just those who seek to call Australia home.

It has been remarkable to see the reactions of everyday people, of everyday Australians, shift in very recent times as the plight of Tamil asylum seekers Nades, Priya, Kopika and Tharnicaa has been discussed widely in the media. It has frankly been overwhelming to see some of the

attitudes shift in this debate about this family who until recently had been detained on Christmas Island. The majority of our nation are now saying, rightfully with horror, 'What are we doing to this family?' This family is welcomed and loved in the Queensland town of Biloela where they have made their home. Why is it then that the Morrison government has spent almost \$7 million detaining this family?

We know sometimes regional politics can get a bit of a tough run, especially in the most recent couple of days with the second coming of Barnaby Joyce, but one clear and very profound thing in this place is the passion, empathy and sincerity with which regional and country members of this place have spoken about the contribution of migrants and refugees to their communities. We know kindness is not exclusive. It is not the bastion of one side of politics, nor should it ever be. I say—as Biloela and the community say—bring the family home.

Critical to Refugee Week is the ability to tell these stories—the stories of multiculturalism, the stories of culture, the stories of faith that all of us have—but particularly unique are those of the lived experiences of refugees. I could tell you hundreds of individual stories of the area that I grew up in, just from the street that I grew up in in Royal Park—stories of change, stories sadly of war, trauma, imprisonment and torture of people who have fled their home countries to call Australia home.

Growing up, these were families from Hungary, Poland, Greece and Italy in my suburb in Royal Park in the west. More recently, we have seen Sri Lankans, Vietnamese, East and West Africans, Afghans, Syrians and Bhutanese in a new wave of refugees who have been welcomed to Australia in the way that we are so proud to do as a nation.

It is this reflection on how we have grown and changed as a community that is something probably my father would never have appreciated or foreseen when he arrived in 1957. He was a revolutionary. He was a part of the student-led uprising in Hungary in 1956. He was part of a movement that believed in justice and fairness. It is something that I am so proud to believe in and fight for today. He picked up arms and he fought for safety and for freedom. He fought for something as simple and as basic as the minimum wage in his nation.

He fled Hungary on 4 November 1956, 12 days after the revolution started, the very night the Soviet tanks rolled into Budapest. He escaped that night through the border into Austria. He was caught at the border, he was imprisoned, but he escaped. Thanks to the Red Cross, he found his way to Australia.

It is this story of my father that is replicated time and time again through those people who call Australia home and have arrived here as refugees. It is also the stories of the people who assist these refugees and assist these new arrivals to whom I want to pay my own personal appreciation today—the individuals and organisations alike that provide this assistance, from churches and faith-based bodies to schools, non-government organisations and legal assistance bodies. Their support and ongoing care is profound. Among these organisations are the Australian Migrant Resource Centre, the Red Cross, Multicultural Communities Council, AMES Australia, MYSA, the Australian Refugee Association, HOST International and Welcoming Australia, to name just a few.

Equally importantly to these stories are the stories we must be honest about and confront regarding the modern-day experience for refugees: the stories of offshore detention, sometimes indefinitely, on a phosphate island in the middle of the Pacific; stories of a slogan replacing a refugee policy, like 'Stop the boats'; the truth that my father—a tall, white, blonde man, a handsome man I must say as well—had a deeply different experience as a refugee in this country from that of modern-day refugees fleeing from other countries today.

It is incumbent upon me to use my voice in this house to speak about my dad's story because in talking about my dad's story, and my story, I seek to empower the stories of all refugees who are not able to be heard in this place. Similarly, many of my colleagues in this place have refugee stories of their own: the opposition leader, whose family came from Lithuania and Hungary (somewhat of a Hungarian takeover of the House of Assembly), his grandparents, Eva and Peter; the member for Enfield from Cyprus, with her parents, Christos and Eva; the Hon. Tung Ngo in the other place, a boat person from Vietnam, with his parents, May and Tu. Others also have connections through family and friends, through sporting clubs and organisations.

I know how important our welcome is to everybody in this place. It is not an overstatement to say that we are a much better place, a much better state, and a much better parliament for this diversity of representation. Australia provided my father with that place of shelter, thankfully, as it has done for every other refugee who calls Australia home today.

Equally important are the reflections, and Australia's modern tilt, away from this generosity and compassion of Whitlam and Fraser, two very different political people and two profoundly impressive and inspirational leaders. The stories of offshore detention for years, indefinitely, must stop. The story of slogans like 'Stop the boats' must stop. As members of parliament, as representatives of our community, we must say loudly, 'Not on our watch.'

My father was not turned back. He was not sent off to an island in the Pacific. He was not denied health care. He was never told that he would be denied settlement in Australia. He was not the victim of a refugee policy that seeks to deter those seeking asylum by making their prospective life and treatment in this country as miserable as possible.

The greatest gift refugees give us is their story. We learn and we grow to not make those mistakes again. We are so much better. This World Refugee Week we all celebrate the contribution that refugees have made to this country. I commend this motion to the house.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (12:53): I thank the member for Cheltenham for his passionate speech. I can certainly sense the passion in that speech, being the son of an Italian migrant, who arrived here in 1952 escaping a difficult, awful time, certainly economically, in Italy at the time, who calls this place paradise.

Paradise is what he calls Australia, and he is absolutely right. It is a place of opportunity that has been enriched by our ethnic community, a community of people who have come here as refugees, a community that has come here under contracts of work. My father's passage here was an assisted passage with a two-year contract.

In the 1950s, there was a lot of demonisation of those communities who were not from an English background and whose members were not tall and blonde and European. Even if you were from Southern Europe, sometimes you had trouble getting into Australia because of the way you looked. Of course, there was the ridiculous dictation test which you had to pass in a European language. Even though you might have been Italian or Greek, you would have to take a dictation test in German or Spanish. If you did not pass, you did not get through, but really the motivation was that you did not have the right colour or the right look to enter Australia, so it was a pretty ugly time.

I was disappointed that we did not hear an apology from the member for Cheltenham for the 'Can't trust Habib' campaign that Labor ran in 2014 against Carolyn Power when she ran under her maiden name. This is the essence of the racism and fear of the 1950s and 1960s migration program. I can tell you how damaging that was to Carolyn and her family. When I was at the Park Holme Shopping Centre the week that that brochure went out into the seat of Elder, two men, on separate occasions, came up to me. They were in their 60s or 70s. They knew that I was the shadow minister at the time and said, 'That candidate of yours, she's not a Muslim is she? I'm not voting for a Muslim.'

Labor knew what they were doing with that campaign, but there has not been an apology from the member for Cheltenham, not an apology from a single member of that side of the house for that campaign. We still hear in the trade union movement 'cheap migrant labour'. How often do you hear 'cheap migrant labour' from the union movement, discounting the value of migrants in Australia? It is an extraordinary and disingenuous motion by Labor not to take this opportunity to apologise—

Mr Szakacs interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Cheltenham!

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: —for the political tools they use against the migrant community for their own political gain. I can tell you that that is not why migrants come to Australia. They come to Australia for the opportunity it provides and they want to be part of the community. One of the things that migrant communities give their children that unites every Australian is that when they come to Australia they become part of our community and they give their children the Aussie accent. It does not matter what we look like, we all sound the same. The Aussie accent brings us together and yet there are so many cultures that now make up the Aussie accent in Australia.

We are one of the most successful countries in the world when it comes to multiculturalism and supporting refugees and migrants in a new place. We are a relatively new country: 60,000 years of Aboriginal heritage and 250-odd years of Western culture and Western heritage. We are very, very inclusive. It is just a pity that we did not start celebrating our Aboriginal culture earlier. I am very pleased that we are doing that now, and I am very excited about the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre on North Terrace that will be a main focus and celebration of Aboriginal culture in Australia.

I certainly support the sentiments of the member for Cheltenham, but I do not support how disingenuous the language was and the lack of an apology to the migrant and refugee community in South Australia for that despicable and disgraceful campaign they ran, knowing that they were pushing the racist button, knowing that the very people the union people target with their anti-skilled migration policies would respond to a racist campaign in the seat of Elder.

It did work, I saw it work, I witnessed it work. I had people telling me that they were not going to vote for a Muslim. There is no doubt that Reggie Martin knew what he was doing when he signed off on that brochure. It is interesting that there is not a single member of the Labor Party who is prepared to own that brochure. The DL distributed in that election is the hottest potato in town. It is an absolute disgrace that here we are, more than seven years on, and no-one has owned up to it and no-one has apologised for it.

Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham) (12:59): I thank members for their contributions and commend the motion.

Motion carried.

Sitting suspended from 12:59 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

The SPEAKER: I direct that the written answers to questions be distributed and printed in *Hansard*.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Essential Services Commission of South Australia—Inquiry into regulatory arrangements for small-scale water, sewerage and energy services—Final Report—February 2021

Regulations made under the following Acts—

Public Corporations—TechInSA—Dissolution and Revocation
Work Health and Safety—Prescription of Fee (No. 2)

By the Attorney-General (Hon. V.A. Chapman)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—

Dust Diseases—General
Freedom of Information—Exempt Agency—South Australian Skills Commission
Gaming Machines—

Fees Notice (No. 5)

Fees Notice (No. 6)

Lottery and Gaming—

Fees Notice (No. 3)

Fees Notice (No. 4)

Real Property—

Fees Notice (No. 4)

Fees Notice (No. 5)

By the Minister for Planning and Local Government (Hon. V.A. Chapman)—

- Local Council By-Laws—
 District Council of Coober Pedy—
 No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 No. 2—Moveable Signs
 No. 3—Local Government Land
 No. 4—Roads
 No. 5—Dogs
 No. 6—Nuisances
 No. 7—Cats
 No. 8—Water Conservation

By the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development (Hon. D.K.B. Basham)—

- Regulations made under the following Act—
 Veterinary Practice—Veterinary Treatment

Parliamentary Committees

ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (14:02): I bring up the following reports of the committee: Annual Report 2018-19 and Annual Report 2019-20.

Reports received.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (14:03): I bring up the 41st report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

Question Time

AMBULANCE RAMPING

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:03): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier stand by his comments this morning that the budget measures his government announced yesterday will definitely fix ramping?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:03): Yes.

AMBULANCE RAMPING

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:03): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier agree with the Salaried Medical Officers Association that, following his budget yesterday, we will continue to see ambulance ramping? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: The Salaried Medical Officers Association's Bernadette Mulholland said on radio FIVEaa this morning, and I quote:

There is no addressing of the ramping, there is no addressing of the current shortage of resources in our Women's and Children's Hospital now. We will continue to see ramping, we will continue to see bed block...

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:04): No.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:04): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier explain why the budget papers show a reduction of 39 staff from the Women's and Children's Hospital over the next financial year starting next week?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:04): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. It gives me an opportunity to talk about the current Women's and Children's Hospital and of course the proposed women's and children's hospital. I think it is an

important opportunity to reflect on the difference in what we are doing as a government compared with the previous government, when they made the decision to move to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. In that case, there was no investment in the—

Mr Picton: Cutting 39 staff.

The SPEAKER: Member for Kaurana!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —old Royal Adelaide Hospital site. That site was basically left to go to rack and ruin over an extended period of time after the decision was made to move to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. By contrast, with regard to the Women's and Children's Hospital, we have increased our expenditure on that site with regard to capital improvements to make sure that we can—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —have an ongoing high-quality facility on that site. Those opposite said that they were going to build a new Women's and Children's Hospital. They said they were going to do this in 2013. They then cancelled that project in 2016. Just before the last election, they said we were going to have a new women's hospital. They haven't had the same position for a three-year period over the last decade with regard to the Women's and Children's Hospital.

By contrast, what we have done is listen to the clinicians and also listen to the general public, who want to have a high-quality service here, co-located with the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. We have very substantially increased our health expenditure since coming to government. In fact, we are now spending I think approximately \$900 million more per year than when the Leader of the Opposition was the health minister in South Australia, so there is a significantly larger budget now and on an ongoing basis. Within that, those LHNs determine what their staffing is. They are the ones who determine what that staffing is.

There has been a gradual increase to deal with issues associated with the coronavirus, but over and above that there has been a very substantial increase in the number of doctors, nurses and paramedics right across the health system in South Australia. The cherrypicker-in-chief—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —reverting to type, always wants to talk about one statistic over another. Well, let me give you a couple of statistics I think it's really important to look at. When the Leader of the Opposition was the health minister in South Australia, there were 32,212 people employed in SA Health—

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

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will resume his seat. The member for West Torrens rises on a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98:

In answering a question, a Minister or other Member replies to the substance of the question and may not debate the matter to which the question refers.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The question to the Premier was: can the Premier explain why budget papers show a reduction of 39 staff members? The Premier is now debating the question and attempting to try to create a debate or a quarrel in the house, and I ask that you rule, sir.

The SPEAKER: Leaving aside perhaps an element of editorial at the end of that point of order, the point of order is well understood and it's well made. I listened carefully to the question, which sought an explanation on the assertion of facts. I allowed the question a certain amount of

liberal interpretation of the question in that sense. Nonetheless, the question was specifically directed and the Premier should direct his answer to the specific question. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The question was about the numbers at the Women's and Children's Hospital, and the point that I was making was that the LHNs themselves determine what their staffing ratio is. When we look at it overall, when we came to government there were 32,212 people employed in SA Health. Currently, it is 33,740, so there is a very substantial increase in the number of people—doctors, nurses and paramedics—in our health system across South Australia.

Some of those are there because of our flex response to the coronavirus and, of course, as we know, that hasn't been something that the Women's and Children's Hospital has been exempt from. They have been running their own clinics in terms of providing that vaccination, and, of course, going forward into the new financial year we will see a reduction in the number of people who are involved in those vaccination services which are going to be in place. We will leave those specific staffing numbers up to the LHN—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —but what we can see, looking from the overall highest level, is a massive ramp-up of doctors, nurses and paramedics right across the system. It is a massive increase in the capital that is being applied to our hospital network in South Australia and a massive, massive \$900 million per year increase in the operational budget since the Leader of the Opposition was the failed health minister in South Australia.

The SPEAKER: Order! The time for answering the question has expired. Before I call the leader, I call to order the member for Playford, I call to order the member for Kaurana, I call to order the member for Colton, I call to order the Deputy Premier and I call to order the leader.

HEALTH BUDGET

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:10): My question is to the Premier. Why is the Premier's budget allowing for a cut in staff performing vaccinations within our health system when only approximately 4 per cent of the South Australian population is fully vaccinated?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:10): I am not suggesting that there is an immediate decrease. In fact, I think there is an immediate increase, but within the various LHNs they have different requirements. I find it almost impossible to believe that the Leader of the Opposition hasn't been following this very carefully. Where we were originally doing vaccinations—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —within individual hospitals, we have moved to a range of mass vaccination clinics in South Australia. The one at Wayville is actually operated by CALHN, not the Women's and Children's Health Network. The one that is focused at Playford is—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —being run by the northern health network, and the one that is down south—

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Education!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —is in the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, and they are all doing an excellent job. In fact, whilst those opposite want to carp and complain and cherrypick days and hours that they can't get a booking immediately, the reality is that yesterday was a record for South Australia in terms of the vaccinations that were provided.

By and large, people have found it very simple to get online, to book an appointment, to roll up their sleeve and have their jab, and they know by doing that they are protecting themselves, their families, their communities and their workplaces. Quite frankly, that's what is keeping our state safe and our economy strong in South Australia, and we are constantly looking to improve that run rate in South Australia, and that's exactly and precisely what is happening.

It is a pity that those opposite were trying to undermine the confidence the people of South Australia have in the vaccination program here in South Australia. I think that SA Health is doing an outstanding job, and I want to thank the men and women of SA Health for the outstanding job they have done—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —since day one. That's one of the reasons why we are massively increasing the resources to SA Health in South Australia, and that is evidenced by the budget that was brought down yesterday—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —a massive increase in the overall budget to SA Health—\$7.4 billion per year. When the failed Leader of the Opposition was the health minister in South Australia—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —it was at \$6.5 billion. It is now up to \$7.4 billion. We have been massively investing in health care in South Australia. I think that the men and women of SA Health—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —have done an outstanding job. We are backing them 100 per cent of the way. We don't think that those opposite should be undermining the confidence the people of South Australia have in the vaccination program. Having that vaccination is going to be what keeps our state safe and our economy strong.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It's safe, it's effective, it's free of charge. I do make the point that it is not compulsory, so we are asking people to come on this journey with us—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will resume his seat for a moment.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —and make sure they vaccinate—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat for a moment. There is just an outrageous amount of interjection that is proceeding in the chamber presently, so much so that the Premier is actually not too far away from me and I am struggling to hear the Premier's answer. I call to order the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Members on my left and members on my right are reminded that the Premier in this case but all ministers in answering a question are entitled to be heard in silence. The interjections will cease. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: As you would have seen in the budget yesterday, we provided \$86.1 million to go into the vaccination program over the next two years. We want people to turn up for their vaccinations when they are due. It is safe, it is effective, it is free of charge. It is not

compulsory, it is not mandatory, but we think there is an excellent acceptance of the need for every individual to play their part.

Professor Nicola Spurrier, our Chief Public Health Officer in South Australia, is imploring people to mirror the great response we had in terms of our testing regime with our vaccine regime. She wants us to be the very best vaccinated state in Australia and I want to support that 100 per cent. That is why I am calling upon the Leader of the Opposition and the opposition more generally to stop undermining public confidence in our excellent vaccination program in South Australia. Scaring people with Labor lies is not helping our state.

HEALTH BUDGET

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): My question is to the Premier. Why, in the government's own budget papers revealed yesterday, is there a reduction of over 370 staff within the health system and within LHNs starting next financial year?

The SPEAKER: Just before I call the Premier, we have now had a series of questions in this regard. If the minister is going to take the question, and I will give the minister the call, I will just remind members of the procedure pursuant to standing order 97. The Premier seeks the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:16): This is, of course, an important question and it does give me an opportunity to talk about the massive increase in doctors, nurses and paramedics that has been provided. In fact, in many instances since we have come to government, it is an increase over and above what was budgeted because we do need to be able to flex our workforce in response to any circumstance that exists.

There is no doubt that there are more people working in SA Health now than when we came to government. There is a significantly larger budget than since we came to government and we are always looking at the way we can respond to keep our state safe and our economy strong. The response to date has been excellent and it is a pity that those opposite want to continually undermine public confidence in SA Health. We believe that SA Health has done an excellent job. Those opposite are again cherrypicking individual statistics, looking at budgets versus actions.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: If we look at the budget last year, it was lower than the actual because we will always provide the staff that we are required to provide in order to fully resource the response that we need for COVID. Look at the facts: the current year's budget for Health is \$7.4 billion. Last time I looked, \$7.4 billion was a much larger number than \$6.5 billion, and \$6.5 billion was the budget that we were left by those opposite.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: That was what we were left by those opposite. They also left us a broken system and this is the guy who broke the system. This is the guy who was the health minister, who was sitting in cabinet when they introduced Transforming Health. He doesn't want to have any—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: 'I wasn't there. Don't look at me; I wasn't there,' he says. 'Don't look at me'—well, who does he want to point to? He doesn't want to take any responsibility whatsoever. Thank goodness the Labor Party is not in government during this crisis. They wouldn't be looking to take responsibility—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. The leader rises on a point of order.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Standing order 97, sir: my question was very specific regarding the reduction in the number of staff that the budget—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, Deputy Premier!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: —refers to. The question was around the staffing numbers next financial year within our health system. I was not referring to any questions about actions of the former government, only about the budget papers and the year ahead.

The SPEAKER: I will take that as a point of order pursuant to standing order 98.

The Hon. D.C. van Holst Pellekaan: Standing order 97 has nothing to do with what the leader just said.

The SPEAKER: I will take that, as I was just indicating—I am grateful for the assistance of the Minister for Energy and Mining—as a point of order pursuant to standing order 98. The question, as I think I addressed at the outset before giving the Premier the call, referred to matters that are the subject of the budget and sought to draw from the contents of the budget in asking a question. Nonetheless, it was directed to specific subject matter, so there is some scope in terms of the way the question was couched, in my view, for the Premier to reflect on the contents of the budget more broadly. Nonetheless, I note that the question was directed specifically. The Premier will direct his answer to the question. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you very much, sir. The question was really to do with the workforce across SA Health and more specifically with regard to the Women's and Children's Hospital, which is one of the very important local health—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The leader will cease interjecting. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The last time I looked, 'workforce' was actually the number of people employed. Maybe he's got a different definition. Of course, he was sitting around the table when they developed the Transforming Health document. I'm not allowed to display it here. It's like kryptonite to those opposite. It's like kryptonite. I noticed when I raised it before—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —that it got them all a bit excited. Usually you would have the member for West Torrens or the member for Lee jumping up to defend the leader—no defence of the leader today. Nobody is wanting to jump up and defend him when he gets a little bit agitated. 'Quick, quick, jump up, jump up.' No, they're still not jumping up because they all know that Transforming Health is a broken system which put our health system in South Australia under so much pressure.

An honourable member: Shame!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It was a shame.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Oh, here we go! Here we go!

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. When there's silence—

The Hon. S.S. Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the Premier! When there's silence, the member for West Torrens rises on a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98, sir: the Premier is in flagrant disregard of your ruling and he is making a mockery of the parliament.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! For the time being, I don't uphold that point of order, repeating as it did in substance a point of order raised just now by the leader. The Premier will direct his answer to the question in the terms I have already addressed. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you very much, sir. The question is about the workforce, the number of people who are in the South Australian health workforce. I am prepared to provide this information to the house. In the 2017-18 budget, which was of course the last year of the former government, the Auditor-General says that the actual number of people employed there was 32,212.

In the 2019-20 year, we saw that number increase to 33,594, a substantial increase in our first year. The estimated result for the end of this most recent financial year will be 33,740. That is an increase every single year that we have been in place. We now have more than 1,000 additional doctors, nurses and paramedics here in South Australia—more than 1,000 additional doctors, nurses and paramedics—so it's time for Labor to stop the lies. It's time for Labor to stop undermining the confidence that the people of South Australia have in the fantastic work that—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —SA Health do in South Australia. There is a big difference between budget and actual, and as I provided in my previous answers to this parliament, we will provide whatever is necessary to resource our coronavirus response.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: What an endorsement!

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: And that's why the budget has steadily increased each and every year that we have been in government. We have weathered the coronavirus pandemic. Thank goodness Labor weren't in government during this time.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the member for Newland, I call to order the member for Mawson, the member for Wright, the Minister for Innovation and Skills, the Minister for Education, and the Minister for Energy and Mining. I warn the member for Playford and the member for Kaurana. I call to order and warn the member for Lee and I warn the member for West Torrens.

STATE BUDGET

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:23): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government's budget is delivering a stronger South Australia?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:24): I thank the member for Newland for his excellent question. I must say, I enjoyed being out in his electorate with him earlier this morning. He's got a great rapport with the locals. They are very excited about the budget that has just been delivered and, in particular, the way in which it is going to help the people of the north-east who have been long neglected by those opposite when they were in government.

When I look at the recent ABS statistics, they show a very pleasing picture for the people of this state. In fact, we have created 60,000 jobs in South Australia in the past 12 months—60,000 jobs have been created in South Australia; 22,400 jobs have been created—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in the last two months, yet they still complain. They hate good news: 22,400 people have found work in the past two months and they are still whingeing, whining, carping and complaining.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Kaurana!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Well, guess what? We think it's great that people have found jobs here in South Australia because of the hard work of the government and the great health response that we have had in South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Playford will cease interjecting!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: In fact, I am pleased to report to the parliament today that 871,000 people are employed in South Australia. It's a state record. Let me tell you also, sir, 418,500 are women—also a record here in South Australia. We are moving in the right direction, providing the stimulus and support to create those jobs, to sustain those jobs, to bring South Australians back home. That's what we have been doing, but there's more work to be done.

That's why yesterday's budget was a very positive budget for job creation here in South Australia. The \$17.9 billion worth of investment into critical infrastructure in South Australia will create a pipeline of work not just over the next four years but, as you would have seen with some of our announcements, including the north-south corridor, these are projects which run right through to 2030 keeping people employed in South Australia, giving them hope—new roads, rail projects, infrastructure projects, school projects, health projects, which will create thousands and thousands of jobs.

Out in the member for Newland's area, of course we are having a look at the fantastic project to expand the park-and-ride out at TTP. What a great project: 400 additional car parks—\$48.5 million. Those opposite thought they could do two park-and-rides for \$15,000. That was going to be a couple of marquees, I think. What we are doing is making sure that we are putting that infrastructure in place, getting people onto public transport, something which is very important, but also along the way—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Wright!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —creating 215 jobs, and I hope a lot of them go to people in your electorate because they seemed very happy about the announcement while we were out there today.

We also know that one of the big items in the budget was our new \$200 million Jobs and Economic Growth Fund. This is a very important opportunity for us to invest in a series of projects, whether they be in defence, space, cyber or one of the other critical nine areas that we have in our Growth State strategy. This is a great new fund for us to develop to create jobs, sustainable jobs, in our state moving forward.

We also know that we are now starting to return people to South Australia for the first time since 1991. We've got a net migration back to South Australia. One of the principal reasons why we have that is that we've got good job opportunities in this state. In fact, job advertisements in South Australia are also at the highest level they have ever been.

I've got to tell you that one of the other things that I get superexcited about in terms of job creation is our ability to get people into apprenticeships and traineeships. Yesterday, we heard that the number of commencements is double that of three years ago, and that's because of hundreds of millions of dollars going into skills development in South Australia. This will create a great pipeline of skilled workers in our state for generations to come.

The SPEAKER: The time for answering the question has expired. Before I call the member for—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the member for Kaurana, I call to order the member for Chaffey, I call to order the member for Cheltenham, I warn the member for Wright and I warn the member for Playford for a second time.

STATE BUDGET

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:28): My question is to the Premier. Premier, why is your state budget projecting fewer staff in the Women's and Children's Health Network than there were before you were elected? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: The 2021-22 state budget projects 2,734 staff in the Women's and Children's Hospital Network, whereas the actual figure from 2017-18 was 2,743—a higher number than you are projecting next year.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29): I refer the member back to my previous answer. There is a big difference between budget and actual. What we have seen over the entire SA Health is an increase in the budget each year, but the actual has sometimes gone even further because we have sometimes had to have that ability to surge the capacity as it is actually needed. I think SA Health has done an excellent job in being able to surge that capacity to meet, for example, those requirements for the coronavirus. They have done it since we have come to government, and I'm quite sure they will continue to do it into the future.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:29): My question is to the Premier. Why is there no additional funding or programs, either recurrent or capital, for the current Women's and Children's Hospital for the next six years until the new hospital opens, in spite of the ED being under extraordinary pressure? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order, sir.

The SPEAKER: The member for Kaurna will resume his seat for a moment. The Minister for Energy and Mining rises on a point of order.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Mr Speaker, I know you are extremely lenient with members opposite providing a lot of information before they seek leave but, under standing orders, I think the member for Kaurna has gone too far in this case.

The SPEAKER: I don't uphold the point of order, insofar as what I would prefer to do is hear the balance of the question. I remind the member for Kaurna of the necessity to avail himself of the procedure in standing order 97, if that is in fact the course he wants to take. The member for Kaurna has the call.

Mr PICTON: Thank you. With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: Last night, the Women's and Children's Hospital emergency department for paediatric patients was at 250 per cent of its capacity, and the new hospital is not scheduled to open now for another six years.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:31): I think the question is about the time between now and when the new Women's and Children's Hospital, which those opposite actually oppose, opens.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The Leader of the Opposition has been asking the question to colleagues—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —'When did we oppose that situation?' Well, let me run through all the times you've opposed it. Admittedly, the leader would be right if he were running the party back in 2013 because for a short window it was the Labor Party's policy to build a new co-located Women's and Children's Hospital with the Royal Adelaide Hospital—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —but since 2016 it has not been their policy. If the Leader of the Opposition would like to update people, that would be new information.

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: He's screaming, he's shouting.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: He's obviously concerned and frustrated. He hasn't got any supporters here today who are jumping up to defend him, and this is compounding his anxiety and frustration. The reality is that really since 2016—oh, here we go!

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. The member for West Torrens rises on a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98, sir: that was just entirely debate and didn't go anywhere near answering the substance—

The Hon. S.S. Marshall: And it took you three minutes to respond!

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will cease interjecting. The member for West Torrens has the call.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: He didn't go anywhere near the substance of the question, sir.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The level of interjections just made it impossible for me to hear what the member for West Torrens had to say, particularly just on that last moment—on all sides.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The Premier is not answering the substance of the question. He is debating the answer.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order. The member for Kaurna asked a question and sought and obtained leave, in accordance with standing order 97, in relation to a specific matter of concern in relation to the Women's and Children's Hospital. I direct the Premier, in his answer, to respond to the specific question. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Can I just ask the member to give the question again specifically.

An honourable member: You're joking!

The SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! What I will do is give the member for Kaurna the opportunity, should he seek the call, to rephrase or indeed ask any further or relevant supplementary question. The member for Kaurna has the call.

Mr PICTON: Yes, I'm happy to help the Premier out if he didn't quite hear it the first time. Why is there no additional funding for the current Women's and Children's Hospital, either recurrent or capital, in this budget in spite of the emergency department being under extraordinary pressure?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: When we came to government the operational budget for the Women's and Children's Hospital, as I am informed, was \$254 million—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Elizabeth!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —per year and the current budget is \$311 million. Again, the last time I looked, 311 was a larger number than 254, so it's quite clear that we have very significantly increased the budget for the Women's and Children's Hospital, but the member for Kaurna is quite

right: it is under enormous pressure at the moment. I was speaking to some doctors from the Women's and Children's Hospital last night. In fact, they were expressing their great delight that we were going to have a Women's and Children's Hospital co-located with the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, that we had been listening to clinicians and that we are making ongoing investment in the overall health system here in South Australia. That was the feedback I received last night, which I was very pleased to receive.

They are also very pleased, and I think the people of South Australia are very pleased, that we are having a series of upgrades to the existing facilities that will extend the life and make sure that we keep the great services there at the highest level right through until when the new Women's and Children's Hospital is delivered. I have seen lots of misinformation put out there by individuals recently regarding the size of the new facility.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: What I can say is that we currently have 441 treatment places in the Women's and Children's Hospital. That includes beds, it includes operating theatres, it includes a lot of facilities within the Women's and Children's site. What we know going forward is that we will take that up to 500. We will also very significantly increase the number of outpatient places at the new Women's and Children's Hospital. Currently, it is sitting at about 130 or 140 places, and in the new Women's and Children's Hospital that will go up to 170.

I am happy to put that alongside the collapse of treatment spaces and outpatient services from the old Royal Adelaide Hospital to the new Royal Adelaide Hospital because of course that has been one of the contributing factors in putting South Australia's health system under enormous pressure in South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Labor were in for 16 years and they had plenty of time to implement all their fantastic plans with regard to health. It was called Transforming Health; now none of them even want to have this—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —phrase uttered. It's like kryptonite to those opposite. We have lovely shots of them standing there with their brochures in the past, but none of them want to be reminded of some of those photographs going forward.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens is warned for a second time. Before I call the member for Kaurana, I warn the member for Chaffey, I call to order the member for Elizabeth, I warn the member for Lee for a second time and I call to order the Premier.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Mr PICTON (Kaurana) (14:37): My question is to the Premier. Premier, is it correct that the current Women's and Children's Hospital has now spent over 93 per cent of its sustainment funding and there is almost nothing left for the next six years of the hospital? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: The budget papers reveal that there is only \$4 million left of sustainment funding at the Women's and Children's Hospital, which is set to end in December this year, and there is no further allocation for the remaining six years until the new hospital opens.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:38): It's a detailed question in relation to the sustainment fund and the identification of the source of budget for the Women's and Children's to deal with that matter. It's the sort of question that would naturally be

immediately available to get an answer in estimates. That not being the case with the relevant advisers here, I will seek an answer from the Minister for Health and bring one back to the member.

SPORTING PATHWAYS

Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:38): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Can the Minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is investing in sporting pathways, from the young and grassroots to the elite?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:39): I thank the member for King for her question and note her passion for sport in her community. I also note her passion for our \$17.9 billion infrastructure spend and the jobs it is going to create. She is very aware that we need to be delivering for the people right across the board of South Australia. We know that affordability for grassroots sports in general for her constituents is incredibly important.

So we have announced, I think just last week, a huge milestone in our Sports Vouchers program. Of course, coming into government, we put that up from being a \$50 program to being a \$100 program. In fact, those opposite didn't even fund the \$50 program going forward. But we were very happy to do that. We have so far put out 232,000 vouchers, so that's more than \$20 million worth of money going back into the pockets of South Australian families. We can't emphasise how important that is—\$20 million back into the pockets of families—and, of course, that lowers the cost for South Australians right across the board.

We could have been satisfied there. We could have sat back, admired our good work and said, 'Wow, this is fantastic!' But that's not to be. What we have done, and very much on the back of the advocacy from the member for King, is we have expanded that program out to year 8s and 9s. We are funding almost \$10 million a year for our Sports Vouchers program because we know the success that creates. That means that year 8s and 9s, who often start dropping off from sport and not being as involved or engaged, will be able to take part in physical activity, and their families will be helped by money going towards their fees and charges.

We are excited by this, but we didn't stop there. That's the grassroots. We know how important it is to get young people involved in grassroots sports. There is the entire sport pathway that we are concerned about from the grassroots right through to elite. So what we have done is we have invested in the South Australian Sports Institute. This is a great institute that has never really had its own home. It started, I think, at the Underdale campus when it was called the College of Advanced Education and then it expanded into an old high school. It just got put into an old high school and they did an outstanding job with those resources.

But now they are getting their own purpose-built facility. So SASI will have its own new home, which I think is absolutely wonderful—a \$49 million commitment—and, of course, this will be the home for our athletes who aspire to be on that world stage. But there will be more. We will be engaging with education. I look forward to working with the minister here and making sure that we have primary school-age students coming through, seeing this facility, being part of this facility and aspiring to do wonderful things.

It will also accommodate multisports, not just Olympic and Paralympic but sports right across the board. It will be a truly inclusive world-class facility. That's not it, though. There will be more. Of course, we have invested in the netball stadium right next door and we have invested in the athletics stadium as well. Now SASI will fit in the middle. Often when you come into Adelaide, you come up Sir Donald Bradman Drive and you see the sign that says International Sports Gateway. This is truly an international sports gateway. The opportunities to bring those from the regions in to access this facility as well will be sensational.

The other opportunity that we are excited about with this SASI facility is the ability to bring in international teams, national teams and regional teams to train in this high-performance environment. That is truly exciting and will add to our economy and grow our sporting business. So there we are: grassroots right the way to the Olympics. What we are going to do is give children more opportunity—again, more reason to be here in South Australia.

The Premier often talks about not having the brain drain out of our state, and we are doing everything we can to make sure we keep people here, young people here, and bring more back from interstate. Facilities like this will deliver that. This will help people live out their sporting dream here in South Australia, produce more champions, produce better citizens, and this is a big part of our Game On program.

SPORTS VOUCHERS

Mr DULUK (Waite) (14:43): A supplementary to the minister in regard to sports vouchers: with the extension of this Sports Vouchers scheme to year 8 and 9 students, did the minister contemplate extending that to Scouts and Girl Guides participants? If not, why not?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:43): I thank the member for his question and stress the point about how excited we are that we have extended this program. I do go back to the point that under the previous government it was only a \$50 voucher and, in fact, they didn't have it budgeted going forward at the last election. So we put the \$100 in and now we have expanded it. We have expanded it to swimming and we have expanded it to dance. We think that was really important too.

What we are focused on here is that—and, as Minister for Sport, I make no apologies—we are really keen to get more people more active. We know if we can get people doing 150 minutes of exercise per week, if we could get every South Australian doing that and we could save the health budget over \$800 million a year. So this is a really important piece. We want to make sure we get people active. We understand that Scouts do an outstanding job. Part of the prerequisite for this program is to have a 10-week physical activity program, and that's where the focus is and that's where we have kept it.

We do appreciate it and we will continue to look. We have shown a propensity to expand this program when and where it's possible. Like I said, dance and swimming were added, and that was really appreciated by families. That of course had a growth in the money again that went back into the pockets of South Australian families. This really helps with the cost of living.

And now we are going out to year 9 students as well. We are really proud of that. We think that's great. We will continue to look to expand it every term. I thank the Treasurer for his support with this because this is a great cost-of-living initiative and we know that it really does help. Again, it drives our goal to get people more active, to get them doing more physical activity, because we know the health benefits that come with that.

Whilst we are talking about health benefits, we know and we saw again yesterday the great amount of money that the Treasurer and the health minister got towards mental health. This is actually at the start of the journey, if you like. We know getting people involved in sporting clubs, getting them physically active, has a big benefit towards their mental health as well, so we will keep delivering on that. We are really proud of the initiatives we have. Of course, we have put nearly \$400 million into sports since coming into government, grassroots sports right the way through to elite, as I have been pointing out, and some of the community facilities that we have been doing right across South Australia.

I have great pleasure in going to the regions and talking to many of the local members out there and also the local sporting community about how important it is that we put money back into sporting facilities because what it does is it creates a hub where people can come. Of course, we saw through COVID in particular how important these sporting facilities were as community facilities as well. Yes, we know that getting people physically active and playing sport is vitally important because it's good for their health and wellbeing, but it was the actual social congregation at these sporting clubs as well that proved to be really, really important.

When we did have lockdowns for a little while and we couldn't have sport—and thankfully here in South Australia that was only a very short, brief period of time—we did note that the social impact was quite large. Our investment is really important. It's really important for sports, to keep sports progressing and making sure they've got those facilities so that we can keep the growth of women's sport, of course. We are very keen on that, and those family-friendly facilities—again, money that the opposition never even dreamt of putting into sport: some \$400 million into these facilities is sensational, and the people really appreciate it.

Ms BEDFORD: Point of order, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The minister will resume his seat for a moment. The member for Florey rises on a point of order.

Ms BEDFORD: No. 98, which has become our favourite, sir: relevance—there is none to Scouts and Girl Guides.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Minister for Education on the point of order.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: The question involved the words 'why not' and asked what considerations had been given. That's an incredibly broad scope in any question and it means that the minister is at liberty to provide information about all of the things that were relevant in considerations.

The SPEAKER: The question, which I listened to very carefully as well, indeed invited a response in relation, first, to whether subject matter had been included and the range of considerations, indeed the expression 'if not, why not'. The minister is responding to the question. The minister has the call.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Thank you, sir, and I was outlining some of the projects. I just remembered again the other day, when I was down at the Modbury Soccer Club with the member for Newland, how appreciative they were of our investment in their club, and the smiles that we put on faces when we put those change rooms in there that will benefit their club, benefit the growth of women's sport as well, but benefit the whole club. Again, I stress the point that I was making before I was interrupted, and that is that the social fabric of a club is as important as the sporting element. I am delighted with—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —what has been delivered by our near \$400 million—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on left!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: And those opposite may not like sport, and that's fine. They can heckle all they like. I know the member for Hurtle Vale doesn't like the money that we are putting into sport.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: She doesn't like it. The member for Reynell, I should say, doesn't like the money we are putting into sport, but we are proud of it. We are proud of what it's delivering from the grassroots right through to the elite. We think it is sensational.

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell is called to order. I remind members that interjection in the course of the minister's answer is disorderly and will cease.

HOVE LEVEL CROSSING

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Transport and infrastructure. Does the minister stand by his statements regarding the removal of the Hove crossing at Brighton Road just last month in May? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Last month, the minister publicly argued his unequivocal support for the removal of the intersection of Seaford rail line at Brighton Road at Hove because, and I quote:

We know removing level crossings on our main roads reduces travel times...

He goes on to say:

This project will give back up to an extra half an hour a week to the tens of thousands of people who use this road on a daily basis. This will not only improve productivity but allow people to spend more quality time with their family.

He then says:

The project will create an opportunity to create quality open space with new cycling and walking paths to be incorporated in the design.

Then finally, he says:

It will also be an important job boosting project with an expected 375 full time equivalent jobs supported each year during construction.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the minister, it's a matter I addressed earlier this week. The provision for the granting of leave, in accordance with standing order 97, is clearly set out in the face of the standing order. There is a very wide scope that has been included in the question. The minister, in answering the question, might be accorded a similarly wide scope in his response. The minister has the call.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:50): I note the member for West Torrens was part of the protesting campaign, so I'm not sure whether he is for or against it. He actually hasn't put his position on the table. He was for it one minute and he was protesting against it the next minute. I really don't know—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Again, I make no apologies for the fact that I was pushing for this project. I make no apologies whatsoever. In fact—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell is warned.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —up until just last week, when the Treasurer made the decision, I was conversing still with the federal government trying to get more funds. We know that when we came into this project and when it was put on the table, \$171 million was put on the table in partnership with the federal government—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: You were wrong.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: You know what? We were wrong because we actually went with the information that was left over from the previous government, and how much work had they done on this project? How much work had they done?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: So we went and did that work. We went and did that work, you are right.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my left!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I'm not sure how much the member for West Torrens was going to spend on the project, but we did.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister has the call.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: It's another shortcoming by the member for Lee. We put \$171 million on the table and then we had to go and do the work to see what it was going to cost and we did that work.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: It came back that rail over was \$290 million and rail under was \$450 million. You had none of those numbers. The member for Lee is a little bit embarrassed at the moment because he didn't do the work and I appreciate that, but we did do the work. We looked at that and we went to the federal government and we asked for more money. In fact, just last weekend I got the official letter back from the federal government saying that they weren't willing to put any more money into it. We know, again, with Brighton Road, that the question could be asked: grade separation or the rest of the road? It is not just one problem they left us.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Deputy Premier!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: They left us a whole myriad of problems, so we've got more to go and have a look at. We will work with the federal government on what other solutions we can have along Brighton Road. But, again, do I apologise for listening to my community? Do I apologise for also working with the department as the local member and also as the minister? We thoroughly investigated this project. Unlike those opposite, we thoroughly had a look at it. We did the work. We had a lot of work to catch up because you did nothing—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —and they just don't want to concede that. But, again, that is why we are putting in place our 10-year strategy. We have put grade separations on the Infrastructure SA list, so we have made it a key focus. How did they pick their projects? They just cherrypicked them and pulled them out of a hat.

Ms Hildyard: That is why they are furious with you. You never spoke to them.

The SPEAKER: Member for Reynell!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: We put them on the Infrastructure Australia priority list and we have a 10-year plan to identify—

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —which of these projects are the most beneficial for South Australia—the member for Reynell keeps chirping away and chirping away; no-one knows what she is talking about—but we are putting those on a 10-year plan.

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: We are very proud of that. We will do that. On that side, they don't like planning. They just have a guess, have a stab or pluck something out of thin air. Well, we are not doing that. We are doing the planning works. We are putting it in place. We have done the planning works for this. Again, at first blush, with the information they left us when we came into government, which wasn't much information, \$171 million was the figure.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister will resume his seat for a moment.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the Deputy Premier!

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader! The level of interjection on both sides of the chamber is unacceptable. I'm unable to hear the minister's answer. I'm endeavouring to listen carefully to the minister who has the call. The minister has the call.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I was finishing by again pointing out the fact that when we came to government no work had been done. The figure that was put forward with best estimates was \$171 million. That was the information we had, and there wasn't very much. It turned out it was far more expensive. We pushed. We asked the federal government for more money. We put our case forward. We listened to the community. Again, that might not be how they do things, but that's how we do things—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —on this side of the house, and we came to a final decision. When the federal government wouldn't come to the party and give us any more money, the project couldn't go ahead. We will go and look at the rest of the problems along Brighton Road because they certainly didn't fix any of those in their time in government.

We will continue to look after the people of my community and get projects done that alleviate congestion; and, again, from a wider perspective we will have a look at those grade separations right across the network to keep delivering productive infrastructure for the people of South Australia. A \$17.9 billion infrastructure spend will be delivering jobs for the people of South Australia, and we will be delivering the transport projects that are important to them.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the member for West Torrens, the member for Reynell and the member for Lee will leave for 10 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable members for Reynell and Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: The interjections will cease.

HOVE LEVEL CROSSING

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:55): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. How much taxpayer money has been expended on planning studies, geotechnical surveys, consultants, compulsory acquisitions and departmental resources on the Hove grade separation over the last three years?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:55): I don't have that figure on me, but I can say it is significantly less than the Gawler electrification money that was wasted by those opposite when they had that project on again, off again. I think for that project it was \$47 million. I know it was far, far less than that. So \$47 million is what they wasted.

Again, the work that we have done will actually be work that is valuable for that project going forward. We are very happy to have done that work. Again, I stress the point that when they were in government they didn't do it. We have got that work done now. It will help with any planning into the future.

MINING INDUSTRY

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:56): My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Can the minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is building what matters by investing in the mining sector?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:56): I thank the member for MacKillop, and I note his strong interest in the mining sector. Of course our budget is doing enormous things for our entire economy but specifically the mining industry. We are continuing with our Accelerated Discovery Initiative, a fantastic program partnering with industry. We have brought forward some money from stage 3 into stage 2 so that we can support

exploration more quickly and also support our economy through the difficult COVID recovery times as well.

There is \$4.5 million for the Accelerated Discovery Initiative. This is a wonderful time to be investing in the mining sector, and so we are coinvesting with private industry so that we can get the jobs and the royalties and all of the important benefits that are responsible and safe and productive that the mining sector brings into our state.

But a very exciting new initiative announced by the Treasurer in this budget is the Arkani Ngura National Test Mine. It is an \$8 million partnership with OZ Minerals at a section of its ongoing Prominent Hill mine, but a section of that mine underground that is actually closed. There is one such facility in the Northern Hemisphere, in Canada. This will be the second one in the world and the only one in the Southern Hemisphere.

This will support our South Australian and national mining companies and also attract the international mining companies to come to South Australia to use this extraordinary facility. Myriads of things can be done and only be done in an underground mining test facility: the way of testing new styles or styles of explosives, new earthwork-type projects and the capacity to test automated underground drones, whether they be land-borne or airborne drones controlled from above the surface of the mine, all these types of things—ventilation systems. There is a wide range of opportunities to test underground in a mine.

It is the only place that you can do it, so we thank OZ Minerals for its participation. OZ Minerals is also putting finances and support into this project. It is \$8 million of taxpayer money, as I said, and an extremely important project for our state. Another one is the new spectral geoscience equipment project. This project, which is also called the HyLogger 4, is a fascinating piece of technology, which I am more than happy to say people in the department understand the details of far better than I do.

The way I think about it and explain it to some of my colleagues is that it is a form of X-ray looking into the drill core samples that we have at the extensive and very impressive library of drill core samples down at Tonsley, analysing them in a digital way, recording what is in them in a digital way and then storing that information in libraries.

There is certainly still the capacity for geologists and others to go to the drill core library, have some of those samples brought down, actually handle them, inspect them by eye and look at the details, but you can also soon go to a digital library that shares all the information that this HyLogger 4 spectroscopy project has actually put into place.

We are very focused on the mining industry. We are very focused on supporting our \$92 million Mining Equipment and Technology Services (METS) sector, which is sometimes overlooked but incredibly important to our state. Many South Australian companies work across the world supplying that sort of information, so we are very focused in our budget on supporting the mining industry.

HOVE LEVEL CROSSING

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:00): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister confirm he did indeed ask the commonwealth government for additional funding on top of the commonwealth's original funding commitment, and can the minister detail to the house what that additional amount was?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:01): I think I outlined that in my last answer, but I am happy to repeat it for the member if he didn't quite catch it. Yes, we did. On a number of occasions, I asked the federal government to partner with us on an expanded project. It was just last week that we got back in writing that they were not willing to partner with us on either of the options to expand it, so that's why that project didn't go ahead.

As I have pointed out, though, we have put together a 10-year plan to remove priority level crossings, so we will go away and do that work to identify the priority ones. We have the 31 on the Infrastructure Australia list, and this has come about through extensive public consultation. I make no apologies for that. We value the feedback that has come. I know there have been some people

out there who are quite vitriolic and have had plenty to say about this project but, as the minister and as the local member, it is important we listen to everyone right across the board. The local people in the vicinity of the Hove crossing were important, but we did listen to people right across the board. Again, I think that is our job and that is our role.

I know the member for West Torrens was heavily involved with a group of people who were actually running a Facebook page. I think they were against any proposal right from the start. We did listen to what they had to say; in fact, anyone who contacted my office and wanted a meeting was offered a meeting. They came and sat in my office and we talked through all the projects. I made that really clear to the public and my community. We had a number of community consultation sessions, and I was there for all of those except for when they were on parliament sitting days, of course, when I couldn't be.

This group did make a fair bit of noise. I am a big fellow. I am in this job and I am in this role, so you expect this sort of thing. I've got fairly thick skin—my kids say I'm just fat, but I say it's thick skin—but I must say there was a little bit of disappointment and this did get taken into consideration too. My wife, for example, was bailed up at a funeral in front of the coffin and asked about the Hove crossing. I think that was probably a little step too far. I think my kids being harassed on social media was possibly a step too far.

There was some social media content that I thought was a little bit inappropriate too, and on the advice of police I did block a couple of people on social media. I don't like doing that but, again with police advice, that's what I did. I think walking down the street in Hahndorf at lunch with a couple of friends and having people run across the road, yelling at you as well—again, I can handle it, but I don't think my friends and colleagues need to as well. All of this is taken into consideration.

As I said, we put together that 10-year plan to remove the priority level crossings. The planning is what is important, and that's what we need to be doing and to get it right. We have experienced moments when the planning wasn't done before we came into government. We know that this planning is important, so we will continue to do that and look at the rest of Brighton Road because more needs to be done. We will work with the federal government around using that money to deliver other elements of Brighton Road and in the surrounds to improve traffic flow along there.

Across the board, our \$8.8 billion infrastructure spend on transport and roads across South Australia is money this state has never seen before. We are incredibly proud of that. Of course, the Truro bypass—I do apologise, we are running out of time because we have to get to the crossbenchers—is one example, and there are lists and lists. I encourage everyone to have a look at them in the budget and to read them because I am so proud of what we are investing in transport and infrastructure in this state it's not funny.

ARDROSSAN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (15:04): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health. Can the minister please update the people of Narungga on the funding to the Ardrossan Community Hospital? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain further.

Leave granted.

Mr ELLIS: Four years ago, the highly valued community hospital secured four years of funding. Will that funded be renewed?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:04): I thank the member for Narungga for this question. It's of course of a piece with his devotion to his electorate and particularly I know his interest in its health services, as I have detailed to the house previously. Even when I was in the electorate of Narungga with the member early last year on what was an extensive visit to a large number of the schools, training facilities and early childhood facilities in his electorate as Minister for Education, he took every opportunity to remind me about all the local health services at every town and the opportunities that could be there for enhancing his community's health services, so I know this is an important topic for him.

In relation to the detail of the arrangement that he's asked about, I don't have that detail here. I will seek further information from the Minister for Health, who is of course in the other place, and I will bring back an answer for this chamber.

INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:05): My question is to the Attorney-General. In light of the latest botched judicial outcome, will there be a review of ICAC procedures, investigations and prosecutions?

The SPEAKER: The member for Florey will resume her seat. The Minister for Energy and Mining on a point of order.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Suggesting the argument 'botched judicial outcome' in the question is against 97.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order. I will give the member for Florey an opportunity to rephrase.

Ms BEDFORD: In light of the latest judicial outcome, will there be a review of ICAC procedures, investigations and prosecutions?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:06): I thank the member for the question. I assume she's referring to the conclusion of the Adelaide Magistrates Court hearing last week in relation to the two officers of Renewal SA.

Ms Bedford: Has there been another one in between?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, I'm just assuming—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I'm trying to guess at what the question is referring to. If it is relating to that, as I indicated to the house yesterday, I have made a request to be updated from the DPP as to what action is being taken further in relation to that matter. Of course, just so the member appreciates, but for the benefit of all members, the prosecution of these matters is ultimately a matter for the Director of Public Prosecutions not the ICAC. The ICAC, of course, as is publicly known in that case, conducted an investigation and referred the matter for prosecution, so it is under the conduct of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and so I do not make any comment in relation to the magistrate's determination last week.

INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:07): I would like to seek some clarification on that answer because I have asked about any likelihood of a review into ICAC, not whether the DPP is doing the review but whether perhaps there is some mechanism to review what's going on.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:07): Again, just to explain, the judicial proceedings that occurred in the Magistrates Court are not a matter which relates to a separate investigation of ICAC or any other integrity body. The judicial proceedings arise and are under the supervision essentially of the—and determination as to the prosecution of those are by the Director of Public Prosecutions, so there are two separate matters.

The member may remember that we have a committee in the parliament, chaired I think by the Hon. Frank Pangallo now, who is responsible for the oversight of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption. That's a statutory body which reviews that and regularly takes evidence in relation to the ICAC and its operations. There is also a second review, also chaired under a select committee process in the other place, also chaired by the Hon. Frank Pangallo, investigating prior cases that have been involved with ICAC.

I assume, from memory, that that relates to the period in which Mr Bruce Lander QC was the independent commissioner. That's underway and I read from time to time in the press the particulars

of evidence that has been taken in that. So there is both a standing committee and a select committee in relation to ICAC underway.

INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONER AGAINST CORRUPTION INVESTIGATION

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:09): My question is again to the Attorney-General. In your initial response to me, I think you mentioned something about requesting a briefing from the DPP on the Hanlon-Vasilevski matter. Has that come to hand yet and, when it does come to hand, will you be able to inform the house of its content?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:09): As I confirmed, I have made inquiry with the Office of the DPP in relation to that matter to seek a briefing. I haven't received anything further from the director. The request was made through the Chief Executive of the Attorney-General's Department. If I am able to provide any further information when I receive that, I can do so. At this stage, I haven't received anything.

HANLON, MR J.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:10): My question is again to the Attorney-General. Did the Attorney have any dealings with Mr Hanlon as an employee of the Burnside council?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:10): I do recall there was a period that he was employed as the chief executive of the Burnside council, which overlaps some of the time that I have been the member for Bragg, so I know of Mr Hanlon. I probably certainly had meetings and briefings by him and myriads of different ministers who were responsible for Renewal SA under the previous government, regular briefings in relation to legislation and the like.

HANLON, MR J.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:10): My question is again to the Attorney-General. In your relationship with Mr Hanlon in his capacity as an employee of the Burnside council, were any of your interactions of long or extended duration and were they cordial?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:11): It does stretch my memory. Even the Burnside council has had a few issues over the time I have been the member for Bragg. There was certainly, under different mayoral leadership out there, a very substantial inquiry. I recall a former Auditor-General was called in to conduct an inquiry, and I think Mr Hanlon may have been at that time—

The Hon. S.S. Marshall: Nobody read that one. Nobody was allowed to read that one.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Nobody was able to read it, that's right: it ended up being kept secret. In any event, I did from time to time meet with him about just local issues, and sometimes he was present for citizenship ceremonies and the like. My recollection is that he was quite well regarded as the CE of the council at that time and acted accordingly.

FROME ELECTORATE, COVID-19 VACCINATION

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:12): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Can the minister update the house on the progress of all residents of aged-care facilities in Port Pirie, Crystal Brook and Clare having had the COVID vaccination, and can the minister also advise the total number of aged-care residents who have been vaccinated and the number of residents who have not received the vaccination?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:12): I thank the member for the question. I will take it on notice and seek an answer from the Minister for Health.

TIMBER INDUSTRY

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:12): My question is to the minister for forestry. Has the minister had any discussions with the federal government regarding a freight subsidy for Kangaroo Island plantation timber?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (15:13): I thank the member for his question. Yes, I have had some discussions. Ten

days ago or so I was in Canberra and met with the Hon. Jonno Duniam, the responsible Minister for Forestry, and had some conversations in relation to options of trying to get KI timber available into the market and seeing what they were able to do.

They have had an arrangement in New South Wales and in Victoria where they have supported transport costs in relation to burnt timber arising from circumstances where nearby mills had been burnt down in those fires, and there was a need to shift that timber further away from its normal location to another sawmill. I had conversations in relation to that to see whether they would be willing to extend similar sorts of arrangements to South Australia. I have only this week written a letter back to the minister, trying to find a position where they may actually be able to help, but I am still waiting for a reply from the minister.

TIMBER INDUSTRY

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:14): A supplementary to the minister for forestry: would any arrangement be a co-funding arrangement between the state government and the federal government?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (15:14): I thank the member for the follow-up question. There would be some expectation, I'm sure, from the federal government that the state government would be party to this, and we will work with the federal government to come to a satisfactory arrangement, if possible, to actually achieve the outcomes.

We understand there is a strong need for structural timber in South Australia. We want to get that timber available, and we are looking at many opportunities where we can do that. Our understanding, from inquiries through the industry, is that there are very few sawmills that have capacity for extra structural timber to be processed.

We have recently seen some timber agreements released with ForestrySA where 10-year agreements have been put in place, and that has led to one mill deciding to invest in building a new plant. In the future that will give some ability for structural timber; that is still about 12 months away, but there are other opportunities.

Particularly down in the South-East, our understanding is that there are very few opportunities for extra capacity to get timber processed in a structural sense, so we are working and looking for every opportunity where we might be able to achieve that.

TIMBER INDUSTRY

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:15): Another supplementary: minister, you talk about structural timber; can you confirm or advise if there is any structural timber from ForestrySA being exported from Adelaide?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (15:16): I thank the member for the question. My understanding is, no, there is no structural timber being exported. In fact, with the new agreements my understanding is that there is no timber that can be processed in our mills being exported. The only timber that is being exported in the short term is timber that is not fit for sawmills themselves.

FRUIT FLY

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:16): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Are any of the 25,000 plus Cera fruit fly traps being made in South Australia, and what proportion of the \$33.3 million total spend on the fruit fly eradication program does the purchase of traps represent?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (15:17): I thank the member for Florey for her question; it is certainly a very important question. The work and investment we are putting into eradicating fruit fly is an enormous workload, particularly in relation to the number of people on the ground working on installing these traps, spraying trees, etc., to get on top of this. This is a big project, and hence the large sum of money involved.

My understanding is that these traps are all coming from overseas. They are traps that aren't developed here, so we are working to get these different traps from different parts of the world to do what we need to do. We are continuing to do what we can in that space. We are doing things here in South Australia, in particular with the breeding of the sterile fruit fly. That happens up at Port Augusta, and it is a key facility to make sure we get on top of fruit fly.

The sterile fruit fly program is an essential part of the attack on fruit fly. We are also receiving sterile fruit fly in relation to Mediterranean fruit fly from WA, where they have a facility for Mediterranean fly, whereas ours is for Queensland fruit fly. It is an all-pronged approach in relation to fruit fly. We will continue to work to eradicate these, and I am sure we will get on top of it.

Grievance Debate

AMBULANCE RAMPING

Mr PICTON (Karna) (15:18): The Premier has made a very significant statement today. He is saying that this budget he has handed down is going to fix ramping. He has confirmed that in the house today, and he has also said that we will see the impacts of that almost immediately. He said that at his press conference this morning.

That is very different from the evidence of the past three and a bit years of his premiership so far, which has not seen ramping ended, has not seen it reduce. In fact, it has seen it increase—not by a little bit, but by a lot. Ramping is more than double the level it was when Steven Marshall was elected, promising that he would fix ramping in our health system, promising that he would fix issues in the health system.

But what have we seen since then? We have seen over the past year 112 nurses cut from our hospitals and we have seen over the past two years, according to the Productivity Commission, that we are the only state that has cut funding to our Ambulance Service. Every other state has put it up, but we have cut it by \$11 million.

What do we see in this budget that is supposedly going to fix ramping? The first thing we see is that the FTEs, the staff—the doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and other staff who work in our local health networks—are being cut. Over the next year, we are going to have a cut of 371 staff across our local hospital networks. These are not the people in head office in Hindmarsh Square: these are the people in the Central Adelaide Local Health Network, the Women's and Children's Health Network, and also people in the country. Every single local health network in this state is suffering cuts to its staff in this state budget.

How is that a good thing? How is that possibly going to help the ramping situation, which we know is caused by a lack of throughput through our hospitals? We know it is caused by a lack of staff, a lack of availability of beds and a lack of discharge options for people who need it. You only have to look at the budget papers to see that Central Adelaide, the Royal Adelaide Hospital and The QEH are going to be down 164 staff this year. The Northern Adelaide Local Health Network, the Lyell McEwin and Modbury Hospital—a very significant area—are going to be down 58 staff members this financial year. In southern Adelaide, my electorate, the Flinders Medical Centre and Noarlunga Hospital are going to be down 83 staff members. The Women's and Children's Health Network, important to everybody in this state, is going to be down 39 staff members.

There are cuts in every country region across the state as well. Nowhere in this state is exempt from these cuts in staff across our health services: Eyre and North, 10 staff; Flinders and Upper North, 15; the Riverland, Mallee and Coorong, 16; Limestone Coast, 10; Yorke and Northern, 13; and in the Barossa, Hills and Fleurieu region, 22 staff gone. How is that going to address the situation for anybody across this state?

What is the excuse that we have heard from the government? That some of these staff are vaccine staff and we do not need them. We need to be ramping up the vaccine program and we need more staff to do that. We only have 4 per cent of our state vaccinated so far with both vaccines, with doses that they need. This is not a time to be cutting any vaccine staff. That certainly is not the case here. We know that other COVID staff—contact tracing, medi-hotels—are in a separate budget line item; these are local hospital network staff.

Even if you look at their supposed investment in mental health, this has been derided by all the key groups: the AMA, SASMOA, the ANMF and mental health experts like Professor Mendoza,

who was walked out for speaking out. They have all spoken against the lack of investment in this package, where we see that the only new acute beds being promised are eight additional beds when well over 100 were called for by these groups. At the same time, this budget only includes the fit-out of these beds, and it says, 'We'll think about funding, opening the beds sometime down the track pending demand.'

We have the demand right now. We have people stuck in our emergency departments for five days on end waiting for beds, but this government's plan is to open a ward of beds that is going to sit there—like an episode of *Yes Minister*—without any patients in it because they have not put in any money for the doctors and nurses to open the beds and provide the services. It is absolutely ridiculous.

The Premier was at Modbury Hospital today talking about investment there which is going to deliver not one extra bed—zero extra beds for Modbury Hospital—when more are desperately needed. This is a budget that lacks vision, that will cut the health system more, that will set us backwards and that will definitely not end the ramping crisis that patients are suffering right now.

Time expired.

RENEWAL SA

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:23): I refer to the conclusion in the Adelaide Magistrates Court last Friday of the hearing of charges laid following an ICAC investigation into the conduct of two former executives of Renewal SA.

I have waited for the member for West Torrens to issue a public apology for his reckless conduct immediately after these charges became public in September 2018, which smeared Renewal SA and all its employees, and immediately declared the guilt of the two former executives involved. The court proceedings, which followed the charges, revealed that the charges were limited to their personal conduct. They did not relate to any wider issues associated with the work of Renewal SA and the many projects it undertakes to support industrial and commercial development. It is important that all those in government and the private sector—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —who have dealings with Renewal SA have confidence in its integrity.

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat for a moment. The member for Kaurana on a point of order.

Mr PICTON: Standing order 127: you cannot 'impute improper motives to any other Member or make personal reflections on any other Member'. The Attorney-General has been doing that since the moment she stood on her feet.

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier, in making a contribution to the grievance debate, has addressed subject matter that has been before the house already this week. It has been the subject of a number of questions. I am listening carefully to the Deputy Premier. However, I do not uphold the point of order. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Thank you. Yet this is what the member set out to smash in his reckless pursuit of the agency when it revealed that two executives of Renewal SA were taking leave. For reasons which the member fully understood, the government was unable to publicly reveal the reasons for this. It would have been unlawful—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —under legislation enacted by the former government for the government to have done so. However, this did not deter the member from making a series of scandalous inferences by way of questions and allegations protected by parliamentary privilege.

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member for Kaurna rises on a point of order.

Mr PICTON: Thank you, sir. Since you made your last ruling, the member has used words such as 'reckless pursuit' and 'scandalous inferences' which I believe again go against standing order 127 regarding not imputing improper motives to any member nor making personal reflections on other members. It is hard to interpret it any other way.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order to this extent: it is unhelpful and verges on attracting standing order 127 transgressions to characterise the nature or the motivation of a member in that way. I direct that the Deputy Premier not do so in the remainder of the Deputy Premier's contribution. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The member deliberately encouraged public speculation that the issues involved went to the heart of the integrity at Renewal SA, which was calculated to undermine the confidence investors and others had in the agency. Why else would the member have raised the following in estimates in September 2018: 'Has the minister's office been searched and documents seized? Has the minister been interviewed by a law enforcement officer? Has the minister's home been the subject of a search warrant? Have law enforcement officers entered a government building and seized documents, computers, files and mobile phones?'

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: 'Had the sudden departure of Mr John Hanlon triggered an independent review of any of the projects in which Mr Hanlon was involved?' The member alleged that there was a 'stench of corruption' that 'has already festered in a government that is less than a year old'. The main focus of the ICAC investigation was an overseas trip approved in 2017 by the member for Lee—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —while he was the minister responsible. The member for Lee said in court last Friday—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens will cease interjecting.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —that he had been 'a conscientious, diligent and responsible person' under oath. In contrast, following the expiration of Mr Hanlon's contract in 2019 and in further abuse of parliamentary privilege, the member for West Torrens stated that Mr Hanlon's contract—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson will leave for 10 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Mawson having withdrawn from the chamber:

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Sir, I found the term 'abuse of parliamentary privilege' offensive and I ask that the Attorney-General withdraw and apologise immediately.

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens rises on what I interpret to be a point of order in accordance with standing order 125. I remind members it is a subjective test to the extent that the characterisation of the remarks is a matter that the member for West Torrens considers to be offensive. I accordingly ask the Deputy Premier to withdraw those words.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I withdraw those words. And I go on to say the member for West Torrens—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member for Lee rises on a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Mr Speaker, the Attorney-General has today told the parliament that she is not at liberty—

The Hon. D.C. van Holst Pellekaan: What's your point of order?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I will get to it, Dan, if you listen.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I will get to it.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Lee rises on a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, sir. The Attorney-General has already told this place that she is unable to comment about this matter because the DPP is still considering whether it may be appealed. Now she is in this place, during a grievance debate, quoting evidence—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —from a court case which is related to it. I ask, Mr Speaker, that you use your discretion to draw the Attorney's time to a close and move on to the next grievance. This is appalling.

The SPEAKER: Order! There is no point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Well, there should be. It should be upheld.

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee will resume his seat. There is no point of order. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: It's sub judice or it's not. Which is it?

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee will leave for 10 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The member for West Torrens stated that Mr Hanlon's contract should have been cancelled 11 months earlier, but the member is notorious for his vilification of public servants and their work, as revealed by ICAC's Gillman inquiry.

Mr Picton: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member for Kaurna rises on a point of order.

Mr PICTON: Sir, the last sentence could not be interpreted in any other way than a complete breach of standing order 127(2) and (3).

The SPEAKER: As has been made clear on a number of occasions recently, it is a matter for the member who takes offence to—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Anybody can take offence, sir.

The SPEAKER: Well, the point of order that was addressed on the last occasion in relation to standing order 125—

Mr PICTON: Yes; I am saying 127(2) and (3), sir, which do not require the member to raise offence.

The SPEAKER: So far as standing order 127(3) is concerned, it is a question as to a member to whom such remarks may be directed. I uphold the point of order insofar as standing order 127(2) is concerned. The Deputy Premier will, in addressing the remainder of the time, ensure that she has in mind making remarks in accord with standing order 127. I do not think I can put it any more directly than that. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I will go to the direct quotes. As revealed by ICAC's Gillman inquiry, witnesses described him as 'a very impatient man' who 'becomes overtly frustrated and swears' and was 'non-receptive to advice he did not like' and had 'little or no regard' for Renewal SA. The ICAC commissioner reflected on the member's accountability, reporting that he 'was inclined not to answer direct questions directly'. Premier Weatherill admitted the member for West Torrens' behaviour had fallen below the standards expected of a minister, required him to make a public apology and to take steps to ensure proper standards are upheld in the future.

It is now clear that experience counted for nothing. He now owes Renewal SA and the staff another apology for the way in which he smeared them under the protection of this parliament. If the member refuses to act, it is up to the Leader of the Opposition to require him to do so. His behaviour has been indecent and irresponsible. Anything less than the leader doing this would be a further demonstration of the Labor Party's contempt of people in the public sector.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member from West Torrens rises on a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, sir. I would ask that, under standing order 125, the word 'indecent' be withdrawn and the member apologise.

The SPEAKER: The point of order is raised pursuant to standing order 125. In those circumstances, I request the Deputy Premier withdraw the word to which the member for West Torrens has taken offence.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I withdraw 'indecent' and repeat that he stop his irresponsible conduct.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: That is all that is left. Anything less would be a further demonstration of the Labor Party's contempt for the people in our public sector.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Playford will leave for 10 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Playford having withdrawn from the chamber:

ERRINGTON SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (15:35): For a slight change of pace, Errington special school at Plympton is indeed a pretty special place. I have had a long association with the school dating back to its first day, when it relocated and rebranded from Ashford special school on Anzac Highway. It now boasts up to 150 brilliant students.

I remember rocking up on Errington's opening day, as a reporter with Channel 10 at the time, and covering the first exciting day at school for those students, teachers and families. Since then, it has been a joy to open the new soft fall sensory playgrounds, funded by the previous Labor government, and visit for many school assemblies, events, awards nights and fundraisers. It is a special place because of its students and because of the parents and educators who really dedicate their lives to carving out brighter futures for the children who attend.

It is easy to meet the younger students when they are just starting out at the school and wonder what sort of future they might have—whether they will ever be independent and whether they will enter the workforce in gainful employment. I know each parent worries about that. But it is a true triumph that so many of the students do reach those milestones during their time at Errington, and I have been pleased to watch those young people, in my short time as an MP, grow and graduate as capable citizens who are capable of reaching their full potential.

This happens at Errington because of remarkable people like Gino Ienco. Gino is a volunteer who has had a connection with the Ashford Errington school community for more than 12 years. He does not have any kids or grandkids at the school. He is not a teacher there. He derives no personal benefit from this connection. Gino's connection began when he was the store manager of our local Coles at Kurralt Park.

At that time, he dedicated his time to ensuring that every child received an Easter egg and a Christmas gift and that staff were recognised for their work each year. Workers at Coles personally select a gift and deliver it to the children and staff and get to see their smiles light up their faces. For some children who have grown up in care or who have had challenging lives at the school, this small gesture brings incredible joy.

Gino has since set up fundraising opportunities that bring in a whopping \$10,000 a year to the school. He set up the Errington gym, with all its equipment funded solely through donations, and other funds have been spent on educational resources—absolutely remarkable. Gino can also be found cooking up a storm on the Bunnings barbecue with the school council chair, Peter Wilson, telling me that you have to pry the utensils from Gino's hands at the end of the day so determined is he to raise every dollar he can for the school.

Teachers at the school say Gino has transformed the mentality and the ethos of the school, instilling a can-do attitude. It now boasts extracurricular programs and feel-good factors that were not there prior to his work. Teacher Andy Delaney wrote to me:

From the initial vision of Gino... the school has gone from strength to strength. Today staff believe anything is possible. They don't look to others for support but problem solve in-house autonomously and take on fundraising tasks and grant writing and overcome obstacles, which before Gino's involvement would have been insurmountable.

Over 50 companies have now engaged with the school through Gino's efforts, and this is lifting the potential opportunities for its students. Many of the initiatives that Gino started have now been taken up and continued by others at the school, and that is why Gino has been nominated by the school community for the Joy Noble volunteering award, as well as several other awards. I also look forward to catching up with Gino shortly to personally recognise his incredible contribution. Thank you so much, Gino.

Gino is not alone in his dedication to the school. Great outcomes also happen there because of the efforts of parents like Richard Bekker. I was privileged to cheer on Errington's Wild Boar racing team on the weekend as they competed in the school's Pedal Prix at Victoria Park, including Richard's kids, Emily and William.

Despite the wet weather, the electric blue streak that was their human-powered car ripped around each lap keeping good time with the pack. This is something that other mainstream students might not think twice about—their ability to enter such a race—but for students at Errington this year was their first after parents like Richard argued for their inclusion.

I also got to catch up with my mate Harry—who is always bursting with energy—and see him wave the chequered flag, and I am not sure that there was another teenager quite so happy at that moment. I urge the organisers of the Pedal Prix to ensure that Errington and other special schools are included in the event in future years and that this is not just a one-off.

SPORTS VOUCHERS

Ms LUETHEN (King) (15:40): I asked my local community to have their say on the Marshall Liberal government's Sports Vouchers program, and feedback that I received directly from community members related to the cost pressures to families of children participating in sport, and it was an increasing concern for families.

Over the past few years, I have raised this important opportunity to expand the program to government so that we could get more children active and ease cost-of-living pressures on families. Parents were telling me that costs just keep increasing, especially as children get older and, secondly, clubs have told me that their participation was falling off in the middle years. My local community members are increasingly getting on board and actively having their say on what matters most to them, and it is absolutely paying off.

I am extremely excited to report back to you that, as a result of local community feedback, more South Australian parents and carers will benefit from the extremely popular Sports Vouchers program, with the Marshall Liberal government expanding the initiative to include students in years 8 and 9. Right now, the Sports Vouchers program gives mums, dads and carers a \$100 discount on sports, dance or swimming lessons, memberships and registration fees, and helps remove the cost-of-living pressures for South Australian families.

I can report that 93 per cent of my local constituents who had a say on the Sports Vouchers program told me that they wanted to see the Sports Vouchers program expanded to the middle years. Owing to our strong community feedback, which I sent through to the Minister for Sport and Recreation, the voucher program is now being expanded up to year 9 as part of an additional \$1.6 million per annum investment in the state budget 2021-22.

This new measure brings total funding for the Marshall Liberal government's Sports Vouchers program to almost \$10 million per year. The Marshall Liberal government's investment of \$29.7 million over four years since March 2018 to extend and expand the Sports Vouchers program has been extremely popular and successful locally.

I am proud that our government has helped out our local families by doubling the value of the voucher, from \$50 to \$100, and then expanding the program to include dance activities and swimming lessons, and now we are expanding the program again to the middle year students. On top of the 93 per cent of my constituents who wanted to see this expanded, 41 per cent of King constituents told me they would like to see the Sports Vouchers program expanded to include other sports. I am listening to this and I will continue to advocate.

Some people mentioned that they would also like to see the Sports Vouchers program expanded to cover Scouts and Girl Guides—not as many, though, but I am listening and I will continue to advocate, so if you feel this way please let me know. I am committed to bringing the voices of my constituents into this house, and so I will share a couple of the comments I have received from my local community on this latest announcement:

Paula, thank you so much. This will help so many families keep their cost of living down and their kids active.

Thank you for listening to the community and making this important change happen Paula and to others involved.

Another said:

This is a great step towards making it easier to keep kids involved in sport & their communities at a vital age as they are transitioning into teenagers & beyond.

Another constituent said:

It's so good to see the age has increased. I'm sure this will help so many families keep their teens involved in some sort of extra curriculum activities.

I thank the Minister for Recreation and Sport for listening and working with me and our local community to further expand the Sports Vouchers program. I thank the Treasurer for adding this \$1.6 million into the 2021-22 budget. Anything we can do to encourage continued physical activity will not only have huge benefits to the health and wellbeing of our children and young people but also a positive flow-on effect to the broader health system.

Many thanks again to our local community for sharing their views with me on the Sports Vouchers program. Together we have made this happen and together we are delivering what matters. I encourage my local community to keep having their say on what matters most. Together we are stronger and I am here for the King community.

HOMELESSNESS

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (15:45): Today, I would like to bring to the house's attention what I believe is probably one of the most important issues in my electorate. I am saddened that I actually have to talk about these sorts of issues because I think what I am about to talk about is a blight on any civil society. Of course, I am talking about homelessness.

There are an increasing number of people who approach my electorate offices and other services in Gawler and the Barossa to seek support for housing. The number of rough sleepers in my community has increased immensely. Even though there were people rough sleeping 10 years ago, you would hardly see them and there were not huge numbers. Today, they are much more visible and the number has certainly increased.

The problem of rough sleeping is quite obvious: the health and safety issues. The health of the people who unfortunately sleep in our streets or on our park benches or by our rivers or at the back of stores, etc., is impacted upon, having to sleep out in the open all the time, particularly in poor weather conditions. In terms of their safety, often they are on the receiving end of violence, quite sadly. It is just sad to see people in those circumstances. Our local churches try to do the best they can in supporting these individuals. They do provide, for example, opportunities for showers and washing clothes, etc.

The number of people on our streets who actually have mental health issues is high and it is certainly an indictment of the way we live in this society that people have to live like that. We also get an increasing number of people who say, 'I am rough sleeping. Where can I get a shower? Where can I get some food?' etc. As I said earlier, our churches are doing their best, but certainly they do not have the resources to support these people to the standard required.

In addition to rough sleeping, which is, if you like, the worst end of homelessness, we also have people who are couch surfing. I understand that is quite common and an increasing problem amongst young people. There are a whole range of reasons, including family breakdowns, why they might be doing that. It is particularly worrying when young people, and particularly in their senior years of education, are trying to do the best they can in maintaining their schooling and also preparing for examinations at the end of the year while they are moving from house to house and friends' couches. It is not a good environment.

We also have reports of people sleeping in cars in the community, particularly people who are sleeping in cars with young children because they have been evicted from their housing, which is an issue I would like to mention in a second. At the moment, with the price of properties skyrocketing, a number of landlords are using this opportunity to sell. It is certainly a seller's market and the number of people selling their properties is increasing. Often, tenants are evicted from these properties to make them easier to sell.

We have an increasing number of people who just cannot afford private accommodation. Not only are they being evicted but private rent has gone up as well. Because the cost of housing has gone up, private rent has gone up as well. It is particularly a problem in the Barossa. Foundation Barossa has told us about the increasing number of youths sleeping rough or couch surfing.

Another issue around housing is that we are getting an increasing number of complaints about the maintenance of Housing SA properties. We are receiving an increasing number of complaints about housing maintenance not being done or being delayed. We had a lady in our office the other day who complained about not having hot water for over a week. I did not have hot water for a day and that was hard to cope with; not having hot water in a house for over a week is very difficult in these conditions, and she also had children.

What has been the government's response to our housing crisis? In Gawler, they closed the Housing SA office. I suppose if you do not talk to people and hear about it, it does not exist, so they

closed the Housing SA office to make it even harder for the most vulnerable people in our community to get access to services and support.

In closing, I would like to thank Anglicare SA homelessness services, who are doing a wonderful job, as much as they can, to support people in our community. Homelessness is not only about having a place to sleep but also, if you are trying to get a job, having a place to get washed and get ready for work. It is a major poverty issue and we need to address it.

Time expired.

GIBSON ELECTORATE

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:51): It is an exciting time for basketball fans. In the US, the NBA playoffs are currently underway and attracting global attention. I am pleased to say that our own local basketball scene in this state is thriving and attracting a lot of local attention.

The local basketball team in my electorate, the South Adelaide Panthers Basketball Club, is every week drawing eager crowds to The Shed, their home court in Marion. People will always come out to see quality basketball and the SABC has a true star in Olivia Thompson. A former WNBL star, Olivia is dominating the court at the moment. In a game earlier this month, she had 51 points and 13 rebounds in just 25 minutes of game play. What a star.

We know that so much work goes into the running of local clubs, and I want to acknowledge a few people at the SABC. I recently visited this club and met with president, Bill Yeo, and treasurer, Sonny Ogradowski, who gave me a tour of their facilities and also shared with me their plans for upgrading the club's infrastructure. I am really supporting them in their push with local council. Of course, local council are the landlords there and I am encouraging them to apply for some of our available grants. The next round of grassroots grants is some \$20.6 million, so we encourage the council to support the basketball club and put those applications in. The club also received funding through an Active Club Program—some \$3,000 in round 49.

The club was formed in 1952, and can you believe, Mr Speaker, that they hold the very impressive Australian basketball record of 51 straight wins in 1965. Bill and Sonny volunteer on this great club's executive committee with vice-president, Zoran Pajkovski; secretary, Tricia Kleinig; and junior program manager, Josh Kelly. With a high number of district and domestic teams, including junior teams, they certainly have their work cut out for them but the team is doing a great job on and off the court. They support local basketball and the rich history and the club, of course, has a very bright future.

Many local sports clubs have long histories, and the Sturt Marion Thunder Soccer Club in my electorate is another club that does. The current club that plays in Marion was established in 1986; however, its roots go back much further. The club was formed through the amalgamation of the two soccer clubs, the Sturt Soccer Club and the Orange Soccer Club. The Sturt Soccer Club started over 110 years ago, all the way back in 1907. The Orange Soccer Club, on the other hand, was started by Dutch migrants in 1954. The two clubs joined to form the Orange Sturt Soccer Club in 1963, then remodelled themselves into the Sturt Marion soccer club in 1984, playing at the old Daws Road High School before relocating to Marion where they play today.

I recently visited their club as well and met Soo Bin Moon, the club's president. Binny warmly welcomed me and showed me their facility. He has a very friendly manner and is enthusiastic and committed to the Sturt Marion club, and they have a great asset in him. He shared with me some of the ideas and visions for their club, which includes a family-friendly focused approach to creating an even stronger community. I was also pleased to present him with an Active Club grant certificate for \$1,900 as part of our Active Club Program in round 49 and, again, encouraged them to be a part of our \$20.6 million round for grassroots funding next round, working with the council to put those applications in. Congratulations to the Sturt Marion soccer club, and I wish them all the best for the rest of the season.

Quality facilities can help to create positive learning spaces where our students can excel. Last year, the state government provided maintenance grants between \$20,000 and \$100,000 to local primary and secondary schools so that they could carry urgent maintenance work. I have recently been visiting some of our local schools to see what projects have been planned.

At Darlington Primary School earlier this month, I attended a school assembly and received a tour from Acting Principal Lisa Sims. Lisa shared with me the plans for the funding that included upgrades to student, staff and disabled toilets. The project sounded very promising, and I look forward to seeing the upgrades completed.

Darlington Primary School will soon be welcoming their new principal, Linda Fox. This is a really exciting time for the school and for Linda, and I wish her all the best. I must mention Darlington's sports day last term. Held at the end of the term, the day was successful, with parents, teachers and students participating in events ranging from long jump to the egg-and-spoon race.

Sports day was also the school's opportunity to farewell their previous principal, Claire Loades, who has been outstanding in that position. I thank Claire enormously for her contribution to the school and the wider community. She is a true treasure. Once again, it was great to visit this local school and speak with teachers, students and parents and thank them for their wonderful work.

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:56): I rise to congratulate the state government on \$20.7 million being committed to our public libraries and also to ask that the issue of indexation be resolved with the LGA so that, in real terms, libraries will not receive less money going forward over the next few years but actually maintain their level of funding.

During this campaign, I have been presented with a number of letters and emails at my office from people in our community who are passionately involved in our local library. It is a real credit to the City of Mount Gambier, which upgraded and spent considerable money a number of years ago transforming the library from what was, when I was growing up, a place that you would go to downstairs in the Civic Centre—it was pretty dark and dingy, and really had no presence at all in our community—to one that overlooks our beautiful cave gardens, is very visual and provides great service to the community of Mount Gambier.

I thank all the people who took the time to write to me indicating what the library meant to them. Of particular note, the staff who work at the library and the ones I have perhaps the most to do with—Teresa Nearmy, Kristi Brooks, Patricia Ellis and Kelly Lynch—do a wonderful job. In fact, there are 12.6 full-time equivalents at the Mount Gambier Library. Over the last year, which was a COVID-affected year, the library still had some pretty impressive numbers running 678 programs with a total of 20,700 participants. If you look at how many people actually go through the centre, it is at about a quarter of a million visitations. Obviously, many of those would be repeats, but a quarter of a million visitations is pretty powerful.

It is not just about books: it is about connection and connecting to communities. A few of the different groups that use our library include the Twisted Threads, government organisations and The Haven, which is a women's information service that supports domestic violence victims. Ac.care and other programs run foster-parenting information sessions. Local disability groups and others use the space to have pop-up promotions that highlight their services. Our library is regularly attended by special needs students and adults from various schools and organisations. Headspace utilises the great layout and space for programs. All types of demographics within our community are encouraged to utilise the library, as the staff aim for a free, welcoming and socially inclusive space.

Many people who come into our office accessing government services use the internet and computing services of the library, and the great staff—and I have mentioned only a few of the 12.6 FTEs—certainly provide one-on-one, individual support for many in our community who seek their assistance. To wrap up, there are a few quotes that are quite pertinent:

The City of Mount Gambier's public library is such a success story it lives [with] its vision [which is] 'an ever evolving place for ever evolving people'.

Some of the feedback I have received is summed up by this quote:

I love the library, it's my life, I don't know what I would do if we didn't have this wonderful facility.

Many comments and feedback received echoed that, so congratulations to the state government for putting this funding into our libraries. If we can look at the issue of indexation so there is no real loss as the years go by, that would be fantastic.

SOCIAL HOUSING

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (16:01): Social housing was not mentioned in yesterday's budget speech. Safe, affordable housing is something many take for granted, but all too often it is something a growing number of people have little likelihood of securing, particularly single-parent women with children and many older women facing unemployment or retirement on little or no super. The VIEW Club of Tea Tree Gully recently discussed a resolution at one of their meetings. It reads:

VIEW Clubs of Australia call on state and federal governments to increase funding and resources to provide for an increase in public and social housing; to meet the desperate shortage of accommodation to assist women and children in crisis and provide safe, affordable housing for the homeless and victims of domestic violence.

They go on to say homelessness has a dramatic impact on young children growing up and a safe and stable home is essential to provide the security women and children need to access education and achieve mental health. Having an address is also essential to gaining other services, like Centrelink benefits. Their arguments for the resolution, amongst other things, are:

- there is a major shortfall of social and affordable housing, a key element of our national infrastructure, supporting the basic need of all people to have a safe, secure place to call home;
- everyone has a right to live in a safe environment;
- a move to a family home increases a family's confidence in their own ability and enables them to resume friendships and re-establish community networks;
- the number of children and women living in cars or couch surfing has increased significantly in recent years; and
- the incidence of domestic violence has also increased, and the lack of safe alternative housing for women and children contributes to this.

The VIEW members acknowledge there are some impeding factors. The income from rental payments received from public housing can be 'insufficient to support critical stock redevelopment, or cover the cost of maintaining existing stock'. Properties' age and management costs increase, so government and housing agencies face significant operating deficits—and we all know governments have limited funding.

I acknowledge that too, but strongly feel social housing must be a priority for governments, state and federal, and more needs to be done. If, in this current COVID crisis, we can find so many billions of dollars for infrastructure, then surely some of that money can be used for building homes. That still stimulates jobs but different sorts of jobs, as not everyone can be involved in major road construction.

Another group I come into contact with regularly is the National Council of Women. They celebrated their centenary in 2002 and have championed women's issues ever since. The results of their 2021 survey showed affordable public and social housing was the main issue of importance, scoring the highest rate of concern, with more than half the respondents listing it as their major concern. Their members know the necessity of having a home for shelter and to raise a family, and I can only hope they continue to lobby in every possible way to make sure this message is heard and acted upon.

SACOSS have also advocated on this particular issue for as many years as I can remember, and it is again front and centre of their concerns following the budget. They acknowledge the build-to-rent land tax discount initiative providing a 50 per cent rebate on land value for dwellings commenced after 1 July this year, and that will be in place up to the 2039-40 financial year.

In Florey, our electorate office sees perhaps the most issues raised around maintenance of Housing SA properties, followed by requests for assistance and letters of support to both get onto public housing lists and gain help in finding private rentals.

I would also like to mention today the work of the Adelaide Benevolent Society, which was founded in 1849 and became an incorporated association in 1968. Officially known as the Adelaide Benevolent and Strangers' Friend Society Incorporated, it is an independent and financially sustainable social enterprise with a long history of helping people get back on their feet, most notably

through the depressed years of the late 1880s and 1890s and during the world wars of the early 20th century. I quote from their website:

Since renting and subsequently buying our first cottages in 1869, the Adelaide Benevolent Society has steadily grown its property portfolio to around 250 houses and units across Adelaide by reinvesting financial surpluses in more housing solutions. These properties are rented out at 25% below market rates to low-income individuals, families and new arrivals to the state.

Safe and secure housing and the ability for people to get back on their feet and participate in their community is something Adelaide Benevolent Society is committed to helping more people achieve.

I know this society has partnered with other groups and governments in the past and will continue to do so into the future.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of the NGOs in Adelaide and throughout the state who work with people in the cities and regional areas, helping them to gain or regain a foothold and re-establish or maintain their dignity and place in the community that stable accommodation gives. It is not only families and single parents who experience difficulty in finding a place to live; other people with disabilities, those with mental health issues, those reliant on low fixed incomes or those re-entering society after a custodial sentence all need help in finding not only a home but also employment.

These two factors have such an impact and without that hand up it becomes a day-to-day struggle for them to keep going. I urge the government to do more to put people first because, after all, we live in a community as well as an economy.

Bills

STATUTES AMENDMENT (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:06): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I am pleased to speak to the Statutes Amendment (Civil Enforcement) Bill 2021. The bill amends the Enforcement of Judgments Act 1991 and the Sheriff's Act 1978 to implement a number of recommendations of a review undertaken by the Courts Administration Authority into civil enforcement processes in South Australia.

The courts' review was undertaken by a review panel, which included representatives of the judiciary and the Courts Administration Authority, representatives of the Sheriff's Office, the then President of the Law Society, representatives of the Attorney-General's Department and relevant solicitors with expertise in civil enforcement proceedings. A supplementary report was also prepared by the Sheriff's Office.

The courts undertook the review with the intention of modernising and streamlining civil enforcement procedures in this state in line with other Australian jurisdictions. Several recommendations entail legislative change. The bill inserts a new provision into the Enforcement of Judgments Act to enable a judgement creditor to serve a notice, to be termed an 'investigation notice', on a judgement debtor prior to the investigations and an investigation summons.

Where monetary judgement has been ordered by a court against a judgement debtor, section 4 of the Enforcement of Judgments Act allows for the court, upon application by a judgement creditor, to investigate the judgement debtor's means of satisfying the debt. The investigation hearing is usually the first stage of enforcement proceedings and requires the court to issue a summons for the debtor to appear before the court for examination and to produce any documents relevant to assessing the debtor's capacity to repay the judgement debt. Failure to appear for an investigation hearing may render the debtor liable for arrest.

The courts' review of civil enforcement procedures considered the use of investigation hearings to be unnecessarily adversarial and an inefficient use of the court's time and resources as the initial stage of the enforcement process. It was recommended that investigation hearings be replaced wherever possible with an informal process to allow creditors to attempt to directly obtain information about the financial circumstances of the debtor without the need for court attendance.

The proposed investigation notice is modelled on part 38 of the Uniform Civil Procedure Rules of New South Wales. Unlike the New South Wales examination notice, the investigation notice will not be a compulsory first step before a court summonsed investigation proceeding. Rather, the incentive for debtors to comply with the informal notice will be reduced court costs since the costs of formal courts investigation proceedings are otherwise added to the amount of a judgement debt under section 3 of the Enforcement of Judgments Act.

It is anticipated that introducing this investigation notice option will encourage a collaborative approach to resolving the judgement debt, reduce costs for parties and the use of court resources, as well as expedite the enforcement process.

The bill will also amend the Enforcement of Judgments Act to expand the scope of garnishee orders as a means of enforcing judgement debts. Section 6(2) of the Enforcement of Judgments Act only permits garnishee orders to be made against a debtor's salary or wages with the debtor's consent. The courts' review considered this requirement to be outdated and inconsistent with current civil enforcement procedure in other jurisdictions, noting that South Australia remains the only jurisdiction to still require a debtor's consent to a garnishee order attaching salary or wages.

In relation to concerns about potential financial hardship being caused to low-income earners and welfare recipients as a result of garnishee orders, section 6(4) of the Enforcement of Judgments Act requires the court making a garnishee order to take into account evidence of the necessary living expenses of the debtor and any dependents and of any other liabilities that may affect their means of satisfying the debt. It is appropriate that section 6(4) be retained to preserve the court's discretion to set an appropriate amount for a garnishee order, which has regard to the individual circumstances of the debtor.

A further amendment is made, as recommended in the courts' review, to section 6 of the Enforcement of Judgments Act to allow for garnishee orders to be made against funds held in a term deposit, regardless of whether the term deposit has matured. While existing section 6(1) allows the garnishee order over moneys in a term deposit account, there is some doubt that it authorises immediate of those moneys where the term deposit is yet to mature.

Section 6(5) of the Enforcement of Judgments Act allows the court to authorise the garnishee to retain an amount from the money subject to a garnishee order as compensation for the garnishee's expenses in complying with the order. This will ensure that in cases where a financial institution (the garnishee) incurs costs in terminating a term deposit early, the financial institution is able to recover the costs of complying with the order.

The bill amends section 7 of the Enforcement of Judgments Act to empower the Sheriff by written notice to require a judgement debtor or third party to provide relevant information or documents disclosing the interests of third parties in real or personal property subject to a warrant for seizure or sale.

Section 7 of the Enforcement of Judgments Act enables the court, on application by a judgement creditor, to issue a warrant of sale authorising seizure and sale of a judgement debtor's real or personal property, or both, to satisfy a judgement debt. However, before a warrant for sale can be executed, the Sheriff must establish the extent of the defendant's interest in the property and the proprietary interest of any other third parties, as well as their written agreement as to the proportions in which the net proceeds of the sale will be divided.

Despite these requirements, the Sheriff has advised that financial institutions—for example, a bank which holds a mortgage over the property—are increasingly refusing to provide details of their proprietary interests due to breach of privacy concerns. This has made it extremely difficult for the Sheriff to establish the judgement debtor's interest in the property subject to the sale order. This amendment to section 7 should address this problem.

The bill also amends section 7 of the Enforcement of Judgments Act to clarify and broaden the Sheriff's powers to eject persons from, and proactively direct persons not to enter, land whether Sheriff is exercising a warrant for the sale of the land to enforce a judgement.

Presently, section 7(3a) authorises the Sheriff to eject a person not lawfully entitled to be on the land but does not authorise the Sheriff to issue a direction to prevent a person from entering the land that has been seized for sale. The Sheriff advises that this has led to situations whereby the Sheriff, having already ejected a person from the land at the time of the seizure, has been unable to lawfully direct a person to stay off the land or remove the person from the land unless the person has re-entered the land—for example, during an opening inspection. These amendments will address this deficiency in the Sheriff's powers.

This bill amends the Sheriff's Act 1978, as requested by the Chief Justice, to give the Sheriff an express power to request the Commissioner of Police to provide assistance with respect to any enforcement of judgement. The amendment, inserting a new section 9DA into the Sheriff's Act, will also provide for a police officer rendering such assistance to have all the powers of a sheriff under the Enforcement of Judgments Act.

The bill was amended in the other place to insert an amendment to the Sheriff's Act to require the Sheriff to report annually to the minister and parliament on various matters. This amendment is problematic for the reasons discussed by the Minister for Health and Wellbeing in the other place, and I will be seeking to work with the opposition and crossbenches to address these issues in this place.

The amendments in this bill will impact positively on the community's level of confidence in the justice system and its ability to enforce civil court judgements. They will improve outcomes for judgement creditors in being able to recover amounts owed to them after successfully enforcing their rights in court. The amendments will also improve court efficiency in enforcing civil court judgements on behalf of judgement creditors. In this way, the bill will support a key priority of the government's justice agenda, that is, to ensure a courts system built to last.

I commend the bill to members. I seek leave to have the explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Enforcement of Judgments Act 1991*

4—Insertion of section 3A

This clause inserts new section 3A into the principal Act.

3A—Investigation notices

Proposed clause 3A makes provision for an investigation notice requiring a judgment debtor to answer material questions and provide for inspection by the judgment creditor of specified documents.

5—Amendment of section 6—Garnishee orders

This clause amends section 6 to provide for the making of certain payments (including in the form of salary, wages or money held in a term deposit) to the judgment creditor.

6—Amendment of section 7—Seizure and sale of property

This clause amends section 7 of the principal Act so that a warrant may include a requirement for the judgment debtor to provide the sheriff with information relating to the interests of third parties in property owned by the debtor as well as a requirement for any such third party to provide relevant information to the sheriff.

The proposed amendments to section 7 also set out a series of powers (including powers of direction) that the sheriff may exercise in relation to a warrant.

Part 3—Amendment of *Sheriff's Act 1978*

7—Insertion of section 9DA

This clause inserts proposed section 9DA into the principal Act

9DA—Sheriff etc may be assisted by police officers

Proposed section 9DA provides that the sheriff or deputy sheriff may be assisted by a police officer in the performance or exercise of their statutory functions. Proposed section 9DA makes specific provision for a police officer to be taken to have the powers of the sheriff under the *Enforcement of Judgments Act 1991*.

8—Insertion of section 15AB

After section 15A insert:

15AB—Annual Report

This clause inserts a provision that imposes an obligation on the sheriff to provide an annual report to the Minister for tabling in Parliament.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

SUCCESSION BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:15): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to consolidate and amend the law relating to wills, probate and administration, the administration of deceased estates, intestacy and family provision; to repeal the Administration and Probate Act 1919, the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act 1972 and the Wills Act 1936; and to make related amendments to various other acts and for other purposes. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:16): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I am pleased to introduce the Succession Bill 2021. This bill represents the most extensive reforms to succession law in South Australia since the development of the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act in the 1970s.

In 2011, the former Attorney-General of South Australia, the Hon. John Rau MP, invited the South Australian Law Reform Institute to identify the areas of succession law that were most in need of review, to conduct a review of each of these areas and to recommend reforms. SALRI's Advisory Board identified seven topics for review and established a Succession Law Reference Group to assist. The reports produced by SALRI between 2014 and December 2017 were:

1. Sureties guarantees for letters of administration: this report examined whether the South Australian statutory requirement for sureties guarantees to be provided before some interstate estates can be administered should be retained or modified. Some of the more urgent recommended amendments were made in 2014 and removed the requirement for sureties guarantees to be obtained prior to the grant of administration being made in an intestate estate.

2. State schemes for storing and locating wills: this report examined whether South Australia should have a register of wills.

3. Small estates and minor succession disputes: this report examined ways to simplify the administration of small deceased estates and the resolution of minor succession law disputes.

4. South Australian rules of intestacy: this report examined the rules of intestacy. There have been many changes in society since the 1970s, with one of the most significant being the increase in the diversity and complexity of family structures and the number of non-traditional nuclear families, particularly blended families.

5. Management of the affairs of a missing person: this report recommended that amendments be made to allow the estate of a missing person to be managed and dealt with to the extent necessary to maintain the dependants of the person or to deal with their property as needed.

6. Review of the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act 1972 (SA): this report reviewed the rules relating to family inheritance. This is a topical issue, as laws such as the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act, which allow a relative to challenge their inheritance under a will or the law of intestacy, are highly contentious. Such cases often give rise to significant conflict within families as well as disproportionate legal costs.

7. Who may inspect a will: this report outlines SALRI recommended reforms as to who should have the ability to inspect a will, including considerations of privacy implications of such requests.

The bill enacts the recommendations of these seven SALRI reports that are legislative in nature and that have been accepted by the government. Most significantly, the bill repeals the Administration and Probate Act, the Wills Act and the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act and consolidates the provisions into one new act. The bill also makes consequential and related amendments to the Aged and Infirm Persons' Property Act, the Guardianship and Administration Act, the Law of Property Act, the Public Trustee Act, Supreme Court Act and the Trustee Act.

Having one piece of legislation to deal with all aspects of succession law will greatly enhance the usability of the legislation, particularly for laypeople who may have to act as executors or administrators of an estate. It became apparent during the drafting of the bill that many of the terms used in the legislation were significantly outdated and sometimes referred to common law concepts that no longer exist or practices that had fallen out of use many decades earlier. The bill modernises and updates the language used where possible to make the legislation simpler and easier to understand.

The bill reorganises the provisions that have been consolidated from other legislation, so that the bill is set out in a logical manner. Part 1 contains the preliminary provisions, such as the interpretation provisions. Part 2 contains the provisions relating to wills. Part 3 deals with administration and probate. Part 4 deals with the administration of deceased estates. Part 5 deals with intestacy. Part 6 deals with claims for family provision, followed by miscellaneous provisions in part 7.

I will now briefly go through each part of the bill and provide some further details about the significant changes that are contained in each part. As I said, part 1 contains the preliminary provisions. In the definitions section, some of the definitions have been modernised or simplified, where possible. For example, the definition of 'will' has been modernised and is based on the definition used in interstate legislation.

Part 2 contains the provisions that formerly made up the Wills Act. There are very few recommendations from SALRI that deal with the provisions of the Wills Act, therefore the changes to this part of the bill are focused on modernising and simplifying the language where that has been possible.

One of the SALRI recommendations that does come within this part of the bill is a new provision that gives certain classes of persons the right to inspect a will of a deceased person. The classes of persons include persons named in the will, beneficiaries, surviving spouses and domestic partners or former spouses and domestic partners, parents or guardians of the deceased, and persons eligible to a share of the estate under the rules of intestacy had the person died intestate. Persons with claims against the estate in law or equity can also inspect the will, but only with the permission of the Supreme Court if they have a proper interest in the matter and it is appropriate for them to do so.

Part 3 of the bill contains the provisions related to the granting of administration and probate and incorporates a small number of amendments arising from the SALRI recommendations. The court has been given the power to pass over applicants for a grant of probate or administration, to appoint another person who they consider to be appropriate and to vary or revoke a grant.

Other significant inclusions in part 3 of the bill are the provisions introducing the deemed grant model for the administration of small estates. This was a SALRI recommendation from the report, *The Administration of Small Deceased Estates*. These provisions allow the Public Trustee to give notice to the Registrar of Probates that they intend to administer a small estate of a value of \$100,000 or less under the deemed grant provisions.

The Public Trustee will not have to apply for a formal grant of letters of administration and will instead be taken to have deemed grant of administration. The Public Trustee will be required to gazette a notice that they are electing to administer an estate under the deemed grant provisions and also publish it on a website approved by the minister. This will make the process for the administration of small estates by the Public Trustee simpler and less costly, which is important for small estates.

Part 4 of the bill deals with the process of administration of deceased estates and contains a number of changes as recommended in the SALRI reports. Some of the significant inclusions in part 4 give the court additional powers to hold executors and administrators to account in relation to the administration of estates. This includes new powers to require an executor or administrator to give an undertaking to the court, as well as a wide range of powers to remedy loss if an executor or administrator fails to perform their duties.

For example, the court may order the executor or administrator to pay into the estate an amount equivalent to the financial benefit obtained by the executor or administrator as a result of their failure. The court may also order for the executor or administrator to compensate persons who have suffered loss or give any other order that the court considers to be appropriate.

Provisions have also been included upon the recommendation of SALRI to allow persons who hold money or personal property for a deceased person (up to a value of \$15,000) to pay the money or transfer the property directly to a surviving spouse or domestic partner of the deceased or a child of the deceased without needing a grant of probate or letters of administration. This is intended to allow, for example, banks to transfer the money in a bank account belonging to the deceased to the person's surviving spouse in a much faster time frame than where a grant of probate is required.

One addition to the bill that does not arise from a SALRI report is the inclusion of a provision to codify the application of assets in the payment of debts and liabilities in solvent estates. There were existing provisions dealing with insolvent estates, but South Australia relied on the common law for solvent estates. Reliance upon the common law has meant that the rules are more complex to apply in South Australia, and a clear, codified formula will be beneficial for executors and administrators when dealing with deceased estates. Therefore, a provision has been included at clause 83 that is based on the provisions used in the Victorian legislation.

Part 5 of the bill contains the provisions that deal with intestate estates, that is, an estate where the deceased person has died without leaving a valid will. SALRI made a number of recommendations in their report on the laws of intestacy; however, a significant number of those recommendations simply recommended that the status quo be maintained. One of the changes that was recommended was an increase to the amount of the preferential legacy received by a surviving spouse of the intestate. It has been increased from \$100,000 to \$120,000.

Another change is that the distribution on intestacy has had one additional degree of relatives (the grandchildren of relatives of the fourth degree, being the children of the first cousins of the intestate) included in the distribution order before the estate passes to the Crown. This change has been undertaken as there was a strong preference expressed to SALRI during their public consultation that people would prefer their estate pass to a more distant relative rather than go to the Crown.

Distribution is on a per capita basis (or equal shares) to children and grandchildren of the intestate, but on a per stirpes basis in all other cases. It has also been clarified that a spouse or domestic partner of an intestate has no entitlement to any part of an intestate's estate if they are a party to the prescribed agreement or order. The intention of these changes is to provide that spouses of domestic partners who have separated (but not legally ended their relationship through divorce or it being removed from the relationships register) and finalised the financial matters between them are removed from the order of inheritance for intestate estates. In short, if you have had a settlement you do not get a second chop of the cherry.

Part 6 of the bill deals with the claims for family provision, and contains the provisions formerly in the Inheritance (Family Provision) Act (the Family Provision Act). The feedback collated by SALRI during the preparation of this report into family provision was generally supportive of the notion that claims under the Family Provision Act are too easy to make and not enough weight is placed on the wishes of the testator. Therefore, the categories of the claimant who are automatically entitled to bring a claim under the family provision sections of the bill have been tightened.

Former spouses and domestic partners are excluded from making a claim for family provision if they have been party to a prescribed agreement or order similar to the exclusion from the order of inheritance of intestate estates. This provision is intended to prevent a former spouse or domestic partner who has effectively ended their relationship and settled all financial matters between themselves and the testator to come back and make a family provision claim after the testator is deceased—perhaps a number of years even after the end of the relationship.

In order to be eligible to make a claim, adult stepchildren have to demonstrate that they are disabled and significantly vulnerable by reason of their disability, or they were genuinely dependent on the deceased at the time of their death, or they cared for or contributed to the maintenance of the deceased immediately before their death, or they significantly contributed to the estate of the deceased, or assets accumulated by the stepchild's natural parent substantially contributed to the estate of the deceased person.

Additionally, stepchildren who are minors are entitled to make a claim if they satisfy the court that they are wholly or partly, or legally entitled to be wholly or partly, maintained by the deceased immediately before their death. Grandchildren of the deceased person will now have to satisfy the court either that their parents died before the deceased person or that the grandchild was wholly or partly, or was legally entitled to be wholly or partly, maintained by the deceased before they will be able to make a claim.

Clause 116 now provides that when determining whether to make a family provision order the court's primary consideration is to be the wishes of the deceased person. The court may also order a party to proceedings to give security for costs that may be awarded against a party if it appears to the court that the party's claim for family provision may be without merit or the party is unwilling to negotiate a settlement of claim for provision. This is aimed at discouraging unmeritorious claims.

Part 7 of the bill contains the miscellaneous provisions. One significant addition to this part is the provision that will codify the rules governing the situation where there are simultaneous deaths of spouses or domestic partners. Currently, South Australia relies on common law rules in this situation, which means that the rules in South Australia are different from other Australian jurisdictions. The new provisions state that where there are simultaneous deaths any jointly owned property will devolve in equal share to each person's estate as if they were tenants in common.

An additional provision in part 7 has been included to codify the presumption of survivorship. This provision provides that where two or more persons have died in circumstances where it is not possible to determine the order of death, the deaths will, for the purposes affecting title to property, be taken to have occurred in order of seniority, with the eldest having died first. In short, if a husband and wife both die in a car accident and the husband is older than the wife, the husband is presumed to have died first, even if it is unclear from the carnage after the accident which one might have died first.

The Succession Bill 2021 represents the culmination of a number of years of work from SALRI, my department and parliamentary counsel on these reforms, which are the most extensive reforms in this area of law for decades. I would like to particularly acknowledge the contributions of Professor John Williams, Dr David Plater, Dr Sylvia Villios, Louise Scarman, the Hon. Tom Gray QC (a former justice of the Supreme Court), Ms Dianne Gray and the law reform class at Adelaide University. I especially acknowledge the valuable contribution of Helen Wighton, the founding Deputy Director of SALRI. Helen started the work on this important reference at SALRI but sadly passed away in 2014.

The government believes the passage of the Succession Bill will give South Australia a modern, usable piece of legislation that will have benefits for the legal profession, the courts, the

Public Trustee and the people of South Australia. From my perspective, in the time I have been Attorney-General I have been very proud to introduce and present to this parliament all the legislation that our government has approved to progress. I am proud of all of it.

I am particularly proud of the establishment of an appeal court in South Australia, and if I were to pick out one other very large body of work of reform it would be in relation to succession law. A massive amount of research has been undertaken. It is centuries of developed common law and statute that we are bringing together in a modern piece of legislation that we hope will serve the people of South Australia well into the future.

I would just like to particularly thank the many people across South Australia, particularly in our regional areas, who came forward either individually or through their legal representatives to present to SALRI during their statewide survey and invitation to South Australians to make a submission on this. It was a massive amount of work and I am deeply indebted to them. I am very satisfied that the parliament will be well served in being able to consider these reforms. I commend the bill to the house and seek to insert the explanation of clauses into *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

EXPLANATION OF CLAUSES

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

These clauses are formal.

3—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in the measure.

Part 2—Wills

Division 1—Making, alteration, revocation and revival of wills

Subdivision 1—Property that may be disposed of by will

4—All property may be disposed of by will

This clause provides that a person may dispose of all of their property by will.

Subdivision 2—Testamentary capacity

5—Will of minor

This clause provides that a minor cannot make, alter or revoke a will unless they are or have been married or the will is made in contemplation of marriage. A will made in contemplation of marriage has no effect unless the contemplated marriage is solemnised.

6—Will of minor authorised by Court

This clause empowers the Supreme Court (the *Court*) to authorise a will to be made, altered or revoked for a minor.

7—Will of person lacking testamentary capacity authorised by Court

This clause empowers the Court to authorise a will to be made, altered or revoked for a person who lacks testamentary capacity.

Subdivision 3—Execution and attestation of wills

8—Requirements as to writing and execution of will

This clause sets out how a will is to be made and executed.

9—Exercise of power of appointment by will

This clause sets out how a will is to be made and executed where a person holds a power of appointment exercisable by will.

10—Will of ADF member on active service

This clause allows a person on active duty as a member of the Australian Defence Force to dispose of property by a nuncupative will.

A 'nuncupative will' is a verbal will, 'depending merely on verbal evidence, being declared by the testator *in extremis* before a sufficient number of witnesses and afterwards reduced to writing'—*Wharton's Legal Lexicon* 13th edition (1925) p.603. 'The English Statute of Frauds, 29 Car. 2 c. 3 restricted nuncupative wills, except when made by mariners at sea, and soldiers in active service'.

11—Validity of will

This clause provides for a will to be valid if executed in accordance with this measure and empowers the Court to admit to probate a will that has not been executed in accordance with this measure if the Court is satisfied that it expresses the testamentary intentions of the deceased and the deceased intended the document to constitute their will. It also provides for a document not to be admitted to probate if the Court is satisfied that it expresses an intention by the deceased to revoke it.

12—Will not void by incompetency of witness

This clause provides that a will is not invalid only because a person who attests its execution is, or has become, incompetent to prove the execution of the will.

13—Gifts to attesting witness

This clause provides that a will or testamentary provision of a will is not void only because it is attested by the spouse or domestic partner of the testator or by a person who has or may acquire an interest in property subject to the will or provision.

14—Creditor attesting to be admitted as witness

This clause provides that a creditor, or spouse of domestic partner of a creditor, who attests the execution of a will by which property is charged with a debt can be admitted as a witness to prove the execution of the will or its validity or invalidity.

15—Executor to be admitted as witness

This clause provides that an executor of a will is not incompetent to be admitted as a witness to prove the execution of the will or its validity or invalidity just because they are the executor.

Subdivision 4—Alteration, revocation and revival of wills 16—Alteration of will

This clause sets out how a will may be altered.

17—Revocation of will

This clause sets out the circumstances in which a will or part of a will can be revoked.

18—Effect of marriage or registered relationship on will

This clause provides that a will is revoked by the marriage of the testator or the testator commencing a registered relationship. However, wills made on or after a certain date are not revoked if they were made in contemplation of the marriage or registered relationship.

19—Effect of end of marriage or registered relationship on will

This clause sets out the effect on a will of the end of a marriage (by divorce or annulment) or the end of a registered relationship.

20—Effect of change in testator's domicile

This clause provides that a change in a testator's domicile after a will is executed does not revoke the will or invalidate it or change its construction.

21—Revival of revoked will

This clause sets out the circumstances in which a will, or part of a will, that has been revoked is revived.

Division 2—Rectification of wills

22—Rectification of will by order of Court

This clause empowers the Court to order the rectification of a will if satisfied that it does not accurately reflect the testamentary intentions of the deceased.

Division 3—Construction of wills

23—When will takes effect

This clause provides that subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, a will takes effect as if it had been executed immediately before the testator's death.

24—Interests in property will disposes of

This clause provides that if an interest in property disposed of by a will is disposed of before the testator's death, the will operates to dispose of the remaining interest of the testator in that property.

25—When a disposition is not to be rendered inoperative

This clause provides that no conveyance or other act made or done after the execution of a will of or relating to any real or personal property comprised in the will (except an act by which the will is revoked) prevents the operation of the will with respect to such property or interest in that property as the testator had power to dispose of by will at the time of their death.

26—General disposition of land includes leaseholds

This clause provides that subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, a general disposition of land in a will is to be construed to include leasehold estates.

27—What general disposition of property subject to power of appointment includes

This clause provides that subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, a general disposition of real property in a will is to be construed to include any real property which the testator has power to appoint, and operates as an execution of that power, and a general disposition of personal property in a will is to be construed to include any personal property which the testator has power to appoint and operates as an execution of that power.

28—Effect of disposition of real property without words of limitation

This clause provides that subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, a disposition of real property by a will to a person without words of limitation is to be construed as passing the whole estate or interest in the property.

29—What a residuary disposition includes

This clause provides that subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, if a disposition of real property or an interest in real property in a will fails or is void because the beneficiary dies during the lifetime of the testator or the disposition is contrary to law or otherwise capable of taking effect, the property or the interest in the property will be included in any residuary disposition contained in the will.

30—How requirements to survive with issue are to be construed

This clause sets out how the words 'die without issue', 'die without leaving any issue', 'have no issue' or other words in a disposition of property to a person in a will importing a want or failure of issue of the person are to be construed.

The word 'issue' is a legal term that has several meanings, in this context it means 'offspring of parents'—*Wharton's Legal Lexicon* (1925) p.465.

31—Disposition to children or other issue who leave issue living at testator's death does not lapse

This clause provides subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, a disposition of property in a will to a person who is a child or other issue of the testator, and who is not determinable at the time or before the person's death, does not lapse if the person dies during the testator's lifetime leaving issue and any such issue is living at the time of the testator's death. Instead the disposition has effect as if the will had provided for that property to pass to the issue of that person.

32—Construction of dispositions of real property to trustee or executor

This clause provides rules for the construction of dispositions of real property by will to a trustee or executor.

33—Disposition of estates tail do not lapse

This clause provides that subject to a contrary intention appearing in a will, if a person to whom real property disposed of by will for an estate tail or an estate in quasi tail dies during the testator's lifetime leaving issue who would be heritable under the entail and any such issue are living at the time of the testator's death, the disposition does not lapse but takes effect as if the death of that person had happened immediately after the testator's death.

An 'estate tail' (or 'entail' or 'tail') (from the French verb *tailer* meaning *to cut*) is defined in *Wharton's Law Lexicon* (1925) p.831 as 'a freehold of inheritance, limited to a person and the heirs of his body general or special, male or female, and is the creature of the statute *De Donis*. The estate, if the entail be not barred, reverts to the donor or reversioner, if the donee dies without leaving descendants answering to the conditions annexed to the estate upon its creation, unless there be a limitation over to a third person on default of such descendants, when it vests in such third person or remainder-man'.

34—Effect of referring to valuation in will

This clause provides that if a will refers expressly or by implication to a valuation made or accepted for the purpose of assessing succession duty or any other form of death duty, that reference is, if the valuation contemplated by the reference is not required under the law of this State or of any other place, to be construed as if it were a reference to a valuation made by a competent valuer.

Division 4—Wills made outside the State

35—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in Division 4.

36—Application of system of law

This clause sets out rules for determining which system of law is to be applied in the case of a will if under this measure the internal law in force in any country or place is to be applied in the case of a will, but there are in force in that country or place 2 or more systems of internal law relating to the formal validity of wills. It also contains rules for determining whether the execution of a will conforms to a particular law and rules with respect to formal requirements where a law in force outside South Australia falls to be applied in relation to a will.

37—General rule as to formal validity

This clause provides that a will executed outside South Australia is to be treated as properly executed for all purposes if its execution conformed to the internal law in force in the place where it was executed, or in the place where, at the time of its execution or of the testator's death, the testator was domiciled or had their habitual residence, or in a country of which, at either of those times, the testator was a national.

38—Additional rules as to validity

This clause sets out more rules about the validity of wills executed outside South Australia.

39—Validity of statutory wills made outside State

This clause provides that a statutory will made according to the law of the place where the deceased was resident at the time of execution will be regarded as a valid will of the deceased. A statutory will is a will executed by virtue of a statutory provision on behalf of a person who, at the time of execution, lacked testamentary capacity.

40—Operation of international wills provisions not limited by this Division

This clause provides that Division 4 does not limit the operation of Division 5.

Division 5—International wills

41—Application of Convention

This clause provides that the Annex to the Convention providing a Uniform Law on the Form of an International Will 1973 signed in Washington D.C. on 26 October 1973 has the force of law in South Australia. The text of the Annex is set out in Schedule 1 of this measure.

42—Persons authorised to act in connection with international wills

This clause authorises Australian legal practitioners and public notaries of an Australian jurisdiction (Commonwealth or a State or Territory) to act in accordance with an international will. An international will is a will made in accordance with the Annex to the Convention.

43—Witnesses to international wills

This clause provides that the conditions requisite to acting as a witness to an international will are governed by South Australian law.

44—Application of Act to international wills

This clause clarifies that the provisions of this measure that apply to wills extend to international wills.

Division 6—Deposit of and access to wills

45—Will may be deposited with Registrar

This clause allows wills to be deposited with the Registrar.

46—Delivery of wills by Registrar

This clause sets out the circumstances in which the Registrar is required to give a will deposited with the Registrar to a person, such as, for example, if the testator applies to be given the will or if the testator has died and the executor or person entitled to apply for letters of administration applies to the Registrar to be given the will.

47—Failure to retain does not affect validity of will

This clause provides that a failure of the Registrar to retain a will does not affect the will's validity.

48—Persons entitled to inspect will of deceased person

This clause sets out a list of persons who are entitled (at their own expense) to inspect or be given a copy of a will (or both) by the person who has possession or control of the will. It also requires the person who has possession or control of a will to produce it to a court if required to do so and empowers the Court to make an order requiring a will to be inspected by a person (including a creditor) who has or may have a claim at law or in equity against the estate of the deceased person.

Part 3—Probate and administration

Division 1—Interpretation

49—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in Part 3.

Division 2—Granting and revoking of probate and administration

Subdivision 1—Court's practice in testamentary jurisdiction 50—Practice of Court

This clause provides for the practice of the Court in its testamentary jurisdiction to be the same as the practice of the Court in its jurisdiction under section 5 of the *Administration and Probate Act 1919* and section 18 of the *Supreme Court Act 1935* immediately before the commencement of this measure.

Subdivision 2—Registrar of Probates 51—Registrar of Probates

This clause provides for the office of Registrar of Probates to continue in existence and for there to be such deputy or acting Registrars of Probate and other officers as may be necessary for the proper administration of this measure. A person is not eligible for appointment as the Registrar or an acting or deputy Registrar unless they are a legal practitioner of at least 5 years standing. A person may only be appointed as the Registrar or an acting or deputy Registrar on the recommendation of the Chief Justice and the Registrar or a deputy Registrar must not be dismissed or reduced in status except on the recommendation or with the concurrence of the Chief Justice.

52—Registrar's powers and authorities

This clause provides that the Registrar has the same powers and authorities with respect to proceedings in the Court as immediately before the commencement of this measure.

53—Exercise by Registrar of jurisdiction, powers or authorities of Court

This clause provides that the Registrar may, to the extent authorised by the Rules of Court, exercise the jurisdiction, powers and authorities of the Court whether arising under this measure or otherwise, and subject to the Rules, an appeal lies to a Judge against a judgment, determination, order, direction or decision given or made by the Registrar in the exercise of a jurisdiction, power or authority of the Court.

54—Probate of will deposited with Registrar

This clause enables an executor of a will deposited with the Registrar to apply for probate if the testator dies.

55—Registrar to obtain direction of Judge in doubtful case

This clause allows the Registrar to obtain the direction of a Judge if the Registrar has doubt in any particular case whether probate or administration should be granted or whether the Registrar should exercise a power or discretion relating to the Registrar's office. If the Registrar obtains a direction, the Registrar must act in accordance with it.

Subdivision 3—General provisions relating to granting and revoking of probate and administration

56—Grant of probate or administration to adults only

This clause prevents the grant of probate or administration to a person under the age of 18.

57—Effect of probate and administration granted interstate or overseas

This clause enables interstate grants of probate or administration to be registered by the Registrar and have the same force, effect and operation as a local grant. It also enables foreign grants of probate or administration to be sealed by the Court and have the same force, effect and operation as a local grant.

58—Provisions for evidence in case of foreign will

This clause enables probate or administration of a foreign will to be granted by the Court in non-contentious cases if the consul or consular agent for the relevant country testifies that the will is valid according to the law of that country, or evidence taken (on commission) in the relevant country is given in support of the will and of the proof of the law affecting the validity of the will.

59—Appointment of joint administrators

This clause allows administration to be granted to more than 1 person.

60—Examination of witnesses

This clause empowers the Court to call and examine persons in proceedings in respect of testamentary matters.

61—Order to produce document purporting to be testamentary

This clause empowers the Court to issue subpoenas for the production of documents being or purporting to be testamentary.

62—Caveats

This clause allows caveats against the grant of probate or administration to be lodged in the Probate Registry of the Court.

63—When persons interested in real property affected by a will are to be served with proceedings

This clause requires devisees and other persons who have or pretend to have an interest in real property affected by a will to be served with proceedings if proceedings are taken for proving the will in solemn form, revoking probate of the will on the ground of invalidity, or if the validity of the will is disputed in a contentious cause or matter. It also sets out the circumstances in which the Court can proceed without serving the persons interested in the real property with proceedings.

64—Grant of administration to duly authorised attorney

This clause provides that if a person who is entitled to be granted probate or administration is outside the State, the person may, by power of attorney, appoint the Public Trustee or a person within the State to act for them, and administration may be granted to the Public Trustee or the other person on behalf of the person who appointed them on such terms and conditions as the Court thinks fit.

65—After grant of administration no person to have power to sue as executor

This clause provides that after a grant of administration no person has power to sue or prosecute any action, or otherwise act as executor of the deceased, as to the estate comprised in or affected by the grant, until that administration has been revoked.

66—Rights of executor renouncing, not acting, or not appearing when cited, to cease as if not named in will

This clause provides that if a person renounces probate of a will of which they are appointed executor, or an executor survives the testator but dies without taking probate, or an executor is cited to take probate but does not appear to the citation, the right of that person or executor in respect of the executorship wholly ceases and the representation of the testator and administration of their estate goes, devolves and is committed in the same manner as if the person had not been appointed executor.

67—Grant of probate or administration to person other than the person otherwise entitled

This clause empowers the Court to grant probate or administration to a person other than the person otherwise entitled to probate or administration if the Court considers it appropriate for the proper administration of the deceased estate and it is in the interests of the persons who are or may be interested in the estate. It also empowers the Court to pass over a person in granting probate or administration if there are reasonable grounds for believing that the person has committed an offence relating to the deceased's death.

68—Special administration

This clause provides that if an executor or administrator is living outside the State at the expiration of 12 months from the death of a person, the Court may grant some other person special administration limited to the collection, management and distribution of the estate of the deceased. If the original executor or administrator returns to the State and the Court is satisfied that they intend to remain here until the estate has been duly administered, the Court may revoke the grant of special administration.

69—Revocation of grant of probate or administration not to prejudice legal action

This clause provides that if proceedings against an executor or administrator are commenced before the revocation of the grant of probate or administration, the Court in which the proceedings are pending may order the revocation of the probate or administration, and the grant of any probate or administration which has been made consequent on the proceedings, to be notified on the record. If proceedings are commenced against an administrator who obtained special administration, the Court in which such proceedings are pending may order the revocation of the special administration.

70—Protection to persons acting in reliance on probate or administration

This clause provides that the revocation of a grant of probate or administration does not render the executor or administrator liable for any prior act done by the executor or administrator in good faith and in reliance on the grant of probate or administration.

If a person acting in good faith and in reliance on a grant of probate or administration, deals with an asset of the estate of a deceased person, the person incurs no personal liability by so doing despite that the grant of probate or administration may subsequently prove to be invalid or be revoked. However, this clause does not affect the rights that may lie against a person to whom property has been invalidly transferred, or to whom a payment has been invalidly made, by an executor or administrator.

71—Statement of assets and liabilities to be provided with application for probate or administration

This clause requires a person who applies for the grant of probate or administration or for the sealing of any grant of probate or administration made by a court outside Australia to disclose to the Court the assets and liabilities of the deceased known to the person at the time of making the application.

If an interstate grant of probate or administration is registered under clause 57, the executor or administrator must, in accordance with the rules, disclose to the Court the assets and liabilities of the deceased person known to the executor or administrator at the time that the grant was registered (but not assets situated outside South Australia or liabilities that arose outside the State).

Also, an executor, administrator or trustee of the estate of a deceased person (being an estate in respect of which a grant of probate or administration has been made or sealed by the Court) must disclose to the Court any assets or liabilities of the deceased person (not being assets or liabilities previously disclosed under this clause) which come to the knowledge of the executor, administrator or trustee while acting in that capacity.

The clause also prohibits an executor, administrator or trustee of an estate from disposing of an asset of the estate of a deceased person in respect of which disclosure has not been made to the Court.

72—Obligation of person dealing with asset to ensure that it has been properly disclosed

This clause requires a person who deals with an asset of the estate of a deceased person that is required to be disclosed under clause 71 to satisfy themselves that the asset has in fact been so disclosed.

Subdivision 4—Small estates

73—Deemed grant of probate or administration to Public Trustee for small estate

This clause enables the Public Trustee to administer a small estate without applying for a grant of probate or administration if the Public Trustee gives notice of the Public Trustee's intention to administer the estate in accordance with this clause. A small estate is an estate not worth more than the maximum monetary value (i.e. \$100,000 or such other amount as may be fixed by the Minister from time to time by notice in the Gazette or calculated in accordance with a formula or methodology determined by the Minister by notice in the Gazette from time to time). However, if in the course of administering a small estate, it is found to be worth more than 120% than the maximum monetary value, the Public Trustee must apply for a grant of probate or administration in respect of the estate.

Part 4—Administration of deceased estates

74—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in Part 4.

75—Vesting of intestate estate on person's death

This clause provides that if a person dies wholly or partially intestate, the person's estate, in so far as it is not affected by a will, vests in the Public Trustee from the time of the person's death until administration is granted in respect of the estate. A person dies wholly intestate if they die without making a will. A person dies partially intestate if they die leaving a will that does not effectively dispose of either the whole or part of their estate (see clause 3(1)).

76—Vesting of land on person's death

This clause provides that on a person's death, any land forming part of their estate (subject to any mortgage, trust or equity affecting the land) vests in their executor(s) if disposed of by will, or in the case of undevised land (land not disposed of by will), in the Public Trustee (and any land so vested, and any proceeds of the sale of the land, are assets in the hands of the executor and are disposable and distributable for the payment of debts and liabilities of the deceased as if the land had been a chattel real forming part of the deceased's estate).

A 'chattel real' is an estate in land that has a definite duration, a period during which the estate is to endure—*Wharton's Legal Lexicon* (1925) p.160.

77—Vesting of intestate estate on grant of administration

This clause provides that on the grant of administration of a deceased person's estate, the estate that vested in the Public Trustee at the time of the person's death under clause 75 vests in the grantee(s) (and any land so vested and any proceeds of the sale of the land, are assets in the hands of the administrator and are disposable and distributable for the payment of debts and liabilities of the deceased as if the land had been a chattel real forming part of the deceased's estate).

78—Administrator to hold intestate property on trust

This clause provides that the administrator of an intestate estate holds the estate on trust for the persons entitled to share in the estate in accordance with Part 5. Subject to that Part, the administrator may sell, or convert into money, the whole or any part of the intestate estate.

79—Court's powers in relation to management of undevised land

This clause empowers the Court to give directions relating to the management of undevised land on the application of an executor or administrator or a person beneficially interested in the land.

80—Court may order partition of undevised land

This clause empowers the Court to appoint 1 or more arbitrators to effect a partition of undevised land if the Court is satisfied that it would be advantageous to the parties interested.

81—General duties of executors and administrators

This clause sets out the general duties of executors and administrators.

82—Power of executor or administrator to sell real property for payment of debts

This clause empowers executors and administrators to sell land forming part of a deceased estate in order to pay any debts of the estate.

83—Payment of debts and liabilities in the case of solvent estates

This clause provides that if the estate of a deceased person is sufficient to pay all its debts and liabilities, the estate will be applicable towards the discharge of debts and liabilities payable out of the estate in the order set out in that clause.

84—Mortgages and charges on land not be paid out of deceased's residuary or personal estate

This clause provides that if real property is charged with a property debt, the person beneficially entitled to that property through the deceased person is not entitled to have the debt satisfied out of other property forming part of the estate and the real property charged with the debt is primarily liable for the payment of the debt with which it is charged. This rule is subject to a contrary intention signified expressly (and by distinct reference to the money charged) in the deceased's will or a deed or other document.

85—Specialty and simple contract debts of deceased persons to stand in equal degree

This clause provides that despite any Act or law to the contrary, no debt or liability of a deceased person is entitled to priority or preference only because the debt or liability is secured or arises under a bond, deed or other instrument under seal or is otherwise made or constituted a specialty debt rather than a debt under a simple contract, and all the creditors of the person are to be treated as standing in equal degree and are to be paid accordingly out of the assets (whether legal or equitable) of the deceased person.

A 'specialty debt' is a debt secured by writing under seal—*Wharton's Legal Lexicon* (1925) p.807.

86—Filing of declaration that estate is insufficient to pay debts and liabilities

This clause allows an executor, administrator or creditor of a deceased person to file with the Registrar a declaration that the executor, administrator or creditor (as the case may be) believes that the estate of the deceased person is insufficient for the payment of its debts and liabilities. If such a declaration is filed, the executor or administrator must administer the deceased estate, in so far as it concerns the payment of liabilities, in the same manner (as far as practicable) as it would have been administered for the benefit of creditors under a decree of the Court.

87—Rules in insolvency administration to prevail in certain cases

This clause provides that if an estate is found insufficient to pay the debts and liabilities of the deceased or a declaration that the estate is insufficient has been filed, the same rules are to apply as to the respective rights of secured and unsecured creditors, and as to debts and liabilities provable, and as to the valuation of annuities and future or contingent liabilities respectively, as are in force for the time being under the law of bankruptcy with respect to the estates of persons adjudged bankrupt.

88—How estate is to be administered

This clause provides that where the Court or the Public Trustee is administering an estate, or an estate is being administered by an executor or administrator under clause 86, the executor or administrator has no right of retainer, and a creditor who has at any time obtained judgment against the executor or administrator does not, by reason of the judgment, have any priority over other creditors, and subject to this measure legal assets are to be administered in the same way as equitable assets.

89—Court may order sale of property belonging to minor

This clause empowers the Court to order the sale of any real or personal property or part of it (whether or not specifically devised or bequeathed) that belongs to a minor or to which a minor is beneficially entitled if the Court considers it for the benefit of the minor that the sale should be effected.

90—Court may give permission to postpone realisation or carry on business

This clause empowers the Court to permit an executor, administrator or trustee of a deceased person, or the Public Trustee, to postpone the realisation of the estate or trust property and carry on the business or affairs of the testator or intestate, and for that purpose to use the estate of the testator or intestate, or such portion of it as the Court directs.

91—Administrator to pay over money and deliver property to Public Trustee

This clause requires an administrator possessed of or entitled to any real or personal property in the State belonging to a person lacking legal capacity, or not resident in the State and having no duly authorised agent or attorney in the State, to pay over money and deliver property to the Public Trustee.

Subject to the provisions of any will or instrument of trust, the Public Trustee may, if satisfied that it would be advantageous to the beneficiaries, authorise the sale of any trust property not exceeding \$4,000 in value to the administrator, or to the administrator jointly with any other person, despite the fact that the property has not been offered for sale by public auction or otherwise.

Subject to the provisions of any will or instrument of trust, the Public Trustee may, in the Public Trustee's discretion, realise or postpone the realisation of any property received by the Public Trustee under this clause.

92—Statement and account to be provided to Public Trustee

This clause requires an administrator to provide the Public Trustee with a statement and account, verified by the administrator by statutory declaration, of all of the estate of the deceased and of the administration of it by the administrator within 6 months after administration has been granted, or within such longer period as the Public Trustee may allow.

93—Court may order provision of statement and account

This clause empowers the Court to order an administrator of a deceased estate to provide the Public Trustee with a statement and account, verified by the administrator by statutory declaration, of all of the estate of the deceased and of the administration of it by the administrator.

94—Proceedings to compel provision of statements and account

This clause enables the Public Trustee or any person interested in the estate of a deceased person to cause an administrator who fails to provide a statement and account under clause 92, or fails to comply with an order of the Court under clause 93, to be summoned before a Judge to show cause why the administrator should not provide the statement and account to the Public Trustee immediately.

95—Public Trustee, executors, administrators and trustees may obtain judicial advice or direction

This clause requires the Public Trustee, when in difficulty or doubt, to apply to the Court for advice or direction as to any matter related to the administration of an estate or the construction of a will, deed or other document. It also allows an executor, administrator or trustee, when in difficulty or doubt, to apply to the Court for advice or direction as to any matter related to the administration of any estate or the construction of a will, deed or other document.

96—Commission may be allowed to executors, administrators and trustees

This clause empowers the Court to allow an executor, administrator or trustee, whether of the estate of a deceased person or otherwise, such commission or other remuneration out of the estate or trust property, and either periodically or otherwise, as the Court considers just and reasonable.

97—Court may require undertakings from executor or administrator

This clause empowers the Court to require an executor or administrator to give undertakings as to the manner in which the administration of a deceased estate is to be conducted or accounted, or any other matter that, in the opinion of the Court, may assist in the proper administration of a deceased estate.

98—Remedy if executor or administrator fails to perform duties etc

This clause empowers the Court to make orders against an executor or administrator if they fail to perform any duties required of them by law in the administration of a deceased estate, or they fail to comply with an undertaking as to the administration of a deceased estate or fail to comply with any direction of the Court or the Registrar as to the administration of a deceased estate. An order may be made on the application of a person aggrieved by the failure.

The Court may by order require the executor or administrator to pay into the estate of the deceased person an amount equivalent to any financial benefit the executor or administrator has obtained (whether directly or indirectly) as a result of their failure or compensate any person who has suffered loss or damage as a result of their failure (or both) and may make any other order that the Court considers appropriate to compensate persons who have suffered loss or damage as a result of the failure of the executor or administrator.

99—Payment of interest on legacies

This clause requires interest to be paid at the prescribed rate if a legacy of a specified amount under a will is not paid in full to the beneficiary of the legacy on or before the relevant date (the date fixed by the will, for the payment of the legacy or if no date is fixed by the will the first anniversary of the testator's death).

However, payment of interest on a legacy is subject to a contrary intention in the will about whether interest is payable, the time from which interest is payable, or the rate of interest payable. The clause also provides for interest to be paid at the prescribed rate if a legacy payable to a spouse from an intestate estate in accordance with Part 5 is not paid in full on or before the first anniversary of the deceased's death.

100—Payment of money and personal property without grant of probate or administration

This clause provides that a person who holds money or personal property for a deceased person of not more than \$15,000 in value may, without requiring the production of a grant of probate or administration, pay the money or transfer the personal property to a surviving spouse or domestic partner or a child of the deceased.

Part 5—Intestacy

Division 1—Interpretation

101—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in Part 5 and contains other interpretation provisions.

Division 2—Election by spouse or domestic partner to acquire interest in dwelling

102—Election by spouse or domestic partner to acquire interest in dwelling

This clause provides that if the intestate estate of an intestate who is survived by a spouse or domestic partner includes an interest in a dwelling in which the spouse or domestic partner of the intestate was residing at the date of the intestate's death, the spouse or domestic partner may elect to acquire that interest at its value as at the date of the death of the intestate.

If the spouse or domestic partner makes such an election, the amount to which they are entitled out of the intestate estate will be reduced by the value of that interest and if the value of that interest exceeds the amount to which they are entitled out of the intestate estate, they must, on making the election, pay into the intestate estate the difference between that value and the value of their interest in the intestate estate.

103—Restriction on right of spouse or domestic partner to acquire interest in dwelling

This clause requires the approval of the Court for an election to be made under clause 102 if the dwelling forms part of a building and the deceased's estate includes an interest in the whole of the building, or the dwelling forms part of a registered or registrable interest in land and the deceased estate includes an interest in the whole of that interest and part or all of the land is used for agricultural purposes, or if the dwelling forms part of a building used as a hotel, motel, boarding house or hostel at the date of the intestate's death.

The Court may not give approval unless satisfied that the acquisition of the interest in the dwelling by the spouse or domestic partner of the intestate is not likely to substantially diminish the value of the assets in the estate of the intestate or make the disposal of the assets of the intestate estate substantially more difficult.

104—Restriction on right of administrator to sell interest in dwelling

This clause prohibits an administrator from disposing of an interest in a dwelling in which the spouse or domestic partner of the intestate was residing at the time of the intestate's death unless the period for the making of an election under clause 102 has expired and no election has been made, or the dwelling has ceased to be the ordinary place of residence of the spouse or domestic partner. If an application is made to the Court for its approval to make an election, the administrator must not dispose of the interest in the dwelling pending determination of the application.

A spouse or domestic partner of an intestate may continue to reside in a dwelling in relation to which the spouse or domestic partner may make an election under clause 102 until the period within which the spouse or domestic partner may make an election has expired or if a person has by virtue of a mortgage or charge the right to enter into possession of the dwelling or to dispose of the interest—until that right is exercised (whichever occurs first).

Division 3—Rules governing distribution of intestate estates

105—General rules as to distribution of intestate estate

This clause sets out general rules as to the distribution of an intestate estate to the spouse or domestic partner of the deceased, children of the deceased and other relatives. If the intestate is not survived by any relatives the intestate estate vests in the Crown.

The clause provides for the spouse or domestic partner of an intestate to receive a preferential legacy if the deceased is survived by the spouse or domestic partner and by children and the estate is worth more than the preferential legacy, which is \$120,000 if the entitlement arises during the financial year in which this clause comes into operation, or if the entitlement arises during a financial year commencing after the commencement of this clause—\$120,000 or, if the Minister has, by notice in the Gazette, determined a higher amount to be the preferential legacy applying during that financial year, that higher amount.

However, if a spouse or domestic partner is entitled to a preferential legacy and to 1 or more statutory legacies, the preferential legacy is an amount equal to the highest amount fixed by way of statutory legacy under the laws of other States or Territories under which the spouse or domestic partner is entitled to a statutory legacy subject to the following qualifications:

- (1) amounts received by the spouse or domestic partner by way of statutory legacy under any of those laws are taken to have been paid towards satisfaction of the preferential legacy of the spouse or domestic partner, and
- (2) if any of those laws contain no provision corresponding to (1), no amount is payable by way of preferential legacy until the entitlements of the spouse or domestic partner under those laws are satisfied, or the spouse or domestic partner renounces their entitlements to payment, or further payment, by way of statutory legacy under those laws.

106—Division of estate if intestate is survived by spouse or domestic partner, or both

This clause sets out the entitlements of a spouse or domestic partner to the personal goods of the deceased and entitlements where a deceased person is survived by both a spouse and a domestic partner. If there is a dispute between the spouse and domestic partner as to the division of personal goods between them, the administrator may sell the goods and divide the proceeds between the spouse and domestic partner equally.

The Court may, on application by the surviving spouse or domestic partner of an intestate, make an order that the estate of the intestate be distributed between the spouse and domestic partner of the intestate in such shares as it considers just and equitable. However, if the Court considers it just and equitable to do so, the Court may make an order allocating the whole of the estate to either the surviving spouse or the domestic partner to the exclusion of the other.

107—Spouse or domestic partner not entitled to intestate estate in certain cases

This clause provides that a spouse or domestic partner of an intestate has no entitlement to any part of the intestate's estate if, immediately before the death of the intestate, an agreement or order of a prescribed kind relating to the interests in property as between the spouse or domestic partner and the intestate was in force.

108—Distribution among children and grandchildren of intestate

This clause sets out rules governing the distribution of an intestate estate, or part of an intestate estate, among the children and grandchildren of the deceased.

109—Distribution among relatives of intestate

This clause sets out rules governing the distribution of an intestate estate among the relatives, or the children of the relatives, of the deceased. The term *relative* is defined in clause 101 to mean a relative of the first, second, third or fourth degree. A relative of a first degree is a parent of the deceased, a relative of the second degree is a sibling of the deceased, a relative of the third degree is a grandparent of the deceased, and a relative of the fourth degree is a sibling of a parent of the deceased.

110—Intestate estate passes to Crown if no surviving beneficiaries

This clause provides that if an intestate is not survived by any person entitled to the intestate estate under this Part, the Crown is entitled to the whole of the intestate estate. However, the Minister may, on application for a waiver of the Crown's rights, waive the Crown's rights in whole or in part in favour of:

- dependants of the intestate; or
- any persons who have, in the Minister's opinion, a just or moral claim on the intestate; or
- any person or organisation for whom the intestate might reasonably be expected to have made provision; or
- the trustees for any person or organisation mentioned in a preceding paragraph; or
- any other person or organisation.

Division 4—Distribution of intestate estates according to Court approved agreements

111—Court may approve distribution of intestate estate in accordance with agreement

This clause empowers the Court to order that an intestate estate, or part of an intestate estate, be distributed in accordance with the terms of an agreement approved by the Court. An application for such an order may be made by the administrator. The Court may make such an order if all persons entitled to share in the distribution of the intestate estate, or part of the intestate estate, under Division 3 are parties to the agreement and have been given notice of the application under this clause in accordance with the Rules of Court and the Court is satisfied that the terms of the agreement are, in all the circumstances, just.

Division 5—Miscellaneous

112—Value of intestate estate

This clause provides that the value of an intestate estate is to be calculated by deducting from the gross value of the estate the debts and liabilities of the deceased, funeral and testamentary expenses and the costs of administering the estate, and if the deceased is survived by a spouse or domestic partner, the value of the deceased's personal goods.

113—This Part not to affect operation of Part 6

This clause provides that Part 5 does not affect the operation of Part 6 in relation to an intestate estate.

Part 6—Family provision

114—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in this Part.

115—Persons entitled to claim under this Part

This clause sets out the classes of relatives of the deceased entitled to claim the benefit of this Part, namely, the spouse, the domestic partner, a former spouse, a former domestic partner, a child, a step-child, a grandchild, a parent and a sibling. However, the entitlements are not absolute.

A former spouse or domestic partner of the deceased is only entitled to claim if they satisfy the Court that—

- (a) they were, immediately before the death of the deceased, legally entitled to receive maintenance from the deceased; or
- (b) they were not, immediately before the death of the deceased, a party to a financial agreement or property settlement of a kind prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this clause.

A step-child of the deceased is only entitled to claim if they satisfy the Court that—

- (a) they are disabled and significantly vulnerable by reason of their disability; or
- (b) they were dependent on the deceased at the time of the deceased's death; or
- (c) they cared for, or contributed to the maintenance of, the deceased person immediately before the person's death; or
- (d) they substantially contributed to the estate of the deceased person; or
- (e) assets accumulated by the step-child's natural parent substantially contributed to the estate of the deceased person.

A step-child of the deceased who is a minor is also entitled to claim if they satisfy the Court that they were maintained wholly or partly, or were legally entitled to be maintained wholly or partly, by the deceased person immediately before the person's death.

A grandchild of the deceased is only entitled to claim if they satisfy the Court that the grandchild's parents died before the deceased person or the grandchild was maintained wholly or partly, or was legally entitled to be maintained wholly or partly, by the deceased person immediately before the deceased's death.

A parent of the deceased is only entitled to claim if they satisfy the Court that—

- (a) in the case of a deceased person who died in a residential facility—the parent cared for, or contributed to the maintenance of, the deceased person immediately before the person entered a residential facility; or
- (b) in any other case—the parent cared for, or contributed to the maintenance of, the deceased person immediately before the person's death.

A sibling of the deceased is only entitled to claim if they satisfy the Court that—

- (a) in the case of a deceased person who died in a residential facility—the sibling cared for, or contributed to the maintenance of, the deceased person immediately before the person entered the residential facility; or
- (b) in any other case—the sibling cared for, or contributed to the maintenance of, the deceased person immediately before the person's death.

116—Persons entitled may obtain order for maintenance etc out of estate of deceased person

This clause provides that, subject to this Part, if—

- (a) a person has died domiciled in this State or owning real or personal property in this State; and
- (b) by reason of the person's testamentary dispositions, or the operation of Part 5, or both, a person entitled to claim the benefit of this Part is left without adequate provision for their proper maintenance, education or advancement in life, the Court may, in its discretion, on application by or on behalf of a person so entitled, make an order (a *family provision order*) that such provision as the Court thinks fit be made out of the estate of the deceased person for the maintenance, education or advancement of the person so entitled.

In determining whether to make a family provision order, the wishes of the deceased person is the primary consideration of the Court. The Court must have regard to—

- (a) any evidence of the deceased's reasons for making the dispositions in the deceased's will (if any); and
- (b) the applicant's vulnerability and dependence on the deceased; and
- (c) the applicant's contribution to the estate of the deceased person; and
- (d) the character and conduct of the applicant.

The Court may have regard to any other matter that the Court considers relevant.

In determining whether to make a family provision order, and the amount that a claimant should receive if a family provision order is made, the Court must take into account any government welfare payments that the claimant receives, or may be entitled to receive, and whether the making of a family provision order could worsen the claimant's financial position.

The Court may refuse to make a family provision order in favour of any person on the ground that the person's character or conduct is such as, in the opinion of the Court, to disentitle the person to the benefit of this Part, or for any other reason that the Court thinks sufficient.

117—Power to require security for costs

This clause empowers the Court to order a party to proceedings under this Part to give security for the payment of costs that may be awarded against the party if it appears to the Court that the party's claim for provision may be without merit or the party is unwilling to negotiate a settlement of a claim for provision.

118—Time within which application must be made

This clause provides that an application for a family provision order must be made within 6 months after the grant of probate or administration, but the Court may extend the time for making an application.

119—Provisions relating to family provision orders

This clause makes various provisions with respect to family provision orders, including the power of the Court to alter or rescind such orders.

120—Order to operate as will or codicil

This clause provides that, subject to this measure, every provision made by a family provision order will operate and take effect as if it had been made—

- (a) if the deceased person died leaving a will—by a codicil to that will executed immediately before the person's death; or
- (b) if the deceased person died intestate—by a will executed immediately before the person's death.

121—Court may fix periodic payment or lump sum

This clause provides that the Court may at any time fix a periodic payment, or lump sum, or a periodic payment and a lump sum, to be paid by any person, to represent, or in commutation of, the proportion of the sum ordered to be paid that falls on the portion of the estate to which the person is entitled, and to exonerate that portion of the estate from further liability. The Court may give incidental directions as to the payment or investment of the lump sum or the manner in which the periodic payments are to be made or secured.

122—Court may vary or discharge order

This clause provides that if the Court has ordered periodic payments, or has ordered a lump sum to be invested for the benefit of any person, the Court may inquire whether at any subsequent date the party benefitted by the order has otherwise become possessed of, or entitled to, provision for the person's proper maintenance, education and advancement, and into the adequacy of that provision, and may discharge, vary, or suspend the order, or make such other order as the Court considers just in the circumstances.

123—Mortgage or assignment of provision invalid

This clause provides that no mortgage, charge or assignment of any kind whatever of or over the provision made by an order under this Part will, unless made with the prior permission of the Court, be of any force, validity or effect.

124—Liability of administrator after distribution of estate

This clause provides that an administrator of the estate of a deceased person who has lawfully distributed the estate or any part of the estate is not liable to account for that estate or that part of the estate (as the case may be) to any person claiming the benefit of this Part, unless the administrator had notice of the claim at the time of the distribution.

Part 7—Miscellaneous

125—Person disqualified from taking interest or share in deceased estate to be treated as having predeceased testator or intestate

This clause provides that if a person is for any reason disqualified from taking their share under a will as a beneficiary or taking their share in the distribution of an intestate estate, they will be treated as having predeceased the testator or intestate (unless a contrary intention appears in the will).

126—Presumption of survivorship

This clause provides that if 2 or more persons have died in circumstances rendering it uncertain which of them survived the other or others, such deaths will, for all purposes affecting title to property, be taken to have occurred in order of seniority, and accordingly the younger person will be taken to have survived the elder person for a period of 1 day.

127—Devolution of jointly-owned property in case of simultaneous deaths

This clause provides that if property is owned jointly and exclusively by 2 or more persons (other than as trustees) and all of the owners of the property die at the same time or in an order that is uncertain, the property devolves as if the joint owners had, at the time of their deaths, held the property as tenants in common in equal shares.

128—Safe custody of wills and other documents

This clause provides that the Governor may, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice, by notice in the Gazette, appoint places for the safe custody, under the control of the Court, of—

- (a) wills deposited with the Registrar under this measure; and
- (b) wills brought into the Court for any purpose; and
- (c) wills of which probate has been granted; and
- (d) wills in relation to which administration (with the will annexed) has been granted; and
- (e) such other documents as the Court may direct.

129—Office copies of wills or probate or administration may be obtained

This clause provides that a person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, obtain an office copy of the whole or part of a will or of any grant of probate or administration.

130—Probate to be evidence of wills concerning real property

This clause provides that the probate of a will or letters of administration with the will annexed is evidence of the due execution of the will on all questions concerning real and personal property (and the copy attached or annexed to the probate or letters of administration, purporting to be a copy of the will, is evidence of the contents of the will). The probate of a will or letters of administration is evidence of the death, and of the date of the death, of the testator or intestate.

131—Will not to be registered or admissible as evidence until proved

This clause provides that a will of a person cannot be registered or be admissible in evidence, except in criminal proceedings or on application for probate or letters of administration, until administration in respect of the estate comprised in the application for probate or letters of administration has been granted.

132—Inspection of documents in Land Titles Registration Office or General Registry Office

This clause provides that if the inspection of a deed or other document in the Land Titles Registration Office or the General Registry Office is required by the Registrar for the purposes of this measure, the Registrar-General must produce the deed or document to the Registrar or a person appointed by the Registrar to make the inspection.

133—Power of Public Trustee to move for attachment of administrator

This clause empowers the Public Trustee to institute proceedings for the attachment of an administrator if in the Public Trustee's opinion grounds exist for the attachment of an administrator and it is necessary or desirable for the purpose of protecting the interests of any person that proceedings for the attachment of the administrator be instituted.

134—Restrictions on exercise of rights of retainer and preference

This clause provides that an executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased person must not exercise a right of retainer or preference unless the executor or administrator has reasonable cause to believe, and does believe, that the assets of the estate are sufficient to satisfy its liabilities.

If a right of retainer or preference is exercised in contravention of this clause, the Court may set aside any payment of money or disposition of property that has been made in such contravention and may make any other order that may be just in the circumstances. However, this clause does not prevent an executor or administrator from exercising a right to retain assets from the estate of a deceased person if the extent to which the executor or administrator exercises that right is not such as to confer on the executor or administrator a preference over other creditors of the estate.

135—Delegation

This clause allows the Minister to delegate functions and powers of the Minister under the measure.

136—Person making false oath commits perjury

This clause provides that a person who knowingly and wilfully makes a false oath or declaration under this measure or the Rules of Court is guilty of perjury.

137—Applications to Court

This clause requires applications to the Court to be made in accordance with the Rules of Court.

138—Rules of Court

This clause empowers the Court, or any 1 or more Judges of the Court, to make Rules of Court.

139—Regulations and fee notices

This clause empowers the Governor to make regulations and empowers the Minister to prescribe fees by fees notice under the *Legislation (Fees) Act 2019*.

Schedule 1—Annex to Convention providing a Uniform Law on the Form of an International Will 1973

This clause sets out the text of the Annex to the Convention providing a Uniform Law on the Form of an International Will 1973.

Schedule 2—Related amendments Part 1—Preliminary

1—Amendment provisions

This clause is formal.

Part 2—Amendment of Aged and Infirm Persons' Property Act 1940

2—Amendment of section 11—Variation or rescission of protection order

This clause amends section 11 to update a cross-reference.

3—Amendment of section 31—Expenses and remuneration of manager

This clause amends section 31 to update a cross-reference.

Part 3—Amendment of Guardianship and Administration Act 1993

4—Substitution of heading to Part 4 Division 3

This clause substitutes the heading to Part 4 Division 3.

5—Insertion of Part 4 Division 3A

This clause inserts new Division 3A in Part 4.

Division 3A—Administration orders (missing persons)

48A—Administration orders (missing persons)

Proposed section 48A empowers the Court to appoint 1 or more administrators of the estate of a person if—

- (a) the person is a missing person; and
- (b) it is not known whether the person is alive; and
- (c) all reasonable efforts have been made to locate the person; and
- (d) persons residing at the place where the person was last known to reside, or relatives or friends, with whom the person would be likely to communicate, have not heard from, or of, the person for at least 90 days; and
- (e) it is in the best interests of the missing person to make an administration order.

The Court must not appoint a person as an administrator of a missing person's estate unless satisfied that the person is fit and proper to act as administrator, the person is competent to administer the missing person's estate, and the appointment would not give rise to a conflict of interest.

An administration order authorises the administrator to take such action as may be necessary or desirable for the payment of the missing person's debts, the maintenance and benefit of dependants of the missing person and the care and maintenance of property of the missing person.

An application for an administration order may be made by the missing person's spouse or domestic partner, by a relative, by another person who has an interest in the missing person's estate, or by the Public Trustee.

Part 4—Amendment of Law of Property Act 1936

6—Amendment of section 114—Power of Court to sell interest of Crown in real estate

This clause deletes subsection (3) from section 114 which is made redundant by this measure.

7—Repeal of section 115

This clause deletes section 115 which is made redundant by clause 110 of this measure.

Part 5—Amendment of Public Trustee Act 1995

8—Substitution of section 52

This clause substitutes a new section.

52—Deposit of certain wills and other documents with Public Trustee

Substituted section 52 provides that the following documents made be deposited for safe custody with the Public Trustee:

- (a) a will of which the Public Trustee is appointed the executor or 1 of the executors;
- (b) a will prepared by a legal practitioner who has died or has ceased, or is about to cease, the practice of the law in South Australia;
- (c) a will held by a legal practitioner or legal practice that was executed by a testator who cannot be located; or
- (d) a settlement, declaration of trust or other instrument by 30 which a trust is declared or created concerning property of any kind where the Public Trustee is appointed the trustee or 1 of the trustees; or
- (e) any other document prepared by the Public Trustee.

The Public Trustee must keep a register of wills deposited with the Public Trustee and no fee is payable for depositing a will, but a person may be charged a fee for searching for a will, recovery of a will or delivery of a will. The Public Trustee may destroy a will deposited with the Public Trustee if the testator has died and a reasonable period has elapsed during which a person might be expected to have sought access to the will.

9—Substitution of section 55

This clause substitutes a new section.

55—Regulations and fee notices

Substituted section 55 empowers the Governor to make regulations and empowers the Minister to prescribe fees by fees notice under the *Legislation (Fees) Act 2019*

Part 6—Amendment of Supreme Court Act 1935

10—Substitution of section 18

This clause substitutes section 18.

18—Testamentary jurisdiction

Substituted section 18 restates the Supreme Court's testamentary jurisdiction in modern language.

Part 7—Amendment of *Trustee Act 1936*

11—Amendment of section 91—Advice and directions of court and commission

This clause amends section 91 to update cross-references to legislation.

Schedule 3—Repeals and revocations

1—Repeal of Administration and Probate Act 1919

2—Repeal of Inheritance (Family Provision) Act 1972

3—Repeal of Wills Act 1936

4—Revocation of Administration and Probate Regulations 2009

These clauses are self-explanatory.

Schedule 4—Savings and transitional provisions

This Schedule allows proceedings commenced in the Supreme Court under an Act repealed by Schedule 3 that have not been finally determined before the designated day to be continued and completed under that Act as if this measure had not been enacted.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2021*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 22 June 2021.)

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (16:35): I am very pleased to speak on this bill in regard to the 2021-22 state budget. It is a strong budget, it will certainly create jobs, it will result in better services and we as a government will continue to build what matters. It is also a budget that builds on the investments we have been making now for several years. I would like to highlight some of the initiatives in the budget in my respective portfolio areas.

First, I would like to begin with SAPOL. Today, I was at the Police Academy, and I want to congratulate the most recent graduates and wish them well in their future roles as police officers in an array of fields. We know how hard South Australia Police have been working right throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, but we know how crucial it is that we continue to provide them with the tools they need to keep South Australians safe, to continue to respond to the pandemic and also to carry out their regular policing duties.

This state budget allocates an additional \$23.6 million not only to extend the employment of 54 protective security officers engaged in 2021 but also to recruit and train an additional 114 PSOs. So, sir, if you know any good people who are looking for a challenging and vital role, SAPOL are currently recruiting. The additional PSOs will be deployed to things like medi-hotels and also undertake a range of other COVID duties as they are required.

With more than \$71 million announced in last year's budget and a further \$77.5 million included in this year's budget, the government allocation will have provided an extra \$98.9 million to support SAPOL's COVID-19 response. The government is investing over \$21.1 million over three years to also complete the implementation of stages 3 and 4 of the Shield project to deliver greater collaboration and also data sharing capabilities, which are essential in this day and age. This will result in a more efficient use of policing resources and also ultimately improved community safety.

In the emergency services space, we are building on our \$97.5 million investment in last year's budget to respond to the Independent Review into South Australia's 2019-20 Bushfire Season. We are continuing to ensure that our emergency services have what they need to keep us safe and strong. We are investing \$1½ million in 2021-22 and \$1.8 million per annum thereafter for the ongoing support and maintenance of automatic vehicle location (AVL) for our emergency services, which is obviously a vital tool for our emergency services going forward. We know that our emergency services personnel have been calling out for AVL technology for years and years, and I am very proud that our government will be delivering that for our emergency services.

Our volunteers are the backbone of our emergency services, and the Marshall Liberal government is committed to doing all we can to recruit and retain emergency services volunteers. That is why we are investing \$4.4 million in our SES to implement a new program, called New Pathways: Volunteering Recruitment and Retention. This will go a long way to assisting our 67 SES units to respond to thousands of callouts right across the state each and every year. This will go a long way to increasing volunteer numbers. There are approximately 1,700 SES volunteers, but hopefully it will increase our volunteer numbers and also improve their experience in the SES, so this is very important.

We are also investing \$100,000 to undertake planning and design work for a future joint CFS and SES incident management facility, CFS regional headquarters and also an SES unit at Willaston. Obviously, as the growth of the state leads to certain areas requiring more attention, we will continue to look at that with our emergency services. This has been a part of the state that has been identified for such works to be done. Such a facility would potentially service the Mid North, Yorke Peninsula, northern Mount Lofty Ranges, Barossa and Adelaide Plains, as well as the outer northern suburbs. It is much needed and we look forward to seeing that work.

To meet the increased demand for development assessments in bushfire risk areas, we are also providing an extra \$146,000 per annum for the CFS to assess and process development applications as quickly as possible. Of course, we continue to provide the MFS with over \$155,000 per annum until 2023-24 to support continuing the audit of buildings that may contain things like combustible cladding as well.

From a Department for Correctional Services point of view—and obviously we have an exceptional Correctional Services area—we are investing \$4 million over the forward estimates to expand what is a very sophisticated offender tracking program. This will be done with an extra 100 electronic monitoring devices. These will monitor low-risk offenders re-entering the community.

I had the great privilege recently of attending one of our local offices at Edwardstown, where I was able to see what our Correctional Services staff do to monitor some of these offenders. I was absolutely blown away, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all our staff in our Correctional Services area for the great work that they do in monitoring these offenders and keeping our community safe.

A further \$1½ million will be allocated to develop a full business case for a new rehabilitation prison. Rehabilitation is very important. If you can rehabilitate a prisoner—if you can help turn their life around, if you can get them back on track, back on the straight and narrow, if you can get them where they are able to be reformed, to be better people with better skills, they can go out and get a job, provide for their family, have dignity and have purpose—ultimately there is a massive benefit to society not only for themselves and for their families but also for the economy. We should be doing everything we can wherever reasonably possible to rehabilitate people.

A further \$1½ million will be allocated to develop a full business case for a new rehabilitation prison, and that has been identified as a priority by Infrastructure SA in its 20-year strategic infrastructure plan. The government will also be providing \$2.4 million per annum from 2021-22 to bolster strategies to reduce the rate of Aboriginal reoffending and over-representation in our criminal justice system. We have a number of exceptional programs in our prison system that go towards reducing the rate of Aboriginal incarceration and Aboriginal offending, but we always have to be doing more. This is an exceptional measure that I know will help to reduce the rate of Aboriginal reoffending and over-representation in the criminal justice system.

We are also investing a further \$14.4 million towards the huge upgrade of Yatala Labour Prison. This takes our investment in the upgrade to more than \$160 million. I know my predecessor worked very hard on this upgrade at Yatala Labour Prison, and we are continuing to invest in that site. I am also pleased to provide some key updates that show the significant impact our investment is having on the ground. The upgrade is actually delivering 270 new beds, new visitor and admission centres and also new kitchen facilities.

We have had over 3,000 cubic metres of concrete installed across a 9,000 square metre area, 60,000 tonnes of rubble have been applied, and over 448 precast panels installed. Importantly, so far around 150 tradespeople and also site supervisors have been on site most days, and that has contributed to over 100,000 work hours. Our continuing investment in South Australia's prisons does not stop there. We are investing a further \$8 million for the new reception and visitor centre project at the Adelaide Women's Prison, as well as \$1.9 million in targeted security upgrades at the Adelaide Remand Centre to strengthen and bolster that centre as well.

On a local note, I am very excited to see \$84.4 million included in the budget for the construction of a new 1,200-place high school at the Norwood Morialta High School campus site in Rostrevor—just down the road from Rostrevor College, in fact. It is no secret that people in my electorate and surrounding suburbs have been calling for a new school there for years and years.

What did the former government do? They had a secret plan to sell the site, but that will not happen under our government. The former government time and time again ignored the need to make hard decisions on this site, but I am proud to be part of a government that has listened to the community, that has looked at where the demand is needed and that will be meeting that demand with a brand-new school. This new site will deliver positive results, and continue to build what matters for the people of our state and for our local community.

Of course, the new high school is in addition to our massive upgrades of existing local schools. For example, down the road, if we go to Charles Campbell College we see an over \$10 million upgrade of that particular school, delivering an upgraded senior school building with flexible science, technology, engineering, arts and maths learning centres, a refurbished performing arts centre, six upgraded general learning areas in the junior school, and the demolition of ageing infrastructure.

I was delighted to go out there on a number of occasions recently with the Minister for Education to inspect the site. There is a whole lot of excitement from the students, the parents, the teachers and future families who will be involved in that school. It is absolutely outstanding.

Then, of course, there is our over \$50 million upgrade of the Norwood Morialta High School Magill campus, which will increase the capacity of The Parade, Magill, campus to 1,700 students. This will effectively allow all year levels to be on the same site. That upgrade is taking shape, sir; you should see the way it is coming along. It is moving at a rate of knots.

The upgrade there will also deliver a three-storey middle school building with a rooftop play space—how good is that? It will also have a two-storey building for the school's technical and specialist precinct, there will be refurbishment and extension of the gym (which is long needed), and a new façade entry statement. You can see that taking place as we speak as you drive down The Parade, so if you are in that neck of the woods have a look at that. It is coming together very, very well.

Of course, there is also improved landscaping, car parks and also sports courts. That is a school that from time to time allows other groups to use its facilities. I can remember a time when I was actually called down there to a local judo club, but a number of other schools use the oval there for cricket and football as well, amongst other things. Through our huge investment, our government is delivering local jobs, better services, and building what matters for South Australians, and I am delighted to give those particular updates.

When I look at the budget on the whole, it is great to see an improved economic outlook that has resulted in upwards revisions to GST and state taxation revenues over the forward estimates. It is notable that the GST revenue grants over the four years from 2021 to 2023-24 are expected to be \$2.5 billion higher than estimated in the 2020-21 state budget. I think that shows how well the state has done and how well the country has done. I feel very privileged to do what I can in our government to support South Australia Police and the role they have played in ensuring that we have kept our state safe and, in turn, kept our economy strong as well.

Our net debt is, of course, at a sustainable level, but now is the time to borrow—at record low interest rates—for good productive infrastructure.

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: I certainly was not. Our net debt to revenue ratio rises to 129.6 per cent in 2024-25 but again, when you look at that and how it compares with other jurisdictions around Australia and around the world, I think we are travelling pretty well. If you look at where New South Wales is heading and where Victoria is heading, our net debt to revenue ratios are at a good level in this climate. Of course, now is the time to borrow at record low interest rate levels and do it for the right reasons.

The economy has recovered much more strongly than expected. Of course, there were some economic commentators who, 12 months or 18 months ago, had forecast diabolical consequences because of COVID and the way it would wreak havoc through our state and the country. But the economy has recovered very well, much more strongly than expected, and I think that reflects a number of things.

Firstly, people in this state have done exceptionally well and our government has done a good job as well in making sure that we keep South Australians safe and our economy strong. It also reflects I think very positive and productive stimulus spending as well as increased confidence. If you look at GSP growth for the next year, it accelerates to 3½ per cent. If you look at some of the economies around Australia and around the world, they certainly will not be doing that. I am very pleased to see how resilient our economy has been and I am sure there is only going to be more growth in the future as we rebound and come out of this period and see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Employment in South Australia recovered swiftly after May 2020. In fact, over 60,000 jobs have been created since May 2020, and there has been significant employment growth in April and May 2021, bringing employment to our highest level on record. It is also good to see that employment is forecast to grow by 1 per cent in 2021 and then 2 per cent in 2021-22. Of course, we would like to see that grow better but, again, when you put it into context as to how it could have been, we have done very well here.

A big priority in this budget is on jobs, on health—especially mental health—and of course on education, especially in the early learning environment. Our Economic and Business Growth Fund has been called the Jobs and Economic Growth Fund. There is \$200 million of funding available,

and the funding continues to support jobs and economic development in the state. The growth fund is available to support initiatives that create long-term sustainable jobs and economic growth in new and existing industries in the state. It is available to provide support for modern manufacturing proposals and other industry development assistance in key sectors—for example, plant protein, space, defence and hydrogen, which has emerged as an area of future growth.

The \$4 billion stimulus package has been received very well, and we are also making sure that we provide lower costs for South Australian businesses. If we can do that then businesses have a better chance of continuing their good work during what has been quite a challenging time and, of course, we want them to grow, we want them to put on more people and we want them to put on apprentices and trainees if they are able to as well. We are still continuing our good work in the jobs and skills area and, amongst other things, we see \$69 million over two years for the extension of the existing JobTrainer fund, which is a national partnership agreement with the commonwealth, until June 2022.

A key pillar of the budget is the \$163.5 million mental health package. I think that has been exceptionally well received already, as I talk to people. I particularly want to pay tribute to the good work that the Minister for Health is doing in regard to the Modbury Hospital. I know that it is especially well received by the member for Newland and the member for King and also by all of us who share a constituency in the inner north-east and outer north-east of our state because it is a vital hospital. Recently, I was able to tour that and see the great work the government is doing.

In the remaining time I have, I also want to pay tribute to our government plan to fix ramping and ease pressure in our hospitals. I know our four-point plan will go a long way to fixing ramping and also easing pressure in our hospitals. I commend the bill to the house.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (16:55): I rise to speak to the Appropriation Bill in regard to the 2021-22 budget. This is a budget that is focused on creating jobs, providing better services and building what matters. This budget includes a range of measures that support local jobs and longer term economic growth. They include additional funding for the Jobs and Economic Growth Fund, formerly the Economic and Business Growth Fund, bringing the capacity of the fund to \$200 million over the next four years, and extending the payroll tax exemption for apprentices and trainees for a further 12 months.

Both these economic positions are fantastic for generating business in our economy, especially with the extra 12 months for apprentices and trainees. But there is \$200 million in the Jobs and Economic Growth Fund that will range across areas like defence and agriculture and other areas to really boost business in this state, investing further funding in skills and training and providing funding for a range of new transport, health, school and other community infrastructure projects.

The budget certainly includes a \$163.5 million package of mental health initiatives. These initiatives put extra beds in place. They will help clear up the ramping and will be a great service for those in our community who do need these mental health services. There is also a \$50.1 million Early Learning Strategy supporting developmentally vulnerable children by increasing the reach and frequency of early childhood development health checks.

I certainly remember the Blue Book that you get when your kids are born that progresses the health checks, vaccinations, etc., and it is a great way for everyone to keep track of how their children are going. These measures build on the government's \$4 billion state stimulus package that was announced in the 2020-21 budget.

In regard to building what matters, the funding has increased by \$1.2 billion from \$16.7 billion to \$17.9 billion, and this is over the next four years on critical infrastructure across government, continuing the government's record program of infrastructure renewal. I would like to acknowledge some of the projects that we have done recently, including the Browns Well Highway and the Ngarkat Highway.

They are both great routes throughout the edge of the Mallee near the Victorian border, ranging from Loxton through to Bordertown. The work is just about completed on the Ngarkat Highway. I know that the Browns Well Highway has been put up to 110 km/h, which was a promise at the last election, and I am really proud as one of the local members alongside the member for Chaffey and the member for MacKillop that these projects were delivered as part of our eight roads

promise to get these roads back to 110 km/h. I know that the locals are very pleased that this was put in place.

There is also \$8 billion for roads and public transport as part of this \$17.9 billion and \$2 billion for health—massive projects going into health. Education and schools have \$665 million. One of my schools, the Murray Bridge High School and the transition to year 7, has \$20 million being spent there at the minute, and it is absolutely fantastic. The Sarah contemporary architecturally designed 16 classrooms on the second level have a huge amphitheatre underneath. It is a phenomenal thing to behold and will really take education into the future in the Murray Bridge region.

The north-south corridor has increased funding by \$1 billion, to \$9.9 billion. The extra \$1 billion dollars is to increase the lane width from two lanes to three lanes because it is a little bit difficult to come back with a tunnelling machine. I certainly support this initiative to really increase that throughput. We are doing the hard bit of that north-south connector, and we will get on with that job and it will have the appropriate tunnels and surface works in place.

The new Women's and Children's Hospital has \$1.95 billion to provide services for women and children well into the future. That is programmed to be finished and 2027, notwithstanding the fact that we are investing \$50 million to keep the current Women's and Children's Hospital going until we get to that date. The Riverbank arena, with \$662 million, will host and hold 15,000, and that will complement our convention and conference facilities across North Terrace and be available for so many events and increase our convention holding capacity. It will be another great economic stimulus going into the future.

We also have the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre, with \$200 million. Another project is the \$10 million for a business case for the Greater Adelaide freight bypass to divert trucks from the South Eastern Freeway to the north-south freight route via Sturt Highway. I think that is a great thing to be doing. That sits alongside \$202 million for the Truro bypass. I think that is much-needed infrastructure, and I know that member for Chaffey would drive through Truro—well, how many times a year?

An honourable member: A lot.

Mr PEDERICK: A lot. Because of the nature of the beast, thankfully we are lucky to get B-triples, B-quads, road trains and AB-doubles all out of Port Adelaide, essentially, run them around the connectors and the expressways and take them out the Sturt Highway. They can either head to the Riverland or get to the Halfway House corner near Sedan and come down my way, towards Mannum and Murray Bridge. As I have mentioned in this place before, it is a great thing that, almost by default, we are getting massive tonnages, thousands of tonnes of freight, not having to go down the freeway because nothing bigger than a B-double can come down the freeway. That is happening by default. I am going to talk about this project a bit more later on.

The old Murray Bridge, at Murray Bridge of course, has \$36 million over two years. This is the signature infrastructure spend in my electorate. Obviously, it links both the east and west side of Murray Bridge within the township. It is fully state-funded works, which will include rectification of piers, drainage and lighting improvements. It sits just under the recently completely rebuilt Bridgeport Hotel.

I have already talked about some of these initiatives: the Economic and Business Growth Fund, the capacity of the fund to \$200 million over the next four years, and the extension of the payroll tax exemption for apprentices and trainees for a further 12 months, which invests further funding in skills and training. As I have already indicated, this budget also provides funding for a range of new transport, health, school and other community infrastructure projects.

We have talked about some of the health funding initiatives, and I note that there is \$28 million more going into the Ambulance Service. There has been a lot of debate about the Ambulance Service. We are putting on 74 more jobs there. We are putting on more doctors, more nurses and midwives and ambulance officers in South Australia than ever before in this state's history. This investment by our government, the Marshall Liberal government, acknowledges the important work of our Ambulance Service and the need to invest in its capacity while also pursuing sensible reforms to rostering and meal break practices that will further support the effectiveness of the service.

That is just part of our program, alongside our money for mental health beds and mental health funding and other programs that we are doing in our four-point plan to address issues in health. Part of that includes upgrades to emergency services right across the city and peri-urban areas, with 140 more treatment bays for emergencies. This will provide a much greater output for our emergency departments into the future, just like the newly developed \$7 million emergency department at the Soldiers' Memorial Hospital in Murray Bridge.

In regard to specific money being spent in my electorate of Hammond, it includes \$36 million to refurbish the Old Murray Bridge and a \$20 million upgrade to Murray Bridge High School, which will be opening up for year 7 in 2022. Another education funding program I am really proud of is a \$3 million replacement of existing learning areas at the Eastern Fleurieu R-12 Langhorne Creek campus.

There is \$5 million towards the Murray Bridge to South East Links business case. This is about looking at the duplication of the Swanport Bridge. As I have said here before, I was stunned when it opened in 1979 and I drove up to it and there was a single lane each way, so let's see if we can rectify that. We will first do the study and then look at the program beyond Tailem Bend, through to the exit to the Mallee Highway, directly adjacent to the motorsport park at Tailem Bend at The Bend, for the dual-lane program there as well. A lot of money will be needed for that in the end because a bridge has to be lifted and made dual lane over the railway, but that is something we will look at.

There is some money going to my local councils, with \$1½ million going towards the Mid Murray Murraylands Road upgrades. We have \$900,000 going to the Coorong District Council for high-risk intersection upgrades and \$850,000 towards the Lameroo pool rejuvenation project. We also have \$540,000 going towards the Swanport Road recycled water pipeline project and \$300,000 towards the Knights Well Road upgrade project.

This budget is a massive investment in infrastructure and services in the state, and I am so proud to see so much investment throughout the state, especially in the electorate of Hammond. As my signature item of infrastructure is the old bridge at Murray Bridge, I am going to go through a bit of history of when the bridge was built and how it came about.

The Old Murray Bridge was built of iron between 1873 and 1879 and is 603.5 metres, or 1,980 feet, in length. It was used by trains for 40 years, and during that time tollgates were installed to control other traffic across the bridge. The bridge became a shared road and rail bridge in 1886 and remained so until 1925, when a separate railway bridge was built adjacent. An article in the *Adelaide Observer* on Saturday 22 March 1879 stated:

The Murray Bridge deserves more than a passing notice, as it is the largest and at the same time the most costly undertaking of its kind that has been yet erected in the Australian Colonies, including New Zealand.

The political history of the bridge extends through several sessions of parliament, starting in 1861 when a committee of the House of Assembly recommended that a suitable bridge could be erected at a cost not exceeding £20,000—what if we could do that again?—the required amount should be included in the estimates for the following session.

The structure had to be specially adapted for the transit of cattle and sheep. The height of the bridge was initially set at 20 feet (or 6.1 metres) above the water, but in carrying out the work it was found necessary to increase it to 30 feet (9.1 metres) in order to be clear of funnels of the river steamers. Superintendent Mr H. Parker arrived from England in June 1874 with his apparatus and commenced the work of placing the remaining piers in position.

To measure the depth, divers were sent through 50 feet (15 metres) of water and 30 feet of river drift, making a total depth below water level of 80 feet (24 metres) under which the divers worked. No. 1 pier was taken down 70 feet (21 metres); No. 2 pier, 92 feet (29 metres); No. 3 pier, 118 feet (36 metres); No. 4 pier, 110 feet (34 metres); and No. 5 pier, 109 feet (33 metres) below the underside of the main girders.

It was a work of some considerable difficulty and danger, and to estimate the cost with the insufficient data at hand was very hazardous. The bridge piers, now increased to five in number, were sunk 30 feet deeper, and raised 10 feet higher to suit the steamers, than the section of the river

sent to England in 1965 indicated. The river spans were five in number, each being 114 feet five inches (34.87 metres) in the clear and constructed on the Warren principle.

They were built by Messrs Kennard Brothers of the Crumlin Works, South Wales, and were a fine example of first-class bridge work. The main girders are connected together laterally by cross girders, which were originally made on the lattice principle, but not being strong enough to sustain the weight of a railway train they were taken to pieces and reconstructed of plate and angle irons. The bridge is floored with Malletts buckle plates, upon which the asphalt and road metal is carried.

The length of the structure over the river is 695 feet (212 metres), the width of roadway being 11 feet (3.4 metres), and of the footways, which are also asphalted, three feet six inches (1.07 metres). The main girders rested on masonry bedstones, which were supported by the cement concrete with which the cast-iron piers are filled, the piers in each instance having been sunk down to the bedrock granite.

They were composed of cast-iron cylinders seven feet in internal diameter, fitted together in segments and bolted in lengths as they were lowered into the river bed and, after being tested with double the weight that they would be ever required to sustain, they were filled up with cement concrete. The great depth below the waterline to which these piers were sunk necessitated a much heavier description of bracing than that sent from England.

The castings for these heavier braces, which were 89 tons in weight, were made by Messrs James Martin and Co. of Gawler and fitted together at the bridge works on a staging lowered into the water and afterwards adjusted and fixed by the divers. As soon as the piers were filled up and the bedstones set, the girders, which had previously been put together on floating stages between the piers, were lowered onto the bedplates by admitting water into the pontoons, which were then removed and moored in the next span, where the operation of building and fixing the girders was carried on until all the spans were completed.

The eastern approach consisted of 23 spans of 60 feet each, making a total length of 1,380 feet (420 metres). The piers consist of cast-iron cylinders on six-foot lengths, socketed together and sunk into the swamp to an average depth of about 60 feet. After being duly tested, they were filled up with concrete and prepared to receive the main girders, which were constructed on the lattice principle and made continuous—that is to say, every three spans represented a length of 179 feet 10 inches (54.81 metres).

The cross girders are constructed of plates and angle irons, and the floor, which was composed of buckle plates, were secured to the cross girders by suitable bearers. The work of erecting the approach occupied about 12 months, the chief difficulty being the transit of the materials, about 2,560 tons, by sea and overland and the sinking of the cylinders. The girders were lifted into position by a Goliath, which was carried on rails throughout the whole length of the swamp.

Certainly, I have travelled over this bridge all my life. The cross bands that are on the western end of the bridge as you come across it were replaced and lifted maybe half a metre higher—I am just going off memory now—because semitrailers would go across the bridge and hook the last one or two. Obviously, they would cause a major problem on the bridge and either destroy the girder, destroy the truck or both. I believe that was done sometime in the seventies.

I just want to take my hat off to the engineering that was done at the time to get this structure, which was opened in 1879, in place. It really goes to show what can be done. I am absolutely thrilled to see this money about to be invested, this \$36 million in keeping the bridge up to speed for at least the next 30 years. I acknowledge the whole budget. I think the borrowing will be fantastic for the state and lead us well into the future in light of COVID-19.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (17:15): I rise to make my contribution to the 2021-22 budget. I would like to commend the Hon. Rob Lucas, the Treasurer of South Australia, for his great work in steering the Treasury coffers through what has been a very trying period of time over 18 months and for where it brings us to with this latest budget.

I think what we have seen is physical restraint while we have seen extensive stimulus measures put in place and what it has meant to South Australia as a leader through this pandemic. This budget has been what I would consider a very sound, solid budget in the trying economic circumstances that we find ourselves in.

I would like to reflect and focus on the regions and what this budget means to the regions. We know that the regions contribute about \$29 billion to the state's economy and more than one-quarter of the total GSP. The communities—29 per cent of the state's population—punch above their weight every year through trying times. Whether it is seasonal challenges, commodity prices or global challenges, the regions continue to rise above.

This budget has included an additional \$875 million in new measures over the forward estimates. Together with the \$1.6 billion in new measures in last year's budget, this brings the total new measures funded to \$2½ billion over the last two years. I think that is outstanding. The headline investment in our roads over the next four years is almost \$800 million—in fact, it is \$786 million. The investment of \$120 million in regional education facilities I think speaks volumes to the fact that this government, the Marshall Liberal government, has been prepared to govern for all of South Australia.

When I came into this place like you, Deputy Speaker, in 2010, long forgotten were the regions of South Australia. We are now seeing some of that balance come back into the budgets and come back into the bottom line of the state's recognition that the regions have long been forgotten. The backlog of road maintenance and the lack of input into our educational institutions are now being recognised. It is great to see that we are seeing significant investment, whether it is maintenance programs, whether it is infrastructure investment or whether it is major projects going into the regions of South Australia. It is much needed to bring them up to standard, to bring them up to scratch and to give them some recognition for the economic contribution they continue to make on an annual basis.

I do want to put a lot of emphasis on what I think has been forgotten over a long period of time, and that is roads and infrastructure. In this latest budget we see a Greater Adelaide freight bypass. We have seen \$10 million go towards completing a business case for it, including the key planning, and the freight bypass will be funded from the business case fund. It will look to give efficiencies coming off the South Eastern Freeway across, in essence, the halfway house road onto the Sturt Highway.

That will then be a part of the puzzle. The other part of the puzzle is the Truro bypass, with \$202 million over three years. It is a long-awaited piece of infrastructure that has been talked about for many years, and finally we have a government that has been prepared to stump up, put the spin to one side, stop talking about this critically important piece of infrastructure and get on with it.

The Truro bypass will be a piece of infrastructure that will give road safety a significant shot in the arm and bring about heavy vehicle efficiency gains. We know that it is a federal highway and it sees significant truck movements coming from the eastern seaboard through the Riverland down to Adelaide, whether it is into the Port or into Adelaide's distribution network.

It is critically important that we embrace this. If we are going to divert extra vehicles off the South Eastern Freeway, we have to make sure that the Sturt Highway is facilitated with an upgrade. I would like to think that the business case warrants dual lanes both ways so that we can have safe passage as well as that efficiency. It is something that will be applauded from the rafters, and no less than by me.

As the member for Hammond said, I traverse the Sturt Highway regularly and do a considerable number of kilometres around the great electorate of Chaffey, and to hear the Truro bypass is being put on the drawing board—it is funded—is absolute music to my ears, as it would be to every heavy vehicle operator in the state who uses the Sturt Highway.

Of course, there are other initiatives being put in place. We have talked about reinstating the speed limit back on some of our highways, and that is no more important than on the Browns Well Highway. That road was left to rack and ruin. The shoulders disappeared and there were drop-offs of up to 150 to 200 millimetres in some instances on some of those corners. It has become a major freight route coming out of the eastern seaboard, coming away from Pinnaroo.

We have seen the cessation of two rail lines from both Pinnaroo to Taillem Bend, and from Tookayerta or Loxton to Taillem Bend, and that means all that freight is now on the roads. We see that freight travelling down a road that was built for Bedford eight-tonne trucks and we have had 63-tonne trucks and more—we have B-triples, A-trains and road trains—coming down those roads.

We have now seen that road upgraded with safety barriers, shoulders and line marking. It is an outstanding upgrade to a road that has been long neglected.

The speed limit has been put back up to 110 km/h. I was there to help remove that last 100 km/h sign and make sure it was put where it belongs, and that is not on the post but in the bin because we now have the 110 km/h limit reinstated, which is great news.

I want to talk about some of the other initiatives in the budget that particularly affect the electorate of Chaffey. Being one of the premium food bowls of the state, fruit fly has really put the pressure on biosecurity measures, particularly in those horticulture industries. We now have the \$34.5 million from 2020-21 to 2022-23 and it is not just happening in the Riverland; it is happening right across metropolitan Adelaide. We have now seen Medfly detections in Port Augusta and that has really raised alarm bells.

I am very happy that we have been able to see increased funding for fruit fly strategies for eradication responses. This is not about just managing fruit fly; it is about eradicating fruit fly. It is about giving us our competitive advantage into protocol markets, and it is making sure that the Riverland remains one of the very few areas of horticulture production that is fruit fly free. Tasmania is another place that is fruit fly free.

We have looked across the border. The pressure that our Eastern States counterparts/cousins have put on our horticultural sector remains. The Qfly that comes from the east is there every single day. We have seen the pressure that is coming out of the west with Mediterranean fruit fly, and we have our horticultural sectors under siege at the moment, so it is critically important that the funding remains.

For those who are listening, when you see those biosecurity officers in the orange overalls knock on your door, please accommodate them. Remove host material, making sure that the hygiene in your backyard is there. Make sure that you play your part. Whether you are in metropolitan Adelaide or in the Riverland, remove the host material, pick up fallen fruit and play your part. It is the world's most invasive pest and it is costing our primary producers many millions of dollars. I want to talk now about our seasonal and regional workforce because to employ those workers comes at great cost.

If we cannot get a premium price for our produce, it is going to impact on the bottom line and it is going to impact on the viability of those horticultural businesses, particularly in the Riverland, to be able to employ those Pacific Islanders. They come at great cost too, in the vicinity of about \$8,000 a worker. The state government is subsidising that. Whether they be contractors or employers, they are stumping up about \$2,500 per worker as their contribution to bring those Pacific Islanders into South Australia and get them into the Paringa quarantine facility. Once they have done their two weeks of quarantine, they then move out into the orchards, onto the farms and start harvesting. They get into the packing sheds, and it is just a great sight.

I was very honoured to be able to attend the Pacific Islander sporting games, or the Pasifika games, in Renmark at the Renmark Olympic soccer stadium, as well as the Renmark footy oval, where they played rugby, volleyball and basketball, as I understand it. It was a great day to witness the song and ceremony from those cohorts. We know that we have had people from Tonga, Kiribati and Vanuatu, and the last cohort came out of Samoa. I think the camaraderie they bring with them is second to none. So I thank them, and I think we have to remember, too, that a lot of those islanders who have come to South Australia to bolster our workforce were as worried about catching COVID as we were about them bringing COVID. We need to understand that the Riverland should stand proud that the Paringa quarantine facility is a national leader in quarantining.

Minister Littleproud gave the local area the gold star not only for quarantining but for showing control, restraint and not panicking. I want to thank the agencies: SA Health and SAPOL, ably led by PIRSA as the lead agency. That team have done an outstanding job. The contractors, Humanihut, who came in and set up the facility made it compliant, and all the businesses that supported the seasonal worker program and the quarantine facility should be commended. It now gives us the opportunity to continue to harvest, to pack and to make sure that we can still continue to plant and prune and have that workforce in our very own backyard that is safe, COVID free and continuing to underpin our economy.

The Riverland is a regional economy. It contributes about \$1.2 billion with the horticultural sector, and they will continue to roll on. We know that the Pacific Islanders and the seasonal workforce program will continue to contribute. Once the citrus season is over, we will see some pruning and some planting, and then of course we go into the summer fruit season and vintage, and I am sure they will have a role to play. Again, we thank them and we thank this government for its support not only in eradication responses for fruit fly but also in mobilising that seasonal and regional workforce.

Sir, you as a primary producer usually enjoy good, solid rainfall over on Eyre Peninsula but, sadly, some of our farmers are still not so lucky, and it saddens me that in some of the Mallee areas we still have not received rainfall. There is still funding there, \$2.2 million over three years, to continue to support our farmers, for the continuation of rural financial counselling, and we have measures in place for drought response to water infrastructure, and those continue to roll out.

We have had rains on the eastern seaboard, and we have had some good rains here in Adelaide, but we have to be mindful that there are plenty of areas, particularly in Chaffey, that still have not had significant rain to ease the drought pressure and burden on those businesses that have endured it for three or four years. Good luck to them, and may the rain gods come down upon them.

It is great to see an agtech adoption program of \$1.3 million per annum. We know that agtech is playing a much more significant and larger role in today's farming, and it is great to see the agtech program continuing to grow and continuing to roll out. It is also great to see Adelaide University, with ThinLab, have a presence not only at Waite but also at the Loxton Research Centre, and I visited them with the Minister for Innovation and Skills only last week. Those programs continue to roll out.

I am very proud that some of our research centres and research farms right across South Australia are now looking at programs that will continue to roll out, the commercial and public system coming together, collaborating with an open door policy so that we can utilise those farms for the greater good of agriculture and the greater good of horticulture here in South Australia. We can be a leader within agtech, leading the nation in trying to grow the target of \$100 billion by 2030. South Australia is well poised to play its role—and even punch above its weight—in making sure those adoption programs come in, particularly with agtech.

I would also like to touch on the wine export recovery program, a \$5.4 million initiative over four years. The Riverland is the engine room of the wine industry not only here in South Australia. The Riverland produced 70.1 per cent of the state's vintage and about 30 per cent of the nation's annual crush. For far too long the monkey on the back of the Riverland grower has been bulk low-grade wine product, but those days have changed.

We are now producing very good quality wine going into all sorts of variants of containers, whether casks or bulk exports or bottled product. The Riverland continues to punch above its weight, leading the R&D programs and continuing to bolster our exports into many of our protocol markets. I congratulate every one of those primary producers producing good fruit, which in turn produces good wine and satisfies a lot of our international markets. That is great news.

There is a program to make sure we do not get the land snail into our grain crops, into our broadacre crop fields. It jeopardises one of the mainstays of our export and market returns into South Australia's economy.

I would also like to touch on the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program. Chaffey was the recipient of five projects, and it was great to see the Mid Murray getting road upgrades between Blanchetown and Morgan. The sealing of that road will be the final piece there, and that is great to see.

A million dollars also went towards the Renmark town wharf upgrade. Renmark is easily the most outstanding riverfront in the Murray-Darling Basin and, to enable Renmark to continue to upgrade and beautify the town riverbank, it has again had another \$1 million put towards it. The Barmera multisport precinct will receive over \$360,000 to upgrade change rooms and for oval lighting, and that is a great initiative. At Karoonda, there is \$300,000 for the Knights Well road upgrade, which is another shot in the arm for that community to continue to upgrade our roads.

The \$1½ million dollar contribution to the Waikerie Riverfront Community Hub project is an outstanding project. To have a sporting facility, clubhouse and change rooms right on the banks of the River Murray is nothing short of outstanding. The community is very strong and very passionate about their sport, particularly for the Magpies at Waikerie. They will now have the opportunity to fulfil a dream that has been long thought about. We have a \$1.5 million contribution to a \$3 million precinct there.

By and large, this 2021-22 state budget has been great for South Australia but, for me, regional South Australia, which once upon a time was long forgotten, has been the beneficiary of the budget—and today we are seeing big coffers of money being put into our regions.

Ms LUETHEN (King) (17:36): I thank you for this invitation to speak on the 2021-22 budget. Firstly, I would like to commend the Treasurer for handing down this generous budget aimed at making South Australia stronger. Last year's budget was geared towards two clear objectives: to save as many lives as we could and then to save as many jobs and businesses as we could. In the six months since the last budget, it is pleasing to report that there have been no further deaths related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have also seen significant economic recovery as thousands of businesses open their doors and workers return to work or increase their hours.

Since the depths of the pandemic in May last year, more than 60,000 jobs have been created in South Australia, and there are now more people employed than at any time in the state's history. The centrepiece of last year's budget was the largest ever economic stimulus package in our state's history, designed to jump-start our economic recovery. This year, this two-year \$4 billion economic stimulus package is leveraging another \$1 billion in commonwealth, local government and business stimulus, bringing the total stimulus to \$5 billion.

While significant progress has been made, there is no doubt there is still a lot more work to do and this budget launches the next stage in our strong economic recovery plan. This budget is our blueprint for a stronger South Australia, a positive plan that charts our course out of the pandemic by creating jobs, building what matters and delivering better services to secure our growing global reputation as one of the safest and most attractive places in the world to live, work and raise a family.

This blueprint for the future builds on the foundations of a completely new approach to economic growth and jobs, growth that we outlined in our first budget three years ago. Our Marshall Liberal government is aiming for long-term sustainable jobs growth. This policy for long-term sustainable jobs growth is based on improving business competitiveness by reducing the cost of doing business in South Australia for all businesses. If we want South Australian businesses to export more goods and services to national and international markets, then the costs of doing business in our state have to be nationally and internationally competitive. For three years now, we have implemented policies to achieve that objective.

Payroll tax has been abolished for all small businesses with payrolls less than \$1.5 million per year, ESL costs for businesses and households have been reduced by \$90 million per year and the top tax rate has been slashed, from 3.7 per cent to 2.4 per cent, in the most comprehensive land tax reform package in our state's history. Electricity costs for the average business have dropped by 20 per cent, and the recent approval of a second interconnector will drive electricity costs down even further. Water bills for an average business have dropped by \$1,350 per year and a small number of high-volume businesses have saved up to \$1 million this year on their water bills. The overall water bill cuts have come at a cost to the state budget of almost \$200 million per year due to lower SA Water profits. Treasury has estimated that a small nursery business with a payroll of \$750,000 saves \$7,730 this year, compared to what they would have paid if the policy settings of 2017-18 under Labor had been continued.

This budget continues our economic growth strategy and rejects the alternative approach to post-COVID recovery adopted by the Victorian Labor government, which has just announced a massive increases in land tax and stamp duty, gambling tax and the imposition of a new business payroll tax to fund health expenditure. This is very much the Labor way, as the former Labor government in this state introduced new betting and foreign investor taxes and tried to introduce new banking and car park taxes.

Consistent with our jobs growth strategy, this year's budget provides further relief in the following areas:

- a 12-month extension of payroll tax exemption for wages paid for eligible new trainees and apprentices, and a combination of state and federal government subsidies means that businesses can receive up to \$32,000 in support for new apprentices and trainees;
- a 50 per cent land tax discount will be introduced for eligible new build-to-rent housing projects, which will reduce the land values for land tax purposes up to 2039-40; and
- a further \$10.7 million in land tax relief in 2021-22 through the land tax transition fund for those taxpayers negatively impacted by changes to land tax aggregation rules in 2021-22.

A critical feature for ongoing economic recovery is increasing confidence in businesses and households, confidence in businesses to invest and help create jobs, and confidence in households where workers have jobs to resume spending at pre-COVID levels rather than increasing levels of savings.

Recent confidence surveys of businesses and households have shown significant increases in confidence, and the ABS this month reported that capital spending by businesses in South Australia in the last 12 months has increased by a massive 21 per cent—the highest increase of all states in the nation. When combined with the fact that last year we finally attracted more people from interstate into our state than actually left the state, we can be optimistic about what the future holds for our state.

The government in this budget has established a new \$200 million Jobs and Economic Growth Fund to promote economic development and to help create jobs. This new jobs fund will also be a potential funding source for the federal government's Modern Manufacturing Initiative, which provides significant federal funding for initiatives as long as it is matched by state government funding and private sector investments. The state government is considering a range of initiatives including those in the hydrogen, space, defence and plant protein sectors. This budget is also funding a range of job-creating initiatives, including:

- \$1.8 million to establish a trade office in Paris, which is in addition to offices in Tokyo, Houston, New York, Dubai, Singapore and Shanghai; in contrast, the former government closed down six trade offices;
- \$20.8 million to upgrade existing buildings at Lot Fourteen to enable the expansion of space, digital, high-tech and cyber companies in a collaborative setting; a particular focus will be on companies involved in small satellite development;
- \$22.8 million to meet increased demand under the Post-Production, Digital and Visual Effects Rebate scheme and also to continue the scheme beyond 2022-23;
- \$6.6 million to increase funding for the Screen Production Fund, managed by the South Australian Film Corporation;
- \$2.6 million to support small businesses developing digital and cybersecurity capabilities as well as other capabilities to enter the national trade market;
- \$4 million for the Great State Voucher scheme, including funding for another round of vouchers later this year; this scheme will include further support for accommodation providers in the CBD; and
- \$500,000 in addition to the \$300,000 already announced to support activation of the Adelaide precinct by supporting events and activities that encourage people to return to work in the city or to visit and spend time in the city.

Together with a focus on creating jobs and growing the economy, the government's other major priority in this budget is another significant increase in spending in hospitals and health services, in particular, mental health services. COVID-19 has placed enormous pressure on hospitals and health services throughout the nation, and this has also been apparent in South Australia. Next year, the government will commit a record \$7.4 billion in health spending, which is actually an increase of almost \$900 million over the health spending by the former Labor government in 2017-18.

Budget papers estimate that total Health staff next year will be about 1,000 higher than the number employed by the former Labor government in its last year. In fact, figures produced by the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment indicate that in the first two years of this government, from 2018 to 2020, the number of nurses and doctors actually increased by 855. These facts clearly debunk claims being made that pressure in the health system has been caused by funding cuts or cuts to the number of nurses and doctors being employed.

The government has a clear plan to tackle our health challenges, including fixing ramping and easing pressure in our hospitals. This plan includes four points: (1) increasing emergency department capacity, which is increasing by over 65 per cent; (2) reducing demand on our emergency departments; (3) tackling bed block in our hospitals; and (4) providing additional resources to our ambulance services.

In this budget, the government will spend an additional \$163.5 million over four years to strengthen the state's mental health system by supporting the implementation of the state's Mental Health Services Plan. The plan is designed to respond to the immediate need for support services and also, by investing for the future, to create a more resilient and flexible system.

Some of the new initiatives include \$20.4 million over three years to build a new 16-bed crisis stabilisation facility in the northern suburbs to support the mental health needs of the community. The centre will operate 24 hours a day, providing acute crisis care based on a recovery model, with highly skilled professional staff and peer workers in a high-quality therapeutic but safely designed setting. The centre will provide a further 16-bed capacity in our acute mental health system and another alternative treatment pathway to reduce admissions to our public hospitals and ease pressure on our emergency departments.

There is \$8.4 million per annum to increase the capacity of our community mental health services to provide help for people in the community with acute mental health challenges and reduce the number of people in crisis presenting to our public hospitals. This includes investing in additional drug and alcohol services, child and adolescent mental health services, forensic mental health services and support for adults with severe mental health conditions, including post traumatic stress disorder. Mental health clinicians will also be permanently assigned to work with our Ambulance Service to assist as first responders and to facilitate referral to an appropriate treatment pathway, avoiding the need to transfer a person to a public hospital emergency department if it is not necessary.

There is \$12 million in 2021-22 to support the fit-out required to create additional psychiatric intensive care bed capacity in our public hospital system. This will create the capacity for up to eight additional beds available to be commissioned by SA Health as necessary, based on future demand. The Adelaide Adult Mental Health Centre opened in March this year and is providing adults with access to a range of mental health support services in an alternative setting to a hospital emergency department.

The centre opened in partnership with the commonwealth government and currently operates as a 12-hour-per-day service, from 12pm to 12am, and \$4.5 million per annum is provided to expand the delivery of urgent medical health care to the community, including through expanding the centre's service to 24 hours a day. This will expand the number and types of patients who can be assisted by the centre, further easing the pressure on our hospital emergency departments.

There is \$48 million over four years to construct a new 20-bed older person acute mental health unit at Modbury Hospital. This will allow for the decommissioning of the current Woodleigh House site at Modbury Hospital. This investment will allow for the transfer of the current older person's mental health unit from the Lyell McEwin Hospital to the new Modbury facility and for the current adult mental health patients at Woodleigh House to transfer to a fit-for-purpose facility at Lyell McEwin Hospital.

There is \$5 million in 2021-22 to support the building of additional accommodation to provide options for people living with mental health disability to live independently while accessing appropriate supports. There is \$5 million over two years to support the immediate needs of the mental health workforce in our public mental health services by increasing training and oversight capacity to assist in filling immediate positions and to provide greater opportunity to the existing workforce to build skills in mental health treatment.

There is \$7.3 million in 2021-22 to continue a series of additional time-limited programs designed to support the mental health, wellbeing and resilience of the community in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes increased in-reach support to vulnerable communities and increased access to phone and other counselling services over the next 12 months as the community continues to navigate the implications of the pandemic. This massive investment in extended and new mental health services is consistent with advice from mental health experts over recent months. The state government continues to negotiate with the federal government about the possible further extension of mental health services.

The government has also maintained its clear plan to ease pressure on our emergency departments, and fixing ramping required a comprehensive range of initiatives in a number of areas. A number of these new mental health initiatives and services will assist significantly in easing the pressure on our emergency departments.

The government will continue to invest in other initiatives that are designed to also ease pressure on our emergency departments. They include: four priority care centres, providing community-based health care and treatment, including diagnostic and pharmacy services; My Home Hospital, delivering hospital care to people with certain conditions in the comfort of their own home, and I certainly come across this while I am out doorknocking; placing medic nurses in custodial facilities; and assigning mental health specialists with paramedic crews across the metropolitan area.

Another feature of the government's plan has been the continued investment in initiatives to tackle bed block in hospitals, such as the Transition to Home: Step Down program, with additional beds available for NDIS-eligible patients waiting for longer term supports, and statewide hospital criteria-led discharge to help patients return home as soon as possible.

When this government was elected just three years ago, we inherited a hospital system that, after 16 years of shambolic neglect by the former government, did not have anywhere near enough treatment spaces in our emergency departments. The government has allocated more than \$110 million to provide 140 new treatment spaces in emergency departments and emergency extended care units in nine hospitals and health services. This will increase treatment space capacity in these sites by 65 per cent.

The remaining critical factor in the government's plan to ease pressure on our emergency departments and fix ramping is to significantly increase funding to our South Australian Ambulance Service. The government has commenced the process of appointing an additional 74 ambulance staff, as a result of a recent negotiated settlement with the unions, which involves agreement for significant roster reform, which will significantly assist in improving ambulance services in our state. These extra employees will mean that, since 2018, there would have been an increase of 258 ambulance staff. There is \$2 million for new ambulances as well, a question that I have been asked in my community.

Claims that the government has cut funding for ambulance services are clearly wrong. In fact, funding for the South Australian Ambulance Service next year is budgeted to be \$28 million per year more than the funding provided by the former Labor government in 2017-18. In fact, South Australia has the second highest spending per capita on ambulance services of all states and territories. It is clear that simply increasing the number of staff will not by itself solve the problem of easing pressure on our emergency departments and fixing ramping. That is why the government's comprehensive plan is the only real solution to the challenges of fixing ramping and easing pressure in our emergency departments.

I will finish by just touching on one of the most exciting initiatives in this budget, which is the \$50.1 million Early Learning Strategy, which will improve the identification of developmentally vulnerable children and enable early intervention and support. There is a lot more information about that to come.

The one thing close to home that my King community should be incredibly proud of is the \$1.6 million to extend the Sports Vouchers program to children in grades 8 and 9. My community was surveyed and they told me very clearly that 93 per cent of them supported an extension of this sporting program. It is a pleasure to have been able to work with the Marshall Liberal government to include it in this budget. I commend this budget to the house.

Mr DULUK (Waite) (17:55): I also rise today to support the passage of this budget through the house. I actually think overall it is a pretty good budget and there are some fantastic announcements in this package. Before I go on, though, I would like to thank the Treasurer, the Hon. Rob Lucas in the other place, for his service to the parliament and indeed to the people of South Australia over many years. I put on the record that he has been a member of parliament longer than I have been alive. For many years, he has been a good servant, and I think this budget is a fine document for his last public document.

After reviewing the budget papers, it is good to see, as other members have mentioned, improvements to our health system, a plan to fix our roads and moves to address freight issues. Very important to my community is the restoration of our natural environment, funding for schools and community groups and reducing the cost of living for families and business.

Indeed, we are a small business state. In all our budgets and everything we do, we should look after those who are here, day in day out, providing jobs for so many South Australians, and that is the small business community of South Australia. Everything that we can do in all our endeavours in this place and as a government to support small business, to allow them to be open, to be free, to flourish, is so important.

In no particular order of importance, some issues I would like to touch on include, first of all, health care. There has been so much public discourse over the past 12 months that has centred around our health care, from ramping at our hospitals to the building of the new Women's and Children's and ongoing issues with the COVID-19 pandemic and mental health. Some good news in the budget, of course, is ongoing investments at the Flinders Medical Centre and the expansion of their emergency department.

Really important, as well, is the ongoing work at the reactivation of the Repat site. We are, of course, seeing more and more investment into that precinct. Some recent movements there have been the relocation of the brain injury and spinal cord services and statewide services from Hampstead to the Repat and, of course, the completion of service relocation of the transition care inpatient services to wards 1 and 2 at the Repat, which are being known as the Bangka Strait wards. I think that is a fantastic monument to those Australian nurses who made the ultimate sacrifice at Bangka Island during the Second World War.

It is really important to see those investments and also those investments into mental health. It is such a big issue, and it has been well documented that COVID has had an impact on our nation's mental health. Of course, these are investments that do take time to work through the system, but it is good to see that those initial investments are being made. Full credit goes to John Mendoza, who is no longer with SA Health but who came out and highlighted some of the need for investment in mental health. That is a really important aspect of this budget and I am glad to see it is there.

Sitting suspended from 18:00 to 19:30.

Mr DULUK: I was talking about infrastructure in the budget, as you might be interested to note. There is the ongoing funding for the Mitcham Hills road corridor upgrades, which is such an important investment in my community, and it is good to see that happening. One part of that upgrade that still needs some more work from the department is around the intersection of Shepherds Hill Road, Waite Street and Brighton Parade, and that was one of the three key tenets of the initial funding scope. There is a body of work that still needs to be undertaken by the department in that regard, and that is certainly an issue for the community that needs to be addressed and something I will be monitoring closely over the coming months.

Something that did excite me in the budget, and I know it probably excited your community as well, sir, is the \$10 million of funding for exploration and planning into a freight bypass, which has long been discussed for our communities. This is an important investment to redirect road freight off the South Eastern Freeway and Cross Road, out of suburban communities and directly to major port and road routes. Road safety and the movement of freight through the Adelaide and Mitcham Hills is a matter of great importance to my community.

With rail freight and passenger trains regularly transiting through the suburbs of my electorate, I am supportive of all measures to improve freight safety and reduce disturbances for my community. I am looking forward to working with the government to see more railway stations being included in the government's \$100 million Station Refresh program, that is, railway stations along the

Belair line. Just this month, on a Wednesday afternoon when we were sitting here, multiple passenger train, cars and pedestrians were halted after a freight train stopped at the Belair line during peak hours, and this is an ongoing matter.

I also thank residents in my community, especially Geoff Bartlett from Blackwood Action Group and Jenny Hembrow from Belair who did some press just today for the Messenger in regard to the Station Refresh program and the need for investment on Belair line stations especially at Blackwood, Lynton, Mitcham and Belair.

When the freight train does stop, it takes at least 20 minutes for a freight train to pass any one intersection. That results in traffic being backed up, not only in Blackwood and Glenalta but down through Hawthorn, Lower Mitcham and Clapham as well, which are important parts of the greater Waite community. I continue to raise these matters with the government, but the need to divert freight trains out of our suburban communities and boom gates is a priority. The daily disturbance that both freight and passenger trains cause our commuters can easily be avoided through focused investments.

Two major projects that may be of some use and that we would like to see include an alternative rail freight corridor and further grade separations at road rail level crossings throughout metropolitan Adelaide. As I said, there is a commitment for a study on the northern bypass and, of course, more broadly we need a commitment of actual dollars in this. Given the low interest rate environments we see at the moment, this is a perfect opportunity to take advantage of that. The Mayor of Adelaide Hills Council has also made some recent comments about this.

The current freight route through my electorate, and not through the Hills, creates road traffic congestion, poses a dangerous fire risk for communities, creates noise and air pollution, is costly, slow and ineffective for industry, and impairs providing better public transport services. An alternative corridor would see a combination of existing roads and open space to move freight from Murray Bridge to Two Wells via Truro and would provide an enormous economic injection and job creation.

The government must ensure that Cross Road does not become a heavy road freight route, as supported by Infrastructure Australia in their February 2021 report. A northern bypass would deliver end-to-end supply chain efficiencies for local industries, increase the capacity for rail network and result in a shift from bulk road freight to rail freight, ensure that South Australia plays a key role in future freight movements across our continent and deliver significant environmental, economic and social benefits for South Australians.

One key benefit that I am constantly made aware of by constituents when I speak with them in the community is that if we were to move rail freight we would free up the other track on the Belair line, which could be used to increase the frequency of passenger trains and encourage greater public transport uptake. More importantly, it would allow the ability for a passenger service to run to Mount Barker. Many people and forward thinkers in urban planning and transport have supported the ability for there to be a passenger service to Murray Bridge and to really look at planning and residential investment and development to occur on the other side of the Adelaide Hills. That is so important to so many in our greater community.

Level crossings are a very big issue across South Australia. It was good to see a press release yesterday from the minister talking about a 10-year investment plan in rail crossings across South Australia, which I think is so important. Not that I often put any praise on Dan Andrews and his government in Victoria, but this is something that the Andrews government in previous years has really made a huge effort in. They have seen the removal of rail crossings across a lot of metropolitan Melbourne, to great effect. That is something we can certainly do here in Adelaide and beyond as well.

Dealing with level crossings is a hugely important piece of rail safety. It is an investment in the community, would stimulate the economy and is so important. I think 31 level crossings have been identified as posing high risk to users and creating the most disruptions on the road network. Within those 31, I think Glenalta in my community comes in at No. 2 or 3 and Blackwood in the other order, and of course there is the Unley Park level crossing as well at Hawthorn. That is the Glenalta level crossing on Main Road, Belair, the Blackwood level crossing on Main Road, Blackwood, and the Unley Park level crossing at Hawthorn.

These must be included in the 10-year level crossing removal program announced by the government. Infrastructure Australia has identified all three of these at-grade level crossings in their 2021 priority list, stating:

Some of these level crossings are closed to road traffic for up to 25% of peak traffic periods. Level crossings can lead to delays and safety problems as trains, cars, buses, trucks, cyclists and pedestrians cross paths...

Longer boom-gate closures can also create barriers between different parts of the community and reduce amenity in urban areas.

These problems are expected to worsen as road traffic and the frequency of rail services increase with population growth in South Australia.

In my community, when there is a 1.8-kilometre freight train going through the Mitcham Hills, it will block the Coromandel station, with the boom gates down on Brighton Parade, it will block the boom gates at Main Road in Blackwood and the traffic there, and it will also block the boom gates at Glenalta. That is three boom gates down for about 20 minutes with a 1.8-kilometre freight train. In the 21st century, these are infrastructure problems that the government should be looking at to invest in, to remove these rail blocks.

So important to so many in the community is investment in our environment and in the green economy. I think that is actually a perfect juxtaposition with investment in infrastructure and roads. I am really pleased to see \$22.4 million being allocated for open spaces grants, with bids to open in July. I know without a doubt that there will be community groups in my electorate that will take advantage of those grants.

The Greener Neighbourhoods Grants Program has a \$5.5 million commitment over four years. The program provides grant funding through local councils to enhance the urban tree canopy and accelerate the implementation of street tree management plans. I hope to see these programs and other funding mechanisms support projects such as the restoration of the Playford Lake in Belair National Park and improving feed-in creeks, extended funding for Brownhill Creek Recreation Park for stage 2 of the Kurna Tree Shelter Project, and continued investment in the Sturt River Linear Park Trail to connect the hills to the coast.

Looking at education, which is so important for all of us, it is important to see that continued investment in our communities through the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program. Across the state, \$106.9 million in grants has been approved for local councils towards the delivery of community infrastructure. Earlier this year we saw the Blackwood Community Hub and library being announced as part of that funding. This comes as the government announced on Sunday that they will spend a record \$20.7 million each year in our state libraries, which is fantastic.

Of course, there is community funding of \$27.3 million this financial year for sport and recreation grants, and I think the Blackwood Bowling Club have already received funding as part of that. There are ongoing investments in the Women's Memorial Playing Fields. I am really looking forward to that coming to fruition early next year, when we will hopefully see the playing fields upgraded and new user-management coordination being put in place there.

Another important announcement in the budget for families is the expansion of the Sports Vouchers scheme. Earlier this year, I wrote to the minister suggesting that the program be extended to allow year 8s and 9s to participate in that scheme, and it is fantastic to see that come to fruition today. This will certainly help the confusion over primary school-age students and the transition from year 7 to high school, to ensure that they are included in the scheme.

One thing I have spoken about in this house on many occasions now, and again today in question time, is the need to include Scouts and Girl Guides in this Sports Vouchers scheme. Scouts and Girl Guides provide so many outdoor activities for so many young South Australians. It only makes sense that they can participate in a scheme like this. As I said earlier, investing in our education, in our children, is critical and the ongoing capital works are so important. It is also good to see in the budget support for non-government schools as well. We have many independent schools across South Australia—low-fee independent schools that actually provide a really important education to our kids, and there is no reason why they should be excluded from any state government funding.

There is \$35.1 million over four years to increase the number of children from birth to age 5 accessing developmental health checks at more regular intervals in partnership with CaFHS

and non-government partners. The old Blue Book, as the Treasurer alluded to, is great record keeping for families and early learning, and just ensures that we as a community are doing all that we can to look after toddlers and bubs so that when they get to school age they are in the best possible state of health and wellbeing that they can be.

Looking after cost-of-living pressures for so many South Australians is critical. It is good to see a reduction in utility bills and other fees, such as CTP, across the forward estimates in comparison to previous years. So it is really giving families a choice, which is so important, and looking after the cost of living we know is incredibly important, especially in these difficult COVID times that we have at the moment where there is so much uncertainty.

Just today, we saw the snap decision to shut borders with Queensland. I know there were families in transit from Sydney coming back. They left Sydney when the situation was normal and landed in Adelaide to find the rules had been changed immediately. For small business, for people who may have health issues and are travelling between states for appointments and visiting family members, to have some certainty in what we can do, especially around cost of living, is so important.

As I said at the start of my contribution, looking after small business and the business community is paramount. I am happy to see small business, the backbone of our South Australian economy, being supported in this budget through tax measures, around land tax and payroll tax, savings around utility bills, and small business grants, which I hope will help many small businesses.

Of course, we have seen investment in fruit fly eradication, which is really important given the current outbreak in South Australia. I know that will help growers in my community, such as Magarey Orchard in Coromandel Valley and the McGough family in Hawthorndene, who are right on the cusp of the fruit fly zone at the moment.

There is also \$36.9 million from the Jobs and Economic Growth Fund. Some of that will certainly help with the Wine Export Recovery and Expansion Program. We have seen so many people in the wine industry affected by change of trade terms with China. For one of our biggest export industries and a huge employer of South Australians, not just in the regions but in all parts of the wine sector, from manufacturing to horticulture, it is important to support them.

Liquor licensing relief is for our hospitality sector. I have said before that we have a huge chance at the moment to support our hospitality sector by allowing them to operate at full capacity. We have seen pubs and clubs being restricted in what they can do for capacity and patronage, and by lifting this to 100 per cent we will have no cost to the taxpayer but have a positive impact on our local economy, and I know that is something that that industry, that huge employer in South Australia, is screaming for. It is a huge trainer of South Australians in the hospitality industry as well. Some steps around that are some further measures that could be tackled by the government in this budget.

There has been a lot of talk about debt and the cost of money. We are looking over the forward estimates at non-financial public sector net debt to revenue, set to peak at 129.6 per cent for the full forward estimates. As a case in point, back in 2015 the Auditor-General reflected that net financial public sector debt to revenue sitting at a threshold of about 35 per cent was within the Auditor-General's comfortable limit at the top end of that threshold.

It is a reminder that, whilst the cost of money is cheap by global standards at the moment, and the 10-year commonwealth bond rate is sitting at levels never seen before, when any of us borrow—and government is no different—we must borrow prudently, we must borrow for the right reasons, we must do that to invest in productive infrastructure. We should not be borrowing, and I am not saying that we are, to fund recurring expenditure, but to make those long-term investments that will see an economic return to those who are borrowing that money, which is our community.

In summary, there is a lot to unpack in this year's budget. I have not had time to touch on the community wins over the years that are still in the budget, such as continued funding for the Mitcham Service SA centre, or other projects, such as restoring the Waite Gatehouse, but the state budget importantly has focused on funding essential services and health and education. Just a big shout-out while we have some time tonight—as we are sitting late I am missing out on the Mitcham Rotary Club handover dinner, and I thank Barry Hurst for his contribution over the last 12 months to the community in Mitcham and to Rotary in general.

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (19:46):

I take the opportunity today in parliament to speak about the 2021-22 state budget. It is the second budget the Marshall government has handed down framed by COVID-19. The global pandemic has wrought havoc throughout the world, with approximately 179 million cases recorded, resulting in 3.8 million deaths. As a parliament we certainly send our sympathies to all those peoples and countries gripped by COVID and still with COVID raging.

There is no question that South Australians have been challenged in the past 18 months in a way that we never have been before. In South Australia, we have been guided by the advice of the health experts, as our first focus has always been to save as many lives as possible. This health response has relied heavily on our health professionals and police as our first line of defence, for which this parliament and all South Australians are very thankful. This has led to South Australia being one of the safest places in the world, but the health challenge has created massive economic challenges, not only here in South Australia but throughout Australia and the world.

Both this budget and last year's budget recognised not only the health challenge we are dealing with but also the economic challenge presented, and has put in place a \$4 billion stimulus package which, if you compare it, is the second biggest stimulus package in the nation as a percentage of gross state product, being at 3.6 per cent. This \$4 billion stimulus package has provided a vital lifeline to so many small businesses that put their fellow South Australians ahead of their own business interests.

This is a time of great change, but of course out of change and risk comes opportunity, and this budget certainly provides a positive plan for the future to keep South Australia safe and strong, by creating jobs, building what matters and delivering better services. As a government we have built on the Marshall government's jobs and economic growth plan that has been set in place right from the get-go in 2018 when we came to government. It is based on long-term sustainable growth, looking at improving business competitiveness by reducing the cost of doing business right here in South Australia for all businesses.

We have slashed payroll tax for all small businesses with payrolls under \$1.5 million. We have taken the top land tax rate from being the highest in the nation to now being competitive with other jurisdictions, with a top rate of 2.4 per cent. We have reduced the emergency services levy in this budget by nearly \$95 million, a benefit not only to businesses but households as well. Additionally, we are reducing water bills by an average of over \$1,300 for businesses.

Of course, getting the fundamentals right is important to all businesses. In terms of the Marshall government, we have also had to deal with the handling of the dual economic and health crises we have seen in South Australia, but by having these fundamentals in place and, further, the budget stimulus package of \$4 billion we have seen business conditions and confidence levels at record levels.

Business SA's survey of business expectations has shown confidence levels rising throughout the COVID crisis as we have dealt with it. There was recently a 28 per cent increase in business confidence for the December quarter, the largest in the survey's 40-year history. More recently, in the March quarter, Business SA's survey indicated that business conditions in South Australia experienced a significant rise, with Business SA commenting, 'The last time the index reached such a height was over 13 years ago, at the back end of the pre-GFC boom.' We have also had surveys from NAB and Bank SA that also point to business confidence and conditions in positive territory.

We know that for businesses to grow and create jobs, and in turn to grow the state's economy, we need and want them to be export focused as a state but also as a business. We want South Australian businesses to export more goods and services not only to national markets but also to the very large international market. If you think about it, South Australia has 1.7 million people and Australia 25 million, but Asian countries who are our very near neighbours have billions of people living there.

With their growing middle class, there is massive opportunity for South Australian businesses to sell our premium produce into those markets. To make them nationally competitive the Marshall government has reduced the cost of doing business in our state. We are also leaning into sectors where South Australia has competitive global advantages and that are, importantly, future focused.

To support businesses we like to provide on-the-ground intelligence as well as saving them money and getting access to key markets.

The Marshall government has set up a critical network of trade offices in our key markets such as Tokyo, Seoul, New Delhi, Houston and New York. Bearing in mind that the US is our number one source of direct foreign investment and our second biggest trading partner, we had no presence on the ground in the US until the Marshall Liberal government set about changing that. We also have trade offices in Dubai in the growing Middle East and North Africa region, and just recently set up an office in Singapore in the south of Asia, another key market. Of course there is also China, where we set up a trade office in Shanghai.

These trade offices have provided for critical relationships to be established between South Australian businesses and key importers and distributors in those key markets. To talk about the benefit of that, just today the preliminary trade figures for the last 12 months to May showed that South Australia's merchandise exports were \$12.6 billion. That is the highest export figure in South Australia's history and comes on the back of April's figures, which showed exports for that 12-month period as being \$12.5 billion, which was the previous record.

We are breaking records in exports, and that is where we want our economy to grow and become focused as well. Talking about the April figures, there were over \$1.3 billion of exports in April 2021. We have had a billion dollars of exports in a month in South Australia only three times, so we are really focusing and leaning in on exports in South Australia.

We are looking at some of those big markets. I talked about the US, but we also have the UK, which is really an established market, and it was fantastic news last week when the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, announced an in-principle Australia-UK free trade agreement. This is great news for South Australian businesses, particularly our premium food, wine and agricultural products. Our London trade office will be looking to turbocharge exports into the UK, turbocharge investment here for South Australian businesses, creating more jobs.

Of course, with Brexit, we have also the European Union as a key market for South Australia. We are anticipating that further opportunities will be opened up through an expected free trade agreement with the European Union also. As I said, Europe is a key export market for South Australia, representing \$700 million per year of exports for South Australian businesses.

In the post-Brexit landscape, this budget is moving early by investing \$1.8 million over four years to establish a trade office in Paris. The Paris trade office will give on-the-ground access to established markets in Europe. In France, we have great opportunities and synergies. We have the Attack class submarines with Naval Group, a \$50 billion program with a major French company. There are also lots of export opportunities in Germany, which is a massive market, as are those established European countries like Italy and Spain, and there are also emerging markets in eastern Europe and Scandinavia.

We do know there are many challenges ahead on the international trade front. With no international travel, there are market access issues with our state's biggest trading country, China. Our trade offices are going to be there to back South Australian exporters to help them grow into existing markets or into new ones.

If I just compare the Marshall government's support for South Australian exporters with Labor's, when Labor were in office in 2012 and 2013 they closed down six trade offices. Can you imagine how difficult it would have been for our exporters now with no international travel? How would they have been able to get in touch with their markets? It would have been a massive handbrake on South Australia's economy during COVID. But, no, not on this side of the house. South Australian exporters are thankful that the Marshall Liberal government have added eight trade offices to drive our economic recovery out of COVID.

If I can talk a little about the imposition of wine tariffs by China over the next five years on our \$2 billion wine industry, it has effectively closed the door on wine exports to China, representing approximately \$800 million of export to this state. As I have been around the state listening to our key markets, whether that is near Adelaide in the Adelaide Hills, Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale, or further afield in the Clare Valley, Limestone Coast, Coonawarra and in the Riverland as well, the clear message from the wine industry is that they need to expand into other markets. This budget

backs our wine industry by funding a \$5.4 million wine export recovery and expansion program over the next four years.

This wine program is going to be critical in working alongside our trade offices to provide wine exporters the ability to expand into established markets, such as the UK, Canada and the US, where we know there is substantial consumption of South Australian wine. It also looks to help our exporters go into emerging markets, such as Japan, South Korea and New Zealand, which have shown an appreciation and appetite for South Australia's premium wine. Finally, we are also looking to go into developing markets such as India, which has a massive population base of 1.3 billion people and a growing middle class. This will be about education and giving them familiarity with South Australian wine so that they can be one of our next key wine export markets.

Not only are we supporting our traditional industries, such as food and wine, mining and defence, but we are also looking to stand up thousands of new jobs building submarines and Future Frigates in the defence industry. They are a foundation stone of where we have come from but also a really big future growth opportunity here in our state.

Talking of future growth opportunities, we are also looking at industries of the future, whether that be in high-tech, creative or space industries. Some of this new industry will be based in Lot Fourteen. This is home to some key national centres of excellence, such as the Australian Space Agency. It was fantastic news when the Prime Minister and the Premier announced the Australian Space Agency was going to be based right here in South Australia. That was back in 2018. Fast-forward to now and it is in operation, working and providing commercial opportunity here in South Australia.

The space industry in South Australia is based on new space. It is based on commercial space opportunities. It is not the old space, which relied heavily on government money. This is about commercial space entities, and we are very lucky to have a fantastic and thriving space ecosystem in South Australia. It is, in fact, the nation's space capital. It is leading to the launch of the first space capable rocket, Mr Deputy Speaker, in Koonibba in your electorate of Flinders, but we also have more launches on the horizon. It is an exciting time in South Australia.

The space industry has the opportunity to grow to become a \$12 billion industry in Australia by 2030 and certainly it is the Marshall government's aim and my aim to help secure a large percentage of that. Obviously, the space and high-tech ecosystem present in Lot Fourteen also has other centres of excellence such as the MIT Living Lab. MIT is one of the top-ranked institutions in the world and is based here in South Australia.

We also have the Australian Institute for Machine Learning. This is ranked No. 2 in the world for vision-related artificial intelligence. This is driving and attracting a magnet for companies here. Artificial intelligence will be a crucial technology that businesses will harness to remain or become globally competitive, and no more so than in the health and medical industry sector where South Australia, again, has a competitive advantage.

This Marshall budget recognises this by investing \$1.6 million over four years in an artificial intelligence and health hub. It is going to grow South Australia's digital health ecosystem here by providing one-to-one co-funding to co-develop digital health applications alongside the Australian Institute for Machine Learning and the MIT Living Lab. These are great opportunities to help the South Australian health system but also to look at exporting that, not only nationally but, importantly, internationally, providing more export income for this state.

We recognise that it is all about trying to support and leverage these great centres of excellence and the new industries that are coming here, and so the government in this budget has established a new \$200 million Jobs and Economic Growth Fund to promote economic development and help to create jobs that are sustainable and for the long term. They are not there just for the money and when the money is not there they disappear; these are long-term stepped change as well.

As I said, the \$5.4 million Wine Export Recovery and Expansion Program, the \$1.8 million European Trade Office based in Paris, and the \$1.6 million AI and Health Hub are all funded from this jobs fund. At the same time, the federal government's \$1.3 billion Modern Manufacturing Initiative, aimed at promoting sovereign manufacturing capability, includes a collaboration stream

which will provide significant federal funding for initiatives as long as they are matched by state government funding and private sector investment.

The state government is considering a range of initiatives, including those in the hydrogen, space, defence and plant protein sectors, and this new jobs fund will be a potential funding source for these job creating industries of the future. By getting these fundamentals for business right, setting up these centres of excellence and investing in future industries, South Australia is attracting attention from global organisations: organisations such as Accenture, who bring with them 2,000 jobs in cyber and defence; Amazon Web Services, the second biggest business in the world; Google Cloud, the fourth biggest business; PwC; and the MTX Group is bringing in 500 jobs. This demonstrates the appetite from leading organisations to innovate in Adelaide in partnership with the capabilities we have brought.

The opportunity to have a career based in South Australia with these global organisations is also making us a magnet for talent. When we came to government in 2018 there was a massive brain drain of our young talent with net interstate migration going from 6,000, 7,000 towards 8,000 people net leaving the state. We have reversed that. By March last year, before the pandemic, this had reduced to just under negative 270 people. Since then, the net interstate migration has moved into positive territory, such that the most recent results show that for the 12 months to March this year the state has recorded positive net interstate migration—the first time this has been done since 1991.

This is also helping to drive jobs. The most recent labour force statistics in May showed that there were 871,000 people employed in South Australia. That is the highest in the state's history, but there is more work to be done and this budget supports further job creation. If you add the state's health response to COVID to those career prospects for South Australians, it makes South Australia one of the safest places in the world.

Only this month, Adelaide was ranked as the number one most livable city in Australia and the third most livable city in the world. Of course, I would like to think that my beautiful electorate of Morphett is the number one electorate in this state, which would mean that Morphett becomes the number one most livable electorate in the nation, and with good reason. There are terrific people and facilities in Morphett.

Since coming to government, it has been all about listening to the community and seeing what needs to be done and what can be helped. Since coming to government, we have expanded the Glenelg Police Station hours so that, in the peak summer months, the police will be available for much longer and into the weekend as well, which is fantastic for safety in that busy tourism precinct.

We have also done surface drainage and surface improvements to the Plympton Bulldogs footy oval, which is fantastic. Just recently, funding was announced to totally resurface the PHOS netball courts, which is great. That will unite the PHOS Netball Club and the PHOS Football Club, which has been a real drive within the community. It is fantastic for them. We have also invested money into the Novar Gardens Bowling and Petanque Club with some new petanque pitches.

Of course, schooling is very important, and the Glenelg Primary School is one of our key schools. Part of this budget sees \$7 million being put towards a facility upgrade for that school. That is part of \$665 million worth of funding being put into upgrading our schools across the state of South Australia. That is fantastic news for students not only in Morphett but across South Australia as well.

There have also been further improvements to Plympton International College, with \$3 million of funding going into their performing arts building. There is \$100,000 going towards the fantastic Our Lady of Grace Catholic school. St John the Baptist, another Catholic school, has had \$2.4 million put towards upgrading their facilities. Finally, St Mary's Memorial School has had \$1 million. So this budget is really investing in education, and that is really important.

In summary, this budget will further secure our state's growing global reputation as one of the safest and most attractive places in the world to live, work and raise a family. Certainly our work, in terms of trade and investment, for which I am responsible as the minister, will help our businesses create jobs for all South Australians.

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (20:07): I rise to speak on the Appropriation Bill 2021. Our budget for a stronger South Australia is delivering better services, creating jobs and building what matters. Right across South Australia and in my electorate of Adelaide it is delivering savings directly to families, reducing costs and creating jobs for businesses that need it. There is so much to talk about in this year's budget because we are delivering so much for South Australians, such as an enormous infrastructure pipeline, worth a record \$17.9 billion over the next four years.

In the Adelaide electorate, we have the Adelaide Festival Centre, with \$3.1 million for internal refurbishment works, including the provision of new seating and the refurbishment of dressing rooms. We also have \$300,000 for a business case for a new acoustic hall, and we have CBD activation grants, building on the very successful \$300,000 in 2021.

A further \$500,000 in 2021-22 will be provided to support the activation of the City of Adelaide precinct to deliver programs that will encourage people to return to the city to shop and work. This funding has been provided to the City of Adelaide to support the extension of the council's Event Infrastructure Incentives Scheme, which supports local industry to stage events, and to expand existing grant programs for small business owners in the city to encourage them to enhance and activate their outdoor areas. This will have a critical flow-on effect in supporting local businesses and jobs, including retail, food and beverage.

The \$200 million Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre will have a further \$200,000 per annum for an assistant director to provide content development and creative planning, programming and design input for the centre, which is expected to open in 2025.

The \$662 million Riverbank arena that was announced will have \$78.9 million invested over the forward estimates to finalise the plans for the construction of a new multipurpose arena within Adelaide's Riverbank Precinct. The new arena will provide the capacity and flexibility to attract larger conferences and exhibitions of strategic importance to South Australia. The business case identifies 2,059 jobs that will be created during construction and 345 jobs per annum once operational.

As to the Lot Fourteen capability centres, the government is investing in existing buildings on Lot Fourteen and this will be further boosted to enable the expansion of space, digital, high-tech and cyber companies in a collaborative setting; \$20.8 million will be provided to Renewal SA focusing on the next stage of development which is providing suitable accommodation in the Eleanor Harrald and Hanson buildings as part of a satellite development.

Our Leisure Events Bid Fund of \$90 million over four years will see the government continue looking at opportunities to secure new events. Recently secured events include the Adelaide International tennis, Illuminate Adelaide, the 2023 Australian Masters Games and the 2023 NRL Ampol State of Origin.

A landmark \$163.5 million mental health package over the next four years has been announced. This will provide a suite of critical new services outside the emergency department settings to further support South Australians seeking mental health care. This includes additional ongoing community support services, construction of a new 16-bed crisis stabilisation centre in the northern suburbs and the expansion of the Adelaide Adult Mental Health Centre to operate 24 hours a day with an extra \$4.5 million per annum.

We will deliver a new \$1.95 billion landmark Women's and Children's Hospital that will provide world-class health care for children and women in South Australia for decades to come. The new state-of-the-art hospital will provide more bed capacity, more operating theatres and a bigger emergency department. It will be built next to the Royal Adelaide Hospital on Port Road and will include 500 treatment spaces, 170 outpatient consultation rooms, multilevel parking and two bridges linking the hospital facilities. The hospital will also improve the transition of care to adult services for adolescents, enhance mental healthcare facilities and will further education, training and research capabilities being located within the Adelaide Biomed City.

Railway stations across the city will receive much-needed makeovers as part of the \$99 million Station Refresh package in the 2021-22 state budget. Amongst the first lot to be upgraded are 15 stations along the Gawler line including the Adelaide station receiving \$6.4 million, Ovingham receiving \$10 million, as well as Dudley Park and North Adelaide stations in my electorate. The

upgrades will include new shelters, seating and bins, lighting, painting and landscaping, with works to begin this year.

Gawler rail electrification and the Ovingham level crossing projects are creating more than 350 jobs. The electrification of the Gawler line will deliver faster, cleaner and more reliable services and support increased passenger transport capacity. This budget provides an additional \$100 million to complete the works on the Gawler line electrification project, bringing the total project to \$715 million.

We have committed \$25 million to bust congestion at the notorious intersections along Nottage Terrace, with \$19 million major works already underway to upgrade the intersection at Scotty's Corner and now the next intersection will be fixed to increase capacity, ease congestion and keep traffic flowing smoothly, saving valuable time for commuters. We have announced \$6 million in this budget that will increase the capacity at the Nottage Terrace and North East Road intersection to keep traffic flowing.

Heritage is so important to South Australia, and in particular in the Adelaide electorate, and that is why we are investing in preserving and activating our much-loved historical sites, boosting the economy and creating jobs. Ayers House will receive a \$6.6 million upgrade to restore and revitalise one of South Australia's best-known heritage buildings. This includes kitchen upgrades, removal of asbestos, installation of a new lift and new air-conditioning infrastructure. In addition, there will be a \$1.5 million extension of the successful Heritage Grants Program.

Our children and young people deserve world-class facilities for their schooling. That is why the Marshall Liberal government is investing heavily in education. Nailsworth Primary School is a big winner and will see \$5 million injected into the school to provide additional capacity for growing enrolments. I also note the \$23 million state government contribution towards a redevelopment of Adelaide High School to accommodate more students and year 7 going into high school in 2022.

The Marshall Liberal government has an ambitious transition to net 100 per cent renewables in the 2030s. The SA-New South Wales interconnector will start construction this year and when delivered will provide savings of a further \$100 per annum on power bills. The \$13.4 million investment in a statewide electric vehicle fast charging network will jump-start electric vehicle uptake and support the policy to transition the state fleet to electric vehicles.

Funding of \$150,000 has also been provided in this budget to provide telephony equipment and resourcing to implement telephone voting for the blind or vision impaired voters and for those located overseas. Good health care is crucial for South Australians and is a top priority for the Marshall Liberal government. Fixing hospital ramping is a major concern and priority for this government.

We are investing \$7.4 billion to fix ramping by easing pressure on emergency departments and boosting resources across the health system, by increasing emergency department capacity with \$110 million to add over 140 new treatment spaces at nine emergency departments across the state, increasing capacity at those hospitals by 65 per cent. We are also easing demand for emergency services by creating appropriate alternative service delivery options and by tackling bed block and improving capacity in hospitals by creating more appropriate accommodation options.

Our multimillion dollar investment in education will provide a huge jobs boost and builds on our ongoing commitment to improve education infrastructure across the state. As part of our investment in education, we are providing \$50.1 million for an early learning strategy. This funding will include an initiative of \$35.1 million to expand the reach, frequency and number of child development checks, with \$150.5 million in extra funding and hundreds of extra teachers coming into our public schools next year.

Our state's recycling industry will receive its biggest ever investment, with more than \$16 million of state government funding that will unlock eight new projects worth \$111 million that will help our environment. These projects include a \$12 million wastepaper and recycling plant in the north, a \$24 million material recovery plant in the south and a \$19 million glass processing plant just outside of Gawler. Hundreds of jobs are expected to be created through this investment, which will further strengthen South Australia's recycling sector and build our nation-leading circular economy.

Between 2021 and 2025, around \$660 million will be invested in residential housing, including the government's affordable housing initiative, which will see over 1,000 affordable homes built over the life of the project, as well as public housing capital maintenance and renewal. In child protection, I am very excited with this year's budget. My department will be providing better services. The Marshall Liberal government remains committed to getting better outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people in care.

In this year's state budget, we have provided additional funding of \$42.1 million over four years to meet the costs of children and young people requiring a child protection statutory response, to keep them safe from abuse and neglect. We are committed to our ongoing strategy of growing the number of placements in family-based care and investing in additional early intervention programs to help vulnerable families before there is a need to enter the child protection system.

The Marshall Liberal government is providing better services through the implementation of a number of new initiatives to support our most vulnerable children and young people and their families. These include expanding family group conferencing and funding a new trial program to support young people post care. Due to the success of our program, the government has committed \$3.7 million over four years to establish family group conferencing as an ongoing program.

The pilot, which was delivered by Relationships Australia SA, has been very successful and ensured that 90 per cent of the families they have worked with have been able to remain together safely. We have expanded the program to include two further trials, one for unborn child concerns with Relationships Australia from 1 April and an Aboriginal-specific program with AFSS, with referrals to begin very soon.

Given the success of our carer payments for young people in care to the age of 21, we are expanding this program to young people in non-family based care placements. The stability post-care program is being funded for \$2.7 million as a 3½ year pilot to commence in early 2022. The pilot program will support young people with complex needs up to the age of 21 who are leaving care and who are at risk of homelessness and housing instability.

The Marshall Liberal government will provide \$18.2 million over seven years to establish the new Newpin South Australian family reunification program through a social impact bond. Newpin is an intensive therapeutic centre-based family reunification program and will be delivered through Uniting Communities. It is expected to support more than 200 families, with children aged six years and under in temporary care on a temporary order where reunification has been identified as an appropriate goal.

The government accepted all the recommendations handed down in the Rice review and is implementing additional safeguarding measures, including the establishment of a significant incident reporting unit. There is also \$1.2 billion over two years to establish the unit within the Department for Child Protection, including four FTEs. I am always striving with my department to improve practices to safeguard children from further harm and to help vulnerable children in their healing. That is why last year we announced \$600,000 to roll out the Sanctuary model of residential therapeutic care.

The Marshall Liberal government continues to work hard to deliver better services. I am delighted to announce that we will now be providing \$3.8 million over 2½ years to fund the Treatment Foster Care Oregon pilot program. This is an exciting program that will provide specialist foster care that has an international track record of success. It is a proven program that supports children and young people with complex behaviours aged between 12 and 17.

Through the Department of Human Services, many other programs have been announced in the budget to support and enhance outcomes for children in care. The Marshall Liberal government is providing investment in other areas that have direct impact on child protection systems and is focused on continuing support for our most vulnerable families. This includes \$111.3 million over six years to establish the Resilient Families program, an intensive home-based family support intervention program that will be delivered by the Benevolent Society through a social impact bond. This program is aimed at intervening early and keeping families together if it is safe to do so. Initially in the southern suburbs of Adelaide, this will further expand to Murray Bridge and then on to Mount Barker. This is expected to support up to 300 children over the next five years.

For children with a disability who are unable to live with their family in their family home and require out-of-home care arrangements and mainstream support, \$4.6 million has been allocated

over the next four years to ensure these children continue to receive out-of-home support for those funded through the NDIS. Through Youth Justice, there is a child diversion program, where \$1.3 million over two years has been allocated to help divert children who are at risk of being remanded in custody due to a lack of accommodation and support services by connecting them with appropriate supports.

Recognising that some young people are at greater risk of re-entering the youth justice system if they are incarcerated, we will be trialling a new child diversion program for 10 to 13 year olds. In this budget, we are funding the Youth Court a further \$0.339 million to provide for an additional magistrate at a 0.5 FTE to support staff of the Youth Court to ensure the court's capacity to meet the demands for child protection matters, to comply with the Children and Young People (Safety) Act and to help protect our most vulnerable children in South Australia.

I am proud to be part of a government that has a blueprint for a stronger South Australia and a positive plan to create even more jobs, build what matters and deliver better services to make South Australia and my electorate of Adelaide the best place in the world to live, work and raise a family.

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (20:25): I rise today to support the passage of this year's budget and to make some comments in regard to the overall themes and also the issues that affect my electorate directly. The budget has been presented this year by the Hon. Rob Lucas from the other place, and it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge his well-credentialled service in this parliament over a long period of time. To deliver his final budget to the state is something he should be very proud of.

This budget is a budget for the time. It is a budget focused on the needs of our state now and also on all South Australians. As we continue to recover from the economic and jobs issues that have faced our state over the past number of months and years through the coronavirus, handling of the situation from a health perspective certainly has underpinned both our revenue recovery and also the state's economic growth over that period of time as well. It would be hard to fathom the level of stimulus that has been put into the South Australian economy over the last couple of years if we had not lived through this period.

For that reason, there is no other way to describe this budget but one for the time and a product of the time and place. It is a budget focused on three things: on jobs; on health, particularly mental health; and on education and early learning. In particular, when we look at the overall scheme of the budget and how it has been received, there are a couple of indicators that are really key to understanding the confidence that we have in the budget and also that has been shown from outside.

It is helpful, as the Treasurer did on budget day, to put forward a comparison of approach with that of the Victorian Labor government, who handed down their budget just a short couple of weeks ago. Obviously net debt to revenue ratio is one of the key things and although, at 120 plus, it is a number that we would not have imagined just a short number of years ago, in comparison with Victoria's net debt to revenue ratio, sitting at 199, it is something where we probably will look back and see that the approach the government has taken through this budget has been justified.

It has been sensible, and that is quite literally the approach, and the way that that has been received by in particular the independent ratings agencies, Moody's and S&P, clearly does show that the approach this government has taken has been economically prudent. I will quote from S&P:

South Australia benefits from a strong economy and financial management, which allow it to absorb some stresses on creditworthiness.

They went on to say:

The state so far has suppressed the spread of the virus, allowing its economy to open and budget to recover quickly. Its early success in containing outbreaks has supported a stronger economic recovery than otherwise would have been the case.

ANZ just today had another strong response to and positive assessment of the South Australian state budget. ANZ is predicting the state's economic growth to surge even further, beyond the level forecast by the Marshall Liberal government. In their response document, 'SA budget: frontrunner for

a return to surplus', ANZ says despite the budget's predictions of 3.5 per cent growth next year, 'we are more optimistic' and predict a 4.5 per cent growth over that period.

During his speech yesterday, the Treasurer said that at times he can be a pessimistic person and perhaps that approach, while prudent at times, underpins the recovery that we will see in the economy over the years to come. I think everybody in this place certainly hopes that that is the case.

The fundamentals this government has focused on while on the government benches are incredibly important and for us that is around the cost of living and the cost of doing business in our state. That is something that we are very proud of on this side of the house—the achievements that have happened in just three and a bit short years.

Treasury have done modelling and presented in this budget the hip-pocket savings to average families around South Australia with two children. They reflected massive reductions in average household water and sewerage bills, a saving of over \$191 a year, and cheaper emergency services levy bills, a saving of \$184 a year. The settings that have been put in place and market settings in government policy around electricity have delivered an annual saving of \$269 a year. Reduced car rego costs through CTP insurance premiums for a two-car family are \$196 a year and there is the doubling of the Sports Vouchers program from \$50 to \$100.

So the benefits from our focus on the fundamentals, ensuring that the citizens of South Australia are paying less and that the cost of living has been reduced, are very clear and will continue to be presented as we make our way towards the election. Likewise, the cost of doing business in South Australia has equally come down over that period.

Referencing those same cost savings across different categories, ESL and payroll tax in particular, added to those that I have just mentioned, the average small business in South Australia that Treasury modelled—with obviously a range of factors put in there describing that business, their usage, etc., but an average business—saved around \$5,000 a year based on those structural changes to the settings of government to deliver money back into the pockets of South Australian businesses and families over that period of time.

One of the issues that has been at the forefront over the past 12 months is health and in particular the ramping issues that have been experienced in our state since the completion of the new Royal Adelaide Hospital under the former government. It is something that we obviously take incredibly seriously, and within this budget there has been a clear articulation of the plan from this government to address those issues.

Four main pillars have been identified and set out within the budget papers: increasing emergency department capacity, reducing demand at emergency departments, tackling bed block within hospitals and also providing additional resources to ambulance services. Particularly around reducing demand, there has been a significant spend that has been called for for a period of time as well and the government has responded to those calls with a near \$164 million package for mental health that includes a range of initiatives focused on ensuring that people with mental health challenges in our community are directed to the most appropriate place. Most of the time that is not an emergency department.

A new 16-bed 24/7 crisis stabilisation centre will be opened in the northern suburbs of Adelaide. There will be a new \$48 million 20-bed centre for older persons suffering from acute mental health issues. There is also the Urgent Mental Health Care Centre that opened recently in the Adelaide CBD, which started at six beds and has gradually expanded over the last six months or so. A pilot program that has been replicated in other states around Australia, and will be over the coming years, has now been expanded through state government funding to operate 24/7, something that is obviously incredibly helpful for ensuring that those people have appropriate care and are shifted away from emergency departments when that is in the best interests of those patients.

When we look at the total spend on our health services set out in this budget, it is the most money that our state has ever committed to health spending—\$7.4 billion over the coming financial year, an increase of nearly \$900 million on the last year of the former Labor government in 2017-18.

In terms of staffing, something that our political opponents have talked about regularly, often cherry-picking certain statistics that may or may not be accurate—most of the time I would say not—it is clear that there are more doctors and nurses working in our system now than there were at the

election. Nearly 1,000 extra employees were employed in the last year than there were under the previous government.

We also have a clear plan, as I articulated slightly earlier, with the four pillars to address that. One of the underpinning issues had been the amount of space and capacity within our emergency departments across the state. This budget sets out an increase of 140 emergency department beds across the system, which is an increase of 65 per cent. That will mean, in terms of Flinders Medical Centre, an increase of 30 treatment spaces to 86 treatment spaces. At the Lyell McEwin Hospital, it is an increase of 39 emergency department beds to 72, at The Queen Liz an increase of 15 emergency department beds, and further increases in capacity across the hospitals at Modbury, Mount Barker, Murray Bridge, Gawler, Southern Fleurieu Health Service and, of course, Victor Harbor as well.

In line with that four-point plan, as well as that increase in emergency department capacity and as well as the initiatives outlined around mental health to move people away from the emergency departments where appropriate, there are of course the additional ambulance staff that were announced and agreed to previous to the budget. This has been implemented in terms of the allocation of funding through this document as well.

One of the other issues with the health system that has become apparent—we obviously inherited a significant backlog in this area as well—is elective surgery. I think in terms of impact on people's health, a delay in elective surgery can also at times have an impact on mental health. It was fantastic to see that this budget sets out a \$20 million investment to help reduce elective surgery waiting times. This will also further ease pressure on our public hospitals through that process.

Can I also say that we are providing additional infrastructure money towards projects that have previously been announced. One of those is The Queen Elizabeth Hospital refurbishment that was cancelled by the former Labor government in 2015, by the member for West Torrens when he was Treasurer.

The cardiac services at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital will return to 24/7 at the change of government. Over that time, we have also secured an MRI rebate licence for the MRI machine at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. At any point on any day I am happy to stand here and compare our record on The Queen Elizabeth Hospital with those opposite—at any point. We have a clear and differentiated vision of what that hospital means to our community and we have continued to invest in it.

In terms of other areas of the budget that will affect my local area, certainly the Greener Neighbourhoods initiative has been something that has been readily welcomed both across the state and particularly in my electorate, with \$5½ million going into that project to provide more tree canopy across our city and our neighbourhoods.

I was only the other day, on Arbor Day, down at Lockleys representing the Minister for Environment, though it is also something I do as a local member every year. We put another few thousand plants into the Linear Park at Lockleys, a project that is very well connected to another the government is undertaking down at Breakout Creek, which is soon to be underway. We are nearing the point where the Linear Park and River Torrens system from Adelaide down to the coast will have just about been fully transformed, which is an exciting point of time to be at.

The Sports Vouchers program is something I regularly get feedback on within my electorate. It is well utilised by many of the sports clubs within the electorate as well. We came into government and discovered that the program had not been funded into the forward years. That was obviously rectified and we then went about doubling the \$50 voucher to \$100. It has also been expanded to dance and to something I am very passionate about, swimming lessons, which I think was a great initiative, but now to further expand that program to year 8 and 9 students across our state is only a good thing.

The more young people we have involved in sport, the more we can support them to do that, the better. It does not just keep our young people healthy, strong and motivated, it also teaches them some incredibly important life skills. Across many of our sports—it does not matter whether it is rowing, swimming, netball or soccer, they each have individualised talents and skills that they manage to impart on our young people, so it is a fantastic thing that that is happening.

In terms of the local area, there are a number of projects that have been provided with stimulus funding in the previous budget, or that are still commitments ongoing from previous budgets. There is so much happening in the local area at the moment it is fantastic. I have just mentioned Breakout Creek, and the sand recycling pipeline to run from Semaphore to West Beach has also been confirmed in the budget papers.

We have the Henley Square expansion project, which was announced just a couple of months ago, a partnership between the state government and the City of Charles Sturt to extend Henley Square across into Main Street. There are also the Henley High School and Grange Primary School redevelopments. One is well underway, and Grange Primary School is very soon to get started—two incredibly important projects for my local community as well.

One thing I want to briefly touch on before I finish is that, with two young children, I am now closer to the early childhood education system probably than I ever would have imagined not too many years ago, but it is incredibly exciting and I warmly welcome the Marshall Liberal government's \$50.1 million Early Learning Strategy that was announced through the budget this week.

There are a range of initiatives contained within the strategy but some of the major work and things that I think will create a significant impact for our young people across the state over the coming years are around development checks for our young people. There were some sobering stats recited by the Treasurer during his speech just a couple of days ago. The Blue Book, which all new parents are handed when their young son or daughter arrives, sets out the trajectory or growth rates of their child and what they should expect, but also sets out development milestones and a range of helpful things like immunisation guidelines and frameworks.

One thing that is offered to our parents is a health check—a development check—free of charge so that we can try to identify when there are issues. Ninety per cent of parents and obviously subsequently their children are taking up those checks at age one to four weeks, mainly because we are able to very quickly follow up through that process and the Blue Book and encourage parents to do that. Only 28 per cent of children aged six months undertake the six-month check. Only 18 per cent of children aged 18 months old take up that check, and only 50 per cent of preschool children take the check that is scheduled to be taken at that age.

Quite simply, that is not good enough. This strategy is aimed at addressing that issue to ensure that we are able, through this process, to increase the availability and the uptake of those checks to identify development milestones that are not being met so that we can provide appropriate care to those children and help them along their journey prior to them getting to school. It is going to be a huge change. It is going to potentially have huge implications for the lives of many of our young people to change the course, perhaps, of many of our young people's trajectories in life. Quite simply, the earlier we identify these issues the better for that child, the better for our state and the better for their parents.

One other issue that got a degree of attention in the past couple of weeks was funding from the state government that had been attributed to our library system across our local government partners. I just wanted to confirm for those who have contacted my office that \$20.7 million has been secured to continue to fund our state's 137 libraries, including the one at Henley Beach. I, like all, support our libraries and look forward to their continued strength and for them to continue to be a place where our community meets, learns and enjoys a book.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (20:45): It gives me great pleasure to be able to make a contribution and reflect on the 2021-22 state budget this evening. It is a budget that has a lot of work to do. It is a budget that needs to not only set our state up for success into the future but actually pull us out of some very difficult challenges that we have faced following the arrival of COVID-19 in Australia in early 2020.

We know the unexpected nature of that pandemic. We had not planned for it. We had to devise the coping mechanisms at every level, from economic to health to the wellbeing of our communities, and we had to devise them as we went along. Of course, there had been some planning as to how our state would deal with the arrival of a global pandemic, but it had not been tested and there were many aspects of dealing with that pandemic that had to evolve quickly, change on an hourly or daily basis and continue to be evolved as the weeks and months went on.

None more so than the economic response. The health response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been, I believe, exemplary in South Australia. It has in many ways led the nation, and Australia as a nation has led the globe with our response to the pandemic, but our economic response had to follow immediately behind the health response.

I believe it is our twin successes, our success with regard to the primary healthcare side of dealing with the pandemic and our success with dealing with the economic challenges presented by the pandemic, that have set up our state, and hopefully our nation, for success heading into the future. It is a success that will position our state as a place to live and a place to work, a place to do business and a place to do life well into the future, and really position South Australia and in particular our capital city, Adelaide, as a place to which people from all across the world will be drawn to invest in and to make their home.

The budget is really a budget of two parts. It is a budget that was initially handed down in November 2020 and then continues with what I see as part 2 of this budget, a \$4 billion economic stimulus to get us through COVID-19, to restart our economy and to modernise our economy in such a way that our state is positioned for success into the future. We should see this as a budget that stretches over two budgetary periods: the delayed budget handed down at the end of last year and the budget handed down this week that takes us into the forthcoming financial year.

Unless you see them as essentially a single budget, a stimulus budget, you could overlook some of the greatest benefits of this budget. In my own portfolio, the environment and water portfolio, much of the stimulus sat in the November 2020 budget. It is set up through the forthcoming financial years in a way that the environment and water portfolio has never felt before—a reinvestment of historic proportions, not just a recovery budget changing the nature of investment in the portfolio after many years of Labor cuts. Sixty per cent of my portfolio's budget was cut under the period of Labor in office. We have now not only stabilised the budget but sought to rebuild it and to take it into a position of economic recovery and policy recovery that will position us well into the future.

The environment portfolio is now, I believe, exceptionally well positioned. It is a portfolio that is so important to the livability of our state. Our climate responsiveness, our resilience in the landscape so that we can continue to develop high-quality and internationally sought after fibre and food, the livability of our capital city, regional cities and towns, the survival and the resilience of the mighty and precious River Murray are all inextricably linked to environmental sustainability. If we get these things right, we will secure the livability of our state into the future.

I am delighted that this budget builds on our historic investment in national parks. Twenty-one per cent of this state is held within the national parks estate. That is an area the size of the United Kingdom if you add it all together. How lucky are we to have such an immense protected area system? This budget ensures that our \$130 million investment continues with better conservation programs and greater amenity in our national parks so that people can safely and sensibly visit and access our national parks, and so that our national parks are a drawcard for tourism and for the lifestyle that we want to create across our state.

One of the great benefits of our parks is that many of them are found in regional South Australia, so they draw people into the regions where they spend money on accommodation, food, experiences and various other things along the way. We cannot underestimate our national parks. They have twin value. They have immense conservation value. They are part of our program and our strategy for climate resilience, but they also have that economic benefit in that they are a great drawcard.

We have these iconic places, and we do need to invest in their amenity so that people have a sense of pride when they go there and that they are a place that people want to connect with and fall in love with. My view, and my philosophy as the state's environment minister, is the more you can give people access to our national parks and immerse them in nature, the more easily they will fall in love with them and consequently strive to fight for them when they come under threat.

I believe that the livability created by our national parks by programs such as Greener Neighbourhoods, and we have just expanded our partnership with local councils and quadrupled the funding available there, and the opening of our reservoirs add to the livability of Adelaide and of South Australia. We know that Adelaide—and South Australia more broadly, but particularly

Adelaide—has just been rated the third most livable city in the world by the Economist Intelligence Unit. What a great badge of honour for this city. I do not think that can be underestimated. It gives us a brand. It gives us a positioning that we can leverage for immense economic value.

As we move out of the COVID-19 era—and let's hope we do move out of that era sooner rather than later—we do need to be thinking about what does our city and what does our state stand for as we move into 2022, into the 2020s and beyond into the 2030s and 2040s. I believe that global livability is something that our city and state can really see as its brand. We can be an international destination, not just for tourists but for people to set up home here, to do life here, to do business here.

We should be a place which has a thriving modern 21st century economy, well positioned to attract the brightest of minds from all across the world. We should not shy away from that challenge. There is absolutely no doubt that off the back of COVID there are many people all across the world who are perhaps looking to return to South Australia, having made their home in some of the other global cities around the world, or there may be many people looking to start a new life in a place that has had those twin successes I mentioned earlier—the twin successes of health success in the face of COVID-19 and economic recovery and success following the pandemic's impacts.

Adelaide and South Australia have the livability, have the smarts, have the geographic positioning, the stability, the educational institutions and the DNA to be a magnet to people from all across the world. It is my view that we should go out and find those people, that we should be making a big pitch to the rest of the world that Adelaide is a place to call home, that South Australia is a place to do life and that you should bring your brains, your money, your capacity, your enthusiasm, your entrepreneurial nature, your innovation, to South Australia, bring it to Adelaide and start life here.

The term 'big Australia' has been a little bit maligned over the years—it was used a lot by Kevin Rudd back in 2007-08, so I will not use that term, but I think we should be ambitious about population growth in South Australia. That big pitch to the world should be something we do proudly, and we should not be putting up signs saying, 'No, we're full. We can't take any further immigration.' I think we can, because I have a very strong belief that the investment, entrepreneurialism, capital and skills that come with migrants drive economic activity, and on the back of COVID-19 will also drive economic recovery.

I also strongly believe that our state has the space and the resources to have a much more substantial population. I believe many more people could live in metropolitan Adelaide, particularly within the CBD itself, which has a relatively low population compared with many capital cities and cities of this nature around the world. Even more importantly, if we are looking at population growth, we should be looking at regional population growth.

We have some incredible regional cities and towns in this state, whether it is down on Fleurieu Peninsula with Victor Harbor and the conglomeration of towns along the coast, or further afield in Whyalla, Port Lincoln, Port Augusta, Port Pirie, Murray Bridge, Mount Gambier or the Riverland towns. We have regional cities and towns across this state that really do lend themselves to population growth, and I think they also offer a similar high-quality lifestyle and state of wellbeing that Adelaide offers, and we should be pitching them to the world as well.

If there is one thing that COVID-19 has shown us it is that it is much easier to do work and do business remotely—really, anywhere in the world—as long as you have half decent internet connections, and we are getting better at that. So I do think there is this great opportunity for South Australia to drive population growth, to drive economic recovery and to drive economic growth off the back of COVID-19, sending a message to the world that we are the place to do business, we are the place to call home.

I have been delighted that during our four budgets, under the leadership of Premier Marshall and Treasurer Lucas we have worked exceptionally hard to make South Australia a place that is much more business friendly. We have focused consistently and significantly on lowering the cost of living for South Australian residential households as well as the cost of doing business, with lower payroll tax, lower land tax and, importantly for many businesses, lower water bills.

I have been delighted to be the environment and water minister at a time when we have driven down water bills for the average business by \$1,350 per annum and the average household by about \$200 per annum. This is not insignificant; it does build up year on year and makes a

significant impact on the bottom line for many businesses, particularly small businesses. Some of those big water users in this state have seen water bill savings in excess of \$1 million per annum. That money is reinvested, there is no doubt about that. It creates more jobs and sets South Australia up as a really successful place to do business.

At the same time, we have also been working exceptionally hard to drive down power prices, and that is working exceptionally well. The announcement of the interconnector, so that we can export our green, clean, renewable energy interstate, adding grid stability, creates certainty around business investment as well as driving down power prices. All this contributes towards the sense that Adelaide is experiencing a renaissance as a place to do business.

When we came to office it was quite the opposite. This was a state that business was fleeing from, turning away from. In boardrooms across this nation, when suggestions were made that you might think of relocating to Adelaide they were met with a chuckle or a wry smile. People were not keen to invest in this state because of a range of uncertainties, a very high cost of doing business and, in particular, that grid instability. Things have turned around now.

We have an economy that is rapidly modernising, and it is exciting. I look up the road to Lot Fourteen, a project that has been driven by Premier Marshall in the most personal of ways, and it is working. It is drawing those high-tech, smart businesses and startups, but it is not only startups; really significant global businesses like Amazon, Accenture and Google are being drawn into the ecosystem that is being developed at Lot Fourteen.

That is a game changer for South Australia, and we need more of it. We need to continue to stay committed to the vision of Lot Fourteen, we need to leverage the growing defence industry here, we need to leverage the smarts and the investment that is coming with the space and satellite industry. Again, Premier Marshall has really driven our focus and investment and drive into that area.

South Australia really does have a very bright future. We must continue to keep the cost of doing business low, and we need to keep the cost of living for households low as well. We need to be able to encourage people to come here. We have successfully reversed the brain drain since coming to office, we are doing well there, but we need to encourage more minds, more skills, more capital, more energy to South Australia—and we can do that. We can do it because this budget with its \$4 billion of stimulus, which is spread across the 2020-21 and 2021-22 budgets, is building state-building infrastructure. It is setting this state up for success into the future.

We can also do it because we are the third most livable city in the world—the most livable city in Australia. We are a place with an enviable lifestyle, a place with the skills, the know-how and the magnetism, I think, as a migrant myself, to call this place home, to call this place one of the global leaders, the global attractions, to do business and to set our population up for prosperity, success and a little bit of adventure as well into the future.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Of course, minister, there is always Elliston as a developing regional centre.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS: One of my favourite towns.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is one of your favourite places. I do know that.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (21:05): I am very pleased to commend to the house the Appropriation Bill and to commend Rob Lucas on the delivery of his eighth state budget. The 2021-22 budget is a budget that sets South Australia up for success. It is a budget about keeping South Australia strong and seeing us come out of the coronavirus pandemic, and all of the disruption that has been experienced over the last 15 months and is still being experienced, stronger than before.

It is a budget that creates jobs, that builds what matters, as the Minister for Infrastructure often tells us in relation to our record \$17.9 billion investment in infrastructure over the next four years, and it delivers better services. I am very privileged in the education portfolio as minister to be able to see the impact on all three of those strengths, because the work that we are doing is creating jobs. Our school building programs are creating jobs right now at a time when they have never been more important.

There is our investment in TAFE—more than \$200 million of new investment, of new money, in this budget to support TAFE to help it rebuild from some of those extraordinary cuts imposed on it between 2015 and 2017 by then Treasurer Koutsantonis and the unrealistic revenue expectations. That support for TAFE creates jobs; it is saving some jobs at TAFE. It is also helping South Australia's business and industries have their workforce needs met. Further to that, it is helping young South Australians and older South Australians seeking to reskill to get the skills they need for the jobs of the future and the jobs of today. That support for TAFE, that building program in our schools, is creating jobs.

Of course, it is also building what matters. We are building a legacy of educational infrastructure in South Australia that not only is going to be serving our community now at a time when we need to increase our capacity in our schools to deal with the significant enrolment demands but is leaving a legacy of substantial improvement to our educational facilities that will be welcomed by future generations of South Australians. It will enable teaching and learning to be truly delivered at a world-class level in facilities that are designed for the pedagogy and the manner of teaching and learning that is supposed to be taking place in our classrooms in the 21st century.

This legacy has been talked about for some time. At the end of 16 years of the Labor government, they very proudly talked about their \$690 million investment that they called Building Better Schools. That has been grown in recent years to the point where I think every member of parliament is aware that we have a \$1.3 billion program of works. This year's budget papers identify that that body of work that has been in the works and recommitted to since we came into government has gone well past \$1.3 billion. Indeed, it is more than \$1.4 billion worth of infrastructure in our schools. It is the biggest public school build in our state's history.

We put our priorities where the education department identified they are necessary. A significant amount of that has been to deal with capacity. Some of that is to do with the move of year 7 to high school, which has obviously seen more students in our high schools. Some of that is to do with significant population shifts and enrolment trends.

There has been urban infill, especially after 16 years of Labor planning policy that has seen dramatic urban infill, which has overwhelmed some schools in terms of the number of young people now living in those areas. It is to the point where, for example, in Rostrevor, at the specific advice and request and business case prepared by the Department for Education, an entire new school for 1,200 students from years 7 to 12 has been built into this budget. Enrolment trends, urban infill and the choices people make, the confidence they are showing in public schooling, have seen enrolments grow especially in certain areas. Certainly meeting those enrolment capacities is a significant part of it.

It is also about fixing infrastructure that needs to be fixed. In this year's budget, we also see \$42 million worth of investment at seven sites, schools and preschools: from Lucindale to Elliston, in the South-East to the West Coast, in Langhorne Creek and Salisbury East, at Pimpala Primary School in the member for Hurtle Vale's electorate, I think, at Seaview Downs Primary School and Nailsworth Primary School. Those seven sites are seeing an investment of a further \$42 million. These are sites that drastically need this investment to ensure that their facilities are able to offer the quality of learning environment that those children and young people deserve.

Investments in TAFE have been significant. Investments in buildings have been significant. The third pillar of the budget's themes has been delivering better services, and everything that I have spoken about already in education, and everything else in education is about delivering better services. Our ambition is for nothing less than world-class education, an education system that sees every child in South Australia, whatever kindy or classroom they are in, whatever school or preschool, whatever town or suburb or city they are in, supported to fulfil their potential, to get a year's growth in every year of their education, to have their educational ability stretched, their wellbeing supported, their resilience supported and their development supported.

That is an important investment every single day. For everyone working in education, from the minister down to every single staff member across the department, I have every confidence that our ambition is shared and that every day we all seek to improve the work we do. The work we do is in supporting our young people to be their best, to live their best lives, to be able to fulfil their best futures.

One of the very exciting parts of the budget is the investment therefore in education. We are seeing well over a thousand extra educators employed by the end of the budget forward estimates compared to last year. You can add hundreds and hundreds more net increase since we came to government. We are seeing record expenditure in terms of the recurrent funding to go alongside the record expenditure in terms of the infrastructure funding.

The extra funding, the record funding, is an input. Inputs are useful and inputs are important, but they are not as important as outcomes. Our government is focused on delivering outstanding achievements in both the inputs into education, identifying its high priority, and on the outcomes. That is why we have invested in early learning, in phonics, in the improvement of early years literacy. It is why we have invested in reforms to vocational education and training and the transition of year 7 into high school—so that our schools and our preschools are delivering for our students the best possible outcomes.

That is why we are investing in an entrepreneurial learning strategy, our music education strategy, our set of projects to support languages in schools and our Aboriginal Education Strategy. That is a tremendously important lever in what we are trying to achieve in our world-class education system for that group of South Australians towards whom we have at least all the same obligations as we do every South Australia child, plus the added moral obligation to support the young people of our First Nations peoples, who are behind their counterparts in non-Aboriginal communities in terms of life expectancy, in terms of health outcomes and in terms of educational achievement.

We have that moral obligation and an absolute burning desire to do our best for them. That Aboriginal Education Strategy, with its 10-year ambitious goals, its consistency of action plans that are being developed by the education department and delivered by the education department, is all important.

One of the key things in this year's budget that adds even further to the work that has been done over the last three years is the announcement of a \$50 million Early Learning Strategy. This is going to see ongoing funding of \$16 million per year in new money invested in our littlest learners, identifying families as first teachers but supporting those families to assist their children to be their best, not just through life but through identifying that there are significant things we can do before they even reach school. It is aimed at supporting all young children to thrive and learn.

The focus of the strategy is working with families on preschool learning programs and relationships and increasing the proportion of children who are developmentally on track even before they get to preschool. It is a 10-year strategy with an expenditure of \$50 million in the first four years and then \$16 million per year in new money, ongoing. There will be more than that invested because of course we will be focusing some existing resources on delivering according to the principles of the strategy.

As the member for Colton outlined earlier—and I will talk a little bit about his engagement in this work further on in my comments—we will particularly be looking at the development checks. Every parent knows that the CaFHS nurses and the Blue Books are a really important part of the first few weeks of a child's life. Indeed, we know that 90 per cent of the children born in South Australia have their first developmental check in their first few weeks, so the Blue Book visit is very well understood.

Milestone checks are also offered at six to nine months, 18 to 24 months and at preschool. The sad fact is that only 28 per cent of our children get the six-month check, only 18 per cent get the 18-month check and only 50 per cent of our children get the preschool check. This is not a new phenomenon; it has been going on for some time. I think that is clear when we have seen South Australia declining, from 2009 to 2018, in the AEDC index and the Early Childhood Development Index of wellbeing and developmental vulnerabilities. We see our state declining in terms of outcomes and the increasing numbers of children vulnerable in one or more domains. When other states have had the reverse experience, then it is clear that work needs to be done here, aiming to reduce developmental delays in children entering school.

This strategy has been informed by analysis of the current status of preschool education and early childhood services in South Australia, expert advice, research and consultation with practitioners. It has been informed by our consultation with other states. Western Australia has seen

a marked decline in the number of children presenting at school with developmental vulnerabilities in the same period of 2009 to 2018, while at the same time in South Australia our numbers have been going in the wrong direction.

The strategy has been informed by a YourSAy survey that many South Australians contributed to—hundreds of families, hundreds of practitioners, preschool and early childhood educators, experts, researchers and people who are interested in early childhood development. There were significant levels of targeted stakeholder engagement.

I also want to identify some specific work done by some outstanding public servants in this area, from Rick Persse, the Chief Executive of the Department for Education, and executive director Caroline Croser-Barlow and director Natalie Atkinson, through to some of the absolutely outstanding early childhood educators who have led the work on developing this body of strategies, particularly Asha Crozier and Nadia Carruzzo, who are two extremely well-regarded educators. Asha is from the country, from Keith, and Nadia is from the north-eastern suburbs around Ingle Farm, but both are broadly experienced beyond that and are directors of children's centres with high levels of regard in the profession. I also take the opportunity to thank my staff member, Sarah Hennessy, who worked very hard on this.

I also thank Matt Cowdrey, the member for Colton, and the Hon. Nicola Centofanti MLC, who, as Liberal members of parliament, took a particular interest in this area. While they were not involved in the particular development of the body of work that went to cabinet for the budget, they were a very strong lobby group within the Liberal party room to work very strongly with me to encourage this to be a priority for the government.

I thank them for that contribution and also for the work they did in engaging with a range of people in their communities, including early childhood leaders. They encouraged people to engage with the process that was worked on in developing this policy. They did an outstanding job as members of parliament. I thank them for that and I thank them for the contribution they have made towards this \$50 million strategy through the many suggestions they gave me and the government along the way.

I also recognise Dr Anne Glover AO, who is the chair of South Australia's Child Development Council and an outstanding South Australian. The Child Development Council, with Anne as the chair and Graham Jaeschke as the deputy chair, currently the acting chair, and all the experts on that council have done a significant body of work in this space. They released in 2020 'How are they faring? South Australia's 2020 Report Card for children and young people'. It, too, was instructive in some of the development of this policy work.

The 'How are they faring?' report from the Child Development Council found that most children and young people in South Australia are doing well but also evidenced that an increasing number of children were entering the education system with unidentified disabilities and developmental delays. Indeed, around a quarter of South Australian children start school developmentally vulnerable in one or more of the following domains: physical health and wellbeing, social competence, emotional maturity, language and cognitive skills, communication skills, and general knowledge.

Unmet needs during the early years are leading to poor health and life opportunities for some South Australian children. While we have record levels of funding—more than \$300 million last year, up from about \$240 million just a couple of years ago in supporting children in schools with disabilities—those opportunities to fund those children are absolutely locked in as a result of national school funding reforms which South Australia was the first state to sign up to.

We will give whatever support is needed in our schooling system through the financial support to schools or the special options placements for children. But how much better is it if somebody is able to have a diagnosis of a developmental delay or a problem in some of these areas earlier in life.

That is why our strategy supports extra developmental checks. We will work with CaFHS and other non-government providers to dramatically lift the uptake of those developmental checks that are already available; 28 per cent at six months and 18 per cent of children at 18 months, taking the opportunity to have those checks is not enough. We need to lift that and we also have the introduction

of the new checks taking place that will be available in addition to those at 12 months and three years going forward.

In conversations about learning and education, sometimes we can be left with the impression that education begins when the child walks through the classroom door, and we know that this is not the case. Children are developing and learning at a rapid pace from birth, long before they engage with any form of formal education.

Research over the past decade has provided us with an even greater understanding of the developing child and understanding that this early learning provides a basis for lifelong learning and progress. It informs us that early experiences can have a lasting and profound influence on a child's life trajectory, hence the importance of doing everything we can to get this right for children and families, particularly those in difficult circumstances who benefit the most from quality learning opportunities.

In the early years, we know there is a lot going on cognitively, socially and emotionally in the child's development, as children shape and respond to their world in subtle and sophisticated ways, which sometimes are not even readily identifiable or observable in their behaviour. Sometimes, of course, they are. The interrelation between genes and environment begins at conception and continues in the early years and lays a foundation for later learning and success.

Our Early Learning Strategy goals are about increasing the number of children developmentally on track, providing high-quality educational programs and supporting families with parenting during these times. Evidence shows children who receive quality early childhood experiences and opportunities have enhanced education, social, health and employment outcomes as adults. It is clear that social skills, knowledge and health developed early in life are predictors of success later in life.

This strategy recognises and supports the key role played by families, too, in the development of not only cognitive skills but social skills, emotional regulation, persistence and the ability to delay gratification, all of which are important in achievement at school in creating fulfilling personal relationships and for workplace productivity. This strategy is nuanced. It is developed with that broad range of stakeholders, literally thousands of South Australians and many experts, and it has been informed and shaped by current national and international research.

It will see changes to some early childhood services and programs, building on the initiatives and learning our department has made. Play-based activities are developmentally appropriate and they are a fundamental element. Also important is the child's relationship with adults in the home or in care and educational settings where the child's need for safety, security, and caring and loving relationships creates the environment in which a child can thrive cognitively, emotionally and socially. Helping our children to prosper is one of the great privileges of being a parent or an early years educator or anyone who works in this area.

The department will also lean in to our efforts to continue to build on the strong history of quality preschool programs in South Australia. Responding to the needs of children and families, we will be exploring opportunities for stronger connections prior to children starting at school, including the child and health development playgroups, playgroups in the community, with the intention of supporting families with their children's health, development and learning, and working with non-government organisations to ensure that we can give good tips to families along the way.

If anyone in this chamber was in any doubt of the strength of work that has gone into the development of this policy, the value of that investment, let me leave it to former South Australian Labor Premier Jay Weatherill, who, as CEO of the Minderoo Foundation I understand said today:

We congratulate the South Australian Premier Steven Marshall and his team on this crucial investment in future generations that recognises the importance of the early years on children's future health, happiness, growth and development.

I thank Jay Weatherill for that endorsement of the South Australian government's Early Learning Strategy, and I hope we will have an opportunity to partner with the Minderoo Foundation in a number of the opportunities we will seek going forward. We will be looking to partner with local governments, with NGOs, with a range of people in delivering these outstanding outcomes for the very, very littlest learners, the youngest children in South Australia. I commend the budget to the house.

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (21:25): I rise to make a number of brief remarks on the Appropriation Bill and firstly acknowledge that this is a budget that has been delivered during extraordinary times, with a pandemic the likes of which the world has not seen for over 100 years. As I often say to people, whether on school tours or when visiting community groups and talking about the sorts of things I have done in the past, I have worked in infectious diseases, and whilst during undergrad we often learnt about pandemics, so I know how they work, why they happen and some of the underlying assumptions that cause them, you never actually think that they will happen.

I think that everyone right across the world has certainly been living through an experience that we would never really expect to live through. An important thing that the government needs to do is to obviously respond to those conditions so that we are providing the support and the recovery mechanisms so that we can get to the other side as well as possible. This is a very important budget in that context. It is about supporting jobs, it is about building the things that matter to our communities, the things that will support growth in our communities, and also investment in essential services, and particularly in health.

Health is obviously a critical issue to so many right across our state. It is certainly a very important thing in my community. Our hospitals have quite clearly been under a lot of pressure in recent times. We have seen an increase in the proportion of presentations to our hospitals that are of a more complex nature and have required more complex care and so have impacted the patient flow through our hospitals. This has led to crowding and bed block and those sorts of issues.

This is something that is being seen right across the country. Jurisdictions in other parts of Australia, whether it be Queensland or Western Australia, are also seeing the same thing. In some ways, we are at an advantage here in that we had already been embarking on a series of upgrades to our major metropolitan hospitals, which will ultimately help to reduce the demand or at least help support the demand on our hospitals.

In fact, I think every metropolitan hospital and even a number of our peri-urban hospitals are receiving upgrades, with the exception of the RAH. This is seeing an increase of 65 per cent in capacity in extended emergency care units and emergency departments. This will no doubt have a very significant impact once those projects are completed. Particularly notable projects include the Flinders Medical Centre emergency department upgrade, which will start to be opened during the next month, and then the Lyell McEwin Hospital towards the end of this year.

This investment in health has been a particularly important in my community, at the Modbury Hospital, a hospital that had had services stripped away as the hospital was downgraded under the former Labor government's disastrous Transforming Health experiment, where services were stripped away, patients were often forced to be transferred to other hospitals, which obviously came as a very rude shock to so many in the north-east who had often told me that they chose to live in our community because they believed they would be living near a hospital that would provide the services that they needed when they were in trouble.

We have been reversing those cuts. We have been returning key services over the last three years—a significant investment of \$98 million. Some of those upgrades include a brand-new emergency extended care unit and a brand-new outpatients department. This is a fantastic facility with the women's and children's service that has been provided on the ground floor, so as you come in through the main entrance just to the left, and on the first floor we have the adult outpatients services.

Brand-new surgical suites have also been opened. This will increase the capacity for day surgery but will also allow for greater throughput and complexity of cases to be handled there, with the inclusion of the high dependency unit that will increase the complexity of cases that can be handled at the Modbury Hospital. This is important because it will mean that more cases can be handled at Modbury. This will take pressure off the Lyell McEwin Hospital. It will also reduce transfers from the north-east to the Lyell McEwin Hospital and the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

There are a number of projects still in train now, including the short stay general medical unit, the upgrade of which is happening as we speak, and the palliative care unit. In fact, we visited that site just this morning with the Premier, the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and the member for King. This brand-new palliative care unit has 20 individual rooms with ensuites and a private garden.

I have never heard a bad word spoken about the palliative care service that is provided at Modbury Hospital, but the facility is a bit outdated now, so it will be a purpose-built facility on the ground floor, which will be completed early next year. This budget adds to this important investment by investing in a brand-new older persons mental health unit. This is a \$48 million investment and it will replace the ageing Woodleigh House facility.

Coming into government, a lot of the advice we had been receiving was that Woodleigh House was in desperate need of an upgrade. It was run down. It was very much a 1970s era building that did not really meet the needs of modern mental health care. We are investing significantly in replacing this unit with an older persons mental health unit, which I think is a fantastic thing. We are not only investing \$98 million in upgrading the Modbury Hospital, but we are now adding to that, bringing the total investment in Modbury up to \$142 million.

This is all part of the government's \$163 million investment in mental health right across the board, which includes adding beds and building brand-new facilities. This is important ultimately in helping ease pressure on our emergency departments. I know many people in my community who have raised with me Woodleigh House as a particular concern will be very pleased to see us investing very significantly in this area.

In addition to the upgrades and investment at Modbury Hospital, the Marshall government's \$163 million mental health package will also include \$20.4 million to build, and \$8.5 million per annum by 2024-25 to operate, a new 16-bed crisis stabilisation centre in the northern suburbs for mental health consumers; \$12 million to create additional psychiatric intensive care bed capacity in the hospital system; \$8.4 million per annum indexed to support mental health services in the community and reduce the number of people presenting to hospitals; \$7.3 million to continue mental health related support specifically related to the COVID-19 pandemic; a \$5 million investment to provide additional houses for people with mental health disability; \$5 million over two years to support the immediate needs of the mental health workforce; and \$4.5 million per annum indexed to support the delivery of urgent mental health care to the community, including through extending the Adelaide urgent mental health care centre to a 24-hour model.

This is a very important program. We have already been investing significantly in our health system right across the state, reversing the damage done under the previous government's Transforming Health experiment. Now we are adding to that even further, providing a significant package of support for mental health services that will ultimately help to take pressure off our emergency departments and hospitals, which is exactly what our communities want to see us do.

Another very important project for my community in the north-east is the building of a second park-and-ride at Tea Tree Plaza. This is an additional 400 car parks. This is an issue that has been raised with me by a number of people within my electorate, particularly prior to the pandemic. Often you needed to get to the current park-and-ride, which many are telling me now should have been built big enough in the first place, but I suppose we are where we are.

Prior to the pandemic, if you did not get to the Tea Tree Plaza Interchange or to the park-and-ride there prior to 8am you would not get a car park. There has been a slight reprieve since then. A lot of people are working from home, so it has not been as busy, but now we are starting to see people going back. The routines are coming back into place, and we are starting to see more and more cars parked in the street and more and more people needing car parking.

We have listened to the community, and we are now investing significantly—\$48.5 million to build a new car park at the Tea Tree Plaza Interchange. Not only is this a win for commuters, in that it can provide ready and convenient access to the O-Bahn, which is a very popular public transport route in the north-east, but it will also take many cars off the back streets.

I do note that there has been some commentary from perhaps other members of this place or other people around the place on this project as though somehow others had thought of it already. Perhaps that is, I suppose, where that ended: they had thought about it. There had been a thought bubble. There had been a bit of a notional item put in a budget, \$15 million, apparently to construct two park-and-rides. So that was \$15 million to construct two park-and-rides, keeping in mind Paradise was \$23 million, Golden Grove is \$33 million and this one is \$48.5 million, but we all need

to take the former Labor government seriously when they said they had put \$15 million in to build two new park-and-rides.

Mr Brown: Signed contracts too. Signed contracts, mate.

Dr HARVEY: The previous government had apparently signed contracts. I understand that those contracts were for a planning study, a concept plan and a business development plan, but no contracts were actually signed for construction. This is from the same party that had promised to build the Paradise park-and-ride prior to the 2014 election. They ran into the election telling everyone, 'If you vote for us, we'll build the Paradise park-and-ride.' Then, after the 2014 election, what happened? They scrapped it—gone, did not happen. So I do not know why anyone would ever have taken the former Labor government seriously—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr HARVEY: —prior to the 2018 election: 'We're going to build two park-and-rides—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr HARVEY: 'We're going to build two park-and-rides for \$15 million.' In the end, as I said, Paradise got \$23 million, Golden Grove cost \$33 million, Tea Tree Plaza is going to cost \$48.5 million, but everyone is going to believe that for \$15 million they could have built two. In any case—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Playford!

Dr HARVEY: —we are going along with exactly our trend right through the time we have been in government: we have said we are going to do something and now we are going to do it. In the early part of next year, we will begin to see works.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Playford!

Dr HARVEY: We will see works begin at Modbury in the early part of next year, and we will see the park-and-ride built. We will have built a park-and-ride at Paradise, like we said we would; we built a park-and-ride at Golden Grove, like we said we would; and now we will begin works on a new park-and-ride in Modbury, which is exactly what we said we would do. We will continue to deliver those projects exactly as we said we would, providing more capacity for parking along the O-Bahn, an incredibly popular route, so that not only will people have ready access to that public transport route but they will also take cars off the back streets.

I would also like to take this opportunity to talk about another very important project that is progressing really well within my community in the north-east—of course, the project to transfer households off the Tea Tree Gully council's hopeless community wastewater management system over to SA Water sewerage.

For those who do not know, you will be surprised to know that within the Tea Tree Gully council area there are over 4½ thousand households that are on an old system that is falling apart. It costs a fortune. I think this year we expect the annual service fee to go up to over \$800, which is hundreds of dollars more than most of those households will be paying on SA Water sewerage.

We are going to fix this problem. We have invested significantly and provided significant funds to SA Water to be in the process of transferring these households across from the Tea Tree Gully system to SA Water sewerage. To be clear, we are not taking over that system. SA Water is not taking over their system. They are replacing that system with a modern and reliable sewerage system. In fact, households have already started to be connected. As part of pilot works, households within Modbury—Glenere Drive and soon Dawson Drive—will be connected and those households are incredibly excited about this important project.

Also, more recently, SA Water released a transition plan. They have staged the project across the next few years, so it is stage 1, stage 2 and stage 3. Prioritisation has occurred based on a number of criteria. Essentially, those areas where there are the most problems are being transferred first where there are likely to be environmental impacts and based also on community feedback. Stage 1 will commence towards the end of this year or the beginning of next year. Stage 2 will follow in 2023-24, and stage 3 will occur in the next SA Water regulatory period, which starts in 2024. This is a very exciting project.

I am looking for a little bit more enthusiasm from the Tea Tree Gully council on this project. I am hoping for their full-throated support shortly. Unfortunately, there has been some commentary from certain quarters within the council seeking to undermine and be negative about this project and I just say to them, "What do you propose?" Do they suggest that we just stick with what we have? I can assure them that essentially not a single person I have spoken to in the community wants things to stay as they are. I know exactly what they want and they are very clear about what they want, but I just wonder sometimes whether the council are completely aware of where the views of many of the people in their area are at on this issue.

I would also like to raise another issue around some of the commentary that has happened recently with the price rises for the service fee for the Tea Tree Gully council. There has been a dramatic increase in the service fee in recent years and a lot of the commentary from the council has been that this is because of the Essential Services Commission of South Australia apparently requiring full cost recovery.

It seems that there has been a misunderstanding of what full cost recovery means. Full cost recovery means that a utility needs to invest in their asset so that their asset lasts into the future. ESCOSA has never said that full cost recovery means full cost recovery to the customer, so it does not mean that the full cost of running the council's CWMS needs to be borne by the people who are on the system. That is just not true, and in fact it is quite within the rights of the council to find other sources of revenue to support that. That is a policy decision for the council.

I think that residents on this system have paid enough. That is my view. I think they have been paying for decades through the nose for a system that does not provide the services they need. It is ultimately a choice for the members of the council to decide what they do with this fee, but I am pleased that we are getting on with the job of fixing this problem. That is what the community wants. All they care about is getting off this system and getting onto a modern and reliable sewerage system and that is exactly what we are doing.

Getting back to the budget, put simply, this is an important budget. It supports our state at a very important time and ensures that jobs are protected and supported and that we get economic growth. It ensures that the economy of our state is stronger at the other end of this pandemic than it was before, but also that we are investing in those services that matter so much to our communities, particularly health but many other areas, so I am very pleased to support this budget.

I would also really like to commend the Treasurer for his efforts and his tenure over a very long period of time. He is a steady hand on the tiller in this extraordinary experience. He will be a great loss to the parliament and a great loss to our team. I commend this budget to the house.

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (21:44): Members of our community have approached me to express their concerns regarding recent membership recruitment activities in our party. I am taking the step of addressing parliament to ensure that the important privileges this house affords me as a representative are also extended to all people who have approached me in relation to this matter and related matters.

The people who have approached me are expressing a view and their concerns regarding the means by which they can more fully participate in the governance of our state and the operations of at least one of our major political parties. Regardless of your views with respect to this matter, it is vital that community members can continue to approach me without fear of retribution. Their identity and the nature and scope of their communications with me and others, including the documents they have provided to me, must remain protected by parliamentary privilege. The very fact that those members have competing views underscores the importance of me maintaining parliamentary privilege over materials relevant to this subject matter.

Recently, members of my community approached me concerning communications sent to and received from the email addresses NotHappyJan2021@gmail.com and brucjenny@coppercoast@gmail.com and in relation to the subject matter of those emails more generally. First, I will read an email sent from the address NotHappyJan2021@gmail.com, dated Tuesday 15 January 2021.

For the purposes of ensuring that I describe this document so that it is or can be identified, I will not read all the email but instead just make reference to certain parts of it. Mr Speaker, you will be familiar, of course, with the case of Niarchos v Snelling, where a similar approach was adopted in relation to these very important matters. As I have earlier emphasised, it is absolutely essential that the privileges of this house be extended to the people who have approached me and continue to approach me. The email is addressed to a party unit member and states:

I am angry about the way you are leading the—

and there is a reference to the party unit team—

...You are involved in introducing hard right Pentecostal Christians into the party and have signed up about 90 already. This is causing a lot of friction with existing members.

There goes on a series of questions. There is a discussion or a reference to newspaper articles and it seems to me that those newspaper articles have been attached to this email. I emphasise that I know this party unit president. He is a trusted member of our community and I respect and accept his judgement and work with him. Other members of this place have confidence in him and trust and respect his judgement.

The SPEAKER: Member for Kavel, I just note at this point—it is a wideranging debate—the importance that at some level there is an appreciation of the fact that we are debating the Appropriation Bill. I will keep listening carefully. It is important that the matter at hand be borne in mind at some level. The member for Kavel has the call.

Mr CREGAN: Thank you, sir, I certainly will keep your comments in mind. I also refer to another email from brucjenny@coppercoast@gmail.com, to which I have earlier referred, sent on Wednesday 16 June 2021. The email is expressed to the State Director of the Liberal Party and raises similar and related concerns to the email I earlier addressed. There are a series of newspaper articles attached and they appear to be similar to or the same as the earlier newspaper articles to which I referred, addressing matters in relation to people's involvement in democracy and the importance of ensuring open and transparent party membership.

Also provided to me, or important in relation to informing this matter, are a series of emails from an electorate office to brucjenny@coppercoast@gmail.com dated Wednesday 16 June 2021 in relation to a series of newspaper articles. Relevant, too, is an email dated Tuesday 15 June at 12.59pm in relation to a list of party members, appearing to be a list concerning party members in Mayo, also is an email provided to an electorate office in relation to a series of lists concerning members of a political party, and this appears to be members of a state council of a political party.

The SPEAKER: Member for Kavel, I just stop you there again. I again draw your attention to the debate that is before the house. I am listening carefully and there may be a time, and it may be imminent, at which the connection to the Appropriation Bill and therefore the subject of the debate will become apparent to me and to all present. I just indicate that the matter of relevance is something that I am increasingly focused on. The member for Kavel has the call.

Mr CREGAN: Thank you, sir. It is the nature of politics that there will be competing and different views in relation to these matters and that people will seek to share their views with other individuals sometimes confidentially. My community looks to me to address the issues the subject of the emails, and to work with party and other leaders, community members and electorate office staff to do so.

I report that I have been impressed with the leadership of Mr Rowan Mumford, president of the local branches. Mr Mumford is seeking to ensure a balanced, fair and equitable response to the matters raised so that there can be continuing confidence in all the work of this government. Given the importance of the subject matter, I have used all records and information available to me, including, but not limited to, party lists, emails, texts and other electronic messages, extensive telephone calls and meetings to fully inform myself about these matters so as to make this report to parliament.

I assert and maintain parliamentary privilege over all records generated, communicated, received or stored by electronic means for use in any information system or for transmission from one information system to another in connection with this subject matter. It would not be possible to form up a judgement and report to the house in relation to this subject matter without the powerful and ancient privileges available to me.

As a private member, I do not enjoy the right to table documents, however essential. That is why it has been necessary for me to describe in a way that is useful to members some of the material, but far from all the material, that I have relied on and continue to assert privilege over. Mr Speaker, I also commend the budget to the house.

The SPEAKER: I just note at this point, and I have made observations, that I hesitate to interrupt any member in the course of a contribution, and in the course of the second reading debate of this important piece of legislation. I just remind all members of standing order 128 and that, as wideranging as the debate on this particular bill is, it is important that members bear in mind the need to maintain relevance. I understand the member for Kavel has concluded his remarks. The member for Playford is seeking the call.

Mr BROWN: If it might assist the Chair, I would draw your attention to the fact that the Appropriation Bill contains funding for the Electoral Commission in the sense of public funding and that in order to receive public funding there are certain rules that parties need to adhere to, so I do find that the member for Kavel's speech is particularly pertinent to the Appropriation Bill.

The SPEAKER: Well, if that was a point of order I will, at this hour, take it as a point of order pursuant to the standing order I was just addressing. I do not interpret it as requiring a ruling from me at this stage. I understand that the member for Kavel has concluded his remarks, so I will leave it at that for the moment.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to amendments Nos 1, 2, 4 and 5 made by the House of Assembly without any amendment; and agreed to amendment No. 3 made by the House of Assembly with the amendments indicated by the following schedule, to which amendments the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

No. 3 New Part, page 15, after line 17—Insert:

Part 1A—Conscientious objection of operators of certain residential facilities

Division 1—Preliminary

13A—Interpretation

In this Part—

deciding practitioner, for a decision about the transfer of a person, means—

- (a) the coordinating medical practitioner for the person; or
- (b) if the coordinating medical practitioner for the person is not available, another medical practitioner nominated by the person;

facility means—

- (a) a nursing home, hostel or other facility at which accommodation, nursing or personal care is provided to persons on a residential basis who, because of infirmity, illness, disease, incapacity or disability, have a need for nursing or personal care; or
- (b) a residential aged care facility;

relevant entity means an entity, other than a natural person, that provides a relevant service;

relevant service means a residential aged care service or a personal care service;

residential aged care means personal care or nursing care (or both) that is provided to a person in a residential facility in which the person is also provided with accommodation that includes—

- (a) staffing to meet the nursing and personal care needs of the person; and
- (b) meals and cleaning services; and
- (c) furnishings, furniture and equipment for the provision of that care and accommodation;

residential aged care facility means a facility at which residential aged care is provided, whether or not the care is provided by an entity that is an approved provider under the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Act 2018 of the Commonwealth;

residential facility does not include—

- (a) a private home; or
- (b) a hospital or psychiatric facility; or
- (c) a facility that primarily provides care to people who are not frail and aged.

13B—Meaning of permanent residents of certain facilities

- (1) A person is a permanent resident at a facility if the facility is the person's settled and usual place of abode where the person regularly or customarily lives.
- (2) A person is a permanent resident at a facility that is a residential aged care facility if the person has security of tenure at the facility under the Aged Care Act 1997 of the Commonwealth or on some other basis.
- (3) A person is not a permanent resident at a facility if the person resides at the facility temporarily.

Division 2—Information about voluntary assisted dying

13C—Access to information about voluntary assisted dying

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) a person is receiving relevant services from a relevant entity at a facility; and
 - (b) the person asks the entity for information about voluntary assisted dying; and
 - (c) the entity does not provide at the facility, to persons to whom relevant services are provided, the information that has been requested.
- (2) The relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility—
 - (a) must not hinder the person's access at the facility to information about voluntary assisted dying; and
 - (b) must, on request, allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a registered health practitioner or other person to enable the registered health practitioner or other person to personally provide the requested information about voluntary assisted dying to the person.

Division 3—Request and assessment process

13D—Application of Division

This Division applies if a person is receiving relevant services from a relevant entity at a facility.

13E—First requests and final requests

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the person or the person's agent advises the relevant entity that the person wishes to make a first request or final request (each a relevant request)', and
 - (b) the entity does not provide, to persons to whom relevant services are provided at the facility, access to the request and assessment process at the facility.
- (2) The relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a medical practitioner—
 - (a) whose presence is requested by the person; and
 - (b) who—

- (i) for a first request—is eligible to act as a coordinating medical practitioner; or
 - (ii) for a final request—is the coordinating medical practitioner for the person.
- (3) If the requested medical practitioner is not available to attend, the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person's relevant request may be made to—
 - (a) the requested medical practitioner; or
 - (b) another medical practitioner who is eligible and willing to act as a coordinating medical practitioner.

13F—First assessments

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the person has made a first request; and
 - (b) the person or the person's agent advises the relevant entity that the person wishes to undergo a first assessment; and
 - (c) the entity does not provide, to persons to whom relevant services are provided at the facility, access to the request and assessment process at the facility.
- (2) If the person is a permanent resident at the facility—
 - (a) the relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a relevant practitioner for the person to assess the person; and
 - (b) if a relevant practitioner is not available to attend—the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person's assessment may be carried out by—
 - (i) the relevant practitioner; or
 - (ii) another medical practitioner who is eligible and willing to act as a relevant practitioner.
- (3) If the person is not a permanent resident at the facility—
 - (a) the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person's first assessment may be carried out by a relevant practitioner for the person; or
 - (b) if, in the opinion of the deciding practitioner, transfer of the person as described in paragraph (a) would not be reasonable in the circumstances, the entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a relevant practitioner for the person.
- (4) In making a decision referred to in subsection (3)(b), the deciding practitioner must have regard to the following:
 - (a) whether the transfer would be likely to cause serious harm to the person;
 - (b) whether the transfer would be likely to adversely affect the person's access to voluntary assisted dying;
 - (c) whether the transfer would cause undue delay and prolonged suffering in accessing voluntary assisted dying;
 - (d) whether the place to which the person is proposed to be transferred is available to receive the person;
 - (e) whether the person would incur financial loss or costs because of the transfer.
- (5) In this section—

relevant practitioner for a person, means—

 - (a) the coordinating medical practitioner for the person; or
 - (b) a registered health practitioner to whom the coordinating medical practitioner for the person has referred a matter under section 22.

13G—Consulting assessments

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the person has undergone a first assessment; and
 - (b) the person or the person's agent advises the relevant entity that the person wishes to undergo a consulting assessment; and
 - (c) the entity does not provide, to persons to whom relevant services are provided at the facility, access to the request and assessment process at the facility.
- (2) If the person is a permanent resident at the facility—
 - (a) the relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a relevant practitioner for the person to assess the person; and
 - (b) if a relevant practitioner is not available to attend—the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person's assessment may be earned out by—
 - (i) the relevant practitioner; or
 - (ii) another medical practitioner who is eligible and willing to act as a relevant practitioner.
- (3) If the person is not a permanent resident at the facility—
 - (a) the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person's assessment may be earned out by a relevant practitioner for the person; or
 - (b) if, in the opinion of the deciding practitioner, transfer of the person as described in paragraph (a) would not be reasonable in the circumstances, the entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a relevant practitioner for the person.
- (4) In making a decision referred to in subsection (3)(b), the deciding practitioner must have regard to the following:
 - (a) whether the transfer would be likely to cause serious harm to the person;
 - (b) whether the transfer would be likely to adversely affect the person's access to voluntary assisted dying;
 - (c) whether the transfer would cause undue delay and prolonged suffering in accessing voluntary assisted dying;
 - (d) whether the place to which the person is proposed to be transferred is available to receive the person;
 - (e) whether the person would incur financial loss or costs because of the transfer.
- (5) In this section—

relevant practitioner for a person, means—

 - (a) the consulting medical practitioner for the person; or
 - (b) a registered health practitioner to whom the consulting medical practitioner for the person has referred a matter under section 31.

13H—Written declarations

- (1) This section applies if—
 - (a) the person has been assessed as eligible for access to voluntary assisted dying; and
 - (b) the person or the person's agent advises the relevant entity that the person wishes to make a written declaration ; and
 - (c) the entity does not provide, to persons to whom relevant services are provided at the facility, access to the request and assessment process at the facility.
- (2) If the person is a permanent resident at the facility—
 - (a) the relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by the coordinating medical

- practitioner for the person and any other person lawfully participating in the person's request for access to voluntary assisted dying to enable the person to make a written declaration; and
- (b) if the coordinating medical practitioner is not available to attend—the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person may make a written declaration.
- (3) If the person is not a permanent resident at the facility—
- (a) the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the person may make a written declaration; or
- (b) if, in the opinion of the deciding practitioner, transfer of the person as described in paragraph (a) would not be reasonable in the circumstances, the entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a relevant practitioner for the person and any other person lawfully participating in the person's request for access to voluntary assisted dying.
- (4) In making a decision referred to in subsection (3)(b), the deciding practitioner must have regard to the following:
- (a) whether the transfer would be likely to cause serious harm to the person;
- (b) whether the transfer would be likely to adversely affect the person's access to voluntary assisted dying;
- (c) whether the transfer would cause undue delay and prolonged suffering in accessing voluntary assisted dying;
- (d) whether the place to which the person is proposed to be transferred is available to receive the person;
- (e) whether the person would incur financial loss or costs because of the transfer.
- (5) In this section—
- relevant practitioner for a person, means—
- (a) the coordinating medical practitioner for the person; or
- (b) a registered health practitioner to whom the coordinating medical practitioner for the person has referred a matter under section 31.

13I—Application for voluntary assisted dying permit

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) the person has made a final request; and
- (b) the person or the person's agent advises the relevant entity that the person wishes to make an application for a voluntary assisted dying permit; and
- (c) the entity does not provide, to persons to whom relevant services are provided at the facility, access to a person's coordinating medical practitioner to enable such an application to be made.
- (2) If the person is a permanent resident at the facility—
- (a) the relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by the coordinating medical practitioner for the person to consult with and assess the person in relation to the application; and
- (b) if the coordinating medical practitioner is not available to attend—the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where consultation and assessment of the person can occur in relation to the application in consultation with, and on the advice of—
- (i) the coordinating medical practitioner; or
- (ii) another medical practitioner who is eligible and willing to act as the coordinating medical practitioner for the person.
- (3) If the person is not a permanent resident at the facility—

- (a) the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to and from a place where the coordinating medical practitioner for the person can consult with and assess the person in relation to the application; or
 - (b) if, in the opinion of the deciding practitioner, transfer of the person as described in paragraph (a) would not be reasonable in the circumstances—the relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by the coordinating medical practitioner for the person to consult with and assess the person in relation to the application.
- (4) In making a decision referred to in subsection (3)(b), the deciding practitioner must have regard to the following—
- (a) whether the transfer would be likely to cause serious harm to the person;
 - (b) whether the transfer would be likely to adversely affect the person's access to voluntary assisted dying;
 - (c) whether the transfer would cause undue delay and prolonged suffering in accessing voluntary assisted dying;
 - (d) whether the place to which the person is proposed to be transferred is available to receive the person;
 - (e) whether the person would incur financial loss or costs because of the transfer.

Division 4—Accessing voluntary assisted dying and death

13J—Administration of voluntary assisted dying substance

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) an application for a voluntary assisted dying permit has been made in respect of the person and a permit issued; and
 - (b) the person or the person's agent advises the relevant entity that the person wishes to self administer a voluntary assisted dying substance or have the coordinating medical practitioner for the person administer a voluntary assisted dying substance to the person; and
 - (c) the relevant entity does not provide, to persons to whom relevant services are provided at the facility, access to the administration of a voluntary assisted dying substance at the facility.
- (2) If the person is a permanent resident at the facility, the relevant entity and any other entity that owns or occupies the facility must—
- (a) if a practitioner administration permit is issued in respect of the person—allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by the coordinating medical practitioner and any other person lawfully participating in the person's request for access to voluntary assisted dying for the person to make an administration request and for the coordinating medical practitioner to administer a voluntary assisted dying substance to the person; or
 - (b) if a self administration permit is issued in respect of the person—
 - (i) allow reasonable access to the person at the facility by a person lawfully delivering a voluntary assisted dying substance to the person, and any other person lawfully participating in the person's request for access to voluntary assisted dying; and
 - (ii) not otherwise hinder access by the person to a voluntary assisted dying substance.
- (3) If the person is not a permanent resident at the facility—
- (a) the relevant entity must take reasonable steps to facilitate the transfer of the person to a place where the person may be administered or may self administer a voluntary assisted dying substance; or
 - (b) if, in the opinion of the deciding practitioner, transfer of the person as described in paragraph (a) would not be reasonable in the circumstances, subsection (2) applies in relation to the person as if the person were a permanent resident at the facility.
- (4) In making the decision under subsection (3)(b), the deciding practitioner must have regard to the following—

- (a) whether the transfer would be likely to cause serious harm to the person;
- (b) whether the transfer would be likely to adversely affect the person's access to voluntary assisted dying;
- (c) whether the transfer would cause undue delay and prolonged suffering in accessing voluntary assisted dying;
- (d) whether the place to which the person is proposed to be transferred is available to receive the person;
- (e) whether the person would incur financial loss or costs because of the transfer.

Division 5—Information about non-availability of voluntary assisted dying at certain facilities

13K—Relevant entities to inform public of non-availability of voluntary assisted dying at facility

- (1) This section applies to a relevant entity that does not provide, at a facility at which the entity provides relevant services, services associated with voluntary assisted dying (including, without limiting this subsection, access to the request and assessment process or access to the administration of a voluntary assisted dying substance).
- (2) The relevant entity must publish information about the fact the entity does not provide any services, or services of a specified kind, associated with voluntary assisted dying at the facility.
- (3) The relevant entity must publish the information in a way in which it is likely that persons who receive the services of the entity at the facility, or may in future receive the services of the entity at the facility, become aware of the information.

Legislative Council's Amendments thereto:

Clause 13 A, [clause 13 A, definition of facility]—After paragraph (b) insert:

or

- (c) a retirement village (within the meaning of the Retirement Villages Act 2016);

Clause 13 A, [clause 13 A, definition of relevant service]—After 'personal care service' insert:

, or services provided in the course of administering a retirement village scheme (within the meaning of the Retirement Villages Act 2016)

At 21:55 the house adjourned until Thursday 24 June 2021 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***HOUSING AUTHORITY**

510 Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (10 June 2021). What is the list of all companies and individuals that are approved to undertake maintenance work on South Australian Housing Authority properties including multitrade contractors (MTC) and any subcontracted organisations and individuals?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government): The Minister for Human Services has provided the following advice:

The provision of maintenance works and services for SA Housing Authority is managed via five Multi Trade Contractors (MTCs).

The MTCs are:

- Lake Maintenance (SA) Pty Ltd;
- Programmed Facility Management Pty Ltd;
- LL & TL Bettio Family Trust trading as Bettio Building Contractors;
- RTC Facilities Maintenance (SA) Pty Ltd; and
- Mordangood Maintenance Pty Ltd trading as Trade Maintenance Direct.

SWITCH FOR SOLAR

In reply to **the Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome)** (25 May 2021).

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I am advised by the Department for Energy and Mining that the Switch for Solar trial program will take place for one year from the date of the first installation, or when the 1,000 installations are complete—whichever occurs first.

The trial will inform consideration of a broader program.

HEARING HEALTH

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (9 June 2021).

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

In addition to the information I have already provided; it is well known that hearing loss can have a severe impact on an individual's development and education.

The impact on language development which has implications on reading and writing, is well documented and has the potential to affect literacy long term and negatively affect employment and life prospects.

The Department for Education has a number of initiatives to support children and families affected by hearing loss from diagnosis through the early intervention service and through detection with the screening of Indigenous student hearing on the APY Lands and in the metropolitan area.

These screening programs provide referrals for medical intervention and further audiology support through Hearing Australia.

In addition, the department provides statewide specialist support through Special Educators Hearing who offer support to children, families, preschools and schools from diagnosis through to the end of schooling.

Four Centres of Deaf Education and two specialist preschool programs are in place providing inclusive support to children and students with severe hearing loss.

In recognition of the need for specialist support required by those with hearing loss the department funds staff members wishing to learn Auslan and offers scholarships to teaching staff to gain a master's qualification to become a Teacher of the Deaf.

EPLANNING SYSTEM

In reply to **Mr BELL (Mount Gambier)** (10 June 2021).

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government): I have been advised that:

All development applications are now lodged and processed through the planning portal. This replaces what was largely a paper-based development application system lodged across 68 councils.

The online development application system includes a dashboard for applicants, as well as dashboards for relevant authorities. This allows both applicants and relevant authorities to keep track of applications.

Part of the new system includes clocks, which track the number of statutory days remaining in the application process.

I can confirm that the clocks are working, however the department has noted that for 5 to 10 per cent of applications that the clocks are disappearing on applicants' dashboards. The PlanSA service desk has fixed this issue to ensure applicants can keep track of their applications. The department is always looking to improve the system and will continue to refine the dashboards with users of the system.