# HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

# Tuesday, 14 June 2022

### The SPEAKER (Hon. D.R. Cregan) took the chair at 10:59.

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

The SPEAKER read prayers.

Bills

### **APPROPRIATION BILL 2022**

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 2 June 2022.)

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (11:00): Before and during the election campaign we heard repeatedly from the Premier that he and his party had a clear plan for the future of South Australia. He repeatedly said that that plan had jobs at its very heart and, to use the Premier's words, he said 'a plan which is not just about the next four years, but it is about the next generation'. Rather than seeing a long-term plan outlined in the first Malinauskas government budget, we see a budget that comprehensively fails to meet the expectations the Premier set just a few short months ago.

This is not a budget that sets even a four-year plan, never mind a plan for the next generation. It is a budget that is short term. It is focused on smoke and mirrors. It aims to get the books in order for a short period of time to try to pay for some election commitments, some of which we of course know will never occur, and it does nothing to set this state up for jobs growth, nor deal with what is an extremely likely cost-of-living crisis that is facing our state's immediate economic future.

This budget has been characterised by that trait that we see time and time again. We saw it from 2002 to 2018 and we saw it during the four years of the Labor Party in opposition and we see it again now: the trait of arrogance. Arrogance is going to become the central defining characteristic of this government; I have no doubt whatsoever about that. It has started straightaway. We see the hubris. We see the arrogance. We see it continue as if 2018 to 2022 did not even happen.

We see a level of arrogance that seems to suggest that the world has returned to its rightful place: Labor is back in power, that is the way it should be and they can get on with the same old approach. The short-termism, the media headlines and the jobs for the boys—that is just the way that Labor in this state works, and this budget continues that same old pattern. We should be disappointed by this.

To quote a term used by the Premier when he gave his first budget reply speech as opposition leader in 2018, he claimed that our budget at the time had no central uplifting theme. Well, I am afraid there is little in the way of a central uplifting theme in this budget whatsoever. This budget benefits hugely from the legacy the Marshall Liberal government left them, and that is simply the case. Consumer and business confidence was rising; in fact, it was at a level not seen in recent times.

All throughout our time in government consumer and business confidence rose. It rose in 2018 and 2019. Even though globally it got an incredibly significant knock from the COVID-19 pandemic, even though that global catastrophe, in many senses, set in in early 2020, business in this state and households in this state continued to have a level of confidence that at some points in the early times of the pandemic we never thought was possible—but it happened.

It happened because we had a government in the Marshall Liberal government relentlessly focused on keeping the cost of doing business low, on keeping costs to South Australian households low and ensuring that every decision that we made was setting South Australia up for the future. New jobs were reported at near decade-high levels during our time in government. Job vacancies were increasing at a faster rate than anywhere else in the nation.

Residential construction work in South Australia was rising while across the nation it was falling. Annual tourist spending in South Australia was at a record \$8.1 billion, with 40,500 people directly employed in our visitor economy across 18,000 businesses—many of them, the lifeblood of regional South Australia—and that trend continued throughout our term. We equipped many more South Australians with the skills and training for the jobs of tomorrow and the incentive to remain in their home state to seek rewarding careers, rather than having to move elsewhere.

I want to pay tribute to the member for Unley's relentless focus on traineeship and apprenticeship numbers during his time as minister, as someone who was ultimately focused on outcomes for employed South Australians, particularly getting more young people into the workplace through traineeships and apprenticeships. In fact, during our term in government, more than 3,300 employers took on an apprentice for the very first time, something that hopefully both they and the apprentice achieved a huge amount from and will want to repeat time and time again into the future.

This approach turned around South Australia's disastrous performance under Labor, when there was a 66 per cent decline in these commencements between 2012 and 2018. Our achievement means that businesses now have more skilled workers and can have confidence that taking on a trainee, taking on an apprentice, will set their business up for success. It will set their business up in a way that they have a culture of investing in young workers, giving them the skills that will benefit their business. It will set up that often younger person—not always a young person, but primarily young people—for success in this state going forward.

Unlike Labor and their budget, for four years we provided for future generations. We set this state up for future generations. We cut taxes, as we said we would. Importantly, we dealt with the payroll tax burden in this state, essentially abolishing payroll tax for small to medium-sized businesses across our state. We had the emergency services levy for households and businesses, it having been pushed up in the most unfair way by the previous government.

We dealt with water prices, reducing the average household water bill by \$200 per annum and the average business water bill by some \$1,300 per annum. We also put significant downward pressure on power prices while also building grid stability into the network in South Australia—so important for business confidence and certainty.

The Marshall government had South Australia's economic growth leading our nation for the first time on record. We delivered on our commitments to the people of South Australia. We did not let the arrival of COVID-19 distract us from that challenge. Nor did we need a taxpayer-funded Premier's Delivery Unit to ensure that we could get on and deliver our commitments and deliver for South Australians—because we restored responsible and effective cabinet government to South Australia after the failed Labor years.

Unlike Labor, our ministers took responsibility and accepted accountability for ensuring that the agencies that we had responsibility for delivered. We did not hand that responsibility to a faceless delivery unit—of course, it is not that faceless; we know one of the faces. We took responsibility and owned our decisions and drove those decisions through the cabinet process. They want Rik Morris to show them how (that is the face we know, by the way). Heaven help our state! We need to see ministers lead, not outsourcing to delivery units or commissioners and a whole range of unelected officials.

Before the election, the Premier said time after time that he was going to govern to ensure there were jobs for future generations. But he is already failing this generation, never mind future generations, with the admission in this budget that it will not continue to produce the jobs and economic growth South Australia so desperately needs. While it also comprehensively fails to do anything about the here and now challenge of rising cost-of-living pressures, these are the great challenges that this budget presents, or had the opportunity to solve, setting South Australia up for job success and dealing with the challenges—and we know they are growing challenges—of doing business and surviving in South Australia.

The Marshall Liberal government had no warning about COVID-19, but we responded immediately and effectively to it, with more than \$4 billion of support provided to South Australian households and businesses to keep them going during the darkest and most uncertain times that this state has faced for many, many decades. This was the nation's largest stimulus as a share of GSP to support the economy and save as many livelihoods and local businesses as possible.

Labor constantly complained that we were not spending enough on sustaining and securing jobs in this state. Our careful budget management supported nation-leading economic growth while passing on to this government an operating surplus in the 2022-23 financial year. Our budget management has left this government in a position to respond more effectively than it has so far to cost-of-living pressures. Other governments across the nation have announced a range of initiatives, recognising these cost-of-living challenges and cost of doing business challenges that are either already here or likely to emerge on the immediate horizon. But here in South Australia, in the budget most recently handed down, we saw no such suite of initiatives.

It seems that, despite the new Premier's Delivery Unit, its ministers lack the capacity to deal with a major challenge in the same way that the Marshall Liberal government responded to the arrival of COVID-19. We stepped up, we responded, but there could be an equally debilitating set of business circumstances arriving in the immediate future. There is no response; this budget has its head in the sand. In fact, in the lead-up to the election Labor only had one jobs project, one jobs announcement, and that of course was their Hydrogen Jobs Plan. That has also since become pretty much their only environmental project as well.

Massive cuts to the environment department were announced in the budget, but, 'Don't worry—we've got a hydrogen jobs plan and a hydrogen plant coming which will deal with the state's environmental challenges in a few years' time.' So \$70 million was ripped from the environment and energy portfolio, significant climate projects were cut, projects that delivered greening and climate resilience for our city and regional towns cut, but, 'Don't worry, folks—we've got our Hydrogen Jobs Plan and our hydrogen plant is coming.'

In the fullness of time, I am convinced that this election commitment, the Hydrogen Jobs Plan, will either be so significantly changed that it will be unrecognisable from what was originally announced or it will be shelved altogether, because we know that this project has been homed in on by business experts and energy experts across this nation, as both unnecessary and unworkable. It has been ridiculed by stakeholders and industry insiders throughout the nation and globally. But, because of the arrogance, they keep running with it.

I suspect that right now Rik Morris and the crew in the Premier's Delivery Unit up there in the dream factory are wondering, 'How can we spin this'—because he is a master of spin, Mr Morris—'to make sure that we are still delivering on it?' when it will be massively removed from what was announced during the election. It is the sort of election commitment you make when you do not think you will ever have to fulfil it. That is what this will end up.

We know that hydrogen has a really significant future in this state. The Marshall Liberal government spent a significant amount of time ensuring that we were setting the groundwork, putting that in place so that we could grab hold of the opportunities that will come from hydrogen in this state. But one thing we know that is not needed is a government-owned hydrogen power plant. No matter how they spin whatever it finally looks like, it will not be what they committed to. The jobs flowing from hydrogen in this state will be significant, but will there be jobs flowing from the Hydrogen Jobs Plan? I seriously doubt it.

The Premier has been brought up to believe that government knows best in every circumstance. That ideology, coupled with arrogance, sets our state up for some very significant challenges in the future. The Labor government has an ideological aversion to private sector investment across so many different parts of the state's business DNA, but we see it so clearly articulated when it comes to the Hydrogen Jobs Plan.

There is this idea that government can step in, take over an embryonic industry that private investment is setting up and getting going. There has been a bit of government enablement along the way, but the Malinauskas government wants to take over this embryonic industry and say to that industry, 'We know best. We want our Hydrogen Jobs Plan to be front and centre. We want to be the winners in this game.' That is just not how it works. By doing this, by budgeting under \$600 million to do this project that we have been told will cost at least \$1 billion, if not \$1.2 billion or \$1.5 billion, this could not only set our state's hydrogen industry back a generation but also set our state's budget back a generation as well.

Moving on from the hydrogen plant, another return to the same old Labor ways is the characteristic of picking winners. The budget funds a nebulous \$100 million economic recovery fund. Again, this is trotted out regularly in media releases and in media statements, but there is no detail as to what it will actually look like. In fact, in 2016, Labor announced something very similar: a Job Accelerator Grant Scheme. This provided more than \$100 million as an employment support scheme to individual hand-picked businesses, but it fell far short of its jobs creation targets and drew criticism from the Auditor-General that it had not been supported by a comprehensive business case analysis.

The Auditor-General's commentary on the Job Accelerator Grant Scheme also revealed that Treasury had advised it was likely most of the grants would go to employers who would have hired additional employees anyway. It seems that this government is going back to a catch-as-catch-can approach, and we will be keeping an extremely close eye to ensure that the picking of winners in a way that does not have appropriate integrity and selection processes built around it is not what this government lurches to once more. Again, we suspect it is the exact approach that is expected.

Another question we have to ask is: what happened to Growth State? I have been unable to find any mention in the budget papers of the Growth State program initiated by the Marshall Liberal government. The 2021 budget explained that the Department of the Premier and Cabinet was leading the implementation of Growth State across the public sector to increase the sustainable rate of economic growth in South Australia.

The focus of Growth State was on those sectors with strong growth potential, with most of the government financial support provided on a sector-wide basis rather than on individual companies. Growth State rearranged the way that government supports our economy by mandating quicker consistent decisions, removing obstacles to growth by driving much greater collaboration within the public sector and between government and the private sector. This means government working more closely with industry so that what government does is informed by what industry at a sector-wide basis actually needs.

Growth State was both a challenge and an opportunity: a challenge to the public sector to make the changes needed to ensure much more effective support to drive economic growth and an opportunity for specific industry sectors to work closely with a government which understood the support that they needed to grow. Governments have the right to change direction and rebrand and reposition, absolutely, but it is so important not to throw the baby out with the bathwater, and the work that was happening with Growth State was building up sectors of the future. These sectors had been identified as ones that had the great potential to transform South Australia's economy.

The Malinauskas government immediately went silent on this strategy. By all means rebrand it, put their stamp on it, get Rik Morris to come up with something, but continue with the focus on these sectors, not because they were the areas that the Marshall Liberal government identified but because they are the sectors that the evidence shows will set this state up for immense economic growth into the future.

In further support of our economic reform agenda, the Marshall Liberal government established the South Australian Productivity Commission to provide independent advice focused on lifting productivity and removing unnecessary regulatory barriers to economic development. However, this budget cuts the commission's staff in half and slashes its budget. In its first four years, the Productivity Commission had undertaken very useful work on issues like development referrals, tourism regulation, government procurement, local government costs and efficiencies and, more recently, South Australia's renewable energy competitiveness.

At a time when it remains vital to improve the rate of growth and productivity of South Australia's economy, it is incredibly concerning that this government is emasculating the Productivity Commission. This government's approach to business support generally shows that it has not learnt from the failures of the Rann and Weatherill years and is keen to perpetuate the 'good old days'.

We see the smoke and mirrors in this budget, with the north-south corridor being the most significant one of them all. This is a nation-building project that is at the heart of the economic productivity of this state: the movement of goods and services around our capital city. By pushing this project out by more than a year the government gets short-term budgetary sugar, but it does not benefit the tens of thousands of people and thousands of businesses that use that road every single day.

We put in place a plan, a plan which was validated and accredited by Infrastructure Australia and Infrastructure South Australia and which was ready to get on with, but within days of this government coming to power the same advisers, the same public servants who had said that this project was ready to go, somehow gave different advice that said that a whole range of problems were associated with the project, the same project reported to those people when we were in government and when Labor was in government.

When we were in government, it was ready to go. When Labor formed government, it suddenly was fraught with problems and had to be delayed. I suspect that very significant ministerial pressure was put on those senior public servants to change the story, to come up with that 495-word rationale to see this project—and at least \$1 billion of expenditure and an unquantified level of productivity loss—pushed off the budget so that the short-term sugar hit could be gained.

South Australians should fairly ask themselves and ask the Malinauskas government whether the north-south corridor will ever progress, and that is a very scary question to ask. This city needs a highway from one end to the other, and we committed to that when in government. The bit that was left over, the stretch between Darlington and the River Torrens, is the difficult section, but it is the section that we knuckled down and got a solution in place for.

Since becoming leader, I have been able to visit the regions every other week. I have been to the South-East, to the Mid North, to Yorke Peninsula, to Eyre Peninsula, to the Riverland and to the Fleurieu Peninsula and I have a range of trips booked into the future. I see the member for Schubert nodding because I am coming up to the Barossa in a couple of weeks.

The regions make a phenomenal contribution to our state. To say that they punch above their weight economically would be an understatement. I will continue to celebrate our regions. I will continue to advocate for investment in our regions, and I will continue to fight for our regions, because I am concerned that the contribution that our regions make receives scant interest in the Malinauskas government's first budget.

The seriousness of the cut endured by the primary industries and regions department is extremely concerning, meaning that our regions may not have the support of the government that is warranted for the contribution that they make, and so my shadow cabinet and the party that I lead will be continuing a sharp focus on what South Australia's regions can offer and what government's role is in supporting that offering to be developed and realised.

For four years I was South Australia's Minister for Environment and Water, and during that time there was record investment in the environment portfolio, particularly in terms of capital, but we also set that department up so that it could deliver at the frontline of environmental resilience across our state.

This budget saw a return to Labor's historic cuts to the environment department. A few additional grants—which are not part of the environment department's operating capacity at all—head out to NGOs, so off the books straightaway, and the government claims them as increased environmental expenditure. But if you add up the cuts sustained to both the environment portfolio and the energy portfolio, we see \$70 million ripped from the environment department's budget on the week that South Australia declared a climate emergency. The hypocrisy is writ large.

The environment department has a budget of about \$300 million. It seriously punches above its weight in terms of its contribution to our state. Twenty-one per cent of our state is held in our national parks network. If you add it all together—and I often quote this—it accumulates to a geographical region about the size of the United Kingdom. In the year 2000, there were 300 rangers to look after that. When Labor left office in 2018, it was down to 93. We got it back up to 145. My warning to people who care about our environment in this state is that, once again, rangers are likely to become an endangered species under the Malinauskas Labor government.

It is all virtue signalling, slogans and gestures, but when it comes to practical action on the ground they are just not interested, and it shows. The Deputy Premier's influence around the cabinet table—as has been historically the case, the holder environment portfolio comes from the left of the party—is overrun by the Labor boys from the right, and their record with the environment is not good at all.

The Liberal Party of South Australia has significant ambition for our state, and we remain ambitious for this state. We may be in opposition, but we will talk continually about how ambitious we are for this state. We undertook some incredibly ambitious projects while in office between 2018 and 2022. We were ambitious for skills development, we were ambitious for our education sector and we were ambitious for innovation in this state through projects like Lot Fourteen. Our ambition runs far higher than the first Malinauskas Labor budget has for South Australia.

In just one term of government, we demonstrated how our ambitions could quickly transform aspiration to outcomes. At Lot Fourteen, we inherited a Labor plan to turn this CBD central site into a block of high-rise flats. This was pretty ordinary ambition, to say the least. But in just four years, driven from the top by Premier Marshall, we saw Lot Fourteen transformed into a hub for the economy, for innovation and for culture, a world-class innovation startup and growth precinct, a place that has already become home to entrepreneurs, startups, small businesses and even global companies like Google and Amazon. It also hosts our nation's Space Agency, cementing South Australia as the undisputed focus of Australia's burgeoning space sector.

As well as growing our economy and creating jobs, Lot Fourteen also has the capacity to make a significant contribution to our state's cultural heritage. The Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre being built there will showcase our state and our nation's rich and diverse Aboriginal culture to the world. The location offers many exciting job-creating opportunities for our state. It means more South Australians can start and grow global businesses from right here in their home state, without having to travel and live interstate or overseas, while the East End of Adelaide will be an even more vibrant and exciting place for locals and tourists to both live and visit.

If Labor can muster the imagination to match that of the Marshall Liberal government, what has been delivered so far at Lot Fourteen can just be the start and it can spread beyond Lot Fourteen. However, on the evidence of the budget, Labor lacks that imagination. Labor was lucky with COVID. It did not have to do much for the first half of its term in opposition, and that shows up in this budget. It shows up in their range of election commitments—barely election commitments, many of them thought bubbles.

You get the sniggering, you get the arrogance, you get the slogans, you get the virtue signalling—but this budget does not get South Australia. It does not get South Australia's households, it does not get South Australia's businesses and it does not get the people who work in South Australia, the people who come up with ideas in South Australia, the people who drive this state forward. Those people, South Australians, should be extremely disappointed by the lack of ambition that Peter Malinauskas and his arrogant team have for them.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. A. Koutsantonis.

### NATIONAL GAS (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) (MARKET TRANSPARENCY) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 1 June 2022.)

**Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (11:36):** I take this opportunity to speak in parliament today about the National Gas (South Australia) (Market Transparency) Amendment Bill 2022 and indicate that I am the lead speaker for the opposition. This bill comes to us at a time of great uncertainty in both the electricity market and the gas market, especially on the east coast. Even today, there are reports that Queensland, and potentially New South Wales, will be challenged with electricity shortages in the evening. This is of great concern, not only to those in those states but also to all users of electricity in the National Electricity Market.

What has impacted this? Internationally, the war in Ukraine has caused big increases in the commodity markets and higher international gas prices that are now impacting on the domestic gas price. Domestically, there are factors impacting on this: planned maintenance of some of our coal-fired power stations and, in addition, outages to other coal-fired power stations. These have caused a massive increase in the use of gas to fill that gap. There has also been inclement weather, which has impacted the supply chains in coalmines and also the renewable energy output. These factors have all played a role.

Putting this into perspective, coal power has reduced from 65 per cent of the electricity provided in the NEM in May 2021 to 59 per cent this year. In exchange, gas has increased from about 6 per cent in May last year to upwards of 9 per cent of electricity generation in the NEM. It is playing a crucial role in the gas usage and gas shortages in the NEM, but we have to remember that gas prices are also impacting on industries that rely on using that gas for heating processes, industries such as manufacturing businesses and food manufacturing, and that is really important.

In this environment, last week the energy ministers from around Australia held a meeting to look to provide a way forward through these high gas prices that of course no-one wants to see. As I said previously last week, the opposition welcomed this meeting, and I was certainly interested to see the communiqué that resulted. One of the matters raised in the communiqué noted:

Energy Ministers noted the existing gas transparency reform package has been recently introduced into the South Australian Parliament and will be passed shortly. Energy Ministers have agreed to consider additional legislative reform options in July to enable new gas and electricity contract market monitoring powers as an immediate priority, for introduction into the South Australian Parliament to ensure the AER has the full information and visibility it needs.

Further to this, the communiqué also points out that energy senior officials have been instructed to bring back further transparency measures if required to support a more resilient, efficient and transparent east coast gas market. The gas transparency reform package measures mentioned in the communiqué are in fact what we are debating here today, what we are discussing, and involve making changes to the National Gas Law.

The gas markets in eastern and northern Australia are regulated through the operation of the National Gas Law and the associated National Gas Rules and regulations. The National Gas Law is hosted by South Australia. We are the lead jurisdiction. It has the force of law for the participating jurisdictions. All states and territories, including Western Australia on a limited basis, and the commonwealth are participating jurisdictions. The National Gas Law can be modified in the South Australian parliament at the unanimous direction of the Energy Council. The South Australian Governor is also responsible for amending regulations made under the National Gas Law.

That is where we find ourselves today. High energy prices, both gas and electricity, are having a massive impact on businesses and households alike. The opposition is very interested to look at supporting measures to reduce energy prices. In government, we certainly did a lot of heavy lifting in that regard, seeing electricity prices drop by \$420 from July 2018 through to December 2021. Likewise, gas is of interest to us as well.

In terms of this gas market transparency bill, it has been developed and consulted on over a number of years. It is not something that has appeared in a number of weeks. It has been discussed and consulted on for a number of years by the energy ministers via the former COAG Energy Council. Ultimately, these consultations led to its being ratified by energy ministers in July 2021, which then saw this bill effectively introduced into the South Australian parliament by the former Marshall Liberal government in September 2021.

As I said, the bill before us now is fundamentally the same as the bill introduced in September last year. As a result, I can indicate that the opposition will be supporting this amendment bill. Further

to that, the convention for such changes to the National Gas Law that have been through the energy ministers is that these legislative amendments are supported by the opposition, so I further indicate that the opposition will be offering bipartisan support to this bill today.

In terms of the gas market in Australia, conventional natural gas in Australia is currently produced in a number of fields, especially in the Cooper Basin but also in the Gippsland, Otway, Bass and Surat-Bowen basins. Gas producers extract the gas from wells and then process it to prepare it for transmission and sale in both domestic and overseas markets. Gas producers sell this wholesale gas to electricity generators, which I have spoken about before, and other large gas users and energy retailers. These energy retailers then onsell them to businesses and household consumers.

Many of the agreements that occur between these producers and users take the form of bilateral agreements, which are longer term. This means that limited information is available about large parts of the gas market. Over recent years, the east coast gas market has undergone even further and significant transformation. This has become more pronounced following the development of LNG export facilities in Queensland and contributed to a tightening of the supply and demand balance even before the current challenges we have faced with gas in the last few months.

The gas markets in eastern and northern Australia have historically operated in an opaque manner, with gas prices in gas supply agreements—infrastructure service agreements—invariably treated as confidential. Some steps have been taken recently to reduce this opaqueness, but there is still limited publicly available information on the prices payable for gas, LNG and infrastructure services beyond what is being published through the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) gas inquiry, which has been required through the recent gas pipeline reforms.

This opaqueness and lack of transparency have resulted in a number of reviews being carried out—one by the Australian Energy Market Commission and another held jointly by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and the Gas Market Reform Group. These reviews identified a range of information gaps and asymmetries that are adversely affecting the efficient operation across the eastern and northern Australian gas markets.

These gaps and asymmetries mean that not all the participants in the market have a common understanding of what market prices are and also the supply and demand conditions. This adversely affects the efficient operation of the markets and also the efficiency with which gas infrastructure services and other resources are allocated over the longer term.

One result of this lack of transparency is that it hinders the ability of the market to respond efficiently to changing market conditions. It also impedes effective competition and the efficient trade of gas and infrastructure services, and it results in inefficient decisions being made about the consumption, production and use of infrastructure services and longer term investment decisions. These key deficiencies primarily relate to gas, LNG export, infrastructure prices, gas supply and availability, infrastructure services and also the resulting demand.

As I said, these issues impact on the gas market. This was looked at in December 2018 by the COAG Energy Council and they decided that these information gaps and asymmetries that are happening in the gas industry warranted some government intervention, so they tasked officials with developing a package of transparency measures for the gas market. This took place over two years, with a number of options initially put out for consultation. Over 2019, this consultation occurred. The end result was that in March 2020 there was a Decision Regulation Impact Statement endorsed by the energy council.

Building upon that, in November 2020 energy senior officials used the Decision Regulation Impact Statement recommendations and released for consultation a package of draft regulatory amendments that would be required to give effect to the gas market transparency reforms as outlined by the energy ministers in March 2020.

The main areas that were covered as part of this reform were in terms of gas; LNG; infrastructure prices; the supply and availability of gas, including information about reserves and resources; information about the demand for gas by large users and LNG exporters; information about infrastructure use and planned developments; and what improvements could be made to the

Gas Statement of Opportunities that is published each year by the Australian Energy Market Operator.

This went out for consultation in November 2020. The resulting responses led the energy ministers to make some refinements to this framework in July 2021 but ultimately to progress it through to the legislation that was tabled, as I said, in parliament in September 2021, that bill being introduced by the former Minister for Energy and Mining. Unfortunately, the parliament was prorogued, but an identical bill has been introduced and that is what we are debating today.

I will talk a little bit about the intention of the bill and what improved market transparency would deliver. It is proposed that a number of benefits would occur, including enabling more informed decisions to be made about gas consumption, gas production, exploration activities and infrastructure services, which would facilitate more efficient planning and investment across the market.

Another advantage would be to provide more timely and accurate signals about how well the market is functioning and whether there are any potential problems with the supply and demand balance, which will enable the market to respond more efficiently to changing market conditions. Another benefit will be promoting competition, where that is possible. This will result in the efficient trade of gas and infrastructure services by aiding the price discovery process, which will lower search and transaction costs and reduce this information imbalance between producers and users in the markets, giving more bargaining power to users so that they can go through the supply chain to make sure they are not paying significantly more than they should be.

As I said, realising these measures will support the efficient operation of the gas market and the efficiency with which gas, infrastructure services and other resources will be allocated amongst the different market participants in the supply chain.

In terms of the bill itself, the National Gas (South Australia) (Market Transparency) Amendment Bill includes changes to the National Gas (South Australia) Regulations and also the Gas Rules. So it is not just the law itself but those regulations and rules that go with it. On being passed through the South Australian parliament, the package will apply to jurisdictions in the eastern and northern markets, including Queensland, New South Wales, ACT, Victoria and Tasmania. The package will also apply to the Northern Territory, but with some exceptions: in particular, the Darwin LNG facilities and some of the offshore gas fields that supply exclusively to those facilities.

The amendment bill expands the scope of existing measures in the law and also adds new measures that relate to the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board and the Gas Statement of Opportunities. It also expands the pricing information collected and published by the Australian Energy Regulator.

In terms of changes to the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board, this bulletin board was implemented in mid-2008 to provide market participants and other interested parties with ready access to information on the capacity and utilisation of key production, transportation and storage facilities on the east coast. The amendment bill before us will enable rules to be made that will expand the scope of that bulletin board and of persons who must report information to the Australian Energy Market Operator for the purposes of that bulletin board.

The expanded scope will extend to the natural gas industry, which encompasses activities right through the gas supply chain: from gas exploration right through to end users. The reform will seek to expand the scope of the bulletin board to require reporting and publication of information about numerous activities within the gas market, such as gas reserves and resources, LNG processing facilities, LNG export and import prices, the use of gas by large users (users who use more than 10 terajoules), short-term gas sales and swaps, and compression services as well.

The amendment bill provides for producers to report on these gas price assumptions that underpin the reserves and resource estimates and for those to be given to the Australian Energy Regulator and to allow the Australian Energy Regulator to publish that information on an anonymised basis to make sure that confidentiality is still involved.

In terms of changes to the Gas Statement of Opportunities, again this is similar to the bulletin board. It has been published for a number of years and was first published by AEMO in 2009. It is

now published on an annual basis. It contains information about gas supply and demand and related matters over the medium and long term, outwards of 20 years, to assist industry participants and others to make informed decisions about investment in the natural gas industry.

The amendment bill provides an enhanced framework for the Australian Energy Market Operator to collect information required for this Gas Statement of Opportunities. The National Gas Rules that go with this law will also specify additional information to be included in the Gas Statement of Opportunities, which will include information such as gas production and LNG facilities.

The Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) will be tasked with making new procedures to govern this survey process and the form of the survey itself, and these will be called the Gas Statement of Opportunities procedures. These new procedures will establish the survey's process to be conducted at least annually. AEMO will also be required to consult when it determines the initial form of these procedures and, going forward, any changes that are proposed.

Currently, information collected for the Gas Statement of Opportunities is to a large extent collected on a voluntary basis. To support the survey in the future, the amendment bill proposes to impose new obligations for persons with information required for the Gas Statement of Opportunities to give that information to AEMO when required by the procedures mentioned previously.

The third major amendment to this market transparency bill is around giving the Australian Energy Regulator new functions to collect, analyse and publish information about prices for goods and services in the natural gas industry. Currently, the ACCC gas inquiry collects some pricing information; however, this inquiry is scheduled to finish in 2025.

What came up quite strongly in the consultation process was that, in the absence of other measures such as this gas inquiry, the market would like to revert back to becoming even more opaque. By having these transparency reforms, it will allow the Australian Energy Regulator to collect this information and, importantly, to publish it. It will relate to the LNG import, export and net-back prices and prices for natural gas under short and longer term gas supply and gas-swap agreements.

It is also intended that the Australian Energy Regulator will determine the categories of price information, methodologies used to collect that and also how the frequently they publish that information. Additionally, the Australian Energy Regulator will gain new powers to publish an instrument requiring information to be given to the Australian Energy Regulator for the purpose of its new gas price reporting function.

Finally, as I said before, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's current gas inquiry finishes in 2025. The consultation said that the intention of these rules, when they come in place, is that there will be no duplication of the collection of this information, so the initial National Gas Rules that are intended to apply for the AER will be deferred until the ACCC's gas inquiry finishes in 2025.

Talking about the rules, the amendment bill in section 294 provides for the South Australian minister to make the initial National Gas Rules that will implement these transparency reforms and, once these National Gas Rules have been made, the minister will have no power to make any further rules. Further rules will be made by the Australian Energy Market Commission if required. Once implemented, these transparency reform measures will enhance transparency in the eastern and northern Australian gas markets. The aim is to address information gaps and asymmetries relating to gas infrastructure prices, the supply and availability of gas, gas demand and infrastructure used to supply gas to end markets.

It will ultimately aim to contribute to realising the National Gas Objective. The transparency reforms will facilitate more efficient planning and investment in the domestic gas markets, provide more accurate signals about how the market is functioning and also enable market participants to more effectively respond to changing market conditions, such as what we are experiencing currently.

The measures will also promote more competition by reducing search and transaction costs that gas users face during the price discovery process and help to reduce the imbalance of bargaining power that users can face in each stage of the supply chain. As I indicated earlier, the opposition will be offering bipartisan support for the National Gas (South Australia) (Market Transparency) Amendment Bill.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:59):** I rise to speak to the National Gas (South Australia) (Market Transparency) Amendment Bill. We note that this bill, as has been stated by our lead spokesman, the shadow minister, will improve transparency in the eastern and northern Australian gas markets. This bill was previously introduced by the former Minister for Energy and Mining on 9 September 2021 but, as parliament prorogued, it could not be voted on.

The current bill was introduced by the current minister on 1 June this year. In July 2021, energy ministers unanimously agreed to a legislative package aimed at improving transparency in Australian gas markets and hence this transparency bill addresses information gaps that relate to gas and infrastructure prices, supply and availability of gas, gas demand and infrastructure used to supply gas to end markets.

The key features of this transparency bill include expansion of the scope of the Gas Bulletin Board. This will allow for new information to be collected in areas such as gas reserves and resources, liquefied natural gas processing facilities and LNG exports and imports. There is also a feature requiring the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) to make Gas Statement of Opportunities procedures.

This will require relevant market participants, such as producers and facility operators, to give information to AEMO for use in preparing that statement. It also confers a new function on the Australian Energy Regulator to publish gas price information and the necessary powers to obtain this information from relevant market participants. It also allows the Australian Energy Market Commission to make transparency-related National Gas Rules.

It is expected that more efficient planning and investment in the domestic gas markets will result from these reforms in addition to providing more accurate signals about how well the market is functioning. Improving the transparency of the eastern and south-eastern gas markets will also bring Australia more in line with commensurate transparency requirements observed in overseas gas markets, including our close neighbour New Zealand. We are the lead legislator in regard to this transparency legislation and as such we will be the first state to introduce and pass this legislation.

As the shadow minister indicated, we are in agreeance with this legislation, but we are at a bit of a crossroads again with energy in this state and this nation. As has been indicated, the terrible war in Ukraine, where gas supplies are impacting Russia and Ukraine, is having a worldwide effect. It just goes to show how important gas is to everyone in the world, particularly as a transition fuel moving on into the future as we slowly move away from coal and into the clean energy future, as we are.

South Australia is the lead jurisdiction with the amount of wind generation and solar generation we have in this state. That is part of the reason why we are building the interconnector through to New South Wales—so that we can not only assist in that national energy market but also send renewable energy through to New South Wales when we need to and import energy back when we need to.

It is interesting, and there is a lot of debate in the current climate around gas. Obviously, a huge amount of gas is exported as LNG from around the country, whether it is from Western Australia, off Darwin or off Queensland. I watched a program the other day about opening up the Scarborough field off Western Australia. It is a field 400 kilometres offshore and there is debate about whether or not it should go ahead. We have just seen in a very short space of time what happens with disruption overseas, and we will have gas as a transition fuel for many, many years to come.

We have certainly seen issues with base load where, if you shut it down too quickly, as happened here in September 2016, you have a total state blackout. There are now issues because we have had coal-fired power stations close down, some are down for scheduled maintenance and some are down for emergency maintenance. I heard some dialogue the other day about the Loy Yang A generator near Traralgon in Victoria having difficulty getting spare parts, and they will not turn up until September. If anyone has been down there to have a look at how things operate, it is pretty spectacular, with open-cut mining of coal for that energy.

Part of the issue is around some of the issues that companies have to deal with in obtaining gas. I have said here multiple times that it is now 40 years since I worked in the Cooper Basin. I know

the member for Chaffey worked there at a similar time. A friend of mine still works in the gas industry 40 years down the track. He has been there long enough to dictate when he goes now, and he has worked offshore pretty well all around Australia, whether in Bass Strait, off the Western Australian coast or New Guinea, so he has a wealth of experience.

Recently, my friend David assisted in a job at Karratha, working with INPEX on an offshore well. The operators need to be able to access the gas. I certainly worked in a field where we were able to exploit more opportunity working with Santos, Delhi Petroleum and others, because we do see how vital a resource it is, not just locally but around the world. When we come through this period of cold snaps, especially in the Eastern States, I note that the Cooper Basin has a direct feed into Sydney, for instance, but there are some gas fields in New South Wales that have not been opened up.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Some in the Otway too.

Mr PEDERICK: Yes, some in the Otway.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The minister is being disorderly because he is not in his chair.

**Mr PEDERICK:** Chuck him out! It has all come to where we now have a crunch. It is interesting that in the debate around energy some are saying, 'Hang on, have we let coal go away too quickly?' because they are talking to operators like the ones who operate the plant down in Victoria: 'How quickly can you get it online?' Certainly in the gas industry, gas generators can fire up extremely quickly and they are often used in reserve, especially in South Australia, if there is not enough solar and wind.

The issue we have at the moment is that, because there is such a high demand on energy, the gas generators generally would have a huge amount of gas over a period of time contracted so they can use it for generation. However, if they are asked to turn on more turbines than perhaps expected early on in forming those contracts, they have to buy gas at the spot price, and that is where the issue comes in. That also depends on whether the gas is available, noting the export demand and the upgraded domestic demand we have at the moment.

It is a real issue, noting, though, that if the gas can be supplied and the generators are prepared to pay the spot price they can generate that gas, but they will probably generate at a loss. There is a sequence in the marketing regulation set up where they can get some relief for paying above the board if they are required by the regulator to generate more power for the state and, essentially, the country.

It is an interesting time in generation. I know that this is expanding on it a bit, but gas is not dissimilar to hydro generation, and Snowy Hydro 2.0 is on the go. With respect to Snowy Hydro, those turbines can be started within 90 seconds. As long as the water is there to spill, you can get that generation going. Whether it is hydropower or gas generation, they can work alongside the wealth of renewables we have in this state to provide our much-needed energy. As I said, we are starting to get found out a little now with the cold snap, whether it is for heating or just for running everything we need—running lights or energy for running factories—it is a vital resource. We rely on it for virtually everything we do during the day.

This bill will look at more transparency in the market, and we need to make sure that our providers of gas have as much opportunity as possible. While I am talking about that, I want to congratulate Kevin Gallagher and Santos on the hundreds and millions of dollars they are investing in carbon capture and storage in the Cooper Basin, utilising some of those wells that have been fully exploited to put carbon back underground. I congratulate their forethought in doing that.

It is a major commodity that we need to make sure we can access for all time. For domestic use, we use electricity all the time, and gas is that transition fuel that will be going on into the future, noting that if we did not have it industry costs would blow out because industry is the biggest user of gas. What happens with all of this—with the price of gas going through the roof—is that the cost of living goes up for everyone, which is a real danger not only to South Australians but to Australians, and you see it reverberate around the world.

We are supporting this bill in regard to market transparency of a national gas market. We are the lead legislator in the country. Hopefully, when this legislation passes, it will assist in making sure

that everyone, whether it is regulators, suppliers or people in the distribution market, can work more efficiently for the betterment of South Australia and Australia.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (12:14): Can I start off by thanking the shadow minister for his contribution and his support for its passage through both houses of parliament. I do note that this is legislation that was introduced by the previous government. It had been settled by the make-up of the energy ministers over the last four years.

Unfortunately, the former government prorogued the parliament, due to some troubles that they were facing during that period, and this bill was unable to be passed. It had bipartisan support then. It could already be in place now. However, it is not, and that is to the detriment of the National Electricity Market, but we will try to pick it up. This is a package of three bills; two are on their way. Obviously, market transparency is very important, pipeline transparency is very important and, of course, market monitoring is very important.

To put it frankly, the NEM is in serious trouble in Australia. There has never been a more precarious time for the National Electricity Market than today. What I have seen in the market is comprehensive market failure, from Queensland right through now to our borders. It is because Australia has no line of sight over one of the most essential utilities that we use every day.

The member who spoke earlier about the importance of electricity should reflect, as Sir Thomas Playford looks down on us disapprovingly, on what Playford did when he was Premier, when he nationalised electricity operations in this state because we were being held to ransom by New South Wales coal. I have to say, seeing what is occurring now in the NEM is not dissimilar to what was occurring back then.

Let's be clear: we mined coal last year in roughly the same amounts. We had a winter last year with roughly the same level of temperatures. We will have a summer. We got gas out of the ground last year in roughly the same amounts and we exported gas last year in roughly the same amounts, yet this year there is an amazing shortage. These shortages throughout the market are seeing excessive market power being utilised by some in the market, and that is causing a lot of distress in the market.

It would be nice to have some backup generation that the state could rely on, that we controlled and owned and that was not run for profit, but the former government privatised it in their first year in office. Those generators, half of which are still running on diesel, which the former government complained about, are now not at the call of the government to operate as system security. That is disappointing. Now we are completely reliant on the market. The South Australian government owns no generation at all to protect our citizens from any shortfalls that might occur.

I am very hopeful, though, that the Australian Energy Market Operator, which I am meeting with today, can get us through this very challenging period using the mechanisms it currently has within the market to ensure that any lack of reserve notice 3s that are published do not come to fruition. This bill goes part of the way to helping future events deal with that. It will not necessarily help us with this current event that we are in.

I am grateful for the support of the shadow spokesperson, who I do think has a genuine interest in this area and is trying to do his very best, and I welcome his support. I gave bipartisan support in the four years I was in opposition on matters of the national energy cabinet committee for energy ministers' operations, through the role of the lead legislator here in South Australia. It is difficult and the rest of the country is waiting. With those few words, I commend the bill to the house. I do not think it is the wish of the house to go to committee.

**Mr Patterson:** Just a few questions—not long.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Alright, we will go into committee.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

In committee.

### Clause 1.

**Mr PATTERSON:** From what I can tell, in terms of the changes between this and the previously introduced bill, the only changes—which are basically title based—are the name of the bill and then in section 294FA(9) or the clause where it refers to the act itself as 2022. Is that the case, or have I missed something?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** The advice I have is that it is the same, other than changing the date from 2021 to 2022, because it is 2022.

**Mr PATTERSON:** That is right. In terms of the overall impact of this bill once it is in operation and with the bulletin board and Gas Statement of Opportunities, what does the minister expect the benefit will be to gas users, businesses and households?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The intent of the bill is to create greater transparency, and transparency is the key here. Its aims are to reduce search and transaction costs experienced by market participants, facilitate more effective investment across the gas supply chain, enable more informed and efficient decisions to be made by all gas market participants with more information. The aspiration is to facilitate a more effective competition in the wholesale gas transmission, gas storage and retail segments of the supply chain. With greater transparency, hopefully we get better regulation from lawmakers about where the bottlenecks may be.

**Mr PATTERSON:** In the communiqué from the energy ministers' meeting last week, which I mentioned in my speech, they mentioned that there could be additional transparency measures outside of this. Do you have any information from that meeting to pass on to the committee?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: As I said in my closing remarks, there are two other pieces of legislation that I think are on their way. One is about pipeline transparency—what is held pipelines—and the other is about market monitoring, about market behaviour, market power. Yes, this is part of a broader package that has been worked up. Obviously, we need to have support of whatever the make-up is of the national cabinet framework, whether it is an energy conference, an energy ministers' conference or a national cabinet process. We will need to have agreement from all states for this to apply. So, yes, this is the beginning of a series of measures.

Clause passed.

Clause 2.

**Mr PATTERSON:** The commencement of the act is fixed by proclamation. How long after that do you expect the changes to come through to allow for the transparency reforms to occur to the business bulletin and the gas statement opportunities?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** We estimate that the rule changes will be put in place within the first six months, so the operation will begin by then.

**Mr PATTERSON:** Will that be enough time to allow the Gas Statement of Opportunities report for 2022 to have these new rules, or will they not come into effect until 2023?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: My advice is that that should be plenty of time.

**Mr PATTERSON:** My final question is: in terms of the pricing information powers given to the AER, the intention was to wait for them to come online after the ACCC has finished their gas inquiry in 2025; is that still the case?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I am advised that is still the case.

Clause passed.

Clause 3 passed.

Clause 4.

**Mr PATTERSON:** In terms of the definitions, one of the definitions outlined is that of the natural gas industry and the subsection outlines activities relating to processable gas, natural gas, natural gas industry facilities and services provided by means of natural gas industry facilities. It outlines those particular activities. New paragraph (c) talks about 'any other activities specified by

the Regulations for the purposes of this paragraph'. Is it intended that there will be other facilities added to the initial set of regulations?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** To the initial set of regulations? No, I do not think so, but if there are I will report back to the house immediately.

**Mr PATTERSON:** I have a question in a similar vein. When we talk through the definition of the natural gas industry facility, new paragraph (g) of that definition talks to 'another facility of a type specified by the Regulations'. So, outside of the ones listed—a pipeline, a compression service facility, a gas processing plant, an LNG facility, a storage facility, or a user facility—do the initial regulations propose to have any other facilities added?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The advice I have received is no.

Clause passed.

Clause 5.

**Mr PATTERSON:** This section talks about it applying to more than one person (a group) that is carrying out a controlling facility activity. Is the intention that, if there are multiple parties operating a facility, only one of those parties is responsible for reporting back to the bulletin board, GSOO or AER?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** With the indulgence of the committee, if I could ask the indulgence of the member for us to get back to him on that question between the houses. Would that be acceptable?

**Mr PATTERSON:** Yes, thank you. The intent is just to see whether it is trying to avoid multiple reports being put up on the one facility; you just get a key responsible party to do it on behalf of all of those. I am happy to move through this clause.

Clause passed.

Clauses 6 to 9 passed.

Clause 10.

**Mr PATTERSON:** In regard to new section 46A(2) about price information order, I am seeking some clarity around the intent of this. It provides:

(2) The order may require a person to whom the order relates to prepare, maintain or keep information specified in the order in a manner and form specified in the order.

Is one of the aims of that subsection to allow record keeping over a period of time so that, once the information has been provided, those records are retained for a number of years?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** The shadow minister is correct in saying that, yes, we want to maintain records. What we do not know is the period of time. It could be seven years; I do not know what the period of time is. It is a question I can get an answer for between the houses.

Clause passed.

Clauses 11 to 35 passed.

Clause 36.

**Mr PATTERSON:** Clause 36 relates to the South Australian minister making the initial rules relating to enhanced market transparency. In the subsections of this new section, subsection (8) provides:

(8) Rules in the nature of a derogation may be made under this section even though no request has been made for the derogation.

The question relates to the fact that on ABC radio the minister outlined that the former Marshall Liberal government was preparing to introduce this legislation with a derogation, which he is quoted as saying is a change that would have excluded South Australia from the transparency measures. Previously, I have asked if there were any changes in the bill between 2021 and 2022. I could not

see any changes, nor to the rules, so I am making sure: were there any derogations, or is that in fact not the case?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** There are three pieces of legislation that we are talking about as part of this transparency package. There is the one we are dealing with now, there is the one on pipelines—which was called the National Energy Laws Amendment (Gas Pipelines) Bill 2021, which the former government was developing in conjunction with AEMO, the AER, the AEMC and the energy ministers—and market monitoring. Within that gas pipeline amendment bill, the former government wanted to derogate South Australian pipelines from transparency, and I overruled them on coming to office.

The work that had been done by the department on these three pieces of legislation included the derogation, not on this bill but as part of the package. I do not know why the decision was made by the previous government. I suspect it was that there were some proponents who were seeking a derogation to keep their financials and their contracting secret. There might be some good reason for that, but my view has always been that sunshine is the best disinfectant.

We should be open and more accountable. We should allow all contracts to be scrutinised by the Energy Regulator, especially in a market like this. I was talking about the package, not this legislation. If I have confused the member, I apologise.

**Mr PATTERSON:** Thank you for that clarity. That being the case, I do not need to compare the differences or ask questions on this bill around that. You have confirmed that there are no changes in this bill and that there were no derogations.

Clause passed.

Remaining clause (37) and title passed.

Bill reported without amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (12:34): | move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MOTOR SPORT (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 5 May 2022.)

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (12:35):** I rise to support the South Australian Motor Sport (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2022 and indicate that I am the lead speaker for the opposition. I believe we should see motorsport as an opportunity. I think we should see motorsport as a tourism opportunity. I think we should see motorsport as a social opportunity, and I also think we should see motorsport as an economic opportunity.

We know that motorsport is an economic opportunity for this state and this country because recent studies and analysis have shown that the motorsport industry, in terms of output to the Australian economy, comprises some \$8.6 billion in recent times. When you look at direct industry output, you are looking at \$3.1 billion, and when you are looking at indirect industry output it is over  $51^{1}_{2}$  billion to the Australian economy.

In terms of value added to the Australian economy, it is some \$2.8 billion, and when you look at the number of jobs that are represented, in terms of paid employment and also volunteering, you are looking at around 66,000 people across the country. In terms of the output that I spoke about, about 10 per cent of that is from South Australia. We know that in motorsport there are over 188,000 participants right across our nation and over 20,000 participants here in South Australia.

When you look at what a participant profile looks like for, say, a competitor, we know that a competitor would spend, well and truly, probably \$20,000, in terms of annual expenditure on motorsport activities. When you look at motorsport vehicle purchases, plus initial fit-for-purpose-related modifications, they could spend over \$60,000 a year. They also contribute in terms of events and also nights away from home, which, if we can attract events here, we know can also be a very positive factor for the tourism sector as well.

When you look at officials or volunteers, they would spend thousands and thousands of dollars each and every year. They also participate in multiple events during their calendar year in the motorsport world and they also tend to stay in the sector for a long period of time. People may hurt their shoulder, like you or me, because we think we are a bit younger than maybe we are and we go too hard at some sport event. In motorsport, if you play the long game, you can stay for a long period of time.

EY did a study recently which stated that the average age spent in sport was 20 years because you can stay a motorsport fan for a long period of time. You can not only spend time with friends and family but also participate and help to improve facilities as well.

We know that the Motorsport Board was axed by the former Weatherill government following a review of state government boards. It was determined that this board, amongst others, was creating what they called at the time unnecessary work for the Public Service. At the time, the national governing body urged the state government of the day to reverse a decision to abolish the South Australian Motorsport Board. It also went further: it actually warned that, by the board disbanding, it would hurt the state's economy and also unquestionably damage South Australian motorsport, which generates, as I pointed out, hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars each and every year.

And so we come to the bill at hand. It obviously aims to re-establish the South Australian Motorsport Board. We know that the board will undertake things like the promotion and management of motorsport events in South Australia, as well as enter into agreements on behalf of the state. It points out that up to nine members would be appointed by the Governor, and the eight Motorsport Board members who were actually on the board up until 2014-15 we know were paid up to \$30,000 a year. Things like costings, things like the performance management of the board once it meets when set up, we think should be examined during the committee stage, and there will be a whole range of questions we may wish to ask.

In 2016, the former minister, the member for Mawson, actually said, 'We decided to get rid of this Liberal invention of a motorsport board so that we had more control over what was going on.' He went on, 'If we could run the biggest bike race in the world outside of the Tour de France, then we could probably do a pretty good job of running the motorsport race here, the Clipsal 500.'

We are a little bit interested in the change of heart that the now government has, and sometimes governments do change their mind—it does happen. We have a few questions in regard to this board, but let me put a few things on the record. In recent times, I did take the time—and I thank Eugene Arocca, the Chief Executive of Motorsport Australia and his team—to, bona fide, reach out to them to talk about the sector and the industry and what they thought.

Let me just say that I think what everyone will agree on is that there is universal support for Mr Daniels as chair and Mr Warren as CEO of the board, and I say that for the following reasons: they have previous extensive experience in conducting motorsport events in South Australia, which is very important. They also have a degree of familiarity with the previous operational activities of the board, and in particular the Adelaide 500, and of course, as I look at today's date, 14 June, there is also a short amount of time to the line, to the 2022 Adelaide 500 event, requiring a chair and a CEO who would hit the ground running. We appreciate that these events do take a lot of resources. I do not think we know who is performing at the concert yet, but perhaps that will come out in the committee stage.

We will certainly not be holding up this bill, but we do have answers we would like to extract from the government, mainly around costings but also performance. If we are to support this board, it is really important that it does do what it sets out to do, that it has the right people, that it has people

of the right calibre, skill set and measure and that this board achieves what it sets out to do. I will conclude my remarks at this stage and look forward to furthering some of those issues in committee.

**Mrs PEARCE (King) (12:44):** It is not much of a spoiler to anyone to share that I am so glad the Adelaide 500 is coming back. Whether it is about the V8s, the side attractions, the incredible live music scene or the vibe itself, my community love a race, and it was a bitter disappointment when it was taken away. It was raised with me almost every day while I was out engaging with my community. They made clear their disappointment at the decision to cancel the event, as well as their bitter frustration over the desperate decision to try to pawn off the racing infrastructure. I heard it while making calls, being out at the doors, at my local community catch-ups, at shopping centre visits, at the markets and in every pocket of my community, up and down the hill. The feedback I received has been invaluable.

With that, I give a very special shout-out to all the incredible people in my community I met at Coffee N Classics and Show and Shines. They know motorsport inside and out, and the value of what the 500 brought to our state, and they took the time to share with me just how important the race is to them. A very special thank you goes to the man who was really keen to get things back on track: Sam Henderson.

For those who do not know Sam, the race is incredibly special to him and his family. Sam spoke his first sentence at the age of five on the lap of Mark Skaife at the Adelaide 500. This was especially significant, as his parents had been told that he would be non-verbal for life. The passion for the race brought something out in Sam, and it was his passion that helped move the state to fight to bring back the race. Sam and his family gave many hours over recent years fighting to get to where we are today. To you all, thank you for never giving up.

Like so many South Australians, my community wanted to see the Adelaide 500 return. Being an event so deeply woven into the cultural fabric of our city, and in particular of my area of King, this was hardly a surprise to me. Those who cancelled it seemed to have neglected the love South Australians had for the event, but those on this side of the chamber heard you. We acknowledged early on that the decision to cancel the Adelaide 500 was short-sighted, as did the thousands of people who signed the petition to bring back the race.

We understood that the decision would be to the dismay of not only motorsport fans but fans of the event in general and, more significantly, to the detriment of our state at a time when we needed the stability and support provided by the 500. With no plans for its replacement, hundreds of South Australians were left wondering if they would have a job still or if their businesses would be able to hold on during what was already a difficult period.

I fought for the race for these people. I fought for the photographer in Salisbury Heights who worked hard to capture the iconic moments and atmosphere at every race, for the gentleman in Golden Grove whose business supplied materials to the event, for the lovely family-run business in the north-east who relied on the work created from the race to see them through those quieter winter months and for every other person who relied on work from or generated by the race. The decision to axe the race was a devastating blow for them all, particularly as they were navigating through such uncertain times.

In addition to fighting to keep more people in jobs, bringing back the race is also about providing a critical boost to our state's economy and making sure that our state remains on the map. In 2019, the Adelaide 500 was the largest domestic-ticketed motorsport event in Australia. It supported over 435 full-time equivalent jobs in our state and contributed \$45.9 million into our economy—up from \$41.9 million in 2018. It helped deliver a massive boost to our local city economy, including hotels, restaurants and the broader hospitality sector, and also provided a great opportunity for local live music acts.

We are now racing ahead to bring back the Adelaide 500 in December because we listened to the feedback provided by the South Australian community. Can I just share how pleasing it is to see all the excitement and hype building for the race again. I am hearing from my community some great tips on what makes the race special—from bands they would like to see to attractions throughout the day—and I especially enjoy hearing about their favourite moments from races past. I am so excited to be working with them to ensure that the race this December is better than ever.

We may have only been elected a few months ago now, but we have been quick to act. We have set the date, and can I say that December has never looked better. The Adelaide 500 is a major tourism opportunity for our state. We want it to be more than just a race, but a festival of motorsport, and this is what this bill seeks to achieve.

This bill will re-establish a dedicated motorsport board to focus on realising the full potential of motorsport events in our state. It will support the board in its efforts to identify new motorsport events as well as promoting and delivering future growth. What is more, they will commit to continually reviewing and refreshing the event to ensure the experience at the race is nothing less than exceptional. Most importantly, it would charge the board with prioritising South Australian businesses, which is only good news for local jobs.

With support from across the affected sectors and dedicated motorsport fans, we are excited to be bringing back the much-loved Adelaide 500 and getting people back into the city, supporting local businesses and seeing the cars racing around the track again come 1 December. As you can see, I am absolutely revved. It is going to be great.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (12:50):** I rise to support the South Australian Motorsport (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill 2022. I note that the South Australian Motorsport Board was axed in 2014 by the Weatherill Labor government following a review of state government boards. Quite a few boards got the chop at the time. It was determined that this board, among others, was creating unnecessary work for the Public Service. As indicated by the member for Hartley, the member for Mawson at the time thought, 'If the government can run this, why do we need a board?' He must have had a change of heart.

The national governing body urged the state government to reverse the decision to abolish the SA Motorsport Board. It warned the board's disbandment would also hurt the state's economy and unquestionably damage South Australian motorsport, which generates hundreds of millions of dollars each year. When it is introduced, the board's role will be to undertake promotion and management of motorsport events in South Australia as well as enter into agreements on behalf of the state. Up to nine members will be appointed by the Governor. The eight Motorsport Board members on the board in 2014 were paid up to \$30,000 a year.

Groups of motorsport enthusiasts will support the re-establishment of an SA Motorsport Board, and the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) will also support the reestablishment of the board. On the discussion about CAMS, I was involved as a local member in promoting my area for the opportunity to have a dragstrip in the future in South Australia. It was quite a few years ago. Five sites were investigated. Thankfully, and hopefully, by the end of the year we will see Tailem Bend fire up out at The Bend Motorsport Park that the Shahins operate. Drag is recommencing.

Sadly, I am old enough to remember being there in 1979, when we had the jet truck—I am trying to think of its name offhand. We had a truck with a jet motor in it running up the dragstrip, going from the Tailem Bend end towards the Melbourne end. A dragstrip is currently being built. I was proud to be part of the previous Marshall government, which assisted with a \$2 million grant. We are told that there will be up to 55 events annually. That will bring a whole new range of motorsport enthusiasts from right around the country.

At the launch of the announcement of the funding, it was noticeable that some people had driven from Melbourne that morning. They had got up really early to travel nearly seven hours to get to Tailem Bend for that announcement. The facilities at Tailem Bend are just fantastic. I hazard a guess that, alongside the dragstrip, the Shahin group, the Peregrine Corporation, would have invested at least \$200 million into the local community. It has just fallen out of the seat of Hammond slightly, but it is certainly my local area, being only 20 minutes from my home at Coomandook.

To have those world-standard racetracks there is fantastic, with four configurations where you can have two small tracks running alongside of each other if you want to, or you can run out to the big track of 7.77 kilometres, which I have had the opportunity to do in my V8 five-litre five-speed ute. What a pleasure it was to see my two boys running alongside me in a five-litre VS III Statesman on the Holden demonstration day. It was a fantastic day.

I note what the member for King said about Show and Shine events. My son Mack gets out there at those events to show off his car and interact with people involved in motorsport. It has a lot of people involved.

One thing I know about the track at Tailem Bend is it is at least 85 millimetres thick and it could stomach Formula One. It would take a bit more investment, putting in a few more barriers and a few other things. I think at a push that it could be set up in under a month. It would obviously need funding. I think the annual licence fee just to run Formula One is about \$30 million and it is probably north of that now.

I can remember the open wheelers during the late eighties and nineties; how good were they? The Supercars are great, but I do not think anything matches watching Formula One open-wheel events. They are expensive to run. It is interesting to note that we have that capability at Tailem Bend to operate that.

It is not only at Tailem Bend that we have those facilities. The Peregrine group purchased the racetrack at Mallala, and that is going through various upgrades as well. It is in the member for Frome's seat. There is quite a bit of investment going in by private investors, which would not have happened—governments do not do this kind of thing and nor should they. It is great to see investment by people who have their own interest in motorsport—that is well known—and who run their own cars. It is huge for the state that this investment is made.

With the re-establishment of the Motorsport Board, I am sure they will be involved in features across the state, whether that be opening up the Adelaide 500 again—and we know they are on a tight time line before December—or events at Tailem Bend where there is something on nearly every week. My young son Angus is only 18, but he has had the opportunity to go around the track and go up the straight in a BMW M3 doing 200 km/h self-drive—

An honourable member interjecting:

**Mr PEDERICK:** No, it is not mine. Thankfully, he did not bin it because essentially if you bin it, you win it. A \$400,000 Porsche got turned into a cube one day. The bloke got out of it, but the \$400,000 Porsche turned into \$5,000 worth of scrap. That is the risk you take if you enjoy a sport.

It is interesting to note the friends that young Angus has who have these cars. I would be guessing, and I might get the number wrong, but there are a couple of BMWs and one of the blokes did bin it and rolled one the other day, but I think they will be able to straighten it up and get it going. I could go on, but with those few words I support the bill.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Fulbrook.

Sitting suspended from 12:59 to 14:00.

### Petitions

# MARION ROAD

**Ms STINSON (Badcoe):** Presented a petition signed by 178 residents of South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to relocate the pedestrian crossing on Marion Road across Galway Avenue to the northern side of the intersection.

#### Parliamentary Procedure

### PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Premier (Hon. P.B. Malinauskas)—

Remuneration Tribunal—

2022 Review of Official Visitors of Correctional Institutions—Report No. 1 of 2022 Official Visitors of Correctional Institutions—Determination No. 1 of 2022

By the Deputy Premier (Hon. S.E. Close)-

Regulations made under the following Acts-

Aboriginal Heritage—Fees Notice Administration and Probate—Fees Notice **Burial and Cremation—Fees Notice** Co-operatives National Law (South Australia)—Fees Notice Coroners—Fees Notice Criminal Law (Clamping, Impounding and Forfeiture of Vehicles)-Fees Notice District Court—Fees Notice Employment Agents Registration—Fees Notice Environment, Resources and Development Court—Fees Notice Evidence—Fees Notice Fair Work-Fees Notice—Representation General—Declared Employer Freedom of Information—Fees Notice Gaming Offences—Fees Notice Guardianship and Administration—Fees Notice (No. 2) Magistrates Court—Fees Notice (No. 2) Partnership—Fees Notice Public Trustee—Fees Notice Relationships Register—Fees Notice Sheriff's—Fees Notice South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal—Fees Notice State Records—Fees Notice Summary Offences—Fees Notice Supreme Court—Fees Notice Victims of Crime—Fund and Levy Youth Court—Fees Notice (No. 2)

By the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water (Hon. S.E. Close)-

Regulations made under the following Acts-Animal Welfare—Fees Notice Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium—Fees Notice Crown Land Management—Fees Notice Environment Protection—Fees Heritage Places—Fees Notice Historic Shipwrecks—Fees Notice Marine Parks—Fees Notice National Parks and Wildlife-Fees Notice—Hunting Fees Notice—Lease Fees Fees Notice—Protected Animals—Marine Mammals Native Vegetation—Fees Notice Pastoral Land Management and Conservation—Fees Notice Radiation Protection and Control—Fees Notice Water Industry—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (Hon. A. Koutsantonis)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia)— Expiation Fees Fees Notice Motor Vehicles— Expiation Fees Fees Notice Road Traffic— Miscellaneous—Expiation Fees

### Miscellaneous—Fees

By the Minister for Energy and Mining (Hon. A. Koutsantonis)-

Stony Point Environmental Consultative Group—Annual Report 2020-21 Regulations made under the following Acts— Mining— Fees Notice Rental Fees Opal Mining—Fees Notice Petroleum and Geothermal Energy—Fees Notice

By the Treasurer (Hon. S.C. Mullighan)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Aquaculture—Fees Notice Dangerous Substances— Fees Notice Fees Notice—Dangerous Goods Transport Explosives—Fees Notice Fines Enforcement and Debt Recovery— Fees Notice Prescribed Amounts Fisheries Management—Fees Notice—Fishery Licence and Boat and Device Registration Application and Annual Fees Forestry—Fees Notice Land Tax—Fees Notice Petroleum Products Regulation—Fees Notice Work Health and Safety—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Child Protection (Hon K.A. Hildyard)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Adoption—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Human Services (Hon. N.F. Cook)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Child Safety (Prohibited Persons)—Fees Notice Disability Inclusion—Fees Notice—NDIS Worker Check Housing Improvement—Fees Notice Supported Residential Facilities—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Education, Training and Skills (Hon. B.I. Boyer)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Education and Children's Services—Fees Notice South Australian Skills—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs (Hon. A. Michaels)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Associations Incorporation—Fees Notice Authorised Betting Operations—Fees Notice Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration—Fees Notice Building Work Contractors—Fees Notice Conveyancers—Fees Notice Gaming Machines—Fees Notice Labour Hire Licensing—Fees Notice Land Agents—Fees Notice Liquor Licensing—Fees Notice Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians—Fees Notice Second-hand Vehicle Dealers—Fees Notice Security and Investigation Industry—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services (Hon. J.K. Szakacs)-

Regulations made under the following Acts— Expiation of Offences—Fees Fire and Emergency Services—Fees Notice Firearms—Fees Notice Hydroponics Industry Control—Fees Notice Police—Fees Notice

By the Minister for Planning (Hon. N.D. Champion)—

Regulations made under the following Acts— Planning, Development and Infrastructure—Fees Notice Private Parking Areas—Expiation Fees

#### Question Time

### **HUMAN SERVICES PORTFOLIO**

**Ms PRATT (Frome) (14:07):** My question is to the Minister for Human Services. Can the minister advise the house of her portfolio responsibilities, including her role in assisting South Australians who are struggling with homelessness?

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (14:07): Sorry, could you repeat it? I didn't catch it. It was very quiet.

**Ms PRATT:** I am happy to raise my voice, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Minister for Human Services. Can the minister advise the house of her portfolio responsibilities, including her role in assisting South Australians struggling with homelessness?

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** Thank you very much for the question. I am delighted to spell out the portfolio responsibilities that I have as the Minister for Human Services.

With respect to the first part of the portfolio, people with disability living within South Australia are entitled to the best possible outcomes, the best possible supports and the best possible care given to them. They are also entitled to have advocacy and voice facilitated. As the Minister for Human Services, I work very closely with the department in relation to ensuring that all the appropriate and requisite legislative mechanisms are in place for them to be able to access all those things.

Obviously, it is such a complex and vast area for people with disability in relation to the nature of the disability. When it happens in their life, whether somebody is born with disability or whether somebody acquires disability later in life, the responsibility of the government and the community lies in terms of not just what the minister does but what we facilitate as a community to ensure that we access groundbreaking programs, like the NDIS.

In terms of that, the minister's responsibility is to ensure that the state receives the very best deal for all people with disability. Part of that includes how the \$800 million or so per annum that is sent off to the federal government from the state government as part of the bilateral agreement is brokered. Part of that is ensuring that we have an appropriate workforce with the appropriate training in order to be able to provide those supports to people with disability.

We have, in the state government's purview also, over 500 people living in supported disability accommodation under the watch of the South Australian government. Those people are only under the watch of the South Australian government with the requisite supports and training and consistency because of the campaign that South Australian Labor in opposition ran with the unions,

with the families and with the consumers to ensure that the Liberals didn't, when in government, outsource and privatise those services.

We were all subject to much lobbying, much communication, and we continued to listen to people with disability in those services, which we continue to do now as a government. Part of my responsibility is to ensure that we have all the information pulled together, to make sure that we have a best practice, evidence-based solution to the outcomes for people living with disability.

We have approximately 1,600 paid support workers and other staff who provide that level of support and care to people living with disability. Many of those have had decades of experience and, again, continue to be workers with a secure job looking after people with complex disability under the support of and the watch of the Department of Human Services with my assistance, my oversight as minister. That is one part of the responsibilities as Minister for Human Services, and they are only under our purview because we fought for them.

### Members interjecting:

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Well, there is so much to talk about.

The SPEAKER: Order! The leader has the call.

# MINISTERIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:12): My question is to the Premier. What action has the Premier taken to ensure that all his ministers understand and comply with their obligations under the Ministerial Code of Conduct?

### Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for West Torrens! The Treasurer is called to order. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:12): Of course, it won't surprise the Leader of the Opposition that it's my firm expectation that those people who are lucky enough to be on the treasury bench fully account for the Ministerial Code of Conduct and comply in each and every respect wherever we can. As has already been alluded to in recent remarks just made, the irony of the Leader of the Opposition referring to the Ministerial Code of Conduct is not lost on us.

### Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, there is a point of order. I will hear the point of order. The member for Morialta on a point of order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order: standing order 98 applies. The question was very straightforward, without provocation. There is absolutely no scope for the Leader of the Government now to reflect on opposition members.

The SPEAKER: Very well. I will listen carefully. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** The irony of the Leader of the Opposition raising the Ministerial Code of Conduct is not lost on us because of course it was none other than a royal commission that established, I believe it was almost certainly, that saw the—

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Order! There is a point of order.

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order! As members are aware, the proceedings on a point of order are turned to the member under 134. The member has the call.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Standing order 98: the Premier is debating, and that is contrary to standing orders.

### The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Did you encourage him to ask it?

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for West Torrens! The Treasurer is called to order. I will listen carefully. The Premier might chart a closer line to the question.

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** The Ministerial Code of Conduct is important. We wouldn't want a situation on our side of the house where a royal commission found that any of us had almost certainly breached the Ministerial Code of Conduct by selling the state's interests out. Naturally, in order to avoid such a situation which many in this place are familiar with, particularly the Leader of the Opposition himself, we do whatever we can to avail ourselves of the information contained within the Ministerial Code of Conduct.

# MINISTERIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): My question is to the Minister for Human Services. Since her appointment, has the minister at all times complied with the requirements of the Ministerial Code of Conduct?

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (14:15): It's my understanding I have, yes.

# MINISTERIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): My question is again to the Minister for Human Services. Is the minister familiar with section 6 of the Ministerial Code of Conduct? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS: Section 6 of the Ministerial Code of Conduct states:

Ministers and ministerial staff must use all reasonable endeavours to avoid, and to avoid giving any public appearance of, using government departmental offices for private purposes or party political purposes.

### The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (14:16): Yes.

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (14:16):** My question is to the Minister for Emergency Services. Can the minister inform the house about the South Australian emergency services personnel whose exceptional service has been recognised in the Queen's Birthday awards?

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:16): Thank you to the member for Mawson for this question. I know that I indicate the congratulations on behalf of not only the government but all members of this house for those extraordinary individuals who have been recognised with honours this weekend just passed. Members of the emergency services sector have been recognised for their extraordinary service to the community, as recipients of both the Emergency Services Medal and the Australian Fire Service Medal.

The Emergency Services Medal recognises distinguished service by members of emergency services across Australia. As part of this year's Queen's Birthday awards, two members of South Australia's State Emergency Service are worthy recipients: Mr Andrew Sullivan and Mr Ben Martin.

Andrew Sullivan is a longstanding member of the SES, having joined in 1993, and has risen from a volunteer cadet to Operations Response Manager with the Campbelltown unit in the member for Hartley's electorate. Andrew has dedicated his volunteer career to training others and is an instructor with a number of SES disciplines, both operational and managerial. Most recently, Andrew has demonstrated agility as a representative of the SES, assisting SA Health to set up a COVID-19 quarantine facility.

Ben Martin joined the SES in 2011 as a volunteer with the Barmera unit in the member for Chaffey's electorate and is now District Training Coordinator for the Riverland district. Since joining the SES, Ben has responded to over 300 requests for assistance, ranging from road crash rescues to inland marine search and rescue and storm and flood damage—not dissimilar to many other

emergency services volunteers responding to that broad-based emergency services response. Ben has delivered countless training courses in passing on his skills to other volunteers and has been described by his unit manager as 'dedicated and reliable' and 'always willing to assist no matter what the task'.

Further, the Australian Fire Service Medal recognises distinguished service by members of Australian Fire Services. Mr Speaker, I have no doubt that you will be pleased to know that of the two recipients of this medal, one is your constituent. Mr Nathan Watts from Mount Barker joined the Nairne CFS brigade as a firefighter in 2004, and throughout his years of membership he has been an outstanding volunteer and shown a passion for leadership. It is especially notable that through the period of the Cudlee Creek fire in 2019-20 Nathan led several fire missions which contributed to saving homes, saving lives and saving businesses by inspiring other volunteers to persevere despite the enormous task and dangerous circumstances facing them.

Brendan McEvoy is a credit to the CFS. In nearly four decades of service, Brendan has had various ranks, including captain of both the Upper Sturt brigade and the Stirling brigade. The Upper Sturt brigade is familiar to many members of this house, including the member for Waite. In 2005, Brendan was awarded life membership in recognition of his outstanding and enduring efforts. His extensive experience has routinely been called on to provide leadership on numerous task forces and strike teams.

His deployments include Kangaroo Island and Flinders Ranges and as operations officer at the Gladstone munitions factory explosion in 2006. Similar to other ESM and AFSM award winners, Brendan has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring other CFS volunteers are highly skilled through providing training and education to fire service personnel since 1991 across a range of vital topics in challenging and evolving disciplines.

On behalf of this house and government, would the recipients of these medals accept our warmest congratulations and thanks for their service.

**The SPEAKER:** I record my thanks, too, to those members of the CFS mentioned and acknowledge particularly Nathan Watts, who I dealt with immediately in the aftermath of the Cudlee Creek fire. I was particularly grateful, and I know my community is grateful for his contribution.

# MINISTERIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:20): My question is for the Minister for Human Services. Did the minister breach section 6 of the Ministerial Code of Conduct by sending on 3 June an email to all her departmental staff? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** On 3 June 2022, the minister sent an email to all departmental staff through the internal Department of Human Services email system, which thanked everyone who voted for her and everyone across the state who agreed that a change of government was needed for our community; stated that 'the landslide of support that carried the Malinauskas Labor team to a thumping victory on 19 March sent a clear message: South Australians are ready for a government that carres'; and—

### Members interjecting:

### The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —referred to 'the resounding defeat of the Morrison Liberal government' and advised that she was 'over the moon that we will have the chance to work alongside the Albanese Labor government'.

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (14:21): Thank you very much for inserting the facts into *Hansard*. Actually, what has happened in that particular case, and you would be aware, is that that version was the version that was supposed to be sent to my electorate by me.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister has the call.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Within a couple of hours, prior to any complaint being received, it was revealed to me—

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

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

The Hon. N.F. COOK: -by the staff member that that had been done-

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hartley is warned.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —in a mistake, and the correct one has since been sent out, acknowledging the error. That's the full story.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: You sent the acknowledgement of error.

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

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: Did you send that?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I didn't say that.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister has the call. The minister will not respond to interjections.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I didn't say that. Don't goofy-face me. I didn't say that.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: The error was acknowledged.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: You were bragging about it a minute ago.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morialta is warned. The minister has the call.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Dear me.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Frome! The minister has the call.

Mr Brown interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Florey!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: In error, one of my staff-

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morialta is on one warning.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —gave the wrong version, which was sent out to the departmental staff. I'm kind of glad they got my thoughts, anyway, that I have sent to my electorate. I have sent those. I have sent that newsletter, talking about—

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Frome is warned. The member for Morialta is on one warning.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —how awful you are and how fabulous we are, to my electorate. That was an error. These things do happen. We have acknowledged that.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Frome!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: It was a very junior staff person, and I feel very sorry for them.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morialta is warned for a second time.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** They were mortified, but because we are decent people on this side of the house we do not lambaste them for that: we help them.

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

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** You brought it up. Trust me, they won't be listening to this rubbish. This group of people work very, very hard, and it was an error to send out that version. We have had the correct version—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey! The member for Chaffey is called to order.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: -now sent out, as you would be well aware-

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Finniss! Member for Unley!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: —and the error has been acknowledged.

Members interjecting:

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

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** The first version of the newsletter, which was for my electorate, contained many comments about how grateful we are—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —about how we will be able to be much kinder and fairer and provide increased concessions, how we are going to review concessions, the \$180 million plus we are investing in housing and homelessness, how we are reinstating services to Hutt St, to Vinnies and to Catherine House, and how we are building 400 new homes—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —50 of them to be part of a group site, which will have supported care—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Frome!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —which we are funding, so that those people can maintain their tenancy. We are going to make sure that 150 homes are being built in the regions because regions matter. We are going to also upgrade 300 of the homes that have been left vacant, many of them the whole time the Liberals were in government had nothing done to them, and make sure that is online so that we've got at least 700 new, shiny, upgraded options for housing for people who need it.

# MINISTERIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:25): My supplementary is to the Minister for Human Services. Was the junior staff member involved a political appointment or a public servant?

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (14:26): I'm actually not going to give details about the staff member because I know how nasty—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** I was on this side of the chamber when the Leader of the Opposition berated and talked about—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey! Member for Frome! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —public servants and degraded them. When he was in opposition previously—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: —when he was here, we had to sit on this side of the house and listen to the ex-public servant talk about how shocking the Public Service was. I will not give specifics—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is called to order.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: -but just to say-

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Finniss! Member for Unley!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: - that our staff had time to talk about this.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Our staff are being supported through this. This is-

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Don't start about throwing under the bus.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is called to order.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** Don't start about people getting thrown under the bus. I have not mentioned who it was. I have not said a name—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —just to say that the person who did this is very, very sorry that this happened.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is warned.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: As somebody who has-

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, please be seated. The member for Morialta and the member for Florey can leave for half an hour under 137A.

The honourable members for Morialta and Florey having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: The minister has the call.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** I want to make the point again that, unlike the Leader of the Opposition, who during his time has degraded—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is warned.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —and attacked his fellow public servants, I will not be specific about the particular staff member. Several of the staff have rallied around and had a good talk about it. I am sure they have learnt from this. It was found within a couple of hours, corrected to the best of their ability—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: —and the clean version—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: -but thank you for raising it.

### **MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES**

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:28):** My question is again to the Minister for Human Services because we are enjoying this so much. Will the minister now write to the more than 2,600 employees in the Department of Human Services to apologise for attempting to politically influence them and threatening the impartiality required by their code of ethics?

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (14:29): I could keep going on for four minutes about how I talk to them live—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** I do live chats. I speak with them regularly. I get in touch with them through various means.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I certainly will raise it in my next live cross open discussion with them.

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Unley!

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I will ensure that nobody is unduly influenced—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Schubert!

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** —except by the pure decency of the policies that we announce, that we deliver and that sit with the decency of the staff in Human Services—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Minister, please be seated.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: The minister was asked—

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I will hear the point of order under 134. The member for Unley on a point of order.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** The minister was asked whether she would apologise, and she is refusing to answer the question.

**The SPEAKER:** I assume that the point of order is 98, substance, but I am not sure necessarily that that is the point of order. In any case, I will listen closely.

**The Hon. N.F. COOK:** As I said, I will let the delivery of our policies influence the department staff, as they wish. From what I am hearing from the department staff, they needed little influence to vote Labor—little influence—because they were left with a suite of terrible policies and underdelivery under the last government. I will absolutely raise it and discuss it with the staff at my very next opportunity.

### **MINING INDUSTRY**

**Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:30):** My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Can the minister advise how the South Australian government is supporting discoveries that can lead to productive mining projects?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:31): Happily for the house, I can. I want to thank the member for this question and his interest in keeping 'pace' with developments in this state's important mining sector.

### The Hon. S.E. Close interjecting:

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Did you like that? During the life of the previous Labor government, mines operating in this state more than tripled to the existing mines at Olympic Dam, in the Middleback Ranges and Challenger; production began at Prominent Hill, Jacinth-Ambrosia, Four Mile, Peculiar Knob, Cairn Hill, Angas, and Kanmantoo—just to name a few. In fact, previously, as mineral resources minister, construction began on the Carrapateena mine, which is now producing copper and gold not too far away from the Stuart Highway.

While these mines are operating, providing jobs and opportunities to supply royalties that help pay for our teachers, our nurses and our ambulance drivers, we need to keep up the pipeline of new projects. That's why exploration and the potential for discoveries are so important to our state. Each new discovery also sparks renewed interest in our state, which in turn attracts further investment while also adding to our shared understanding of the geology of South Australia.

The online resource gateway provided by SARIG, the award-winning state drill core library, and the high-calibre work of the government-funded Geological Survey of South Australia provide explorers with in-depth analysis and a treasure trove of core to base their exploratory efforts. Alongside these resources, the three-year renamed PACE program—the Accelerated Discovery Initiative—was established to provide support for drilling campaigns and adopting innovative exploration methods and technologies.

Data uncovered through these projects are published on publicly available databases to inform future exploration and mining projects. Rounds 1 and 2 funding has already been allocated, with co-funding opened for expressions of interest in November of last year. I commend the former government for maintaining this level of exploration activity in South Australia.

I can inform the house that the South Australian government is today offering to fund 17 dynamic exploration projects through the third instalment of this initiative. The successful recipients will share in co-funded grants, with a total of \$3.26 million allocated to this discovery initiative. Eight of those projects are targeting copper—copper, of course, being the commodity that

South Australia is most famous for and the most important commodity in decarbonising and electrifying our economy.

I wish each of the 17 recipients success in their endeavours. I hope that their discoveries not only add to the knowledge of our state's geological make up but also add to the pipeline of projects that we need in South Australia to grow our resources sector and encourage more mining to help develop those commodities that we need to decarbonise. One of the great myths purported about climate change is that it will mean an end to mining. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, decarbonisation means more mining of those critical minerals that we need to electrify our economy to make sure we can decarbonise and remove carbon from our atmosphere.

## SPORTS FUNDING

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:34):** My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. What role did the minister's office have in determining the successful recipients of local sporting club facility grants that totalled \$97.9 million, according to the budget papers, and were any other ministerial officers involved in the selection process?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:35): I thank the member for Hartley for his question because, of course, delivering on election commitments is a priority.

Mr Tarzia: Why don't you let the minister say it?

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

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** We went to the election with a comprehensive policy. It was routinely scrutinised during the course of the election campaign, which is—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is on one warning.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —as you would reasonably expect. That is the function of our adversarial—

# Mr Tarzia interjecting:

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

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** —democratic process. What we did in opposition is we actively consulted and engaged with communities throughout the state. On the back of that exercise, we made a whole suite of very specific commitments. We had bold policies but also very specific commitments that we made to individual communities. I am really proud of the fact that, in the budget that was handed down only a short time ago, we are delivering on each and every one of those commitments.

So it doesn't matter if it was a small commitment to a small club in a community in regional South Australia or whether it was a big commitment to another club in another part of our state each and every one of them is being honoured. Part of our determination to offer these commitments is born out of the experience—

### Members interjecting:

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

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** —of what we see happen when commitments aren't honoured. Something that we are really keen on as a government is to make sure we honour those commitments, even to those ones that didn't elect a Labor MP. For instance, there are commitments in the member for Black's electorate which presumably he's very keen on. Indeed, the member for Hartley I assume is supportive of the \$320,000 that has been committed to the Hectorville Hounds.

#### Members interjecting:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Yes, yes! While presumably the member for Hartley didn't vote Labor, while admittedly a majority of the electors within the seat of Hartley didn't vote Labor, the

Hectorville Hounds are going to be looked after nonetheless. Similarly, \$2½ million is committed to the Cove Sports and Community Club along with \$200,000 to the tennis courts in Kingston Park.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Premier, there's a point of order which I will hear under 134.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr TARZIA: Sir, this is now debate-

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Human Services is called to order.

Mr TARZIA: —98.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! I will hear the member for Hartley.

**Mr TARZIA:** With all respect, sir, this is now debate, standing order 98.

The SPEAKER: I am listening carefully.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell: You can't handle the truth.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Mawson! Perhaps the member for Mawson has seen a little too much of Tom Cruise recently. In any event, I am listening carefully. The question does invite a wide answer.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: The honourable member's question went specifically to commitments made in respect of sporting clubs, amongst other investments, that we committed to in the lead-up to the election. The shadow minister's question I believe goes to this question of process. There is no more sacred process than the election process, the democratic process. We made very clear commitments. Those commitments have been honoured in the budget. The Treasurer, along with the Premier's Delivery Unit, has been working diligently to make sure that each and every one of those commitments that was made is being delivered upon. Those election commitments—

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni interjecting:

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

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** —are spread out throughout the entirety of the state. I might take this last little moment to reflect on one regional community that has been very much the beneficiary of that process, the democratic process and the commitments that we made in the leadup to the election. Of course, that's the community in Mount Gambier, where the cabinet had the great pleasure of being with the member for Mount Gambier last week, with—

### Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** —over \$100 million worth of commitments to that community. That's something we are delivering upon, and that has been incredibly well received. We will continue to roll out our election commitments. The process matters, but people voted, and we are going to honour their support of our government accordingly.

# SPORTS FUNDING

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:39):** My question again is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Did the process for allocating local sporting club facility grants comply in all respects with Treasurer's Instruction 15?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (14:39):** Perhaps I can provide some further detail to the member for Hartley because he is interested in this, and so he should be. What we didn't want to see was a repeat of round 2 of the grassroots sport grants fiasco, which we saw in 2020.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Badcoe!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: When there were 13 grants awarded—

Ms Stinson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Badcoe is called to order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: -12 were in Liberal electorates-

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hartley!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —and one was in an independent electorate and none in Labor-held electorates.

### Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Chaffey! The member for Chaffey knows he is on a number of warnings.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: My recollection is that we made commitments from opposition-

### Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hartley!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —to 31 different electorates across South Australia, metro and regional, despite the fact that at the time Labor was only representing 19 electorates in this place. We didn't take such a gratuitously partisan approach to supporting community and sporting clubs in South Australia as those opposite.

In terms of who had input, the people who had input were those people who were closest to those communities, those people who came and put their suggestions forward for which organisations, sporting and community, could most benefit from government support if there was to be a change of government because we took the view that local clubs deserve the support of the state government.

Those opposite, after that fiasco that I referred to, then changed tack. After their first infrastructure project—in fact, one of the only ones they delivered, the big Vergola just over the way there—they chose to spend their money on sporting infrastructure grants on an upgrade to Hindmarsh Stadium, which has the dubious honour of ensuring that most people will still be exposed to the rain and it still won't be FIFA compliant.

# Mr Tarzia: You don't like it?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Well, no, FIFA doesn't. And, given that some of us were up early this morning watching to see whether Australia was going to be represented in the highest echelons of the world game in the World Cup, some of us think FIFA compliance is important because some of us, for example, support a bid for the FIFA Women's World Cup. Those opposite didn't until they were hounded into it.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr TARZIA: Point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** Treasurer, there is a point of order, which I will hear under 134.

Mr TARZIA: This is well off Treasurer's Instruction 15-debate.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hartley raises standing order 98, as I understand it. The Treasurer is permitted to provide some context, and I believe he has done so. He is now perhaps charting a closer line to the question.

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Chaffey and the member for Mawson will cease their exchange on soccer-related matters.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I wouldn't wish to be offside, sir, so I will come back to the point. The question from the member for Hartley was: while we were putting our election commitments together, while we were talking to our candidates, while we were talking to shadow ministers, while we were talking to sitting MPs in the Labor opposition, were we sitting there with copies of Treasurer's Instruction 15 working out whether those submissions that local community clubs had made to us were compliant with government protocols?

Well, what we did after the election was we took the list of our election commitments and we took them to cabinet to make sure that the approvals for all these commitments fully complied with the requirements. Not only did we take them to cabinet but we encapsulated them with what I am told or what I learnt on Friday is 1,152 pages of budget papers that form the information sitting behind the Appropriation Bill, which we look forward to examining in great detail from Friday this week.

# SPORTS FUNDING

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:44):** My question again is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Who will monitor local sporting club facility grants to ensure ongoing compliance with Treasurer's Instruction 15?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (14:44): A rigorous process for this—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hammond!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —would be ensuring that there is a grant agreement struck between the recipient of these funds and the government, and that grant agreement of course will—

Mr Tarzia: Yes. Why don't you let the minister say that?

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

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: What, I am not a minister?

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hartley is on two warnings.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: What, you don't think I am a minister?

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer has the call.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: It's a budget measure.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** This is the first question time after the budget and I am answering a budget question.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Jeez! Bust out the sock puppets, Mr Speaker. It is very simple: we will strike a grant agreement with the recipients—

Mr Tarzia: Why don't you let the minister answer the question then?

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Because I am a minister and I am responding. Have you not been in this process before—

Mr Tarzia: Yes, I have.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Treasurer has the call.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: -- or is the seven-second memory kicking in again, is it?

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

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

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: It is just extraordinary.

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hartley well knows the standing orders and he is coming very close.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** So we will strike a grant agreement, as the Treasurer's Instructions require. They will be monitored, as the Premier has already advised the house, by the Premier's Delivery Unit. If those opposite don't like what we did at the election or don't like what is in the budget, then stand up and tell us which grants you don't support. Which ones don't you support? Name them. Are you turning your back on the hounds?

### Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Have you released the hounds? Is that what's happening?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hammond! Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: This is an appropriate process. We support the community.

### **COVID-19 BOOSTER CAMPAIGN**

**Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (14:46):** My question is to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. How is the COVID-19 booster campaign engaging multicultural communities?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (14:46): I thank the member for Torrens for the question, and I would like to recognise her energy and commitment, particularly to our Indian community and the diverse community in her electorate. The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced how important it is to deliver up-to-date culturally and linguistically appropriate health messages to keep our entire community safe. The Malinauskas government commenced a COVID booster campaign on 8 May, with the message 'double vaxxed isn't fully vaxxed'.

I am pleased to inform the house that this campaign has engaged and targeted our multicultural communities by running full-page press in more than 10 community languages in the following papers: *Greek Community Tribune*, the *Adelaide Tuan Bao*, *Nam Uc Tuan Bao*, *Chieu Duong Sunrise Daily*, *SA Chinese Weekly*, *Al-Furat*, *Indian Sun*, *Punjabi Akhbar*, the *Indusage* and *II Globo4*. As well, we have delivered this message in community language radio stations: on 5EBI in Italian, Greek, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Arabic, Punjabi and Hazargi; on Radio Adelaide in Pitjantjatjara and English; and on SBS Radio in Italian, Greek, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Arabic and Punjabi. We also put out this message on 5ENA, which is a Greek radio station. As well as this concerted in language campaign, on social media we were including messages on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

Many pop-up vaccination clinics have been established in areas which have been identified as having lower vaccination rates, including my own electorate of Salisbury, which is an incredibly diverse area. This is an opportunity for us to encourage all residents to take advantage of these walk-in clinics. We know that COVID has taught us the importance of health information available in language to ensure community members have timely, factual information that is easily accessible, plus the website fullyvaxxed.sa.gov.au can be translated into 108 different languages.

Wellbeing SA has also undertaken targeted engagement with adult CALD communities. I had the opportunity to attend several barbecue/vaccination opportunities with the African Women's Federation. It was a really great opportunity for those who were quite fearful and concerned about vaccination to break down those barriers and to ask those questions but to do it in a social way in a place where they often attend events. I have to say that I was particularly impressed with the African Women's Federation because many people had many mixed messages. They made a decision that they wanted to keep their community safe, and they were supported by the government to do so.

I also have had the opportunity over the past three months to attend many, many multicultural events. I have taken that opportunity not just to celebrate at a festival or be at an independence day dinner but to remind people to get vaccinated because it is an opportunity to reach out to people at their own events. I recently went to a Nowruz Festival just after the election (great market stalls) and talked about vaccination. I also talked about the grandson of a refugee who is now our Premier. At the Indian Mela as well we had these conversations, and of course our Thai, Sinhala, Tamil, Khmer and Bangladeshi communities have all recently celebrated.

## **GROWTH STATE PROGRAM**

**Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:50):** My question is to the Premier. Has his government abandoned the former Liberal government's Growth State program? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr COWDREY:** Growth State was established as a partnership between government and industry to accelerate economic development. On the recent figures, this government inherited this nation's fastest economic growth rate and South Australia's lowest unemployment in 40 years. However, the creation of the Economic Recovery Fund suggests that this government is going back to the former Labor government's approach of picking individual business winners rather than providing sector-wide support to encourage economic growth and job creation.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (14:51): It is unsurprising that those opposite continue to try to re-create history but incorrectly. Those opposite, of course, were very quick to claim that they had left South Australia with the fastest growing economy in the nation, but what they failed to also explain—

**Mr Cowdrey:** Your state tax receipts tend to say that.

The SPEAKER: Member for Colton!

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hartley!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** What they failed to explain is what occurred in the preceding two financial years of economic growth where immediately before we had the slowest growing economy in the nation, thanks to the economic stewardship of those opposite. In fact, in each financial year at the beginning of the—

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Colton!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —previous term of government, the economy slowed—

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

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

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —drastically from what it was under the previous Labor government. They came—

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

## The SPEAKER: The member for Hartley!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —to government in 2018 saying that they would not pick winners. That's what was contained in the 2018-19 budget speech: they would not pick winners.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The approach-

**Mr COWDREY:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Treasurer, there is a point of order from the member for Colton. I will hear the point of order under 134. The member has the call.

**Mr COWDREY:** While facts were introduced, the question itself was reasonably contained: is the government walking away from the Growth State program?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! I am listening-

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Colton is called to order. I am listening carefully.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Under the former Labor government we had a two-stage process for industry assistance. We would have rounds of funding available to all South Australian companies—well publicised that anyone could apply for. There were criteria that were known at the beginning of those processes, and at the first round companies were awarded \$50,000 so that they could put together a business case so that they could put a further proposal should they have a business case—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The SPEAKER: Treasurer, there is a point of order, which I will hear under 134.

**Mr COWDREY:** In this instance, I believe it would be argument to be talking about the former Liberal government's approach, but in this instance the Treasurer is talking about the former former Labor government's approach.

### Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order! No standing order itself has been raised, but nevertheless I will assume for the moment that standing order 98 is before me. I will listen carefully, and before I listen carefully the member for Hartley can leave under 137A. He indicated earlier that he was ready to leave and he will now leave for 15 minutes.

The honourable member for Hartley having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I don't know why the member has such discomfort with the question that he asked me because—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —he asked about the approach of the former Labor government and contrasted it with the approach of the former Liberal government. When I respond in those terms, suddenly points of order are being raised. It's extraordinary! As I was saying, we had a two-stage process, and in the second stage, if there was a viable business case that somebody

put to the government that stacked up for funding, then they were awarded funds under the Future Jobs Fund.

We know it was a success because we had the member for Dunstan snipping ribbons on those projects over the last four years that received funding—for example, over at La Casa Del Formaggio or at the Sofitel hotel. These were projects that were awarded funding. They were such a good idea that the former Premier couldn't wait to stand next to them and try to claim them as his own. That was the approach, a robust approach open to everybody. Contrast that with what occurred over the last four years. We had pools of funding with no established criteria, which were not publicised, which were not made available for all South Australians to apply to.

Mr COWDREY: Point of order, sir.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens is called to order.

**Mr COWDREY:** Again, my point of order is in regard to debate. The question was very contained: has the government abandoned the former Liberal government's Growth State program?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Unley, member for Chaffey, member for Elizabeth and member for Badcoe, you are called to order. The Treasurer is right in suggesting to me, though not necessarily on his feet at the time, that the question did contemplate a reasonably wide answer. I have given the Treasurer some latitude. We are now well within the minute until close. The Treasurer might chart a closer line to the question.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** We are going to abandon the approach of those opposite who would wait for a company to privately approach them and put whatever case was made in order to receive taxpayers' funds without process.

Mr COWDREY: Point of order.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: He said one sentence and you stood up.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Colton, I have just encouraged the Treasurer to take a sharper line. Perhaps we will hear a little further from the Treasurer.

Mr COWDREY: Sorry, I thought he had concluded, sir.

The SPEAKER: I am not certain that he had. The Treasurer has the call.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: This is going well.

Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I will also, on indulgence, grant the Treasurer another 15 seconds if he wishes to take it up.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, Mr Speaker. We are going to abandon the behaviour of the previous government over the last four years, which seems to be dressed up by the member for Colton as a Growth State agenda. When the former Premier outlined the Growth State agenda, it repackaged the economic priorities that were laid out by the former Weatherill government. Assigning a name to those economic priorities doesn't change the fact that (a) they remain priorities of that government and (b) of this government.

Of course those sectors are still important. We have reaffirmed our commitment to the defence industries, space industries, cyber industries and so on. But what we are doing in addition is putting some robustness around it. We won't be hiring acolytes of the Unley forum to sinecures—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —that are paid for by taxpayers, for example.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: That may displease the ventriloquist, but that will be our approach.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Treasurer's time has expired in this instance.

# ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUND

**Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:58):** My question is to the Premier. How many jobs will the Economic Recovery Fund, announced by the Premier on 26 May, create?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (14:58): In short, as many as possible because what is clear is that we are still in economic recovery, hence the need for an economic recovery fund. While there have been really significant improvements in economic performance, particularly in those industries which were suffering from the greatest restrictions, there are still sectors of the economy that need support. There are also additional growth opportunities in the future where companies, for example, may want to grow their businesses, may want to expand their operations and employ more South Australians, but perhaps don't have the capacity to fund such an expansion on their own.

We think that there are very likely opportunities for the government to partner with those businesses or to partner with those industries and do it in an open and transparent way. We won't just wait for some acolyte of the Liberal Party to come and privately approach the government before we send it across.

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni: How many jobs?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The member for Unley cries out, 'How many jobs?'

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

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Well, let me point out a couple of jobs that won't be existing. There will not be sinecures for fundraisers for the Unley sub-branch of the Liberal Party. Those jobs will be gone.

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni: How many jobs?

The SPEAKER: The member for Unley is warned.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** There won't be people in decision-making positions who will be quietly appointing personal political fundraisers to these sorts of positions.

## Members interjecting:

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Treasurer, please be seated. Member for Unley, constant interjections of the type that you have engaged in are plainly disorderly. I appreciate your contributions for the most part, but on this occasion I'm going to ask you to leave under 137A for eight minutes until the end of question time.

### The honourable member for Unley having withdrawn from the chamber:

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I was bemused to see the criticism of the budget papers from both the shadow treasurer and the Leader of the Opposition claiming that 'jobs growth was falling off a cliff'. I thought, 'What on earth could be the basis for such a remarkable assertion from both of them?' Apparently, it's because the employment growth forecasts in our state budget adopt exactly the same employment growth forecasts that were contained in the former Liberal government's budgets released after that state election. I had a look to see what those employment growth forecasts were, about how many jobs would be created. Lo and behold, you open up chapter 7, the South Australian economy, and you look at those economic forecasts and what does it say? One per cent, one per cent, one per cent. That was in the 2018-19 budget. Then you open up the 2019-20 budget and what does it say? One per cent, one per cent, one per cent, again. The temerity of those opposite—including the Leader of the Opposition, who sat in cabinet and approved those figures when approving the budget as a member of the government—to come in and say that their 1 per cent terrific, our 1 per cent bad is just extraordinary. It smacks of the most ridiculous, desperate criticism of this budget.

To be honest, where is the alternative? You criticise the money that's being handed out to community groups: well, tell us what you don't support. You criticise the amount of cost-of-living support that this budget provides: well, where is your alternative? We just had an opportunity for the government-in-waiting, as they would call themselves, to present their budget response and things that they would do differently. What was the alternative?

**Mr Cowdrey:** Point of order: we have well got away from the question here—debate.

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order is debate. There is some force in the point of order. I'm going to listen carefully but draw the Treasurer's attention to the question.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** We will be creating as many jobs as possible, not just through the \$100 million economic recovery fund, and also providing a floor of economic activity and growth through the \$18.6 billion worth of capital investment occurring across the entire total government sector. All those projects—building new hospital beds, building new technical colleges, building new public housing, accommodation for the homeless—will support jobs here in South Australia.

# ECONOMIC RECOVERY FUND

**Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:03):** My question is to the Premier. Was a business case finalised prior to the establishment of the Economic Recovery Fund, and was the establishment of the Economic Recovery Fund supported by a business case?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (15:03): Well, that is extraordinary, isn't it? I have just explained that we will ask businesses to come forward with proposals for them to expand their operations—

Members interjecting:

### The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Cowdrey: Was there a business case for the scheme?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Was there a business case for a government fund? Well, what sort of business case would you establish for a fund which is yet to make its allocations? It is just ridiculous.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Perhaps you have a business case that you release for a \$9.95 billion tunnel project? Has that been released publicly? 'Oh, whoops. We forgot to do that in the four years that we were in government' from those opposite.

# Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Colton, member for Hammond, member for Chaffey!

Mr Cowdrey: I didn't ask if it had been released publicly. It doesn't exist! It doesn't exist.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The member for Colton yells out, 'It doesn't exist!'

## Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta well knows the rules.

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**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Then they complain that it hasn't started five minutes ago now that they are in opposition, when they haven't even got a publicly released business case.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Oh, no!

The SPEAKER: Order!

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

The SPEAKER: I will hear the point of order from the member for Morialta.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The question was clearly about Labor's fund, not about the north-south corridor.

**The SPEAKER:** There is some force in the point of order, but I do observe that we are very early in the answer. I will be listening carefully. Of course, it is permissible to introduce a degree of context.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** If it's not the tunnels, it's the new Women's and Children's Hospital. At the beginning of this year, before a state election, they were parading around out there quoting a cost of \$1.95 billion, which they got in mid-2019. I don't know anyone who has bought a lettuce, let alone tried to build a pergola, in recent times who honestly expects that that cost holds. Where was the business case? Did you release that publicly?

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

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order. I anticipate that the member persists in making the point of order in relation to debate. There is some force in the point of order.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Daniel come to judgement, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Very well. I am listening carefully. The Treasurer is to take a closer line to the question.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** For those opposite, given they were unused to dealing with and releasing business cases while they were in government, that is the purpose of a business case. When you have a specific project or a specific process or proposal—

## Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Colton!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: -you expect a business case. Are we now-

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Colton! The Treasurer has the call.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —going to have calls from those opposite that every fund in government has a business case? Do we have a business case for the Victims of Crime Fund? Is that the expectation next? We have pools of—

Mr Cowdrey: That's in legislation.

The SPEAKER: Order!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I am interested to hear the member for Colton say that the need for a business case for expenditures from the Victims of Crime Fund is 'in legislation'. Do you read legislation? Do you understand what funds are for? Dig up not down. It is extraordinary. We won't be taking a private approach to government assistance for industries. It will be open and it will be transparent. I know they don't like it because of the way they conducted themselves over the last four years: much wailing and gnashing of teeth because we have had the temerity to stop projects that were important to them—

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

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: -because we dare impose the commitments-

**The SPEAKER:** Treasurer, there is a point of order, which I will hear under 134. The member for Morialta in relation to a point of order.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: It's 98, debate.

**The SPEAKER:** Standing order 98, as members are well aware, does prohibit debate of a type the Treasurer may or may not be engaging with. In any event, I note that the time has expired.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Only for question time, sir, not the answer.

**The SPEAKER:** Very well. The Treasurer makes a strong—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

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

**The SPEAKER:** I heard the Treasurer remind the Chair that in fact there are two minutes remaining in relation to his answer, though question time itself has expired. I am minded to hear the Treasurer.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir: I then request that you deal with the standing order that was raised, which was that the Treasurer is debating, and that he not do that for the next two minutes.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! I am listening carefully.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Perhaps, finally, I can clear this up for the house. Perhaps I can task myself with bringing back a fulsome response to this place of all the industry assistance that was paid under the last four years of the previous Liberal government and the terms and conditions that applied to it, because I think the public would like some transparency about how much taxpayer support was provided to all those organisations when it was suddenly announced without any due process, without any competition or without any chance for any other South Australian organisation to get it. Maybe, once we all have access to that transparency, we can see how the previous government chose to dole out these funds and whether—

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

**The SPEAKER:** I will hear the point of order under 134. The member for Morialta has raised a number of points of order today but is now raising another.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Every submission should be judged on its merits under 134. Standing order 98 does not allow this sort of response to a very narrow question.

**The SPEAKER:** Well, it may or may not allow such a response. In any event, of course the member is right to say that each point of order ought be judged on its merits. I will guide the Treasurer to come closer to the question.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Alas, I have concluded my remarks, sir.

The SPEAKER: Very well.

Grievance Debate

#### **CHAFFEY ELECTORATE**

**Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:09):** I would like to talk about a couple of great events that happened in Chaffey in recent weeks. Illuminate Adelaide, the In Depth series at Renmark, what a great showstopper it was. The In Depth lightshow is a multimedia event on the banks of the River Murray in Renmark. Through the collaboration of Illuminate Adelaide, the Tourism Commission and the former Liberal government, the lightshow transforms the river into a storytelling experience. I was joined by the cofounders, Rachael Azzopardi and Lee Cumberlidge, both very passionate, as well

as the lead artist, Craig Walsh. Together with local artists and members of the community, it tells the story of the region's history, culture and unique environment.

Over the last 30 years, Australian artist Craig Walsh has become widely known internationally for his pioneering approaches to site-responsive installations, sculpture and projection mapping in unconventional locations. He is renowned for his site interventions at live events, including iconic works at music and cultural festivals across Australia and internationally, no more important than that on the banks of the River Murray with its unique ecosystem biodiversity and the rich Ngarrindjeri history of the Riverland and Mallee.

I would also like to give a shout-out to SATC CEO Rod Harrex and the chair, Andrew Bullock, whom I met at the Illuminate showcase. I also travelled to Murtho to have a look at one of the great investments in local tourism in Chaffey—a houseboat that has been built by the Murray River Trails crew—and Erin was our host. We had a look at *High River*, great accommodation floating on the banks of the River Murray and a great addition to our tourism.

I would also like to talk about two extraordinary Riverlanders who were both awarded Order of Australia medals over the long weekend. Nancy Murdock is a hardworking, esteemed member of the Riverland community who has been an active participant in many roles across the region. She is also a survivor of three separate cancer diagnoses: breast, kidney and bowel. Her diagnoses have not weighed her down and her story has become one of hope in our region.

Nancy has been a volunteer with the Cancer Council for more than a decade, raising many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Her ongoing volunteer fundraising work, and the sharing of her own survival story, has led to her being recognised by the American Cancer Society, which named her as one of its 2018 Global Heroes of Hope. She is the only South Australian to receive that award.

In addition to winning local awards, such as the 2018 Berri Barmera Council Citizen of the Year, she was also awarded the Seniors Card Community Individual Award in 2015 at the South Australian Regional Awards, further recognising her determined work for the local community. She has been a long-time volunteer for the deacon at the Berri Church of Christ. We commend Nancy for her great work. She is an outstanding role model in the Riverland.

I would also like to commend Sydney Villis. The member for Hartley is not here, but recently he and I both visited Sydney. He is another special Riverland local. Mr Sydney Villis was awarded the OAM for service to emergency response organisations. Syd, as he is affectionately known, is now 98 years old. I had the pleasure of meeting him at the Barmera nursing home with the then Minister for Emergency Services, the member for Hartley. It was great to meet him and congratulate him on his 60 years of service in the Riverland.

Over his 60 years of dedicated service to the Riverland local community, Syd held important positions, including captain and radio controller at the Moorook brigade of the Country Fire Service. He was a foundation member in 1960 and received a national medal in 1986. We would like to thank Nancy and Syd for their commitment not only to the region but to humanity, whether it is volunteering at the CFS or volunteering for cancer. They are great South Australians who are very proud to say that they live in the Riverland and support Riverland day-to-day life.

# WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (15:14): Like the member for Chaffey, living in a wine region, it is great to see the ebb and flow of the different seasons. At the moment, we are seeing the vines stripped right back, the bare earth emerging and the green grass—in our case, along the Willunga Range—really coming into the fore. There have been a couple of really good seasons in terms of the volume and the quality of the past two vintages, but there are a lot of headwinds in front of the wine sector. It started a couple of years ago, with China introducing tariffs that have made it basically impossible for most Australian wine producers to export into China.

Last weekend, in Brisbane, I met with the new federal Minister for Agriculture, Murray Watt. Murray and I have been mates for about 12 years. We had good discussions about the wine sector. I am hopeful that the new Albanese federal government, as they are indicating through Senator Don Farrell, our federal Minister for Trade, will engage with China to try to get our trade relationships back on track so that we can again be exporting wine into China. It was by far our most important market in terms of value and also volume. Without it, it has left people in a really tough position and we are facing a glut of really good wine. A lot of growers out there are also struggling to sell their fruit, and I know in the Riverland that is a problem as it is right across most wine-producing regions in South Australia.

I wish our ministers and the new federal government well. Obviously, while industries always like extra money, sometimes it is the diplomacy that governments can bring and the discussions they can have to put trade deals back in place that are really important. At the same time as China, we also have the UK government looking at introducing a new tax regime on alcoholic drinks, which really is aimed at imported wines because there is not much wine grown in the UK. The new tax regime leaves alone beer and ciders and whiskeys, which they produce a lot of. It really goes after that middle ground in terms of alcoholic volume of around 11½ per cent to 15 per cent.

I had a chat with David Ridgway the other night. He is doing some work as the Agent General in London. I also met with Accolade Wines and some other people in McLaren Vale who export into the UK and who are very worried about this regime, so we will be doing everything we can to ensure that we can get the message across to the Johnson government to maybe have a look at that and consider the 900 jobs in South Australia that are at risk if these changes to their system go through.

I would like to welcome Erin Leggat to the role as CEO of the McLaren Vale Grape Wine and Tourism Association. I had a very good meeting with Erin just a couple of weeks ago. She came on board recently as the new CEO of the association. It is a really important role for a sector that provides \$850 million a year to the McLaren Vale region through food, wine and tourism. Erin is doing a great job. She comes from a background where she is really focused on exports. It is a difficult time for the wine industry everywhere, and I am sure that Erin will do a great job.

The June long weekend was for years and years the Sea and Vines weekend. A couple of years ago, the association decided to wind that in a little bit because unfortunately people were filling up the buses from 9 o'clock in the morning after a couple of hours at a pub, and they were walking like crabs by the time they got off the bus in McLaren Vale at 10am. It has all calmed down a little bit. I was at Lloyd Brothers for a wonderful lunch on Saturday, and I want to thank Sam Temme, the CEO at Lloyd Brothers wine, for putting on a really good show. Gonzalo, the winemaker, is Argentinian and comes from Mendoza.

### An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Malbec, yes. He is a big fan of Argentinian malbec, much like me—a man after my own heart. He is here as their chief winemaker for Lloyd Brothers, but he is also an expert in barbecue. He teamed up with Todd Steele, who went off and coached the association's junior footy team, and then came back and cooked up lunch with Gonzalo. It is great to see so many events sold out right across the McLaren Vale region on the long weekend. Keep on coming to visit us in McLaren Vale. We love to see you all.

## SCHUBERT ELECTORATE

**Mrs HURN (Schubert) (15:19):** I rise to speak today on a number of matters concerning my electorate, but in particular I would like to point out that regional South Australia and its success are matters of high importance to those on this side of the house. As I look around on this side of the house, I am very proud to be a part of a team with many strong advocates for their regional communities.

Of course, we recognise that strong, vibrant regions deliver a strong and vibrant state. That is why this budget in particular is disappointing. It fails to deliver for our farmers, for our country communities and for the industries that uphold our regions. It is an unfortunate return to standard practice, where the Labor Party has had a history of neglecting our regions and governing only as far as Gepps Cross. Let's look at regional roads as an example, the lifeblood of regional communities and our businesses in the country.

The former Liberal government made enormous inroads repairing more than a decade of Labor's neglect, upgrading more than 4,800 kilometres of country roads right across the state. But it is clear in this budget that Labor are leaving our regional roads to crumble and shunning rural investment. In particular, I was very pleased to hear the comments made by our shadow minister for

regional roads, the member for Hammond, Mr Adrian Pederick. He pointed out very starkly that, whilst 30 per cent of South Australians live in country areas, just 6 per cent of roads, of spending in this budget, is going towards the regions.

There is lots to be done locally in my electorate of Schubert. I was disappointed in particular that the Labor government missed the opportunity to match funding to deliver a solution for an intersection which is notoriously difficult to navigate. It is serendipitous that the member for Light should walk in at this time because he knows full well that I am referring to the intersection of Greenock Road, Moppa Road South and Samuel Road in Nuriootpa, known by many as Linke's Corner. It is notoriously difficult to navigate.

The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:

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

Mrs HURN: We were making very practical steps-

Members interjecting:

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

Mrs HURN: The former government made very practical steps to improve this intersection.

The Hon. A. Piccolo: You put stop signs up. Yes, they made some stop signs.

The SPEAKER: Member for Light!

**Mrs HURN:** I note the interjection of the member for Light. I can only assume that he himself is embarrassed about this new government's approach—

The Hon. A. Piccolo: I am not embarrassed, not at all.

The SPEAKER: Order!

**Mrs HURN:** —to this intersection after being out and about in the community harping on and carping about the former government's approach to this intersection. I actually wrote a letter to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport seeking a commitment from them to match the funding made by the federal Liberal government. Under the former federal government, we had \$1.95 million committed to this intersection under the Black Spot funding program. I was surprised; I turned straight to the page where I would have seen it and, Io and behold, there was no commitment made. Despite the advocacy, apparently, from the member for Light, the member for Light was—

The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mrs HURN: —more than happy to stand at this intersection and have his photograph taken—

The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:

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

**Mrs HURN:** It is unfortunate, however, that this has not been delivered upon in this budget. I can only imagine that this is standard practice for the Labor Party, where they are more than happy to pose for photo opportunities in the regions but they fail to deliver. They have absolutely failed to deliver for regional South Australia. I am afraid that this is just a sign of more to come, which is really concerning. We know, for instance, that the roundabout will cost closer to \$4 million. As I mentioned, I urged the now Minister for Infrastructure and Transport to match this funding, but it has fallen on deaf ears.

There is road surfacing to be done in main streets right across my electorate, from Mount Pleasant to Birdwood, not to mention in Gumeracha, just to name a few. There is Humbug Scrub Road, Torrens Valley Road, Gomersol Road and countless others that require urgent attention. There are intersections to be fixed and road safety measures to be implemented. I am committed to working with locals, truckies and businesses alike to see the state of our roads improved. I look forward to working with all of my regional colleagues to fight for more funding to flow to the regions, including in my electorate of Schubert.

## ADELAIDE AQUATIC CENTRE

**Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (15:24):** On the subject of regions, I want to give a shout-out to our cabinet, who were down in the South-East last week, including in my home town of Naracoorte, talking about the significant investment they are making in our regional communities, and in particular the investment in Naracoorte Hospital where my three brothers and I were born. I congratulate the country cabinet on their time spent in our really important regions.

Today, I stand to speak on an exciting development, our investment in the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre. It is an \$82.4 million project in a regional facility that is going to keep people in our local community, keep them active, fit and healthy and ultimately connected to their communities. Today is an exciting first step in the development of the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre, where we begin official consultation on the final location of the preferred site for the Aquatic Centre. We are looking at three locations within Park 2 in North Adelaide: the south-east, the south-west and the north-east.

We have various ways in which the community can participate in this consultation. We have drop-in sessions on Wednesday 22 June between 4pm and 7pm and on Saturday 25 June from 1pm to 4pm at the Adelaide Inn on O'Connell Street, North Adelaide. You can go along at any time and talk to some of our departmental staff about specifics around the locations within Park 2: south-east, south-west and north-east.

There is also a pop-up information stand at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre during opening hours, which will be staffed regularly, and you can also go online on the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's website at www.dit.sa.gov.au/aac. There is an online survey you can fill out or you can also drop a pin on the map to provide your feedback. You can do this until 5pm on Sunday 10 July.

In order to be able to give my community notice that this official consultation was underway, I held a street-corner meeting or a community catch-up on Sunday and it was so exciting to see how many people came along to this particular community catch-up. There were between 60 and 70 people at my community catch-up on Sunday with a range of issues they wanted to raise and feedback they wanted to provide. One of the clear pieces of feedback was that the users of the facility would like to see the current centre continue to operate while we upgrade and build a new Adelaide Aquatic Centre.

We have heard that loud and clear and that is why it is important that we keep the current facility operating while a new Adelaide Aquatic Centre is built. The centre is visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors, families and users of the facility. I am one of those regulars on a Saturday for swimming lessons with my two children, Audrey and Ned. I am also excited that the current facility will continue to operate while the new centre is built.

There is also a community reference group that people can apply to be part of, which will review the community consultation and feedback. You can apply on the department's website and nominations for that community reference group close on 28 June. As I said, the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre will be an \$82.4 million investment to be completed by March 2026. Importantly, there will be no net loss of Parklands as part of this development. Once we have built the new facility, the current facility will be returned to Parklands.

I would also like to give a big shout-out to all the people who attended my community catch-up, our street-corner meeting, on the weekend and in particular the players and parents, spectators and volunteers involved with our water polo community in South Australia and those who use the Adelaide Aquatic Centre.

It was amazing to hear the passion of so many players and parents. I got to go into the centre after my street-corner meeting and watch one of the exhibition matches being played. I want to give a shout-out for your passion. I would like to say 'hats off to you' or when we are talking about the Aquatic Centre maybe we will say 'tops off to you'. Thank you very much.

# FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta) (15:29):** On 2 June 1946, the Italian people undertook a referendum to determine what form of government would follow for the rest of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and it still stands today. The Republic of Italy was commemorated on that day with the Festa della Republica still recognised and celebrated today—and what a celebration it was here in Adelaide.

South Australia's Italian population is our most significant group of non-English-speaking background in our state, with more than 100,000 proud people of Italian heritage. First, second and third generation migrants alike from Italy, who still have the strong, rich and important connections to Italy, were joined by the government and the opposition, by all sides of the parliament, in celebrating that day on 2 June.

I would like to commend our Italian Consulate here in South Australia for the important work they do in commemorating this tremendously important day—important for our state as well as for Italy. To Consul Dotorre Adriano Stendardo and his wife, Clizia, thank you so much for the work that you did. I have been to a few of these celebrations as the member for Morialta. Members would be aware that we have a very significant Italian community in my electorate, which is my great privilege.

These events are special every year, but this year may well have been amongst the most special. The consul and the consulate, the team led by Consul Adriano Stendardo, with people like Sara Potenza and the rest of the team, put together a festa meravigliosa. The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra was brought in to perform the national anthems of both Italy and Australia and then a suite of extraordinary Italian music, culminating with the *William Tell Overture*. If you have not heard Rossini played by a full symphony orchestra, which I had not until a couple of weeks ago, then I commend it to everybody in the house as an experience to behold.

I thank and commend Vincent Ciccarello and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra for the work they did to support this. Vincent was not able to be in attendance, as he was selling South Australia's virtues internationally on the night. I know he was very sorry to miss it, and I can inform him that his team did well. Umberto Clerici, the conductor, was spectacular and he had the entire audience, representing people from the Italian community, from the consular corps and other people in government and industry in South Australia, very much appreciating their work.

The performance was dedicated to Her Excellency Francesca Tardioli, who many members would be aware was Italy's ambassador to Australia, who tragically passed away in recent months. Her Excellency was a friend to South Australia, as indeed she was a friend to peace-loving peoples around the world. Her lifetime of service to the Italian government and to the diplomatic corps was very much appreciated, and it was suitable that the evening was dedicated to her in that way.

Following the performance, there was a delightful reception. I was joined by the member for Hartley (Vincent Tarzia), the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the upper house (Hon. Jing Lee), the Minister for Police and other legislative councillors, the Hon. Reggie Martin and the Hon. Frank Pangallo. It was a lovely event, but it was really memorable for one special thing, which was the honouring by the Italian government, through Consul Adriano Stendardo, of our former Governor, His Excellency (as I am told I am not allowed to call him anymore) Hieu Van Le AC, who was made a Cavaliere, which I think is the same level as an AM; Commendatore would be like an AC. Indeed, we saw Steve Maglieri have his elevation from Cavaliere to Commendatore also acknowledged.

For Hieu Van Le to be acknowledged as a Cavaliere of Italy I think recognises the significant warmth and affection in which he was held by the entire South Australian community, particularly for his services to the broad range of multicultural communities in South Australia. I commend Hieu Van Le and Lan Le, who, it was very clear to see, had a wonderful evening.

The services to the community provided by the consulate are important. I particularly want to take the opportunity to commend Consul Adriano Stendardo. When in government, as Minister for Education I was very pleased to join him in signing an MOU between the Italian government and the Department for Education to see more professional learning support for Italian language learners, for Italian language teaching assistants to work across more schools and for more sister school relationships between South Australia and Italy.

Indeed, I hope that body of work will continue under the new government. It is an important body of work that not only will pave the way opportunities for South Australian students learning the Italian language, which has so many benefits, but also will honour and continue to enhance the rich cultural heritage and traditions that formed between South Australia and the nation of Italy. Buono Festa della Repubblica.

## STEAMRANGER HERITAGE RAILWAY

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel) (15:34): Members, I wish to acknowledge and raise in the house the valuable efforts of SteamRanger, a not-for-profit volunteer organisation operating and preserving a heritage railway service on the Mount Barker to Victor Harbor line. SteamRanger is more than a railway: it is a vital part of our state's remarkable industrial heritage and it must be supported.

A variety of steam and diesel locomotives, diesel railcars and heritage passenger carriages form the backbone of SteamRanger's rolling stock. Importantly, SteamRanger does not receive any recurrent funding from any government or private source. The majority of funds for its operations are provided through ticket sales. Recently, I wrote to the Deputy Premier, who ultimately has ministerial responsibility for SteamRanger, to outline a number of urgent needs.

The SteamRanger service attracts a wide range of social groups seeking to experience and support South Australia's heritage. It also attracts individuals, families and theme groups. With SteamRanger operating through both the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu regions, the service is vital to local tourism. SteamRanger has adopted a policy to spend money locally where possible, whether in Mount Barker or in the Fleurieu Peninsula.

Importantly, SteamRanger is largely sustained by volunteers. The skills required to manage, operate and maintain much of SteamRanger's rolling stock are considerable. SteamRanger's restoration and maintenance activities provide a remarkable environment for trade training at the same time. It is a genuine privilege to have SteamRanger operating in Kavel, and can I emphasise to the house the many thousands of hours that highly skilled volunteers are putting in to sustain an ageing railway line.

It is absolutely critical to the continued operation of that line that investment be made by different levels of government to sustain the operations of a tourism asset of substantial value.

#### Bills

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MOTOR SPORT (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

## Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

**Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (15:37):** I speak in support of this bill, and I know that many residents living in the electorate of Playford will be happy to welcome the return of the Adelaide 500. By and large, this bill does not reinstate the Adelaide 500, but it does bring back the South Australian Motorsport Board to manage the race and to work alongside other worthy events, including the World Solar Challenge and the Adelaide Motorsport Festival.

When Labor listened to voters, we did not just learn that the Adelaide 500 needed to return: we also heard that it needed to be run by the board. Racegoers seemed to pinpoint that the quality of the event had been in decline once responsibility of the event was taken away from the Motorsport Board. I think it is a positive measure of a party when they admit they made a mistake in dissolving the board, and this bill seems to rewrite a wrong.

In my younger years, I was very much a fan of motorsport. I think that as I got older it stopped being a passion to the point where I would say now that it is a moderate interest. Beyond the final Grand Prix in Adelaide, my love took me to two in Melbourne, and in 2002 I was very fortunate to visit the Le Mans 24 Hours in France.

I feel this is important, as I have a taste of what makes motorsport so exciting and understand how people can get so enthusiastic. The fact that I went to France was born out of a love I developed from endurance racing, which was ignited by our very own Asia Pacific Le Mans series event held in Adelaide on New Year's Eve in the year 2000. Dubbed the Race of a Thousand Years, it was a massive lesson in history that was both costly and embarrassing to us on a world scale.

By the end of this, you will be wondering whether anything ever changes when it comes to Liberal governments and the poor treatment they have given to event promoters willing to set up shop at our world-famous street circuit. Like many South Australians living in the late 1990s, I felt the hurt of the loss of the Grand Prix. We had done something so well and it seemed such an injustice for it to leave town. While I was happy that the street circuit was going to be used for the Adelaide 500, my pride was reignited as a 20 year old at the thought of an international series coming to Adelaide.

The American Le Mans series, ran by the late Don Panoz, seemed like the perfect recipe to cure our ills. Even more exciting was his willingness to establish a series based in the region known as the Asia Pacific Le Mans series. Mr Panoz seemed to love Adelaide. He not only controlled a racing series but he also manufactured cars, one of which he was willing to name after our beautiful city. The relationship seemed to have it all. There were talks of driver academies and even mumblings of car factories being set up locally. For a first event, 80,000 spectators on race day compared well to the Adelaide 500.

Despite a contract in place for future events, a few months later then Premier Olsen pulled the pin on the event. The announcement was so sudden that it seemed to catch tourism minister Joan Hall off guard. I am not sure if members of the Olsen government read any international motorsport magazines like *Autosport*, but the announcement was nothing short of a global embarrassment.

Amplifying this was a radio interview from Minister Hall on 23 February 2001, stating she believed that the only Le Mans race to have been cancelled was a 2001 race and that she was continuing negotiations with the Panoz group for future events in Adelaide. Well, we all know what did not happen next. It sent a very clear message to any prospective event organiser that the government of the day could not be trusted to live up to their contractual obligations.

It was nothing short of an insult to Mr Panoz, who had been in Adelaide 10 days prior to the announcement, and the numerous sponsors linked to the event. This included global brands like Audi and our national carrier, Qantas, but it reverberated locally, with sponsors like Coopers. After the fiasco, it was worth asking: would anyone want to partner with a government unwilling to keep their side of the bargain?

Fortunately, within two years the Brown/Olsen/Kerin government was consigned to history, but sadly it left the new government with a very difficult clean-up job. An \$18 million lawsuit over the axing of the race was eventually settled, with the Labor government agreeing to pay its legal costs of \$1.7 million. While it could have cost us a lot more, in many ways this hit to our reputation was already done. It may be debatable whether the race was a good fit or Victoria Park could sustain two major events in the same year, but what goes beyond question is that an international promoter should never have been lured to Adelaide in the first place if this was the end result.

If anyone is asking why this is relevant, the answer is that in the case of Liberal governments they have learned nothing, with history repeating itself. Fast-forward to 2020 and the lessons learned have been completely forgotten. In the last few decades, global recognition of the Supercars series has soared. We have seen races in New Zealand, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, China and the USA. Copycat street circuit events have mushroomed up all over the country and a plethora of international racing drivers has raced in the field.

Despite COVID, the series that initially revolved only around Bathurst had evolved into something truly global. You only have to look at the coverage received through the Autosport website to know its significance to the motor racing world. This did not seem to stop the Marshall government pulling the pin on our beloved Adelaide 500. It would be understandable if the event were placed on hiatus due to the pandemic, but full cancellation was reckless.

Love it or hate it, the economic impact cannot be ignored. The last event attracted over 200,000 people and supported over \$45.9 million in economic activity. Business leaders cite the need for certainty as a key ingredient to their success. This is heightened for our own hospitality sector and city traders, who need the certainty of some big-scale events to bring the crowds in and help to

make up for the losses sustained over two very difficult years. Unfortunately, they got the opposite from the previous government.

If an unceremonious ditching is what falls in your lap, then why would any event with an international flavour want to set up shop in Adelaide? A bad message had been sent across the world and it is no wonder that after ditching the Adelaide 500 the best offering the previous government could do was to come up with Bloom.

In many ways, this bill does not just determine who will be managing a car race: it begins the act of restoring our international reputation. We should also count ourselves lucky that to date this has not ended up in the courts. If we still want nice things, we must first look after the things we have. I commend this bill to the house and wish the incoming motorsport all the very best.

**Ms THOMPSON (Davenport) (15:44):** I rise to offer my support, too, for the motorsport bill presently before the house. The best motorsport event in Australia: that is how the Adelaide 500 has been recognised since its induction into the Supercars Hall of Fame back in 2005. Our state has a long history with motorsport and we are proud to host this event here in Adelaide, so it was no surprise that the community so passionately rose up to fight for its return when it was scrapped by the former government.

This is a no-brainer for our state. In 2019, just before the former government axed the event, the Adelaide 500 injected \$45 million into South Australia's economy and supported 46,000 direct and indirect jobs. The Adelaide 500 was a beloved city-wide celebration taking place in the heart of Adelaide, promoting our city and our state to a global audience. It was a major drawcard for our tourism and hospitality sectors, attracting more than 15,000 interstate and international visitors. Along with many in my community, I am still shaking my head at the decision to axe this incredible event that brought so much benefit to our city, but I am extremely proud to be a part of the team that is committed to bringing it back.

This bill will re-establish a dedicated motorsport board to focus on realising the full potential of motorsport events here in our state. The board will ensure an exceptional Adelaide 500 experience when it is brought back in December this year and will ensure the realisation of our government's vision to lift the economic and social benefits of motorsport in SA and reaffirm our leadership to an \$8 billion industry.

The board will also be responsible for identifying new motorsport events and promoting and managing other motor-racing events, including the World Solar Challenge. For my community, I know it is extremely important that we consider the environmental impact of these events, and there is real excitement to see events like EV racing added to the agenda.

Motorsport more generally employs more than 1,500 people and contributes almost \$300 million to our economy. Nationally, it is almost 17,000 jobs and a \$3.1 billion economic contribution, so there is scope for South Australia to get a much larger slice of that market. The return of the Adelaide 500 will deliver a much-needed boost to CBD hotels, cafes, restaurants, bars and the city economy more broadly. We have committed to prioritising SA businesses as suppliers and creating more opportunities for local vendors and entrepreneurs.

On most Sundays in my electorate you will find a coffee and chrome event taking place in a supermarket car park. People come from all over to proudly display their pride and joy and chat to other like-minded people about their beauties. It is a big deal in this state. We have a huge car club membership and people invest a lot of time and money into their vehicles, not to mention the social benefits.

As part of this government's commitment to motorsport and car clubs, I am proud that we will be backing our car clubs to grow their membership and host more events and activities. We will expand the conditional registration scheme for classic and historic vehicles and individually constructed vehicles, and will establish a new grants program to support South Australian car clubs. This is about recognising our state's proud history of car manufacturing, car racing and car culture, attracting more visitors to South Australia, creating more jobs and growing our state's economy.

Whether it is racing, tinkering in the shed or just watching from the sidelines, people in my electorate love cars. I would like to thank all the car enthusiasts, and their supportive partners, from

my community who raised this as a priority and who, along with many others across our state, have fought hard to see the return of this great race.

I would especially like to acknowledge and thank the Percat family, who are part of my community. Nick Percat has raced the classic street course in the main game of Supercars since 2014 and became the first South Australian driver to win the local event in 2016. Nick grew up in Flagstaff Hill and his family still live there. They have all campaigned hard to see the return of this great event. We are proud to have a Flagstaff local competing on the world stage and we could not be prouder to see him return to race on the streets of Adelaide as we reclaim Adelaide's title as the motorsport capital of Australia. I commend this bill to the house.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Newland.

**Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (15:48):** Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, and thank you for the opportunity to speak on the motorsport bill today. I would also like to thank South Australians, including many in my electorate of Newland in the north-eastern suburbs, for giving us not only the chance to govern but the chance to bring back the much-loved Adelaide 500. For so many people in the suburbs, the Adelaide 500 acts as an opportunity for a long weekend, a time for a staycation with their friends or family.

It is a weekend that residents in the north-eastern suburbs wait for all year and often save up for instead of a family trip to Queensland and the theme parks, as many remarked to me on the doors. The Adelaide 500 is a beloved event across the state and a drawcard for some of the biggest names in entertainment. I remember all too well dropping off and picking up friends who went to the race just to see the Red Hot Chili Peppers and my personal favourite, Robbie Williams, before the race was axed in an untimely and confusing decision by the former Liberal government.

The member for Hartley, in fact, commented earlier on a previous Labor government's change of heart. There is no greater change of heart, however, than that that has come from the Liberal Party, who are supporting the bill less than three months after continually affirming their decision to axe it. The Adelaide 500 is much loved and also brings significant economic benefits to our state. In 2019, the 500 generated over \$45 million in economic activity across the state.

In South Australia alone, motorsport employs more than 1,500 people and contributes almost \$300 million to our economy. That is small change, however, compared with the \$3.1 billion it brings in across the country. Now, thanks to the motorsport bill, we have the opportunity here in SA to expand motorsport and take on a greater share of the market. The bill expands the powers of the minister to declare areas in Adelaide and the regions to allow a greater range of motorsport events and grow our industry.

I am here to wholeheartedly endorse the motorsport bill. It is our government, of course, that is bringing back the 500 to the streets of Adelaide after a long campaign to save the Adelaide 500 in opposition. We had thousands of people sign our petition to save the 500, and many of those were residents from the north-eastern suburbs. I would particularly like to thank my dear friend the member for King for her advocacy and for her tireless campaign at local markets, car catch-ups and on the doors to bring back the iconic race. I know that people in the north-eastern suburbs, particularly in the seats of Newland and Wright, are grateful for her advocacy and our campaign to bring back the race.

Supporters came out in full force at our Adelaide 500 event in February this year, where hundreds of people gathered at Civic Park in Modbury to hear from the now Premier as well as race car legends Todd Hazelwood (who did remark to me more than once that he was proudly born at Modbury Hospital), Nick Percat, as already mentioned by the member for Davenport, and Scott Pye as we announced that an elected Labor government would bring back the Adelaide 500 in December this year.

The benefits for South Australian tourism speak for themselves. In 2019, the Adelaide 500 attracted over 250,000 people to the CBD. It promotes our city and our state to the globe, something that was already impacted by the loss of the Grand Prix to Melbourne in 1993 and further challenged with the outbreak of COVID-19. The impacts on the tourism and hospitality sector are significant. It exists as a major opportunity for our state, particularly in the hospitality sector, attracting over 15,000

interstate and international visitors and supporting over 90,000 visitors in overnight accommodation across the race weekend.

Moving the race to December further expands the opportunity for tourism in our state. Not only will the event become the decider, the final event of the national season, but it will double the opportunity for economic activity by moving the race away from Mad March. We are committed to bringing back a race for South Australians not only as attendees but as suppliers, prioritising SA businesses and creating opportunities for local vendors to showcase their products at these events. I commend the bill and hope to see you all at the race in a few months' time.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:53): I rise today to support this bill, and I am very much looking forward to 1 to 4 December as our streets come alive again with the Adelaide 500. We know that people in hospitality, accommodation and tourism cannot wait to see this event back in Adelaide, particularly at the time of the year that it will be. The last race of the season is an opportunity. We will have already had the Christmas Pageant, and then we will have this race that will fill our hotel rooms and make Adelaide alive.

We know that this event has had hundreds of thousands of South Australians attend and also interstate and overseas visitors. It has been held annually in and around the city's East End since 1999, and in 2019 it injected \$45 million into the South Australian economy, creating 435 full-time jobs and attracting 250,000 people to the CBD.

We certainly know that our CBD has had a very uncertain time and continues to do so, although we are bouncing back bit by bit. We have some fantastic new hotels to add to our support areas, but we know that the tourism and visitor economy is still \$2 billion down from what it was prior to COVID. It is actually 24 per cent. I have an ambition to not just get it back to \$8 billion but get it to an aspirational target of \$12 billion and I think we will get there.

We know it is a major draw. We have more than 15,000 people from interstate supporting 90,000 bed nights and that is incredibly important because it is one of the most important events that we have in South Australia that fills our hotels. You do not just have to take our word for it. Former Liberal tourism minister David Ridgway said, 'It is one of the few times that Adelaide is chock-a-block full.' He knows how good it was. I am talking to him tomorrow as Agent General. I will remind him of how much he loved it and see if he is coming back. He is probably going to come back for it.

Of course, we did have some challenges in 2020, but even though it was a little bit lower, at 206,000, it still made Adelaide the largest Supercar crowd in Australia. This event is popular and that is why South Australians voted to bring it back.

We know that in 2020, which seems like a long time ago now, we had some catastrophic bushfires that devastated KI and the Adelaide Hills. We had just had the start of COVID-19. Little did we know that it was going to impact us for the next few years. One of the key drawcards, of course, has always been the concerts that we have. People absolutely love the concerts: KISS, Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Living End and Robbie Williams. I remember Carlos Santana; he was pretty cool. So it is not just about people who love motorsports: it is about people who love music and love having a great time.

As I said, we are going to stage it as the final event of the national season. This will make it a must-attend event for fans and thus a major tourism opportunity for our state. When we have it in the heart of Adelaide, one of the world's most fabulous livable cities, it promotes our city and our state to a global audience.

We know that we get an enormous amount of international media coverage for this event and, to be honest, even though we are 42 per cent back with international flights compared with prior to COVID, it is going to be slow to get to that next level. Any time that we show a global audience what we have—this time with Supercars and in January it will be with the Tour Down Under—it is an opportunity for us to market ourselves to the world, with our beautiful state on televisions all over the world. We want people to come back to Australia to visit us.

We have a long and proud history of motorsport. We also have a proud history of vehicle manufacturing. Many people in my electorate worked for Holdens, some for their whole working life,

and we are incredibly proud of the work they did. It offered secure employment and wages for generations in the north and of course in the past in the south with Mitsubishi.

There was so much anger when this race was cancelled by the previous government. It was such a misjudgement for them not to see that, even though we had had a quieter race in 2020, our love of motorsport and our love of vehicle manufacturing are ingrained parts of our culture, which of course the federal Liberals just chucked away and were happy to put down the drain. They misjudged this decision. I am sure they have already regretted it because we have already heard from the Leader of the Opposition that it was a reckless decision and that it was a mistake.

Motorsport is an \$8 billion national industry and employs more than 1,500 people and contributes \$300 million to our economy. That is in South Australia. Nationally, it is about 17,000 jobs and a \$3.1 billion economic contribution, so there is scope on the back of this race to get a larger slice of that market.

One of the key things we have said in the budget is that we are committed to prioritising South Australia's businesses as suppliers, to create opportunities for local members to showcase their products at these events and support local businesses and entrepreneurs. We want to grow businesses here in South Australia. When we run these world-class events, they can then use those credentials to sell interstate and overseas. We know that we have built some really good skills and experience here, and we know that bringing back the race enables people to get great skills in event management and to take that further.

This bill re-establishes a dedicated motorsport board with up to nine members to be appointed by the Governor. Wayne Hunter has been assigned to the role of CE, and he is tasked to bring back the iconic Adelaide 500 this December. It is an exciting time for the people of South Australia. We cannot wait for the Adelaide 500 to start. It is the jewel in South Australia's tourism crown this December.

This bill brings into operation the Motorsport Board and it will look at other events, including the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge. We know it is going to look at the Motorsport Festival. We know there is a great love of motorsport in South Australia and more widely throughout Australia and the world. I commend the bill to the house and give my voice to it to go ahead.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:01): I would like to speak briefly in support of the bill to re-create the Motorsport Board. While this bill is dedicated to creating the Motorsport Board, which will oversee the Adelaide 500 plus other motorsport events, the focus—in terms of community focus—is on the Adelaide 500. When the previous government announced that it was cancelling the event, I must confess I was quite surprised at the reaction of the community. It was quick, it was strong and it was quite negative towards the government of the day.

People in this state like their motorsports. Right across my electorate, I had people write to me, email me and phone my office saying that they would be prepared to support and work on my campaign and do what we had to do to bring the Adelaide 500 back. Not only that, they said they would tell their friends in other electorates to do the same to make sure a Labor government was elected. For a lot of people, this was a defining issue.

I am not a person who is huge on motorsport; it is not my thing. Importantly, as an MP I am there to make sure that we represent the views and the aspirations of our community, and I was prepared to support them. In fact, they had a rally in my town to support the return of the Adelaide 500, and there were car enthusiasts—not just people who like to race cars but people who have an interest in cars and the history of cars; there were people involved in various car clubs, historical car clubs—for whom cancelling the 500 was like killing off the car industry, which the federal Liberals did in this country. It was like redoing that again—

### An honourable member: Shame!

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** —that's correct, 'Shame!'—to this country. When you see the sums about what the Adelaide 500 and other motorsport industries bring to this state, people just did not understand why the Liberal government of the day would actually cancel the event.

Our leader, Peter Malinauskas, at the time made the bold decision, the correct decision, the right decision—that if elected we would bring the event back. I am glad to hear that it is coming back

on 1 to 4 December this year, if my memory serves me correctly. In addition to that event, though, are a whole range of other things. I think it is important to put some facts on the record because there is a lot of economic and cultural justification for bringing back a board that will oversee all these events.

For example, in 2019 the Adelaide 500 generated over \$45 million in economic activity in this state. While a lot of the activity was in the city area, it also spilled out into the suburbs and country areas. People came here for that event and then went to the wine regions as well, so they made a trip of it. People enjoyed the whole state because of that event. That brings me to the next point, that events like that lift the profile of Adelaide as a city and the profile of the state of South Australia not only in Australia but also right across the world, and it helps our tourism industry.

Given what we have been through in the last couple of years because of COVID, we need all the support we can get. We need to make sure that people understand that Adelaide is open for business, that Adelaide is open for tourism and that Adelaide is a place to come to see a whole range of things. In fact, the 2019 Adelaide 500 event attracted 250,000 people to the CBD. It would have to be one of the biggest events, if not the biggest event, in South Australia. I think the pageant might be just a little bit bigger. It has been a few years since I went to the pageant (my boys, who are now 34 and 32, are a little bit old for the pageant), but I certainly remember the hundreds of thousands of people who lined the streets of Adelaide.

Again, it brings a sense of vitality, a sense of excitement to our town. It is an event with quite a wide appeal. Young men, older men, young women, older women, all sorts of people actually like this event. When it was announced that the Liberal government would axe the event, it surprised me that concerns came from a cross-section of the community, and I was surprised to get a lot of emails from women saying, 'This is a bad thing.' This is an event that is worthy of our support. The reintroduction of the Motorsport Board will make sure that the government provides some leadership in conjunction with the board to the motorsport industry. For these reasons, I fully support the bill.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (16:07): As Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing and as a motor racing fan, it gives me great pleasure to speak today in support of this bill. As is the case for many people in this place, including those who have spoken, the Adelaide 500 is something all South Australian's can be rightly proud of. It has certainly held a very special place in the social and economic heart of our state. I am so pleased that, through this legislation and our government's commitment, we will be establishing a board and the systems needed to bring it back and to bring it back to the heart of our state.

As the Premier stated, the Adelaide 500 was more than a car race. It was one of the biggest events on our tourism calendar and delivered millions of dollars in economic benefit. More than that, it reflected our long, proud history of motorsport in South Australia and the importance of the race, the togetherness it represented and the passion that people have for the sport.

Many of us have great memories of attending the Adelaide 500 and, before that, the Formula One Grand Prix. Sitting on the oval at high school, I can remember the excitement we felt the first time we heard Formula One cars come to town. It was a time when I coveted a Holden jacket that was sadly always just out of my reach, a few years before I drove my beloved Holden HG. I can remember the excitement of seeing the cars roar into action for the first time.

I can remember how happy I was a few years ago, when more women drivers began to drive in the race, drivers like Simona de Silvestro, Emma Clarke, Laia Sanz, Charlotte Poynting, Madison Dunstan and Renee Gracie. I remember just how brilliant it was to join the crowds to hear artists, from Lee Kernaghan to Cold Chisel. When the cars roar into town, there is a special feeling that comes with them. This is a feeling that many in my community of Reynell in the south viscerally share. I am very proud of the fact that the people in the south worked so incredibly hard on galvanising support for the reinstatement of the Adelaide 500.

One particular family took petitions out to the community, to local pubs and to other gathering places and really made sure their voices were heard in the debate about their beloved race returning to the streets of Adelaide. People flocked to sign the petition at the Christies Beach Hotel and beyond, and people called relentlessly for stickers and other campaign materials. It is for these people and

all who campaigned, particularly Sam and all at the rally at Parliament House for the return of the race, that I am so glad that we are bringing back this iconic race.

The feeling of excitement and determination was also alive at both the Port Noarlunga and Glenelg car shows that I attended after we made the announcement, before the election, that a Malinauskas Labor government would bring back the race. People at those shows were so excited and happy with the news that they actually let me and the member for Kaurna get into their classic cars to check them out. I know that this year's race and all the races into the future will bring enjoyment, connection and entertainment to many.

We know that there are many people across South Australia from all backgrounds for whom cars and motorsport are a huge part of their lives. Our government is committed to supporting them to pursue their interests and passion, and that is why we are investing through the budget \$500,000 per annum in an initiative to support local car clubs across South Australia so they can better meet growing operating costs, including managing the conditional registration scheme requirements.

The facts on the economic benefits to the state of the race are indisputable. In 2019, just before the former government shamefully axed the Adelaide 500, it attracted over 200,000 people, supported 46,000 direct and indirect jobs and generated over \$45.9 million in economic activity, not to mention the tens of thousands of visitors it attracted who filled hotel beds and spent money at local businesses.

The reinstated and reinvigorated Motorsport Board will help to drive a true festival of motorsport in our state as they work to identify potential new motorsport events and promote and deliver future growth. I know our community will absolutely be getting behind the Adelaide 500 and, along with thousands of others, I cannot wait to see Adelaide take its rightful place again as the centre of motorsport in this country.

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (16:12):** I rise to make a very brief contribution to this bill. I of course support this bill. I think I reflect what you said, sir. I am not the world's greatest motorsport fan, but I must say that when the previous Liberal government made their decision to axe the Adelaide 500 I was completely taken aback by the community response. It was overwhelming from all sections of my community and other members of the community I spoke to around the place, including the emergency services community, which was outraged by the axing of this event.

I think there is a view, or there was a view certainly, on the other side of this house that the Adelaide 500 served a few bogans from the north who came down and ruined their parking and their access to the city once a year. That certainly was not the case. The case is that this is enjoyed by a huge wide cross-section of the community. It is absolutely essential that we keep it, and I am very pleased that the Malinauskas government, the leader, I will not say pressure but under certainly some instruction from many of his members particularly in the north-east decided very early on to reverse this decision and put the Adelaide 500 back where it belongs.

Other members have mentioned this, but I will mention it too. There is also a story of a young man named Sam Henderson. Others have told this story, and the Premier has told this story several times in this place, so I will not go over it. Sam and his family are residents of my constituency. They are residents of Elizabeth Park. It has been my enormous pleasure to get to know the Henderson family over the last couple of years or so and to see the passion that young Sam has for motorsport. It is that passion that I think underpinned the whole effort of the then opposition and the now government to reinstate the race.

As I said before, I am not the world's greatest motorsport fan, but I do of course recognise its importance in the community. As others have observed, growing up there was always the divide in the school between the Ford people and the Holden people.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There was no divide: it was just Holden.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Certainly, when I arrived in Elizabeth in 1981 at Elizabeth Downs Primary School—and I came from a school where, even though it was a state school, they were pretty strict on uniforms and ties and things like that—there were two uniforms: one was the blue Ford jacket and one was the Holden jacket, and I owned neither. For my entire school career I owned neither. I never could figure out entirely which tribe I was in, until I was 16 and I bought my first LJ Torana, which was amazing and I should have hung onto it. Of course, I borrowed my parent's HD Premier too, so I found myself very firmly in the Holden camp.

As I said, I have never been an enormous fan of motorsport, but the community made their views known loud and clear. What became apparent also was the economic benefit to the state, and I am surprised that members opposite could not see that from the outset. It is all very well having Mad March. I am a big fan of Mad March. I think it was an excellent initiative of previous governments. However, the Adelaide 500 does not detract from those events around the Fringe, Writers' Week and all those things that we all enjoy, it adds to them and it brings other people into the city to mix with those people who enjoy their arts events.

There is an enormous economic benefit and there is a social benefit, in that people who appreciate motorsport come into the city at the same time as there are people who are interested in the arts and writers' week, as the member for West Torrens is interested in all the things that the Fringe has to offer.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: I support the arts.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** As the member for West Torrens points out, it is good that he is back on the treasury bench because he is one of the house's great supporters of the arts and indeed motorsport. However, it really is down to the leadership of the Premier, the Treasurer and representations from those from the north and north-east. The member for King, in particular, was very outspoken on this issue.

I doorknocked King and Newland on many occasions and this issue came up time and time again on the doors. It came up from people who, for whatever reason at the time, had voted for the Liberal Party in 2018. They were surprised and shocked that the people they had voted in, for whatever reason—in their minds, for probably good economic reasons, they decided that there should be a change of government in 2018—they felt betrayed by the actions of the then Premier.

They saw it very much as a snub to the north and the north-eastern suburbs by people living in the eastern suburbs. I have nothing against people who live in the eastern suburbs, of course, but the people I spoke to on the doors in King and in Newland were betrayed and saw it very much as a snub, and they saw the Premier's actions and the actions of the government as an attack on them on behalf of people who may well be inconvenienced at a particular time of the year by a motor race.

I grant that it would be inconvenient if you lived in Kensington Gardens or in Norwood and it takes you a while longer to get in to work. I accept that. However, the economic benefit to the state, as I said, and the social benefit of having a major car race in the heart of the city surely outweighs that, just as the slight inconvenience, perhaps, of the Fringe or the occasional football game at Adelaide Oval inconveniences people coming from the north into the city.

I commend this bill to the house. I look forward to going to the motorsport in December. I do note that it coincides with the World Cup games. I am not sure of the exact dates, but I do note—

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It's the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** I don't know the dates of all the World Cup games, that is what I am saying. I do note that it does coincide with some other sporting events, which I am sure the opposition spokesman on this bill will be assiduously watching.

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No Italians in the World Cup.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Without any further ado, I commend this bill, and I do want to reiterate what a pleasure it has been to get to know the Henderson family. It is a pity they cannot be here to see this bill pass. It is a pretty dry piece of legislation, I guess, but the result of it will be that young Sam gets to go to the Adelaide 500 again in December this year, and if for no other reason this bill should be commended to the house.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (16:21): I cannot believe we even have to do this. This event should never have been cancelled, and I see—

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Not the race.

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: But not the race. The race went on.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I remind members that they should direct their comments through me if they want to stay in the chamber.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** This was probably one of the cruellest things I have seen done by a government. This looked to me to be self-interest. It was entirely supported by members in cabinet who thought they would benefit from cancelling this race, which I think was pretty short-sighted. Ministers should think beyond their electorates and think of the broader benefits.

With those very few words, I commend the bill to the house and look forward to its speedy passage. I understand that Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition has some questions in committee. We will consider those questions then.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

In committee.

**The CHAIR:** Could the opposition please indicate which areas you would like to ask some questions about?

Mr TARZIA: Mr Chairman, I will start at clause 5.

Clauses 1 to 4 passed.

Clause 5.

**Mr TARZIA:** In relation to membership of the board, what is the process of the board appointments? Will there be an expression of interest process? In the previous iteration of the SA Motorsport Board I understand that it was actually specified that the board consist of not more than nine members appointed by the Governor of whom two will be persons nominated by the City of Adelaide, one will be a person nominated by the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport, and the remainder will be persons nominated by the minister.

Why is there not a similar requirement for that board to include a person nominated by the Adelaide City Council or, say, Motorsport Australia as the national body?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** We do not want to confine this board's operations to the Adelaide 500. There could be other motorsporting events that would be required, and it would be inappropriate to have it just confined to Adelaide City Council members as nominees on the board. By keeping an open process, we let a broader range of people on the board who have expertise in the area of motorsport or expertise in the area of promoting South Australia or expertise in any area that the government believes is necessary for the appropriate delivery of motorsporting events. That might not just be in the City of Adelaide but it could be broader than that. I think the previous allocation of board membership would not apply in this case.

**Mr TARZIA:** Other than a reference to a maximum number of nine members and the need for some diversity, there is no mention made of any requisite skill set for board members. Why is that? Would the minister consider some sort of requisite skill set? For example, does someone need to be from a corporate governance background, do you need a financial management background, would you need a legal background? It is very broad at the moment, so has there been any consideration given to specific skill sets that should be on the board?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** There is already a prescribed skill standard in legislation for board members. I know the member is probably well aware of this so, without labouring the point, government boards and committees will follow best practice and guidelines, as per the Guidelines for Agencies and Board Members.

I know that the member has already had a response which said—and I will read it for the benefit of the committee—that, in relation to the suggestion of some prescriptive elements in relation to skills being added to the selection on appointments of board members, the government understands the intent of this suggestion and has existing guidelines in place to ensure that a balance of skills is established on a board.

Under the 'Government boards and committees, guidelines for agencies and board members', published by the Cabinet Office, extensive guidance is provided to ensure balance and effective boards are appointed by government agencies. This is a keystone election commitment of the Malinauskas Labor government. We will be appointing a dynamic, effective and well-balanced board that will set up this event for success in 2022 and into the future. In terms of the balanced skills of board members, I am advised that the Cabinet Office requisite requirements are:

Representation of a full range of skills and experience on boards is a prerequisite for ensuring the board can discharge its overall obligations to improve performance and protect the long-term viability of the organisation and the Crown's financial interest in the organisation.

Furthermore, under the heading of Composition and Structure of the Board, the same guidelines state:

If the Government is to rely on the decisions made by boards, it is critical that people with 'appropriate' skills are appointed. In general terms, this means a mix of skills, with the balance probably favouring executives with highly developed skills in the relevant industry. Perhaps the most significant decisions to be made by the Government affecting the success of boards will be in appointing members to them. Accordingly, the primary objective should be to get the best people on these boards.

Gender balance is also something that the government is aiming towards, namely, a fifty-fifty representation on our boards. The selection process should be, and I quote, 'merit based and begin with a board member specification'. The board member specification states, and I quote, 'The board member specification is to be provided to potential candidates.'

As the former minister may be well aware, there is a central holding station within government where people express interest to be on boards. Their CVs are provided to the government. There are qualifications there. Obviously, cabinet and the department would do an extensive search for people with the appropriate skills, or speak to people who are involved in motorsports, who are involved in governance, who are involved in holding these types of events. South Australia is the festival state. We know how to run festivals and we know how to run them well. There is a lot of experience in South Australia.

Sometimes, being too prescriptive could actually be counterproductive. This bill gives the government maximum scope to ensure the broadest range of representation on our boards. I would caution the opposition, who one day hope to be Her Majesty's government, that limiting yourself by prescription to make a cheap political point might come back one day to bite you. We saw that in the previous term of the Marshall government, where traditions and norms and conventions of this place were trashed, which was very unfortunate. I would like to see them returned. Did you like that?

Mr TARZIA: I did. I am happy to move on.

Clause passed.

Clause 6.

**Mr TARZIA:** What is the proposed term of board members, and would the minister agree that there should be some sort of limit in terms of reappointment of board members? For example, would there be a maximum number of terms, in keeping with good governance, to ensure there is adequate succession? Every organisation needs good succession planning. Is there a maximum amount of tenure that will be included here, and what is the proposed term?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I am not aware of any boards that have prescribed term limits. I stand to be corrected. There might be. There are?

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Carclew, okay. Presidency?

# Mr Tarzia: Of the USA.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yes, we are not part of that republic. We are part of the commonwealth, and Her Majesty's appointments are appointed at a term that she sets on recommendation by her Executive Council. That is prescribed in legislation in this parliament. No, I am not sure we are planning to have term limits or term turnover in the board.

To be quite frank, there are places for term limits, but I also think that if you have set up a good board with good scope and they are doing well why would you just spill them because we felt that we needed to turn them over for the sake of turning them over? If they are doing a good job, you leave them there; if they are doing a bad job, you turn them over.

That is what the public do every four years. You put yourself up for election. If you have done well, they re-elect you; if you have done poorly, they turf you out. I am lucky enough to have been here now for seven elections and seven terms. It is always nice to be re-endorsed by your community. I have only felt the sting of one election loss, in 2018, and it was very, very hurtful. But I am not sure that it applies in this case. In part 2, new section 6(1) provides that the composition of a board is:

(1) A member of the Board will be appointed for a term, and on such conditions, determined by the Governor.

**Mr TARZIA:** In the *Government Gazette* published on 14 April, the Hon. Zoe Bettison, Minister for Tourism, delegated all the functions and powers under the SATC Act 1994 with respect to the Adelaide 500 motor racing event to the Premier. Who is the minister responsible for the bill, to become the act? Will it be the Hon. Ms Bettison or the Premier?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The Premier.

Clause passed.

Clause 7.

**Mr TARZIA:** Previously, the SA Motorsport Board members received remuneration of up to \$30,000. Is there any thought as to the remuneration entitlement of board members and the presiding member?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** As you have been informed in writing already, yes, we are planning on paying members up to \$30,000 per annum.

Clause passed.

Clause 8.

**Mr TARZIA:** In relation to clause 8, functions of the board, obviously the former board was abolished by the Weatherill Labor government many years ago. There were several arguments used, such as reducing red tape, saving unnecessary work for the Public Service and reducing duplication, unnecessary complexity and inefficiency in government. Why is it now the government's position to backflip on this issue?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** That question is better directed to the Weatherill government. Last time I checked, they are no longer here.

Mr Tarzia: You were there.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I was there, but it is like me holding the opposition member to account for every decision of the Marshall government, even when he was Speaker. That would be unfair and cruel and unkind, and I am none of those things. I am all honey, sugar and spice. You are laughing a bit loudly there, Mr Chair of Committees.

The CHAIR: I have a cold.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Rear-vision mirrors in policymaking are really useful to guide us, but the idea that we must replicate exactly what was done previously in order to succeed moving forward does not work. We have a new Premier with a new government with a new vision, and his vision is for this board to do more than the previous board did or to operate the Adelaide 500

differently from the way it was run previously. This is now a new race run by a new government with a new board with a new vision. It is different. The member knows that.

I have to say that I do not really believe, in my heart of hearts, that the member for Hartley was a big fan and supporter of cancelling this race. He saw it happening and he saw the slow car crash occurring. He was not—'brave' is not the right word, because he is brave; 'politically astute' is not right, because he is politically astute. I am just not sure he was listened to. I am not sure of a polite way of saying that. Someone who was unkind might say he was ignored. I am not unkind, so I will not say he was ignored. Some say he might have been completely—

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: It's like a Jeremy Clarkson impersonation.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** One of my heroes, Jeremy Clarkson. Trying to find a negative out of returning the race back to Adelaide is a pretty long bow, and the member knows better. If I were to give him any advice, as someone who cares deeply about his career and his prospects into the future, my advice to him would be this: fight the fights you can win, and the ones you cannot win get them over with as quickly as possible.

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Exactly. This sort of nitpicking on the side really does noone any favours.

### Members interjecting:

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yes. We will be ignoring what the opposition has said and going on with our new vision.

Clause passed.

Clauses 9 to 15 passed.

Clause 16.

**Mr TARZIA:** My question to the minister is: on 16 May, the Premier announced Mr Warren as chief executive of the board. Was there an expression of interest process for that appointment?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** No. The Premier appoints chief executives. It is done through a cabinet process. It was done that way. The Premier found the best person for the job and appointed him. It is called leadership.

Clause passed.

Clause 17.

**Mr TARZIA:** Would the minister be able to please explain who is actually the employing authority? Can you confirm how many staff are expected to be employed to perform functions in connection with the operation and activities of the board and how much it will cost to establish those staffing arrangements for the board.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I understand the operating budget for the event is \$18 million, which will operate the executive staff of the board. The operating cost for the board itself is about \$300,000 per annum.

Clause passed.

Remaining clauses (18 to 25), schedule and title passed.

Bill reported without amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (16:41): | move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

## **APPROPRIATION BILL 2022**

## Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

**Ms THOMPSON (Davenport) (16:42):** I rise to offer my support for the Appropriation Bill presently before the house. I am excited to be part of a team that is putting people at the centre of everything that we do, a team that will never stop fighting for what is important: a better health system, better schools, opportunities for local businesses and jobs, much-needed protection for our environment and, overall, a better future for all South Australians.

This government is prioritising what is important for South Australians. With Flinders hospital located in my electorate of Davenport, many of my constituents are health workers. In the lead-up to the recent election, I met with many doctors, nurses and ambos from my community. There was something that they all had in common: exhaustion. They were drained by back-to-back shifts. Many had not had a real break in a long time and had been told not to expect holidays any time soon.

But it was not just the long hours that were tiring them; it was the sheer frustration of not being heard and the frustration of trying to do their jobs with strained resources. One nurse told me that she was responsible for looking after an entire ward overnight on her own. She said she had come home from work feeling sick with worry, knowing that she had not been able to give the quality care that her patients deserved and praying to God that she had not accidentally stuffed up and hurt somebody.

We know we have to get all the elements of our hospitals working well. We need appropriate numbers of staff and beds to ensure patients can cycle through the system and not block our emergency departments, which we know leads to ramping, which leads to slower ambulance response times and ultimately people's lives.

I am proud that we are making a record investment across the health system to start addressing the ramping crisis and to fix the significant problems that the former government ignored for four years. I am particularly pleased that partnering with the Albanese government will see \$400 million spent on the Flinders Medical Centre, including 136 extra beds, an upgraded intensive care unit and an expansion of dedicated mental health and older persons' facilities. This budget will deliver more beds and employ more ambos, doctors and nurses to boost capacity across the health network and relieve pressure on hospitals and emergency departments.

We know that building a fantastic education system is the best way to set up our state for a strong future. That is why we are making our investment in education and skills a priority. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the incredible teachers and staff working across our state schools. It only took a few days of homeschooling for parents to really begin to value the work of our fantastic teachers, and it has been particularly challenging for them over the past few years. Even without a global pandemic to worry about, our teachers are challenged daily.

Many students require extra assistance from experts, but right now that is not so easy to get. So often teachers need to manage the special needs of individuals while also managing their day-to-day teaching. Parents get frustrated when their child cannot access the support they need. We heard this loud and clear, and that is why we are investing \$50 million for 100 extra speech pathologists, occupational therapists, psychologists and counsellors in our schools for our kids who need that little extra help, and there will be a specialist autism leader in every public primary school.

I have primary-school-age kids, and this is something that is raised with me time and time again by parents, carers and teachers in the schoolyard. Kids often wait months to see an expert after being identified as needing extra support. They often go from one referral to the next, never really getting the support that they need, and that has a huge impact on a young child's learning abilities and making new friends. I cannot wait to see this delivered and benefiting the kids and families across our state.

It is superexciting that this parliament has finally acknowledged the real threat of climate change. The Malinauskas government's first state budget will put climate action and nature back on the agenda, investing heavily in the future of our state's environment. Of course, with important words like that of declaring a climate of urgency comes the need for real action, so it is vital that this

government invests in clean jobs and clean energy with the construction of a new hydrogen power station, which will help us to achieve our bold target of 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030.

I am particularly proud that, as a member of this Labor team, I have been able to secure some great wins for my electorate of Davenport. A key priority of my community is road safety, and there is lots happening to improve our roads right across our state. One project I am particularly keen to see delivered is the \$10 million safety upgrade of Main Road, Cherry Gardens. The community have been pleading with the government for years to see Main Road, Cherry Gardens, fixed. I would like to thank Cherry Gardens resident Dave Meszaros, who took me on a drive in his truck to show me where the danger points are and to demonstrate how narrow the road is and how difficult it is for one truck to pass another. Thanks Dave—it was terrifying!

There are often accidents, and it is the residents who live along this dangerous stretch who are often first on the scene when there is a crash. Local resident Mr Nick Villios has been the most vocal over the years. Through tears of frustration, he has explained to me how his daughter will not bring his grandchildren to visit him anymore because she is too scared to drive on the road. Over the years, Mr Villios has written to just about every politician and journalist he could find advocating for the improvements. Despite a tragic accident in 2018, where a young boy was killed, and the road being listed as South Australia's fourth riskiest road by the RAA, it was never made a priority by the former government. I know the community are hugely relieved to know that this government's commitment will see the road widened, resurfaced, roadside hazards removed and guardrails installed.

Supporting grassroots sport is also a big priority for both my community and this government. Nothing says community quite like your local sporting club, so we have committed \$1 million to upgrade the Happy Valley Sports Park, which includes improvements for football, cricket, netball and the local bowling club. It is so important that our clubs have a place to call home, a place to display their memorabilia, to celebrate their wins and achievements or to share a meal or a drink with their teammates.

In Davenport, we are also backing the largest gymnastics club in the south: Hub Gymnastics. We will deliver on our \$3 million commitment to upgrade the Paul Murray Recreation Centre so that Hub Gymnastics can expand their facilities and accommodate their 500-strong waitlist of athletes. We are also delivering some fantastic upgrades at Serpentine Reserve, O'Halloran Hill. One element I am particularly excited about is the installation of a basketball half court. This comes following the advocacy of local children and therefore comes with the added pressure to deliver it quickly. We want to make sure that the same kids who advocated for this project will get to enjoy it too.

The Happy Valley/Flagstaff Hill area is becoming known for its beautiful open space and trails. Over the weekend, I was out for a ride with my son on one of the bike paths recently installed along Happy Valley Drive. It was incredible to see so many people out and about enjoying the sunshine, doing some healthy activity and also just enjoying their community. I am pleased that we will be delivering on my \$1 million commitment to complete the final stage of the Minkarra link trail, which links the northern and southern trails and promotes healthy communities.

We are a government that wants to deliver for all South Australians but, importantly, we are also a government that has a handle on managing the economy and supports an economy that works for everyone, not just those at the top. I commend this bill to the house.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta) (16:50): The Appropriation Bill is of course one of the most significant bills we deal with every year. It appropriates a large sum of money. I think we are heading slowly towards a \$20 billion mark for the state government to be able to fund its activities over the coming 12 months. It is a bill that will be supported by the opposition, as it always is. This year, the Appropriation Bill, the budget papers, contains a number of activities that were undertaken by the previous government but not reported on in previous budgets, and it fulfils a number of the new government's election commitments and contains some other information.

Last sitting week in the parliament, we had the opportunity to deal with the Supply Bill, which deals with the money required to run the state until this bill passes. Next week, after estimates, we will have a third opportunity to talk on matters of this nature, when we respond to the estimates committees before ultimately passing this bill over to the Legislative Council. I absolutely love each

and every one of my portfolio areas, but I do not propose to go over the same material in each of those three speeches, as much as it would be directly relevant.

What I thought I might do instead is this: last week, I talked about early childhood for some 20 minutes; next week, in response to estimates, I will probably talk about education, training and skills for the majority of my time in response to estimates. I know that the education minister and I are looking forward to a good day together next week, with some 6½ hours of opportunity to go into great detail the tremendously important range of matters he now has the privilege and honour of presiding over, and I know he enjoys that honour and takes it seriously. I look forward to going into it in great detail with him then.

Today, I thought I might use this speech to talk about my other portfolio area, that of the shadow minister for arts and festivals. This is a tremendously important part of what our government does. South Australia is known as the Festival State. The former government was led by Steven Marshall and, as Premier, he took on responsibility for the arts portfolio. He devolved some programs to Minister Pisoni, Minister for Industry and Innovation Skills, as it was called at that time, and to me, as Minister for Education.

It was an opportunity for us to share across government, highlighting the important role that those institutions play in our state, highlighting who we are as a state, the way we perceive ourselves and the way the world perceives us. Our artistic community certainly valued significant support from the Marshall Liberal government. It remains to be seen whether the new Malinauskas government will provide anything like the same level of support.

I had the privilege to represent the Liberal Party recently at a forum put on by the Arts Industry Council of South Australia. The new member for Boothby spoke on behalf of the Labor Party, Senator Sarah Hanson-Young spoke on behalf of the Greens, Independent candidate Jo Dyer spoke about her point of view, and I was able to represent the Liberal Party's point of view. I noted that the Greens, certainly encouraged by a number of the artists present at that time, had a very significant body of work that they wished the federal and state governments would sign up to.

I noticed the Labor Party spent a lot of time in their talking points addressing how they understood the aspirations of the artistic community that had been put to them and that they would look into whether those issues were to be met. We are talking about the precarity of employment, for example. I note one of the Labor Party's election commitments involves investigating long service leave entitlements. There are a number of matters that the Labor Party has signed up to, some very fine words that would be appreciated by many in South Australia's artistic, creative and cultural sectors.

The proof will be in the pudding, to see what they deliver in government. If this budget is a marker of that, then it suggests to me that they will identify some projects that the Premier is keen on. They will commit to those and they have delivered on those—there are about four of them. But, as to the underlying works that is indeed what our arts and festivals will be for South Australia in the coming years, it remains very much to be seen whether the level of interest is there. Let me go through what I am talking about.

The government had a promise for boost funding for the Fringe in the order of \$2 million. It will, I believe, recruit overseas headline acts and do some other work to support the Fringe in its important work. The Fringe over the last two years was the largest artistic and cultural event in the world. It is usually second but, of course, through the pandemic the Fringe was able to continue that tremendous work. It is important for South Australia. That is a level of support that the Fringe will receive as an entity. That was the first promise.

There is a \$2 million boost in terms of grants for artists and artistic production. Indeed, the former Marshall Liberal government spent significant funds on supporting artists, particularly through COVID. There are many, many grants programs through the budget for other sectors as well and so the arts sector has this boost in grants. As I said before, there is also the portable long service leave entitlement.

I note in Budget Paper 4, Volume 4, arts and cultural policy and support on page 28, the targets identified by the government for what they are hoping to achieve in the arts portfolio include

providing that additional investment into the Fringe, providing investment in grants for artists and smaller arts organisations. That is, as I say, \$2 million for each of those areas. Then, thirdly:

Work with the sector to address issues relating to work insecurity and income inequality for artists, including investigating the establishment of a portable long service leave scheme for artists.

It remains to be seen what they come up with but, if I were an artist who had voted Labor because that was what I was hoping for, the way that is worded would not leave me holding my breath for that to be delivered. I am sure that the work, including investigating the establishment of it, will ensure that the department will provide some advice to the government. We will see how they respond.

There are in fact five further targets listed under the arts portfolio for what the government is seeking to achieve. All five of those, of course, were remaining priorities of the Marshall Liberal government—important work, and I am pleased that the new government is continuing that work. I will go through them because I think they are tremendously important to the state of South Australia and who we are and the way we present ourselves.

The first of these is Tarrkarri, the Centre for First Nations Culture. This is a massive project. This is a nation-building project on Lot Fourteen, adjacent to the Botanic Garden where the former government was proposing originally to build flats and then Jay Weatherill, as Premier, proposed that we have a modern art gallery. The Liberal opposition, as we were then, Steven Marshall as the Leader of the Opposition and I as the shadow Arts Minister, thought there was a higher purpose for that part of the site as well.

The idea was that we would have a centre that would recognise the histories and the songlines of our world's oldest culture and here in South Australia where we have through our Art Gallery, our collecting institutions, the Museum and other areas and through those institutions the most extraordinary collection in the world of Aboriginal art and cultural artefacts. In our living Aboriginal culture today, through the work of artists on the APY lands, in the South-East, in every corner of this state and in this city, Aboriginal artists are doing extraordinary, groundbreaking and spectacular work and telling those stories and songlines, celebrating culture. That is going to be an amazing opportunity for Tarrkarri to add to not just the way that Aboriginal South Australians present culture in South Australia but the way that our country engages with Adelaide.

It will be a drawcard internationally, sir, I promise you. Indeed, I am pleased to see that the work that the former government did will be continuing. It received some federal government funding but, overall, it will be a \$200 million project that will enhance our state and our nation. It will be tremendously important in the work we do in reconciliation and also as an icon for our state and our nation.

Another very significant project that is underway as a result of investment by the Marshall Liberal government, and listed in this budget as one of the targets for 2022-23, is to progress construction of the state-owned cultural institutions storage facility. That sounds like a fairly dry topic, but I assure all members of this house that at the end of next year, when this project is completed, it will be something that our state should be proud of, and I encourage all members to become familiar with this project.

Our Aboriginal cultural heritage and our migration cultural heritage—the artefacts that form our history and our identity through our Art Gallery, our Museum, our state's history collection, the collections of the Maritime Museum, the Motor Museum and particularly the Migration Museum in this context, as well as a number of other institutions—are not held in fit-for-purpose facilities at the moment. We had an event in 2016 or 2017 when Jack Snelling was the arts minister. I asked in this house whether the government would look into an art and cultural storage collection. He admitted its priority but it certainly seemed to be very unlikely they would ever do it.

This was after an event where priceless Aboriginal artefacts that form part of our South Australian Museum's cultural heritage collection had the sprinkler system turned on on them when there was a break-in to the warehouse where these things are kept. The sprinkler system was turned onto them directly. They were not stored in appropriate cabinets even within this rented accommodation. The opportunity for us to have access for generations to come to these priceless artefacts was potentially denied, damage was caused and there was significant cost in restoring these items. We owe a duty to Aboriginal South Australians and we owe a duty to future generations of all South Australians to ensure that our cultural history is kept appropriately. We have a collection in the Art Gallery worth over a billion dollars. The fact that we know that a small percentage of that is on display at any one time is normal museum practice, but what is also normal museum practice is that those that are not on display are kept in climate-controlled conditions that are appropriate for the safe and secure storage of those cultural artefacts and artworks.

The collection itself is going to be well in excess of a billion dollars worth of materials, artefacts and art that are stored in this location. It was announced in I think the 2020 state budget as a project by then Premier Steven Marshall, and it is a project that I think will be absolutely significant. Hopefully, it will be an opportunity for the community to engage with a number of these artefacts, which are usually kept locked away, in a much more appropriate manner. It is not going to be something with a major visitors' centre or anything like that, but it will be an opportunity for those artefacts to be accessed by the community as appropriate on many occasions.

Critically, when the museums, cultural institutions and display institutions want to access those materials, or indeed might gain benefit from loans of those materials, they will be accessible and they will be looked after. That is a project that will be there for the future, for many years to come. That was a project approaching \$90 million, and I am pleased to hear that it is continuing.

I was grateful to the Minister for Arts, who provided a briefing to me this morning, along with her officers. She is the first of the ministers from whom I sought briefings who has responded, and I congratulate and thank her for that briefing. According to that briefing, I am advised that the time line is that the early works, which were started in December last year, will be tendered soon for more major works, with construction to start in July this year and completed at the end of 2023. I should say for clarity that on the same timetable, as we are advised, we are looking for it to be completed in late 2024 and open to the public in 2025. These are two major institutions, and I look forward to seeing them in place.

Another significant body of work undertaken by the Marshall Liberal government when Steven Marshall the then Premier was also the Minister for the Arts was a fulfilment of our promise at the 2018 election to deliver an arts and culture plan for South Australia—a body of work that was led by people in the artistic, creative and cultural communities and not driven by government but driven by them.

It was the first significant and substantial plan of its type since the Hon. Diana Laidlaw was the arts minister in the 1990s. It was a process that was very heavily subscribed to and supported by many people involved, and there was a very significant level of buy-in from the artistic, cultural and creative sectors in forming those recommendations and supporting them thereafter.

We will be keeping a close watch on how the government progresses the arts plan. I was pleased to hear this morning that one of the recommendations of that arts plan, the development of an Aboriginal arts strategy, which was progressed by the Marshall Liberal government and which, I think, was announced last year, will be progressing and work will be continuing. We will be keeping an eye on it to make sure it is.

The remainder of the arts plan I look forward to testing in estimates potentially next week and how much of that work will continue. This is not a body of work that was dreamt up by the member for Morialta and the member for Dunstan and imposed on the arts sector. This was a body of work that was created during the term of the last government led by the arts sector for the whole of the State of South Australia.

There were a significant number of recommendations in that—dozens of recommendations—many of which were supported in principle and where work was either underway, some of which had been completed, or there was some work still to do. I am looking forward to seeing that the work in relation to the acoustic hall, which I understand Infrastructure SA processes, is still in train, and I commend the government for continuing that exploration. I look forward to seeing what it produces in the months ahead.

I think that the really interesting thing in this budget is clearly going to be in those two sections of the budget: one in the Department for Innovation and one in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and identified in the budget papers as savings measures/operating efficiencies. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet has, I can advise the house (Budget Paper 5, page 99), operating efficiencies of \$65.8 million, \$14.5 million in the coming financial year and then \$20.6 million, \$19.7 million and \$10.8 million in the four years after that.

The Department for Innovation, as it is now identified, has operating efficiencies assigned to it of also a very significant state: departmental efficiencies of \$230,000 in 2021-22, and I am sure they will be able to meet that; \$20 million in 2022-23; \$18.9 million in 2023-34; \$16.3 million in 2024-25; and \$16.5 million in 2025-26. Those two departments do not just include the arts portfolio, obviously, but certainly in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet the arts portfolio is a very significant proportion of the spend.

This is why I come back to what I said at the beginning of the speech about the level of interest shown by the government in this sector, not just dealing with those election promises, but the Fringe and the arts grants—and I should have also included the \$500,000 for the Film Festival and a series of commitments in live music over the next couple years. Apart from those, what else is the government going to do, and how much of the artistic and festival cultural fabric that makes up this state and what this celebrates and what we present ourselves to the world will be nurtured and maintained by this government?

These savings in the tens of millions of dollars in those two departments I fear may lie heavily in the arts portfolio. We will learn more next week. I suggested to the minister this morning that there is a very high likelihood that might be a high-level question I will be asking in the arts program on Thursday of next week: how much of the departmental efficiencies from the DPC, which are \$14 million, \$20 million, \$19 million and 10 million, will be applied to her portfolio in area in arts? My hot tip is that the Premier will be going in there to bat, I would imagine, for those departmental efficiencies to be more heavily skewed towards those areas he values less.

We have a sense, from the way he talks about it and the way the government talks about their budget, of where arts and festivals fit in their order of priorities. That is their prerogative. They have been elected to government. They did not necessarily say that there would be \$20 million cuts in areas like this, but they are the government and they have to produce a budget. They have \$3 billion worth of election promises to find the funding for. We will see in the coming months and years how heavily that axe will fall on this sector.

I make the point that this is a sector that I think came after the election to assume that the Labor Party, certainly by their words, certainly by the words in an arts industry forum I spoke at not two months ago, were going to be there for them. I suspect the truth is the exact opposite, but we shall see. I look forward to the estimates process. I thank the minister again for providing me with a briefing on that, and I look forward to engaging in the other portfolio areas when we come back in our estimates replies in a week or two.

**Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (17:10):** I rise to also speak on the Appropriation Bill, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Treasurer, Treasury and all his staff who are involved in the delivery of the budget. I have worked on state budgets with the former Treasurer, the member for West Torrens, and I know that an incredible amount of work goes into its delivery, so I congratulate them on their hard work.

I am proud that this was a Labor budget with significant investments in health, education, housing and infrastructure. But there is one topic I did want to speak on today, and that is the topic of education. I am a former education editor and a former education journalist. It was something I was very passionate about to pursue it as a career, having been a School Card kid myself, a proudly public school educated student and also the first in my family to go to university. I know the power of education, and I know that education is the great equaliser, so every time we invest in education we are investing in the future of our state and in the next generations.

The budget includes some bold policies in this space that go beyond our four-year term but look to set up the state for our future, including policies like a royal commission into early learning. Along with thousands of families in my community, I am a parent of young children. We want the best for our kids, and we know how important the first thousand days of life are, and so I commend the Treasurer and education minister for this investment in the early years.

We know what a juggle it is not just to raise children but to then go back into the workforce after having children, so this is an important policy not just for the first thousand days of a child's life but also for ensuring that our parents, in particular mums, have that opportunity to get back into the workforce after having children. That will be something that I am looking at closely as part of this particular policy in terms of access to out-of-school hours care and also quality universal preschool for three year olds and four year olds.

In this space as well is the idea of the midyear intake for preschool and reception. I was a journalist at *The Advertiser* in this space when we shifted back to the single intake for our public schools. At the time, I was not a parent of young children, so it did not really cross my mind that I one day would actually be experiencing this policy for myself. My daughter was born on 21 May, which meant that she missed out on starting kindy and then school that year. It meant she had to wait for the entire rest of the year in which she was going to be able to start kindy, preschool and school. Given my daughter is six (and it sometimes it feels like it is six going on 26), it did feel like an incredibly long wait for her to be able to start school because of the issue of not having a midyear intake.

When talking to parents in my community, this is a policy that is widely welcomed. Regardless of whether you decide to start your child in the middle of the year or perhaps wait for the following year in which they can start preschool and school, it is really just giving parents that choice. All children are different, and they have different developmental stages, so this gives parents the option of deciding what is best for their child. I really welcome that midyear intake policy.

We are also backing our teachers in our schools, and in particular we are looking at 400 scholarships to really diversify the teaching workforce. My brother is a teacher. In my previous role as an education journalist, I met hundreds of teachers. They are so incredibly passionate about their profession. I know that one of the biggest determinants of success for a child is the teacher in their classroom. I think everyone can talk about a story in which a teacher has positively affected their life, whether it is taking that extra care with a certain subject or inspiring them to maybe consider a career in various subjects.

For me, one of the teachers who really inspired me was Mrs Dennis at Naracoorte High School. She saw something in me when it came to English and writing. She was really a driving force behind my career moving into journalism and then public policy writing. It is so important that we are backing the very best and brightest teachers who are getting into this profession because they care deeply about teaching—teachers like my brother, who I am so incredibly proud of, who give their all to the teaching profession. It is so important that we are backing those people who are passionate about education through scholarships and support.

As well as support around teachers is support for their students. When talking to teachers and families in our community, we have heard about the lack of support around mental health in schools. That is why one of the policies within our budget that is so important is the increase in mental health support for students, that is, having a pool of specialists which teachers can call on—a \$50 million investment. We know our teachers should be spending the time in the classroom teaching, and the fact that this will give them extra support around mental health to call on to support students in the classroom will be incredibly important.

Another key issue that came in around listening to our community was families with children living with autism, and one of the key things we heard was the fact that it was so important to listen. These families felt that time and time again they had to start their story from the very beginning, talking about their children's needs. That is why the policy we are looking at in terms of a lead autism teacher in every school will mean that that parent has one support there they can talk to and that they do not feel they have to continually tell their child's story again and again in order to get the best support. I very much welcome that policy.

We also know that not all kids in our community will go on to university. There are kids who are just as impressive and as smart and as amazing with their head and their hands, so it is so important that we invest in the trades. In particular, we know that having a trade is probably quite lucrative at the moment, given the cost of construction. We are building five new trade schools—I am also very excited that one of those will be in the South-East, where I grew up—because we have been hearing from so many parents that they have such smart, bright, talented kids and that, whilst

university might not be for them, they need a place in which they can fulfil their full potential and develop a really exciting career.

In terms of my own electorate, we are also investing in Adelaide Botanic High to accommodate an extra 700 students. Having visited this school recently, it completely blows me away what a different learning experience it is to perhaps what we all experienced at school with blackboards and chalk—to go in there and see that there are 3D printers in every room. It really is an incredible, state-of-the-art school, and I am so excited to see that expansion occur so we can give that opportunity to so many people within our community to have an incredible, strong public education at Adelaide Botanic High.

We are also investing in TAFE, with the return of high-demand courses, and it is wonderful to see this investment. There was a lot of concern during the former Liberal government's reign around TAFE. Having listened to TAFE lecturers within my community, they felt that it was privatisation by stealth, death by a thousand cuts, so it is so important that we are investing in our TAFE system.

I also want to take this opportunity to talk about a couple of local commitments within my electorate. I spoke earlier about the Adelaide Aquatic Centre. It is very exciting that we are beginning public consultation today on the location of the new centre. We are looking at three locations. Importantly, we are looking at keeping the current facility open while we build a new centre. My street-corner meeting on Sunday was attended by more than 60 people from across my community. It was a huge turnout. I think that really reflects how beloved and important this new service is to our community. It was very clear there was a huge sense of relief that the current facility will remain open while we build a new centre.

In addition to building a new Adelaide Aquatic Centre, we are also investing in returning a community sport, rec and wellbeing hub to the Walkerville YMCA site in Smith Street. This was again a facility that was beloved by so many people in our community. These two sites are very similar in that you do not come across very often a community facility where people of all ages and all walks of life come together. It is so incredibly important. It reminds me of all the beautiful community sporting and rec hubs that I had in my own town growing up in a country town. The fact is it should not be any different because you live in a metropolitan area.

It was very early on in my campaign for the electorate of Adelaide that I identified just how important this site was. The INEA YMCA was the tenant of this site. It was considered an aging facility that needed a little bit of TLC and upgrading, but the INEA YMCA's lease was not renewed. This meant that they had to move out. They moved out in late 2020, and the site has been sitting empty ever since.

There are thousands and thousands of people in my community who are no longer accessing the important gymnastics services there, gymnastics for kids living with disability, vacation care, children's parties and Strength for Life. It was such a wonderful community hub. It was not just a benefit physically for the people who accessed that site but there were also economic flow-on benefits for the local community. I am very passionate about main streets and making sure that the investments we make in community infrastructure flow onto the main streets and the small businesses within them.

For example, at the YMCA site, we would have a group of seniors going to exercise as part of their Strength for Life group. They would come out of the centre, walk down to Nest Cafe at Walkerville Terrace and all have a coffee and a cake. When you times that by 30 or 40 people, that is such a significant boost to a local business. I am very much looking forward to bringing back a community hub to this site. I have had a lot of queries from the community, eager to see this process underway.

Shortly after being elected, I met with the Mayor of Walkerville and the acting chief executive to talk about the importance of this plan. I also took along the Minister for Sport, the member for Reynell, just to highlight how important this investment in community infrastructure is to the Malinauskas Labor government. It was very exciting to look at some draft plans by the Town of Walkerville to see how we might upgrade this site. Recently, I went along to the Walkerville Netball Club's presentation night at the Walkers Arms, and I was very excited to be able to give those netball

players an update on the fact that we are bringing back a community sport and rec hub to the Walkerville YMCA site.

These policies are all about keeping people local, keeping people active and keeping people connected. I want to create that same sense of strong communities that we see in our regional areas. I do believe that they should exist in our metropolitan areas. I am so excited that, in my community, they do. These policies are about building those, creating stronger communities, and I am very excited to continue working hard for my neighbourhood.

**Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (17:24):** I rise to make a contribution to the Appropriation Bill. One thing that was very evident to me was the lack of support coming up towards the Riverland and the Murraylands. What I saw was a \$2.1 million investment into an eminent jurist as the commissioner for the River Murray. Straightaway, that raised alarm bells with me because we now have a Labor government, both federal and state.

The state Labor government have form. Through the 16 years they reigned in South Australia, we saw nothing but political opportunity at every turn, so that is why today I am going to give potentially you, sir, a little bit of history on the Murray-Darling, particularly how it came to be where it is today.

It all came about when we had a federation drought from 1895 to 1903. It was a significant drought, but it was a turning point in how we better managed an opportunity and that was the Murray-Darling Basin. The drought peaked in 1902 when we recorded the driest year. In April 1902, we averaged the driest month in the 20<sup>th</sup> century across Australia, with just three millimetres of rainfall. It is estimated that half of Australia's sheep population died of starvation and, while winter brought some rain, the state endured low temperatures, which induced extreme severe frost, with snowfall even reported at Eudunda and Burra.

We always know when we are dealing with adversity that it drives political conversation, and it definitely did. The River Murray Waters Act was passed in 1915. It was an agreement between New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, as well as the ACT, to share the Murray's flows, particularly from Lake Victoria. What we saw was an engineering solution for the basin, particularly here in South Australia where we have quite wide waters. It is the delta of the basin, so we have to manage it. Before the lock systems were implemented, we saw that the river would dry, and we would have boom and bust. The floods would come down and they would cut huge gutters in the river corridor.

Quickly, there was the opportunity for the lower reaches of the southern connected basin to have engineering solutions. A lot of that was about mapping and putting in lock placement. That was carried out by Captain E.N. Johnson from the US Army Corps, and he had three teams of surveyors. They conducted mapping from 1906 to 1908 by way of 21 sketchbooks. These surveyors got around in small boats using long poles and mapped the reaches of the River Murray. This initiative was put forward by boat operators. It was not about irrigators or food producers. It was about making sure that we had navigable channels to freight food and commodities up and down the river to create that economy. Locks, weirs and storage systems started to be constructed.

After the establishment of the River Murray Commission in 1917, we had 14 weirs along the River Murray, with nine controlled by SA. It started at Blanchetown with Lock 1 in 1922 and it moved its way along the river. It was not just moving from Lock 1 to Lock 2 to Lock 3, etc. These structures were strategically placed so we could control the water in our river reaches. It moved to Lock 2 in 1928 at Waikerie, Lock 3 at Overland Corner in 1925, Lock 4 at Bookpurnong in 1929 and Lock 5 at Renmark in 1927. It then moved into the upper reaches in South Australia, with Lock 6 at Murtho (Border Cliffs) in 1930, Lock 7 at Rufus River in 1934, Lock 8 at Wangumma in 1935 and Lock 9 at Kulnine in 1926, which is in Victoria but is controlled by South Australia.

There are three types of lock structures and, for any of you who have visited any of the locks in South Australia, they are all concrete piers. They have a board structure to regulate the water level or pool level. We also have other types of lock structures. There is a trestle style, which is at Sunraysia and further up from Sunraysia. They are lock structures that are dragged in and out of the river for maintenance and the like. We also have earthen banks at Yarrawonga and further up at the very top of the River Murray system.

What we do see and rely on in some way, shape or form is the bypasses or the pressure valves around those lock structures so that we can reduce pressure on the structures. For instance, we know that we have seen significant environmental regulators put in at Chowilla reserve, the Pike River now has significant gold-plated infrastructure at Lock 5, Katarapko has not long been finished at Lock 4, and we have the famous Banrock Station or Banrock wetland at Lock 3, which is the bypass. We have Riversleigh at Lock 2 and Paisley at Lock 1.

When those weirs and structures came along, we had to put storages into our Murray-Darling Basin system to capture some of that precious commodity—water. Between 1919 and 1936, we had construction of the Hume Dam, and that took significant time. It was a learning process and came with great challenges. It has a capacity of just over 3,000 gigalitres and, keeping in mind that South Australia's entitlement is 1,850 gigalitres, it gives you an understanding that the Hume Dam has almost two years' entire capacity of what South Australia uses.

Construction was started by the Governor-General of Australia, Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson, who turned the first sod. From there, we saw advancement in not only storage but the opportunity to create quite a large farming and food producing economy. Dartmouth Dam was then slated for construction between 1973 and 1979. That holds more than 40 per cent of the River Murray system's total storage capacity and holds nearly 4,000 gigalitres in total. Consumptive pool in the basin is about 10,000 gigalitres, so of that 10,000 gigalitres we see significant wealth for the nation's economy. We see significant food security, and we see significant ecology and environment, and that is relied upon in day-to-day life.

It is important that we get a context of exactly why the management of the basin was put in place, why we built structures and why things have changed. We must say that Hume and Dartmouth operate in harmony, so anything that spills out of Hume, or anything that needs to be released to create air space can be caught in Dartmouth, is then made available. The Snowy hydro scheme not only is a huge contributor for power generation but gives diversity with our power generation.

Many of you would know that a lot of that water is released through the significant pipework, through the turbines, in peak time. It is captured below the release sites, and then it is pumped back up into the upper catchments at low-tariff times. They generate power when they are making a good return and then, when the price of power comes back through the course of the evenings, it is then pumped back up to be re-used. Over that considerable amount of time, we have seen those structures mitigate and minimalise any flood impacts on the lower reaches of the Murray-Darling Basin.

We also had to significantly change the way the river was managed at the lower end, understanding that not only did we have to maintain a pool level but we also had to make sure that we did not allow saltwater in times of drought or in times of storm surge to come in through the mouth and work its way up the river system. That is why the barrages were built between Lake Alexandrina and the Coorong. Construction began in 1935 and was completed five years later, in 1940.

The five barrages were constructed to manage lake levels and improve water quality, particularly in the Lower Murray and the Lower Lakes. Then we saw what we now call an almost fully managed river system in South Australia. It has created great wealth. It has changed the way that the environment survives. It has changed the way that we expect and hope that we will have a healthy working river. I hope that anyone who has significant interest in ecology, the environment, the health and wellbeing of our natural environment, will understand that the management was put there for a lot of different reasons. It was not just there for freight and for irrigation.

In 1969, a deal was struck, and this is where South Australia played its leading role. Steele Hall, the Premier at the time, and the local member for Chaffey, Peter Arnold, were in negotiations. They had significant headwind, particularly with Don Dunstan, particularly with proponents who were looking to have the Chowilla Dam built. The Chowilla Dam was to inundate huge areas of land. As I said, we do not have deep valleys here in South Australia. We do not have those very efficient catchment systems that are able to catch water and not have maximum evaporation.

We saw a change of government over this Chowilla Dam. We saw the local member, Peter Arnold, lose his seat in Chaffey. In 1969, negotiations were reached between Steele Hall and the

commonwealth and the basin states that if South Australia agreed to the Dartmouth Dam agreement they could have a cap put on the water entitlement into South Australia of 1,800 gigalitres.

Steele Hall fought very hard. He played hardball and he managed to increase that to what we now experience on a day-to-day basis, which is 1,850 gigalitres. That was the start of a new phenomenon in the basin. In South Australia, we were capped and so we had to make better use of every drop of water that came into our state, every drop of water that was allocated to the returned soldier settlement, those soldiers who came back after fighting the war, those people who came in to build those irrigation properties.

They had to enforce a new management regime. They had to reduce the amount of exposure, reduce the amount of evaporation. They were forced to make those efficiencies, as I said, and make every drop count, but in the meantime every other eastern state continued on their own merry way, and that is when it really did become quite murky.

What we saw was that in 1969 South Australia was capped, and the Eastern States were not capped until 28 years later, in 1997. By then, Peter Arnold, the member for Chaffey, had been re-elected. He was the water minister and minister for lands and mines. He came back and he was given a standing ovation for his stand on the Chowilla Dam. The former local mayor of Renmark also was a vocal supporter of Don Dunstan and having that Chowilla Dam built.

As I said, however, it was later realised the destruction it would have caused. The champion of that was Jack Seekamp, Jack 'Salty' Seekamp. He was a renowned Riverlander, champion of the river, and he just continued to bat on about the destruction that would have caused. Also, the wall that would have been constructed is now the Stoeckel property at Bunyip Reach. I am sure Mark and his family—Luke and Suzanne—would be horrified to think that that dam would have been built on their property.

It would have flooded the Chowilla game reserve, the regional reserve, the Murray-Sunset National Park. It would have destroyed all the reaches below that bank, including Renmark, including much of the Riverland that we all take for granted today as being a premium food bowl of the state. The salinity that would have been caused by the Chowilla Dam was averted and the project was halted, but there were positives.

A 23-kilometre rail line was put there, but that was pulled up, unused. You can just imagine the conversation that would have been had in today's world. The positive was that we saw a fully sealed road from Paringa out through Murtho, right out to the border, as well as a significant power supply upgrade. What that did was create an opportunity to open up that land and to put high-class irrigation properties at Chowilla, and what we now see there is state-of-the-art food production. What we have seen over time is diminished floods and fewer high rivers due to deregulation in the upstream states. That really has taken its toll.

I will touch a little on my introduction to irrigation. I purchased my first irrigation property in 1989, and I always scratch my head about the potential unrealised supply we had always had. In the nineties, I became a director of the Renmark Irrigation Trust, which is the largest inland irrigation scheme in the country and was engineered by the two Californian brothers, the Chaffey brothers—hence, the name the electorate still bears today.

I then joined the South Australian Murray Irrigators, an allied committee to the trust, which I eventually became chair of, and I was able to bring people with me. We needed advocacy in Canberra, as we did here in the state parliament. I was able to grow a voluntary paid-up membership base of over 6,000 members. I must say that the early claim to fame was successfully lobbying for weekend power tariffs, which was something in its very early days.

We then were part of the formation of the National Irrigators' Council, which was a very strong voice into Canberra. One of those defining moments was in the early 2000s, when I visited and met with the environment minister, Malcolm Turnbull. I gave them a spreadsheet of how I did it, although it was more a mud map than a spreadsheet. The consumptive pool outweighed what was actually in storage, and we saw that more water was promised to communities along the river than was actually in storage.

What we have seen over time is the Howard administration put the proceeds of Telstra T1 and T2, about \$10 billion, to fund the reform needed to bring the basin back to health. It was talked about, with many hundreds of meetings, many sleepless nights, by a lot of people trying to form something that was robust and that all the states could agree with. From 2007 to 2010, we saw a huge amount of public outcry, but in 2012 the plan was finally given the nod.

I want to commend probably two of the best federal water ministers I worked with: Tony Burke—a Labor water minister, and he was very good; you could have a conversation with him, meet with him regularly and he made himself available—and Simon Birmingham. They were two credible water ministers across their brief, and they actually got it.

I must say that I was very disappointed in a number of water ministers in the South Australian parliament. They were all Labor. I will not name all of them because they know who they are, but I can say that not once did I ever swear at other ministers, use pretty bad language, like one particular former Labor water minister who still resides in this place.

I am running out of time, but it is very visual that we need a basin plan. What we need to do now is look at how we can achieve the 3,200, how we in South Australia will be leaders of that innovation. South Australia has led the way, and irrigators and food producers have been the eyes and ears of the basin. In 1969, we were the first to cap. We have been innovators of water efficiency, we have shown initiative on water savings programs, we have been early adopters of environmental conservation and the list goes on. We have done significant work with salt interception schemes and metering—you cannot manage what you do not measure.

What I would like to say to the current water minister here in this parliament is that the 450 gigalitres is not for South Australia: it is the southern connected basin. I want to make that perfectly clear to Albo—because he came to South Australia and wanted to announce his five-point plan about giving 450 back to South Australia. It is not true, sir: it is the southern connected basin. How does South Australia achieve its 32 gigalitres as its contribution to the 450 in the southern connected basin?

I have much more to talk about, and I will potentially use grieve time so that we can go ahead and talk a little bit more about South Australia being a leader in water efficiencies, being a leader in the basin, showing the way in how the basin plan can be achieved and how water efficiencies can be achieved. South Australia has been a leader since 1969, showing the rest of this Murray-Darling Basin community just exactly how important the Murray-Darling Basin is to this nation.

The Hon. A. MICHAELS (Enfield—Minister for Small and Family Business, Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs, Minister for Arts) (17:44): I rise to speak on the Appropriation Bill, and I want to take this opportunity to narrow in on the election commitments for my electorate of Enfield.

We went into the state election with a clear vision for the future, particularly in my electorate and for the people who live within Enfield. This was a vision I had developed in consultation with my community in the three years prior to the election, having gone in, in 2019, in the by-election. Labor has committed to a number of projects across the Enfield electorate with a vision of addressing some of the inequities and providing a pathway forward for a number of community groups. I am very pleased that this was roundly supported by my constituents at the last election.

Some of the commitments I look forward to being able to roll out include commitments in relation to female change rooms. To many of the young women in my electorate, this is a commitment to improve access to sporting facilities and to open up new opportunities for some of these communities. The Enfield electorate is home to a number of proud local sporting clubs, and Labor has committed to constructing female change rooms at the Duncan Fraser Reserve and the Blair Athol Reserve.

The Duncan Fraser Reserve is home to the Gepps Cross Football Club and Gepps Cross Cricket Club. Both clubs have rapidly expanded over the past few years, with new Australians flocking to join the Gepps Cross Cricket Club and young women pulling on football boots for the first time. The influx of new members at these clubs has brought with it great success, with the Gepps Cross

Rams women's footy team winning the women's division 5 premiership in 2021—and I congratulate them.

The Ghan Kilburn City Football Club and the Kilburn footy and cricket club call the Blair Athol Reserve their home. The Ghan football club, also the soccer club depending on which side of the fence you sit, started out 20 years ago with just 22 players, and I am very pleased to say the club now boasts more than 150 members making up seniors, youth and women's teams. The Kilburn Football and Cricket Club have had their challenges over the past few years but, under the leadership of its board, they have managed to put itself in a strong position.

The addition of female change rooms will provide greater opportunities for the club to grow and encourage the development of its already strong women's team. This commitment will not only encourage more girls and women to get involved in their local sporting clubs but assist in building stronger, safer and more cohesive communities in those areas.

When I was first elected to this place, one of the most common concerns raised with me by my local constituents was the lack of car parking and public transport services in the suburb of Lightsview. I had been fighting for three years to get better bus services for the residents of Lightsview and Northgate. In December 2021, I started a petition calling on the former Liberal government to improve public transport for these residents. That petition was signed by more than 700 residents.

As a result of the petition, I was able to successfully secure a commitment to improve public transport services for residents of Lightsview and Northgate going into the election. I am pleased to say that shortly a Go Zone route will run from the city to Lightsview via the O-Bahn. This will help households by reducing the need for them to rely on multiple motor vehicles, and it will provide students, workers and seniors with greater and easier access to the CBD and Tea Tree Plaza.

The existing service that travels through Lightsview does not in fact operate at the moment between 9.34am and 3.30pm, resulting in a public transport system that is not suitable for shift workers or students and has made it almost impossible for seniors to utilise the free service. Labor's commitment will improve access for residents and provide more cost-effective transport solutions.

The suburb of Walkley Heights is new to the Enfield electorate. It was established in the early 2000s and the public facilities in the area have really not been revamped since. I have been holding regular street-corner meetings in Walkley Heights and a common complaint is the condition and amenity of the open space within the suburb. So, to encourage the City of Salisbury to progress its plans to upgrade the R.M. Williams Reserve, I secured a \$125,000 commitment to reduce the cost impact on the council of upgrading that reserve. These funds will contribute to updated play equipment and improved access to the community's open space for families to gather and play. I look forward to working with residents and the council to develop the best outcomes for the future of the R.M. Williams Reserve.

In planning for the future, I have also ensured that plans are in place for improvements to be made to the intersection of Main North Road and Regency Road. Main North Road is the road that welcomes travellers from the north into the CBD. Sadly, that intersection does not showcase the best of what Adelaide has to offer. With more than 70,000 vehicles using this intersection each day, it is long overdue for improvement.

Don Shipway is a local small business owner of Sports Locker and he raised this intersection as a concern for me very soon after I was first elected. While Don and many others would like to see traffic move better along this road, he said to me that it is not just the traffic flow but that he was concerned about pedestrian safety too, having witnessed far too many near misses between pedestrians and vehicles over the years, particularly as there is a bus stop very close to the intersection. I look forward to being able to review the findings of the traffic management plan that we have committed to for that intersection and to be able to work our way forward into implementing better outcomes for this intersection and the motorists and pedestrians who use it.

We all know that the former Liberal government planned to close three major Service SA centres. When I first stood for the seat of Enfield in 2019, I promised our community that I would fight to keep Prospect Service SA open. After a strong community campaign, I was relieved to see the former government reverse its decision on closing Prospect and Modbury Service SAs. We on this

side of the chamber know the importance of these centres and have made commitments to make Service SA centres more accessible for South Australians and expand the services that they provide.

We will ensure that major Service SA branches are open on Saturdays from 9am until 5pm. We will expand the services available through these centres to make them a one-stop shop for all government services; include all government services, from registering cars and boats through to registering births, concessions and grant applications; and deliver an easy to navigate government-wide one-stop shop online platform as part of that as well.

We on this side of the chamber want to make it easy for people and businesses to transact with government. The former government's plan to close the three Service SA centres was a cruel attack on seniors, people on fixed incomes and, in particular in my electorate, people who have English as a second language. Our commitment aims to ensure that all South Australians have access to the services they need to make their lives easier when transacting with government. As part of our election commitments, we have committed to giving \$10,000 to the Regency Men's Shed that operates from the Enfield Community Centre. I look forward to being able to see the improvements that they make to that very important community facility.

Another significant election commitment was the Roma Mitchell Secondary College upgrade. Following the former government's decision to move year 7s to high school, without ensuring that high schools had sufficient capacity, Labor had committed to funding an expansion of Roma Mitchell Secondary College in the Enfield electorate. Labor has committed to investing \$21 million, which will increase capacity for an extra 300 students at the school. This expansion will ensure that the school can continue to accept students at this increasingly popular school. Roma Mitchell Secondary College has gone from strength to strength under the leadership of principal Toni Carellas. I look forward to working closely with Toni and her team to secure the educational future of students in the Enfield electorate.

I am truly grateful to be able to represent my community in this place and to work towards putting in place measures that improve my electorate and ensure a better future for the people of Enfield. With that, I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Basham.

## SUPPLY BILL 2022

## Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without amendment.

## **CROSS BORDER COMMISSIONER BILL**

#### Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 17:56 the house adjourned until Wednesday 15 June 2022 at 10:30.