

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
Wednesday, 13 September 2023

The SPEAKER (Hon. D.R. Cregan) took the chair at 10:30.

The SPEAKER: Honourable members, we acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia and their connection to land and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to elders both past and present.

The SPEAKER read prayers.

Bills

HERITAGE PLACES (ADELAIDE PARK LANDS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 17 May 2023.)

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

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes21
Noes.....12
Majority9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.
Boyer, B.I.	Brown, M.E.	Champion, N.D.
Clancy, N.P.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Fulbrook, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hood, L.P.
Hutchesson, C.L.	Michaels, A.	Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)
Pearce, R.K.	Piccolo, A.	Savvas, O.M.
Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.	Wortley, D.J.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Batty, J.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Ellis, F.J.	Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)	McBride, P.N.
Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.	Pratt, P.K.
Teague, J.B.	Telfer, S.J.	Whetstone, T.J.

PAIRS

Mullighan, S.C.	Speirs, D.J.	Hughes, E.J.
Marshall, S.S.	Thompson, E.L.	Hurn, A.M.
Malinauskas, P.B.	Tarzia, V.A.	Picton, C.J.
Patterson, S.J.R.		

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

**PUBLIC FINANCE AND AUDIT (AUDITOR-GENERAL ACCESS TO CABINET SUBMISSIONS)
AMENDMENT BILL**

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 14 June 2023.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:36): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes21
Noes.....12
Majority9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.
Boyer, B.I.
Clancy, N.P.
Fulbrook, J.P.
Hutchesson, C.L.
Pearce, R.K.
Stinson, J.M.

Bettison, Z.L.
Brown, M.E.
Close, S.E.
Hildyard, K.A.
Michaels, A.
Piccolo, A.
Szakacs, J.K.

Bignell, L.W.K.
Champion, N.D.
Cook, N.F.
Hood, L.P.
Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)
Savvas, O.M.
Wortley, D.J.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.
Ellis, F.J.
Pederick, A.S.
Teague, J.B.

Batty, J.A.
Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)
Pisoni, D.G.
Telfer, S.J.

Cowdrey, M.J.
McBride, P.N.
Pratt, P.K.
Whetstone, T.J.

PAIRS

Malinauskas, P.B.
Marshall, S.S.
Hughes, E.J.
Tarzia, V.A.

Speirs, D.J.
Thompson, E.L.
Patterson, S.J.R.

Mullighan, S.C.
Hurn, A.M.
Picton, C.J.

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

ELECTORAL (CONTROL OF CORFLUTES) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 17 May 2023.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:40): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes21
Noes.....12
Majority9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.
Boyer, B.I.	Brown, M.E.	Champion, N.D.
Clancy, N.P.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Fulbrook, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hood, L.P.
Hutchesson, C.L.	Michaels, A.	Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)
Pearce, R.K.	Piccolo, A.	Savvas, O.M.
Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.	Wortley, D.J.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Batty, J.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Ellis, F.J.	Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)	McBride, P.N.
Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.	Pratt, P.K.
Teague, J.B.	Telfer, S.J.	Whetstone, T.J.

PAIRS

Mullighan, S.C.	Speirs, D.J.	Hughes, E.J.
Marshall, S.S.	Thompson, E.L.	Hurn, A.M.
Malinauskas, P.B.	Tarzia, V.A.	Picton, C.J.
Patterson, S.J.R.		

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS REDUCTION (TARGETS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 2 November 2022.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:45): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes	22
Noes.....	11
Majority	11

AYES

Andrews, S.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.
Boyer, B.I.	Brown, M.E.	Champion, N.D.
Clancy, N.P.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Fulbrook, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hood, L.P.
Hutchesson, C.L.	Koutsantonis, A.	Michaels, A.
Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)	Pearce, R.K.	Piccolo, A.
Savvas, O.M.	Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.
Wortley, D.J.		

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Batty, J.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)	McBride, P.N.	Pederick, A.S.
Pisoni, D.G.	Pratt, P.K.	Teague, J.B.

Telfer, S.J.

Whetstone, T.J.

PAIRS

Mullighan, S.C.
 Marshall, S.S.
 Malinauskas, P.B.
 Patterson, S.J.R.

Speirs, D.J.
 Thompson, E.L.
 Tarzia, V.A.

Hughes, E.J.
 Hurn, A.M.
 Picton, C.J.

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

ELECTORAL (TELEPHONE VOTING) AMENDMENT BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 16 November 2022.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:49): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes22
 Noes.....11
 Majority11

AYES

Andrews, S.E.
 Boyer, B.I.
 Clancy, N.P.
 Fulbrook, J.P.
 Hutchesson, C.L.
 Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)
 Savvas, O.M.
 Wortley, D.J.

Bettison, Z.L.
 Brown, M.E.
 Close, S.E.
 Hildyard, K.A.
 Koutsantonis, A.
 Pearce, R.K.
 Stinson, J.M.

Bignell, L.W.K.
 Champion, N.D.
 Cook, N.F.
 Hood, L.P.
 Michaels, A.
 Piccolo, A.
 Szakacs, J.K.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.
 Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)
 Pisoni, D.G.
 Telfer, S.J.

Batty, J.A.
 McBride, P.N.
 Pratt, P.K.
 Whetstone, T.J.

Cowdrey, M.J.
 Pederick, A.S.
 Teague, J.B.

PAIRS

Mullighan, S.C.
 Marshall, S.S.
 Picton, C.J.
 Patterson, S.J.R.

Speirs, D.J.
 Hughes, E.J.
 Tarzia, V.A.

Malinauskas, P.B.
 Hurn, A.M.
 Thompson, E.L.

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (MINISTERIAL DIARIES) AMENDMENT BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 2 November 2022.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:53): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes22
 Noes..... 11
 Majority 11

AYES

Andrews, S.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.
Boyer, B.I.	Brown, M.E.	Champion, N.D.
Clancy, N.P.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Fulbrook, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hood, L.P.
Hutchesson, C.L.	Koutsantonis, A.	Michaels, A.
Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)	Pearce, R.K.	Piccolo, A.
Savvas, O.M.	Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.
Wortley, D.J.		

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Batty, J.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)	McBride, P.N.	Pederick, A.S.
Pisoni, D.G.	Pratt, P.K.	Teague, J.B.
Telfer, S.J.	Whetstone, T.J.	

PAIRS

Mullighan, S.C.	Speirs, D.J.	Malinauskas, P.B.
Marshall, S.S.	Hughes, E.J.	Hurn, A.M.
Picton, C.J.	Patterson, S.J.R.	Thompson, E.L.
Tarzia, V.A.		

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

**NEW WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (RELOCATION OF SA POLICE FACILITIES)
 AMENDMENT BILL**

Second Reading

Mr BATTY (Bragg) (10:58): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

In doing so, I note that this is a bill that has come to us from the other place, where it was moved by the Hon. Roberts Simms MLC. I want to acknowledge his ongoing commitment, like those on this side of the house, to protecting our green open space. This is one of two bills that seek to better protect the Adelaide Parklands that are coming to our house, both of which I can indicate the opposition will be supporting.

We will be supporting them because we listen to our local communities on these issues, and we will be supporting them because we genuinely care about protecting our Adelaide Parklands. We do not just talk the talk when it comes to protecting our Adelaide Parklands. We do not promise to do something before an election and then do something completely different after an election: we in fact walk the walk, and this bill today is yet another example in recent times of our doing just that.

What it seeks to do is remove section 10 from the new Women's and Children's Hospital act. This was the provision in that act, which was passed not all that long ago, that provided the police

minister with the extraordinary power to seize slabs of the Adelaide Parklands anywhere he likes for the purposes of constructing a new, high-security police facility for our mounted police barracks.

When that bill came before the house last year, the opposition raised serious concerns about section 10 and the impact it might have on our Adelaide Parklands. Indeed, in the other place we moved quite sensible amendments that sought to add a layer of transparency and consultation around the exercise of this extraordinary power.

If the government had listened to us at that time, they might not find themselves in the total mess they do today, where they have spent the better part of a year trying to move some horses. It is a farcical situation we are now in, it is a shambles we are now in and it is a situation that could have been avoided if the Malinauskas Labor government had listened to our concerns about a year ago. But you did not listen to us, did you? You did not listen to us. You passed this act—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! the member for Bragg has the call.

Mr BATTY: —and then the rubber really hit the road when you tried to exercise—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens!

Mr BATTY: —these extraordinary powers and seize a slab of Parklands in the southern Parklands in perhaps the most egregious way possible. It was egregious because we knew the value of Park 21 West here on this side of the house. We know it is the most significant site of remnant vegetation in the entire Adelaide Parklands. It was egregious because it was done without any consultation at all so far as we could see. There was no consultation with groups like Bush for Life, whose volunteers have lovingly cared for that site for the past 15 years. There was no consultation that we could see with First Nations people, with the Adelaide City Council, with the Adelaide Park Lands Authority.

It was particularly egregious, perhaps worst of all, because it was being done by a government that promised us before the last election that they would protect Adelaide's unique Parklands. This is a promise they have broken at every available opportunity, and I hope that this bill today is an opportunity for the government to start making amends and start keeping their promises when it comes to the Parklands.

The land grab at Park 21 West did not go ahead, and I was very proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with that local community to protest against that Parklands pillage. We gathered thousands of signatures on petitions, and we gathered hundreds of people at public rallies, to send a message to the Malinauskas Labor government to keep their hands off our Adelaide Parklands. It seems the message—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for West Torrens, order!

Mr BATTY: It seems the message finally got through—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BATTY: —because the government was forced into a very humiliating but very happy backflip when it comes to Park 21 West with the announcement that an alternative site had been found. In those circumstances, this bill today should be relatively uncontroversial. What it seeks to do is close the loophole that exists in the legislation now, that an alternative site has apparently been found and that the police barracks will not be relocated to a site in the Parklands.

If the Malinauskas Labor government was fair dinkum about this commitment to no longer put the barracks in the Parklands, then the police minister no longer needs these extraordinary powers to seize slabs of Parklands and the government can support this bill today. I genuinely hope they are fair dinkum about it because this whole relocation has very fast turned into a total farce. It

has been a lesson in incompetence to try to move some horses, with the government employing some sort of bizarre announce-defend-capitulate strategy.

The Hon. N.D. Champion interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Taylor!

Mr BATTY: In the space of a few months, we have seen a plan A announced, which was their Parklands pillage at Park 21 West; we have seen a plan B being announced, which was a parcel of land riddled with PFAS at Adelaide Airport that was not even available to the government; and we have seen a plan C announced now, a move to Gepps Cross at an eye-watering cost of \$90 million—and we now learn that is going to impact response times and the workforce as well.

What this bill seeks to do today is remove the option of a potential plan D if the Malinauskas Labor government were foolish enough to once again consider a site in the Parklands. I hope they can support the bill in those circumstances. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (ADELAIDE PARK LANDS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Mr BATTY (Bragg) (11:05): I move:

That this bill be read a second time.

I indicate that the opposition will be supporting this bill, which comes from the other place, because it is a big win for our Adelaide Parklands, and we know that our Parklands deserve big wins. On this side of the house, we acknowledge our Adelaide Parklands are unique, we acknowledge they are precious and we know they need to be protected and preserved.

Our Adelaide Parklands are something that sets our city apart. They support biodiversity, they support heritage and they support recreation right here in the heart of our city. They have been described by some as the lungs of our city. They have been described by others—indeed, I think by those opposite—as green gold, which is why it is particularly curious that we now see those opposite describing this bill, which seeks to protect that green gold, as being far-reaching and unnecessary. In my view, this bill is neither far-reaching nor unnecessary.

What it seeks to do is improve the parliamentary scrutiny of development of the Parklands and improve the scrutiny provisions that are already in the act. Code amendments that relate to development in the Parklands or vary a boundary of the Adelaide Parklands zone under the code would, under this bill, require the approval of both houses of parliament.

I say that this is not far-reaching and I say that this is not unnecessary. It is not far-reaching because it simply seeks to improve the scrutiny of Adelaide Parklands code amendments. Indeed, parliamentary scrutiny is already envisaged, intended and provided for in the existing legislation. Section 74 of the act already requires code amendments to be referred to the ERD Committee.

Members interjecting:

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

Mr BATTY: Unfortunately, it is necessary in circumstances where we see this ERD Committee—

An honourable member interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr BATTY: —many recent examples, not appropriately scrutinising the code amendments insofar as they relate to the Adelaide Parklands.

The Hon. N.D. Champion interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Taylor!

Mr BATTY: We have seen it with the Adelaide Aquatic Centre only very recently, where the Adelaide Parklands Association were not invited to come to present to the ERD Committee. The ERD Committee are not appropriately scrutinising code amendments insofar as they relate to the Adelaide Parklands. So, far from being far-reaching, it is a sensible improvement to the parliamentary scrutiny process that already exists.

Those interjections from those opposite, that it is far-reaching and unnecessary once again—it is only that if you have plans to develop the Adelaide Parklands.

Mr Brown interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Florey, order!

Mr BATTY: This is only bad legislation if you want to develop the Adelaide Parklands.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Chaffey!

Mr BATTY: I notice the Parklands minister interjecting, the Parklands development minister interjecting—

The SPEAKER: The member for Bragg will not respond to interjections.

Mr BATTY: This is only bad legislation if you have a plan to develop the Adelaide Parklands; if not, you have nothing to worry about. So it is certainly not unnecessary. Perhaps it should be unnecessary in circumstances where those opposite promised us, before the election, they would protect Adelaide's unique Parklands.

Unfortunately, we have seen that they have made a total mockery of that promise ever since they made it. Whether it be the police horses debacle at Park 21 West, whether it be ignoring the Adelaide Park Lands Association and the latest code amendment, whether it be not referring recent developments to the federal minister in line with the National Heritage listing or whether it be not be supporting and progressing state heritage listing of the Adelaide Parklands in this chamber, there is a litany of failure from those opposite—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Taylor! Member for Florey!

Mr BATTY: —when it comes to protecting our Parklands. This bill is an opportunity—

Mr Brown interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Florey!

Mr BATTY: —to make amends. If you did not have a plan to develop the Parklands, you could support this bill today. If the Malinauskas government were serious about their promise to protect the Parklands, if the Parklands development minister were serious about the promise to protect the Parklands, they could support this bill today that seeks to do just that. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

Mr TEAGUE: I call attention to the state of the house.

A quorum having been formed:

Motions

ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE ANNIVERSARY

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11:12): I move:

That this house—

- (a) notes that this year is the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Adelaide Festival Centre, Australia's first major capital city arts venue, known as the heart of the arts in this festival state;

- (b) commends the Adelaide Festival Centre, and all who have supported it with their philanthropy, their volunteer efforts, their labour and creativity, and their patronage over the last 50 years;
- (c) recognises the extraordinary ongoing economic, educational and cultural contribution made by the Adelaide Festival Centre and its associated entities and activities over the last 50 years, today and into the future; and
- (d) condemns the Malinauskas Labor government for dramatically cutting the Festival Centre's budget in its 50th anniversary year, despite its economic, educational and cultural contribution to our state.

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to move this important motion this morning. Not a hundred metres from where we stand in this building is an extraordinary piece of architecture, an extraordinary piece of the cultural firmament of South Australia: the Adelaide Festival Centre.

It is the work of successive parliaments and successive premiers. The Playford, Hall and Dunstan governments all have their hands very firmly on the foundation of the Festival Centre, which has stood for 50 years as the heart of the arts in South Australia, a centre where world-renowned artists, singers, performers and actors have been able to ply their trade and thrill and excite audiences from South Australia and beyond.

The Festival Centre predates the Sydney Opera House. It is indeed a national leader in its work and, as a result of decisions of the Weatherill government and the Marshall government, it is refreshed and able once again, as it has before, to present works in an appropriate and modern environment.

The Adelaide Festival itself has had world premieres of major plays, operas and examples of modern and traditional arts that are the envy of places around the world. The work done by the Festival Centre—and I acknowledge in particular the leadership of Douglas Gautier AM—has had an impact on Adelaide's position as a UNESCO City of Music.

It is an unusual set of circumstances that we are able to achieve our status as a UNESCO City of Music, despite not having a concert hall. I suspect that we are probably the only UNESCO City of Music not to have one. A lot of that heavy lifting of performance at that elite level has been done over the years by the Adelaide Festival Centre, and the active engagement of the centre, its board, its foundation and its executive team has no doubt put us in the position where we are able to do that.

The work of the Festival Centre continues throughout the year, not just at festival time, and much of the significant levels of performance are long shows, both international and locally produced, and also the festivals for which the Festival Centre is responsible. We have the OzAsia Festival coming up, which is a highlight of the year.

A number of members of parliament are reflecting on the number of members of our community who are looking forward to engaging in the OzAsia Festival, experiencing art and culture from our near neighbours in South-East Asia, South Asia and East Asia—not only performances from those countries but also performances from Australian artists of Asian heritage and collaborations between Australian artists and companies and Asian artists and companies. This is an exciting time of the year.

This year, we have a particular focus on dance and music, visual arts, and theatre, and that will be a very exciting time; it is very important. There are also a number of other festivals, including the Come Out Festival, as was, DreamBIG as is now. There is nothing in the legislation saying that it has to stay the DreamBIG Festival.

I put in my two bits for my fond memories of Come Out. That children's festival is an extraordinary thing. The Minister for Arts and I earlier this year heard 1,500 voices in the Festival Theatre singing together and it was a very exciting moment for me. I think it reminded me very much of things I did when I was eight or nine years old, participating in Come Out.

Those performances for our children, getting them excited in the theatre, getting them excited in arts, are really important in the development of those children. When young people are engaged enthusiastically in music, it advantages them in their education generally. Performing arts are often the thing about school that can get some kids, who are not necessarily the most enthusiastic about

STEM or sports, to be enthusiastic about going to school on a daily basis, and are able to engage with the broader curriculum because of their particular enthusiasm for that subject.

There are a number of performing arts companies in South Australia that do this important work of engaging with children and inspiring in them a love of the arts, but I think the Festival Centre is particularly important in this space. Companies like Patch, like Windmill Theatre, in South Australia are so good at pitching their arts towards young viewers. Those young audiences being able to go to the Space Theatre, the Dunstan Playhouse as is now, or even on occasion the main theatre, is really exciting for those children, to be able to participate, and the way it is set up is so effective at that.

The Children's Artspace upstairs at the Festival Theatre, another important initiative taken during the Marshall government's time, engages with schools. Several times each year, visual artists, working artists, working with schools are often able to have their combined and collaborative works presented in that gallery space upstairs and, with the light, it is fantastic and inspires those young people to be engaged in the arts, which is good in itself, delightful in itself, and the benefits to their education is great.

The member for Frome reminds me that the Primary Schools Music Festival kicks off in coming days. Members of parliament would be aware of this, but I know that the many people watching this telecast through their computers at home may not have had the opportunity to go to a Primary Schools Music Festival.

The Department for Education leadership in this space is famous. It, too, celebrated I think its 100th anniversary, or potentially an even larger anniversary, a couple of years ago. It has been contributing through our public schools system for over 100 years to our children's love of performance, their confidence, their collaboration and, particularly, their interest in music.

When you have 700 or 800 voices on stage all singing and dancing at once in their coloured T-shirts, their parents are proud but it is an extraordinary experience for them. The Catholic Schools Music Festival always follows not too long after the Primary Schools Music Festival. Again, for our 100 Catholic schools around South Australia, it is a similarly important experience.

All of the range of uses for the Festival Centre are to be celebrated. There are not too many South Australians who have not had some positive experience with our Festival Centre—even if they are not theatre buffs themselves, even if they are not people who go to the Adelaide Festival for performances—because there is such a diverse range of exercises.

I went recently with one of my goddaughters to *Mary Poppins*, which is a substantial production, a worldwide production, a big-budget production. Indeed, the Australian performers who were integrated into that opportunity were able to enjoy that amazing set and the amazing special effects and staging. I think that there is a pride that we can take in the way that our Festival Centre is able to engage with our community and put on productions for both mass appeal and, indeed, highbrow audiences, and do the same quality of work in either case.

The Festival Centre is a large operation. It has a significant budget and it is supported every year by substantial support from the state government. It does indeed run a very commercial operation. It seeks to maximise revenue that can then be reapplied into supporting the arts in South Australia and to expanding its offerings of festivals and engagements.

Particularly, there is an outreach program through Education to low-SES schools so that vulnerable students and children who might not otherwise easily be able to engage with the arts so successfully can have that access. It has a significant social agenda and support for equity opportunities and spreading those opportunities across our community. In and of itself, I would say it also has a significant tourism driver. It is supportive of the economy, supportive of maximising South Australia's artistic economy and tourism opportunities.

During the COVID pandemic, obviously there were dramatically reduced opportunities for live performances with audiences in South Australia. That had a significant impact on revenue for the Festival Centre and other performing arts, and all artistic companies around Australia suffered badly during the pandemic. The Marshall Liberal government again stepped in with support—significant support, early support compared with some states in 2020 in many ways—and then in

2021 significant support for the Festival Centre, understanding the significant challenges that were faced.

There was extra supplementary funding provided by the Morrison and Marshall governments during the pandemic. When we look at funding, comparing 2020 and 2021 with 2022, as I am sure will be pointed out, is not comparing apples with apples, but the base funding grant itself was dramatically cut by the government in 2022 upon their coming to office.

It is a blunt instrument, an efficiency dividend, but it gets applied to some organisations more than to others. As one of the more significant beneficiaries of government support and government funding, the Festival Centre was the recipient of some of the more significant cuts. At the same time as their expenses were going up, the Malinauskas Labor government applied cuts.

It is worth noting that for many months I have raised with the minister—most recently, I think, in estimates, but possibly more recently than that even—the question of what support the Malinauskas Labor government was going to give the Festival Centre in its 50th anniversary year, a year you would expect would be celebrated with significant extra work, significant extra performances, things that could mark the special occasion that is our 50th anniversary year of this institution that we should be celebrating. I got back the answer yesterday to that question that was taken on notice during estimates from the minister, who said:

An additional \$200,000 has been provided to support the Festival Centre in its 50th year celebrations to be used towards various celebration activities planned over the second half of the 2023 calendar year.

The second half of the year we are in. I can only imagine how enthusiastically the executive team at the Festival Centre, and all the people who work in the Festival Centre and all the supporters and subscribers have responded to that news.

We have had a couple of performances, galas, highlighting South Australian artists during the 50th anniversary year, but the late application of this funding, such as it is, I think has dramatically curtailed what could have been an extraordinary year of celebrations. Opportunities have been missed to bring back headline artists who have featured in the Festival Centre over five decades, opportunities to have really special shows of world class that could have been advertised worldwide to celebrate Adelaide.

It is a tourism and economic opportunity that has been missed due to the fact that we are in the second half of the 50th anniversary year before the government has been able to stump up anything at all for the Adelaide Festival Centre. It is an opportunity missed, and it is a real disappointment, and it pales into insignificance compared to the loss which we have explored in estimates, and we have explored in the Auditor-General's Report.

No matter which way you cut it, the Festival Centre has approaching a million dollars less in its government support than it did before. I am not comparing with the COVID boosts. I am comparing the base funding level and what is effectively applied, and the increasing costs the Festival Centre has applied. We are not seeing significant extra support. I do not think it even got the supplementation indexation; I think that was only for not-for-profits, which this would not apply to.

There is, I think, a real onus on this government to look at the way it looks at the arts in South Australia, the economic opportunities for tourism, the economic opportunities for when we are trying to attract the best and brightest.

The government talks about attracting 100 of the world's top researchers to the new university—people of that nature, the sort of people who would lift the Adelaide University's rankings substantially. Many of those are significant arts lovers, and it is of significant benefit to our state's economy to have a thriving artistic scene, for our state's tourism market to have a thriving artistic scene and an inspiration for our creative young people in South Australia to have a thriving artistic scene.

So far, although there has been some support for the Fringe, some modest support for live music and there has been some support for the Film Festival and an annualisation of what was a usual grant of a million dollars for the Festival, otherwise this government has done very little for the arts, highlighted by these cuts to the Festival Centre, and I urge them to do better in the years ahead.

The Hon. A. MICHAELS (Enfield—Minister for Small and Family Business, Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs, Minister for Arts) (11:27): I seek to move an amendment to the motion from the member for Morialta:

Delete paragraph (d) and insert the following in lieu thereof:

- (d) acknowledges the additional financial contribution of the Malinauskas Labor government to the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust to assist in celebrating the Adelaide Festival Centre's 50th anniversary year, and to promote its economic, educational, and cultural contribution to our state.

I think, broadly, that both sides of parliament have over many years been incredibly supportive of the Adelaide Festival Centre, so in its 50th year I think it is important that we show some bipartisanship in celebrating the good that has come from the Adelaide Festival Centre. In that light, I certainly hope that my amendment will be supported by all in the chamber.

Both sides of government have supported the Adelaide Festival Centre over the past 50 years. The doors first opened on 2 June 1973 along the River Torrens. The location of the AFC is really important. It is a really important part of the Kurna story, and for thousands of years it has been a site for congregating, singing, dancing, storytelling and ceremonies for the Kurna people. Of course, the Adelaide Festival Centre continues this tradition and has for the past 50 years.

Quite proudly, it is the oldest national performing arts venue in Australia, and the member for Morialta mentioned it did open three months before the Sydney Opera House, which is something we will always be able to claim as the first. It is really one of Australia's premier performing arts venues. With the Premier, I had the pleasure to attend the 50th anniversary performance, which apparently for the member for Morialta was not enough. It was an incredible celebration not only of 50 years of the Adelaide Festival Centre but the incredible festivals that the centre hosts.

The Cabaret Festival, one of my favourites, was celebrated. OzAsia is an incredible festival that was mentioned last night at a dinner with the Premier before his trip to China and something that the Australian Asian community hold very dear to their hearts. The great Slava Grigoryan does a great job with the Guitar Festival; and there is *OUR MOB*; and of course, DreamBIG, which the member for Morialta talked about and which is actually the longest running children's festival in the world. I do not know if members know that, but it is the longest running children's festival in the world.

OUR MOB is holding an art exhibition at the moment in the Adelaide Festival Centre, and I bought an artwork. Jack Buckskin's son Vincent did a painting, which I acquired and I am waiting for it to be delivered—an early acquisition of his great work, I am sure.

The Adelaide Festival Centre is a unique public asset that South Australians love and hold dear to their hearts that has been supported substantially by the state government over the years. There is an annual grant, which was affected significantly by cuts from the Marshall Liberal government in the 2018-19 and 2019-20 years. Of course, COVID support was given. As the member for Morialta said, we are no longer comparing apples with apples if we are comparing COVID to post COVID.

This year we celebrated the 50th anniversary with a gala celebration. An additional \$200,000 was provided for that 50th anniversary and it was a great night. We are also providing an extra \$390,000 for the OzAsia Festival that is opening next month. That is part of the extra money that would otherwise not have been there if we had not won the last election. Indeed, we may have seen more cuts from those opposite.

As an iconic public asset, not only does it receive state government support but the Adelaide Festival Centre Foundation does an incredible job. I want to thank Miranda Starkey as the chair of that foundation. Since 2010, it has raised over \$11 million and almost \$1 million in the 2022-23 financial year. A couple of weeks ago, there was a fundraising gala dinner I was at where the foundation raised an incredible \$1.4 million, and \$1 million of that came from the incredible philanthropist Pamela Wall. I want to thank her deeply for that contribution. My husband ended up with an electric motorbike at the end. I am not sure how I feel about that, but it was for a very worthy cause.

The Festival Centre has been on a remarkable journey over the years and it really is an icon in South Australia. The Festival Centre idea first emerged in the late fifties when Adelaide was

experiencing a cultural renaissance. We were influenced by the Edinburgh International Festival, which I recently had the pleasure of attending for a couple of days. The South Australian government—both colours—recognised the need for a dedicated space to showcase our arts and foster creativity in the South Australian community.

In 1962, we established the Adelaide Festival of Arts and brought together local and international talents in various art forms for that festival, which is well regarded right around the world. It soon became apparent that we needed a dedicated venue. There were initial discussions about looking at Carclew House as the site until Premier Don Dunstan elevated that vision to the current site and the building of the Adelaide Festival Centre.

Construction of the Adelaide Festival Centre started in 1970. John Morphett and Sir Ian McLennan were the architects involved and they did an astounding job with the architectural style that became a symbol of South Australia. As I mentioned earlier, the Adelaide Festival Centre officially opened on 2 June 1973. The celebration was marked by an inaugural performance of John Antill's opera *Corroboree*, which captivated audiences and set the stage for decades of artistic excellence.

Since its inception, the Adelaide Festival Centre has served as a vibrant hub for a range of artistic endeavours—theatre, dance, music, opera and visual arts—and for local and international talent. We obviously have multiple venues there, in the Festival Theatre, the Dunstan Playhouse and the Space Theatre, and, of course, the revitalised Her Majesty's Theatre is under the banner of the AFCT as well. So there are a range of artistic expressions and a range of audience sizes that are catered for in that centre.

Some of our incredible home companies regularly perform there, including the State Theatre, the State Opera, the Adelaide Festival, the ASO, the Australian Dance Theatre, Brink, No Strings Attached, Gravity and Other Myths, Patch Theatre, Restless, Slingsby, and Windmill, and the Australian Ballet is coming back shortly. A range of incredible South Australian and Australian arts organisations perform their great work there.

Incredible artists have performed there over the years, including Dame Joan Sutherland, Mikhail Baryshnikov, David Helfgott, even Silverchair. The Sunday before last, Darren Criss, if anyone knows him, from *Glee*, was there, and I managed to sneak into his concert, so that was fantastic. The centre's commitment to fostering creativity has led to the establishment of numerous programs to develop artists and aspiring artists from young to old, and they do an incredible job.

We have had, obviously, a range of smash hits there. We started off the year with *Hairspray*, and Verdi's *Messa de Requiem* was the centrepiece opera for the Adelaide Festival this year, which was incredible. *Mary Poppins*, as the member for Morialta mentioned, was an amazing stage show from Disney that came here and captivated audiences for weeks, which was fantastic. At the 50th anniversary spectacular in June, we had Slava and Sharon Grigoryan. Libby O'Donovan was the MC and a performer, and it was a really great night and something I am really proud of.

We really need to thank Don Dunstan for that pioneering vision, and I want to thank all the talented artists and performers who have graced those stages over the last 50 years. I thank Douglas Gautier and his team; the Chair, the Hon. Hieu Van Le; and the board for being such a pleasure to work with over the past 18 months. I sincerely look forward to the next 50 years of memories for South Australian families as the heart of arts in South Australia.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (11:37): I stand to support the motion in its original form. I will focus my remarks for the most part on paragraphs (a), (b) and (c), and in the interests of bipartisanship, here we are, recognising the 50th anniversary of this great institution. In fact, I do not think it is putting it inaccurately to say that it is the host of the best festival of all. So significant is it to our state's identity that it really is very much a state-defining institution. You do not need to look any further than messages on car numberplates over decades now.

The Festival Centre is indeed at the core of not only our state's identity but our state's cultural life. It is a gathering point in so many and such a variety of ways. I will just highlight a few. Also, I think on this occasion, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary, it is well that the minister adverts to Her Majesty's Theatre as being part of the responsibilities of the statutory corporation, the Adelaide

Festival Centre Trust, Her Majesty's Theatre having been so thoroughly renewed and reinvented and now able to show off the very best of all kinds of performance here in Adelaide as part of the assets of the trust. But the focus for the purposes of today's motion is the Festival Centre itself.

While we are addressing history, I think it is important to highlight that it was in fact Steele Hall who chose the site for the Festival Centre. It is important to identify because—and the minister adverted to it briefly as well—Carclew was in fact among those sites that had been initially thought about as being suitable for the establishment of a festival hall as early as the fifties and through the sixties. Torrens Parade Ground was considered as well along the way.

I think it is well documented and uncontroversial that Steele Hall in the course of his negotiations, including with the federal government, for support for the building of the Festival Centre ended up in negotiations with Prime Minister Gorton. He was given a choice as to how best to proceed. He secured the necessary vital funding, as is so often the case, the support from the federal government.

As I understand it, Carclew had been purchased by the Adelaide City Council sometime earlier with a view to being a festival hall. It is the reason, having been purchased from the Bonython family, that it has been the host and centre of youth arts, including the Come Out Festival, as the member for Morialta adverted to earlier.

Steele Hall had been inspired by his travels, including seeing what could be done on the riverbank when visiting the Thames. He came back and said, 'I've been inspired, and we need to do this on the riverbank.' The location that had been for a century or so the site of the City Baths was then, in that inspired way, to be the site for the building of the Festival Centre. Structured as it was at an appropriate angle to the grid and located by the riverside, it has proved to be an inspired choice of location.

The building took the course of three years and a change of government, and we saw that vision very much continued on in the nascent Dunstan government. I recognise as well the contribution of Premier Dunstan, a contribution that has been recognised in the recent renaming of The Playhouse, to be known more recently as the Dunstan Playhouse.

It is well also on the occasion of this 50th anniversary to recognise the sustained and dedicated work of its leader, Douglas Gautier AM. As CEO and Artistic Director of the Festival Centre since 2006, not quite 20 years, he has really been at the helm for a sustained, substantial period of the history.

I indicated I would make reference to just some highlights. The deputy leader, the member for Morialta, remarked about the success of the Festival of Music. That is one occasion which has stood out for me in a representative capacity but also as a parent.

To see the opportunity for really young primary school students to be on the main stage at the Festival Centre, the Festival Theatre, and to be present with a full hall and to have a rollcall read out of schools—tiny schools, some of them—that have travelled from distant parts of the state to have their moment on the Festival Theatre stage is always a moving occasion for me to see. I know what a significant role that that opportunity has played for all sorts of young people to participate in the Festival of Music.

In another way altogether, the exhibition of Aboriginal art that is known as *OUR MOB* and *OUR YOUNG MOB*, hosted by the Festival Centre in the Festival Centre Space, is a successful tradition that I expect will just continue to grow. Recently, it was hosted in a way that brought together *OUR MOB* and *OUR YOUNG MOB*, those two exhibitions, into one space. This year was another success, and I suspect that that will continue to grow.

I might just mention one other, in terms of a range of those different events and performances that go on at the Festival Centre. One that particularly stood out for me in May this year was the State Theatre Company's production of a play called *Prima Facie*. *Prima Facie* is a one-act play written by Suzie Miller and directed by David Meador, with an extraordinary performance by Caroline Craig, who will be well known to many for the range of her television, film and theatre accomplishments, none greater than her inspired performance in *Prima Facie*. It is a play that I think

will continue to have global success. It has particularly confronting subject matter, dealing with the difficulties in terms of proof and evidence in cases of sexual assault.

To witness an actor demonstrating such excellence in her craft on the stage and captivating an audience for the better part of an hour and a half uninterrupted, inhabiting the character of one person, was something that was a display of the genius of acting. For that to be able to be presented in the Space Theatre, in circumstances of that level of audience immediacy and intimacy, was an ideal setting for an excellent play superbly performed. Obviously, there are countless other examples of the activities that are carried on at the Festival Centre. May there be another 50 years and more ahead for the Festival Centre.

S.E. ANDREWS (Gibson) (11:47): It is my pleasure to rise and speak in support of the amended motion. I have spent so many hours at the Festival Centre over the years, enjoying theatre, dance, music and art exhibitions. It all started on 2 June 1973, a night when a full house packed the Festival Theatre for the first time as the theatre was officially opened by Prime Minister Gough Whitlam at a gala performance of act 2, scene 1, of Beethoven's opera *Fidelio* and 'Choral' symphony.

Of course, the Festival Theatre is just one part of the centre, with the Dunstan Playhouse, Space Theatre, Artspace Gallery and Terrace completing the centre. I was at the Space just last Saturday night to enjoy the fantastic State Theatre production of *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*. Next, I am looking forward to the State Theatre's production of *The Dictionary of Lost Words*, a play based on local author Pip Williams' novel.

I am particularly keen to see Tilda Cobham-Hervey perform in that production. She is a South Australian whom I have been following since her years at Cirkidz and her first film production as a teenager in *52 Tuesdays*. I am also looking forward to seeing Brett Archer back on the stage in one of the lead roles in this theatre production—though I do know that, given he has grown a moustache especially for this production, his partner Elisa is particularly keen for rehearsals and performances to be finished.

I do have some favourite memories of the theatre, including The Australian Ballet's *Romeo and Juliet*, Something on Saturdays with my daughter Lucy—we spent so many of her childhood years in the foyer of the Festival and then watching a production—and my time working for Cirkidz in the crew at the Space Theatre.

Our push for a new arts venue began in the sixties, as our internationally renowned Adelaide Festival of the Arts started to outgrow the city's existing venues. The Adelaide Festival Theatre Act 1964 provided for the erection of the Festival Theatre building. As other members have stated, it was originally going to be on the site of Carclew in North Adelaide, but Liberal state Premier Steele Hall decided, after a visit to the Royal Festival Hall in London, that it would be located on its current site.

When Don Dunstan became Premier in 1970, he expanded the idea into a Festival Centre, incorporating multiple smaller venues, like the Playhouse and the Space. It was funded by a mix of state and federal funding and a public appeal that was oversubscribed within one week. South Australia was progressing at a great pace under the leadership of Premier Dunstan, with Aboriginal land rights first recognised, homosexuality decriminalised, the first female judge, the first Minister for the Environment appointed, antidiscrimination laws enacted and our beloved State Theatre Company established. What a fabulous time for South Australia.

Today, more than one million people a year visit the centre to attend the Adelaide Festival and witness performances by the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, State Opera South Australia, Australian Dance Theatre, Brink, Restless Dance Theatre, Slingsby, Patch Theatre, and No Strings Attached, which all have their home at the theatre. The centre is also home to the highly successful Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Adelaide Guitar Festival and OzAsia.

In 2017, an Ernst and Young report found that the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust contributed more than \$160 million in economic and social impact and led to the creation of 1,076 jobs in Greater Adelaide in the space of just 12 months and I am sure that part of the economic impact is the

thousands of interstate and international visitors who visit the centre each year, in addition to those who come to WOMAD, the Fringe and our galleries and museums.

However, of course, the arts are not here purely for economic impact. We have an opportunity to share our stories through the arts to understand our world and better connect with others. I look forward to watching hundreds more performances over the coming years at Australia's first capital city multipurpose arts centre and I look forward to many more South Australian firsts, especially in the arts.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (11:51): It has been terrific to hear members' own experiences with the Festival Centre, which has inspired me to share some of my experiences, which started really just a few years after it was opened in 1973.

I was a high school student in the seventies at Salisbury High School. In the summertime, there were free concerts in the amphitheatre that is no longer there. Facing the river was an amphitheatre where the bands you saw on *Countdown* would come and play for free on a Sunday afternoon. It was a quick train ride from Salisbury station into Adelaide station, a short walk to the Festival Centre and you would be on the grass listening to bands you saw on television, which was just amazing. I was a young musician at that time, and it was great to have that easy access at the Festival Centre.

A few years later, after I had started my apprenticeship, I was offered some work building sets at the Festival Centre. Things were a little bit slow in the furniture business at that time—about 1983, I think it was—so the boss was very happy for me to have a number of weeks off without pay and I started work on building a set for *Guys and Dolls*. We all remember Ricky May, who was the star of the show.

I think what it demonstrates is that, when people think about the arts, they always think about those faces and names associated with the performance, whereas so many more people are employed behind the scenes in the arts and creative industries. I was fortunate to have witnessed that and to have been part of a production.

I actually spent most of my time there building the stairs. For anyone who has seen a production of *Guys and Dolls*, there is a lot of running up and down stairs and obviously a lot of dancing. I met other tradespeople who had been working full time in this area and they were very committed to the work they were doing.

I was invited to opening night as someone who had participated in the building of the set. Being a single man at the time, I was given two tickets, so I invited one of my bodybuilding partners—one of my mates I was bodybuilding with—to come and share the evening with me. So there we were, two bodybuilders turning up to see *Guys and Dolls* on a Saturday night, and the afterparty was fun as well. It was a great night. That was 40 years ago, before social media, so there is no evidence of it whatsoever.

I know that there are so many other people whose careers have started and been enhanced, people who are available to perform in the chorus when musicals come to town, who might not be working full time in the industry but love that opportunity to be available to be in the chorus or play a minor part when a big production comes to town. Of course, it is not just the musical and theatre arts that the Festival Centre supports. I remember seeing Jason Alexander there just before COVID came—a sold-out evening listening to a whole lot of his experiences with the production of *Seinfeld*.

The centre really has been an asset supported right across party politics. We heard from previous members about the process of how the site was identified and acquired by Steele Hall, and then of course we saw the supervision of the building and the project completed when Don Dunstan was the Premier. I have a very fond memory of Don Dunstan as Premier. As a teenager growing up in the outer suburbs, I did like the fact that he was a modern Premier and that there was a strong focus on social reform and on some of the finer things in life.

However, I do remember that when I was looking for an apprenticeship in 1979 the unemployment rate was in double figures. I went through a process of about nine months of continual job applications for that apprenticeship, from April 1979 right through until December. I still have the hundred letters of rejection that I referred to in my maiden speech, saying there was no position

available and 'thank you for being one of the hundreds of people who applied for this position but, unfortunately, you have been unsuccessful'.

I am not quite sure that I agree that it was a wonderful time, but it was a time of significant change, not just in the social aspects of South Australia but also in the economic aspects, the economic prosperity of South Australia. Some of the traditional industries that were established here under Tom Playford were suffering from the changes in the environment around the world. International competitors, companies, were rationalising and when companies rationalise and they do not have their head office here in South Australia, unfortunately, they tend to rationalise here in South Australia. We saw a lot of major companies losing their head offices here in South Australia in the seventies and in the early eighties.

So, yes, it was a time of change and it is just so pleasing that we are able to see the Festival Centre still being a major piece of South Australia's culture and a major piece of infrastructure. It is enjoyed by many South Australians, anchoring, if you like, an industry here that is growing around the world. Creative industries are growing around the world as more and more people are buying services rather than items and things, and that is of course creating more demand for people in those creative industries.

Like the member for Morialta, I do not support the government's amendments. I can understand why the government would use its numbers to get those amendments up, but let's focus on those three parts of the motion that we all agree on because it is a wonderful institution for South Australians. I see it as a vehicle, whether it be through the school concerts that are performed there every year, whether it be through people participating in some other form or whether it be from people visiting and watching shows. It can change people's lives, and that is an important asset for the people of South Australia.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (12:00): I thank the minister, the member for Heysen, the member for Unley and the member for Gibson for their contributions to this motion.

I think that one thing we all agree on, as the member for Unley said, is that we all want to celebrate this incredible institution. It has been recognised by members on both sides that the foundation of the institution was the result of work from Labor and Liberal governments. It was initiated during the Playford era, then the first Labor government after that long period, then the Hall government and then the Dunstan government. It was a significant investment of the time and resources of the state, and it was a state-building project. That is something to be celebrated.

In that spirit, I also want to thank the minister because, usually in these debates, there is an amendment brought by the government that is overtly political, pointed and unreasonable. The minister has brought an amendment that, while I do not necessarily support it, is not especially political. In the opposition, we like to reward good behaviour, so while we are not necessarily supportive we are not going to divide against it. I commend the government for that, and I give back to those government members four minutes of their lives in response to that. I encourage other ministers to take note.

On a serious note, I think it may have been the member for Heysen or possibly the member for Unley who raised the issue of the amphitheatre, which is no longer there. I think it is worth thinking about because at the moment I understand there is a business case being developed for a concert hall. In my speech, I reflected on the fact that it is to the credit of the Festival Centre but nevertheless quite remarkable that we have been able to maintain our status as a UNESCO City of Music without a purpose-built concert hall.

I think many people, should the business case stack up, would ultimately like to see that development take place, but it would be a significant investment. It would take potentially multiple years and certainly, given the time it would take, I would hope at least two different governments—finishing with the Liberal government, obviously—for it to be completed. It may take time, and I recognise that. I hope that the minister, when she receives that business case if she has not already, will socialise that business case broadly because I think it is the sort of thing that could well benefit our state and benefit bipartisan support, obviously if the business case stacks up.

There is indeed a solution to short-term needs that could be delivered more quickly and at less cost while not necessarily being instead of—I explicitly say not instead of—a concert hall but potentially before a concert hall, and that is to have an open-air soundshell, the sort of place where you can have significant performances, performances in that festival precinct or elsewhere in the CBD, the sorts of things the amphitheatre provided but also the sorts of things that we used to have regularly.

Symphony Under the Stars was for many young people an introduction to classical music and for families a beautiful night out. It was incredibly expensive to stage, and without specific corporate sponsorship it has been unable to be staged for a period of time now. A number of people would remember Ennio Morricone performing themes from extraordinary musicals. I think there might have been an issue that night with the car race starting at the same time—and I have confirmation from the member for Gibson, who was there. I also remember Neil Finn; thankfully, that was on a different night.

Those sorts of performances are extraordinary but incredibly expensive to set up and establish to the quality required for the music. It is a popping up and a popping down, and it is a cost that is borne, but the lack of specific sponsorship for those events means that the people of South Australia miss out on some really great opportunities.

The soundshell can be scalable larger or smaller, and there are opportunities there that I encourage the minister to take up. The \$200,000 that has been put forward is not going to do that, but hopefully that \$200,000 will be applied to some terrific further performances, with the support of both sides of the house. I do encourage the government to think seriously about this proposal, which has been discussed for a little while.

I do not suggest it is an alternative to a potential concert hall, but I think it is something that would be worthy of consideration for the people of South Australia. If this government were to support it—again, as long as the business case for it stacks up—I believe it is something definitely worth considering, and I encourage the minister and the government to do so.

I commend the original motion to the house and, if it must be amended, then I suppose I still support the amended motion.

Amendment carried; motion as amended carried.

REGIONAL TOURISM

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:06): By leave, I move my motion in an amended form:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the importance of South Australia's regional areas to the state's visitor economy;
- (b) recognises the potential of Mount Gambier and the wider Limestone Coast region's unique natural assets in the nature-based and adventure tourism sectors; and
- (c) calls on the state government through SATC to prioritise product development and tourism experiences in future funding opportunities.

It is an exciting time for tourism in South Australia. The last few months have seen record-breaking highs, as the latest National Visitor Survey data showed that April was the best month ever for visitor spend—a huge \$984 million. This was strongly driven by two major event triumphs for Adelaide, the AFL Gather Round and LIV Golf.

While these high-profile events achieved huge success for Adelaide, we must not forget what our regional areas have recently contributed to the state's visitor economy. In March this year, total expenditure for SA regions hit \$4.46 billion. Not only was this a 25 per cent increase since 2019, it also increased the region's market share of visitor spend to 48¢ of every dollar. What we now need to ensure is that the regions see investment and support that is equivalent to that of our metropolitan counterparts.

The opportunities are immense for regional tourism, and this can be illustrated by a key tourism trend that has continued to emerge post pandemic, that is, nature-based and adventure tourism. There has been a significant increase in demand for experiences in outdoor spaces as

travellers look to escape crowds, rejuvenate and reconnect with themselves, family, friends and the environment around them. This is a critical area that I believe Mount Gambier and the wider Limestone Coast are in a prime position to capitalise on.

Our region's unique natural assets are perfectly aligned for nature-based and adventure activities. There are not many places in Australia where you can walk along the crater rim of a dormant volcano or swim in a sinkhole, but the vast majority of our natural attractions are free. You can walk around the Blue Lake, climb Mount Schank, visit the Umpherston Sinkhole, swim in the Little Blue and then finish with a barbecue at the Valley Lake—and, other than your sausages and bread, none of it will cost you a thing. I want to be clear, I think that is extremely important.

However, we must also develop our tourism offerings for those people who want to pay for experiences and adventure because that is where the jobs are. That is where people who are operating the lifts or taking the tours are employed through tourism. We will never reach our full potential without a focus on product development, creating new and innovative experiences, products and services for tourists to purchase, giving them a reason to stay another day. In turn, this means more dollars into our local economy, boosting businesses, creating jobs and enhancing the overall visitor experience.

Imagine flying into the Valley Lake from the heights of the Centenary Tower on a zip-line, completing a tree climb adventure course in one of our local forests before retreating to your luxury off-grid cabin, visiting our pumping station to learn about the region's Indigenous and European history, before finishing with a gourmet lunch or dinner overlooking the Blue Lake. The possibilities are endless.

I understand the commercial development of natural assets must be done in an environmentally sustainable and culturally sensitive way, but the point is it can be done. We are not forging new ground. There are plenty of examples of what can follow and has been developed around the world. In 2005, the Australian government invested \$3 million towards the Tasmanian Forest Tourism Initiative to assist the development of environmentally sensitive tourism infrastructure in Tasmania. Eight projects were completed as part of this initiative, providing new infrastructure and visitor interpretation facilities, walking tracks and mountain bike paths.

To further showcase their forests and surrounding areas and to enhance the visitor experience, Forestry Tasmania has developed four adventure tourism sites. The Tahune Airwalk gives you a chance to walk amongst the forest while taking in the amazing view and, while you are there, you can hire a segway or a mountain bike, or sign up for a cabled hang-glide—all paid activities for the visiting traveller. Add to that the Maydena Adventure Hub with its pedal-powered railway track rider, Tarkine Forest Adventures with a 110-metre slide and forest floor guided tours, and the treetop canopy tour at Hollybank. I can guarantee you will be coming home with a much lighter pocket, as well as a greater understanding of the history and environment around you.

Currently, the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) is offering grants for nature-based tourism via its \$2 million Experience Nature Tourism Fund. Whilst I applaud this initiative, I would argue it is not broad enough. Applicants are limited to projects that occur within or near a national park, reserve, wilderness protection area or marine park. The majority of Mount Gambier and the surrounding area's iconic natural assets do not fall into this category.

Another significant funding opportunity through SATC is the Major Events Fund, with over \$20 million being allocated over the next four years. This is the key funding behind the fantastic Adelaide-based events I mentioned earlier, that is, Gather Round, LIV Golf and, of course, the Adelaide 500. However, the funding criteria mean it is out of reach for most regional areas.

We may not be able to host a match for Gather Round, but what about making Mount Gambier a Gather Round hub? Create a regional destination for those who cannot make it to Adelaide, entice Adelaide residents who want to escape the city for the weekend, subsidise public transport, provide accommodation and dining vouchers, or transform Wulanda Recreation Centre into a footy mecca with all the games televised on the big screen.

Tasting Australia is another fantastic event that we could extend to the Limestone Coast, with a satellite event over three or four days showcasing the best chefs and premium produce and

wine from our area. We need to give people a reason to come through Mount Gambier on their way to Adelaide. Tasting Australia is just one idea that would encourage Victorians to come through Mount Gambier instead of going direct from Melbourne to Adelaide.

I am calling on the state government to ensure that future SATC funding really does consider the nuances of regional areas and provides opportunities to prioritise product development and tourism experiences to enable our regions to shine to the best of their abilities while building their local economies at the same time. I would like to finish by acknowledging a few of the local businesses that have created innovative tourism experiences in our region.

Kilsby Sinkhole lies in the middle of a sheep farm, amid rolling countryside 14 kilometres south of Mount Gambier. The farm has been transformed over the last few decades to now encompass sinkhole tours, snorkelling tours, scuba diving and free diving. Five years ago, they also launched their own Sinkhole Gin. They are currently building accommodation units on site and have plans to extend an onsite distillery, tasting room and cafe, all major drawcards for divers, snorkellers and those who want to swim in the sinkhole.

Bush Repair is a small, family-run business by Uncle Ken Jones and is based in Port MacDonnell. Uncle Ken runs tailored sessions to develop participants' cultural knowledge and education through learning and understanding. Through on-ground field visits, inland or coastal, the sessions provide knowledge of bush tucker, traditional artefacts, ceremonies, and arts and crafts. Uncle Ken has also authorised a series of authentic First Nations' stories teaching Indigenous perspectives through literacy and other learning areas.

Finally, a more recent addition to the Limestone Coast is Mountain Path Meadows. They offer unique, off-grid private glamping domes for short-term accommodation and also specialise as a sustainable wedding venue. Dan and Rachel purchased the property that would become Mountain Path Meadows in 2020 after seeking a post-pandemic tree change and sea change. It is situated within the Mount Schank State Heritage Area, at the base of the dormant volcano. I am told it provides travellers with their perfect Instagram backdrop.

These are the types of businesses that are bringing people to our region, who are spending their dollars and then telling their friends. We must continue to support them and provide future funding opportunities to create more businesses like them.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (12:17): I am very pleased to support the motion. I do so as the Liberal Party's lower house spokesperson on tourism issues and as the representative of the Hon. Jing Lee in this chamber. It is a pleasure to support this motion that recognises the particular importance of South Australia's extraordinary regions to our visitor economy, tourism and, indeed, our broader wellbeing in this state.

The electorate of Morialta has shrunk in size as a result of the last redistribution. Prior to that redistribution, I would have been proudly celebrating Morialta as including the most beautiful regions in South Australia—areas like the Adelaide Hills and the Onkaparinga Valley and towns like Lobethal, Gumeracha, Birdwood and Lenswood with their extraordinary tourism offerings. There are others as well that were in Morialta, and Cudlee Creek comes to mind—destinations that help bring people to South Australia and help South Australians make the most of our state. Those areas are no longer in Morialta but they remain beautiful and important.

If I were going to go beyond the historical Morialta area, I would be very hard-pressed, I will acknowledge, to find a more beautifully diverse region than Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast, so I am pleased to support paragraphs (a) and (b) of this motion and amended paragraph (c) as well. From its stunning, rugged coastlines to caves, volcanoes and world-renowned wine regions, Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast include a critical mass of tourism experiences and products that must be developed from those world-class natural assets.

The City of Mount Gambier has a strong focus on developing the Crater Lakes area for eco and adventure tourism. The Crater Lakes Master Plan, which the member for Mount Gambier referenced, is in the consultation stage, and it will outline the vision for the area. I note that the Hon. Ben Hood MLC, a former deputy mayor and current Legislative Council member, has been a strong advocate for the master plan for an extended period of time—indeed, for years.

He regularly promotes the opportunities in the region, including kayaking on the Blue Lake, world-class trail running in mountain bike precincts, zip-lines and celebrating the region's ancient Indigenous history. I recognise the important work done by Uncle Ken that the member for Mount Gambier spoke about.

I also note that a fresh fish stocking project is being considered by council and RecFish SA, which aims to introduce Murray cod and trout into the Valley Lake. Of course any discussion about Mount Gambier and its attractions should reference also the new Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre, which received \$25 million from the state and federal Liberal governments—the Marshall and Morrison governments.

This state-of-the-art facility offers locals and visitors topnotch aquatic, sporting and event amenities, and it is starting to encourage families looking for a tree change to call Mount Gambier home. Recently, when the Liberal team visited Mount Gambier the Hon. Ben Hood organised an extraordinary public forum at Wulanda. Its facilities for conventions and for sport are tremendous. Matt Cowdrey OAM—Australia's greatest ever Paralympian and the shadow treasurer—looked at that pool and commented on what an exceptional facility it is anywhere in Australia and especially important for regional areas.

Those investments are important. I know that many members wish to contribute to this important motion. I thank the member for Mount Gambier for bringing it and I indicate my support.

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (12:20): I, too, rise in support of the motion introduced by the member for Mount Gambier, and I would like to commend him for his strong support for regional tourism overall and his advocacy for the Limestone Coast region.

South Australia has 12 regional tourism regions, including the Limestone Coast, and prior to the pandemic these regions were responsible for about 40 per cent of the visitor economy across our state. Post the pandemic, however, they are responsible for closer to 50 per cent of the visitor economy. I know that, as an avid overseas traveller, since the pandemic I have spent a lot more time travelling through South Australia and exploring our great state.

This year alone, I returned to Kangaroo Island for the first time since I was five, I stayed in the Barossa for the first time in my life and in the last few years I have spent a lot of time in the Clare Valley as well. I know very much that our state's strength is in its regional offering, and the Limestone Coast is very much a jewel in the crown, I think, of regional South Australia. The Limestone Coast had a 2025 visitor economy target of \$479 million, and the most recent data has the region sitting at \$441 million, well on track to not just meet but exceed the target.

I have many fond memories of visiting the Limestone Coast as a child. My aunty lived in Mount Gambier and we used to go there every year for Easter. I remember particularly well my first time visiting what was then and still is my favourite tourist destination in South Australia—the Umpherston Sinkhole. I remember all too well visiting it for the first time. We had a night-time picnic, as is quite common, and lay down in the sinkhole watching the bats fly overhead.

What a wonderful experience that was, so much so that the next year we brought friends and did exactly the same thing the next year. We brought younger cousins as they were born and grew up and it became a real tradition for my family when we would visit my aunty in the South-East.

I have not actually had the chance to visit the Kilsby Sinkhole, but I did hear some very positive things about the gin from the member for Elder, and of course we heard it mentioned as well by the member for Mount Gambier. I very much look forward to perhaps trying that and visiting the Kilsby Sinkhole in the future.

Of course, there is much that is being offered for regional South Australia and for tourism in our state on the Limestone Coast. We have the beautiful Blue Lake and the caves, and again I remember going through the caves multiple times in the little boat that you can get into. The Limestone Coast is very much home to many of South Australia's most spectacular natural wonders. It is also the start of the Southern Ocean Drive, which connects the region via the coast all the way to the Fleurieu Peninsula.

Mount Gambier is also home to one of our state's and Australia's premier music events, that being the Generations in Jazz festival, which brings together thousands of participants and internationally acclaimed musicians every May. I also remember being in Mount Gambier at the time of the festival, not to attend but to visit family, and just watching particularly the city area and how bustling and how exciting it was to see all the students from different schools travelling to Mount Gambier to be part of the competition.

I know that the Minister for Tourism works very closely with the member for Mount Gambier to explore the best ways to strengthen the Limestone Coast tourist region, and I know that on our side we also have other strong advocates for the region. The member for Adelaide spends a lot of time in the region with family all throughout the South-East, but I would also like to make a special mention of our Minister for Primary Industries in the other place, who has her family home in Port MacDonnell.

I went with the minister (she was not a minister at the time) to Port MacDonnell some years ago for about a week and we travelled all through the region. We went to Millicent, we went to Penola, we went to Keith and we went all around the place visiting the small towns, visiting people who were working in industry and people who owned small businesses, really getting an understanding of what was going on for people in the South-East. I know that Minister Scriven particularly remains a very strong advocate for the South-East, having her children and her family home there, and I would like to acknowledge her role in being an advocate for that region as well.

I very much commend the member for Mount Gambier for being such a strong advocate for the region, and I very much support the motion today.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (12:26): I rise to support this motion by the member for Mount Gambier in promoting regional tourism. Certainly regional tourism during the depths of COVID really had a boost, as people found bits of South Australia that, potentially, they barely knew existed. As one who loves travelling around in the bush in South Australia and further afield, I was intrigued to see the number of people who were travelling up north through Hawker, through Leigh Creek where they were going further on and going to Maree or up the Strzelecki Track to Innamincka, William Creek, Oodnadatta and all around the great reaches of the outback.

As people found at the time they could not go overseas, there was a boom in caravan sales and offroad vehicles, and it was great to see people taking those opportunities to visit the outer reaches of this great state because there is so much to see and so much to do. I hope that means that, now they have had their eyes opened, more people will take that opportunity to visit all those places and others into the future.

Areas to visit on the Limestone Coast include places like the Naracoorte Caves, which is a great place I have visited several times over the years. Apart from being able to visit the caves, they have events there like weddings and so on, which is a great boost for the local economy as well. Closer to home, in the seat of Hammond things have really moved along for the regional offerings over time.

The Langhorne Creek wine district is a magnificent winegrowing area in this state, noting that the wine industry is suffering a bit of a downturn. It has had quite a large reliance on the China market, and that has had a real effect, especially with this last vintage, right across the state, not just Langhorne Creek but the Clare Valley, the Barossa, the South-East, Coonawarra, and the Riverland.

Right across the state has taken a bit of a belting, to be frank, but they will need to be resilient, and hopefully we get some good outcomes into the future, as we have with the barley market reopening into China. It just goes to show that not only do you have to be resilient but you have to be broad ranging with your marketing and targeting of markets to make sure that you can not just survive but grow into the future.

There are some magnificent wineries through Langhorne Creek, such as Lake Breeze, Bleasdale and Bremerton to name just a few. Woodburn Homestead is a magnificent venue for weddings and other events, and a friend of mine got married there during COVID. It was an interesting time, and I was actively involved in talking to the authorities on what could and could not happen. We managed to make it work, but they were difficult times.

Certainly, Strathalbyn is a very beautiful part of my electorate, just up from Langhorne Creek heading into the Hills, with the Angas River running through and the Hills right next door. There is also Goolwa, which I have had the pleasure of looking after for two terms but which is now in the member for Finnis's electorate. There is Milang as well, down by the lake. These are beautiful parts of the state.

There are the Milang shacks. Thankfully, we managed to pursue legislation to get them freeholded, alongside Alexandrina Council, so that owners can take ownership of those shacks. Previously, when the lifetime lease ran out, those shacks would be essentially bulldozed and could not stay there.

They are quite a novelty down at Milang, and they have been part of the culture of there since the 1950s, although there might have been a couple built earlier than that. They really make up part of that great area around there. There is also obviously Goolwa, down near the Murray Mouth and the end of the River Murray system in the country, and home of the *Oscar W*. It is a beautiful part of the world.

Getting back closer to the Mallee regions, we have Murray Bridge and Monarto. It was great to see the former Liberal federal and state governments invest money into the new Safari Park Visitor Centre. It is a magnificent centre, and I was very proud and privileged to open it last year with Tony Pasin, the federal member. I note that the former Premier and others were there. It is a magnificent centre with those free-roaming animals.

You could not have met anyone more excited than I was when Elaine Bensted made a personal phone call to me the day she made the announcement about the elephants coming to Monarto. We have not had elephants in this state since 1994, and I have been campaigning to Elaine for many years to get elephants in this state. She kept telling me the reasons why we could not have elephants: 'Because they kill more keepers than any other animal in the world,' she told me. I take that as fact.

They are very hard to contain. You obviously need to have the right fencing and other handling techniques, but they have become used to some of that heavy containment with the rhinos at Monarto. No-one was more excited than I was to hear that we are going to have three Asian elephants at Monarto. That will really set off the Safari Park, alongside the co-investment with Gerry Ryan, the boss of Jayco.

The beautiful thing about that is that Victorian money is coming into Monarto to build, I think, a 78-room hotel that cannot be far off completion, alongside about 22 glamping sites so that you can go glamping out there and look over at the lions. I think there is at least one fence between you and the lions, so do not fear. I can just see that really adding to the visitor economy as we move forward.

We also have other things we have invested in, such as the Bridges Event Centre, which is the Murray Bridge Racing Club and a fantastic venue. The Gold Cup is coming up this year on 7 October, a Saturday. It is essentially a metropolitan meeting and will be a great event happening on a Saturday and not on a Friday, so if you are keen to get up there and have a look, get up there.

The new Bridgeport Hotel has been built in the last few years, and I take my hat off to Ian Tregoning and Graham Hobbs from that group. I have been talking to their group for about nine years, and I said, 'Look, let's get this thing built so that we can enhance the visitor economy.' It has been a great build. We had to get through some heritage issues with the old pub, and that sort of thing, but we got there. It is a 100-room hotel and a magnificent centre for Murray Bridge.

Notwithstanding that, we have The Bend Motorsport Park and, in the little bit of time I have left, I want to say it was great to work with Sam Shahin and the Shahin family and others to make sure that we had the opportunity to have racing and now drags come to The Bend, and I think the first meet is on 21 October. I will certainly be there, just like I was back in 1979 when the drags were at The Bend, with Blue Thunder, the jet truck. The bend, too, has 100 rooms, plus a caravan park with cabins.

There is so much going on. I have only really touched the sides, but they are some of the major places that encourage people—many, many tens of thousands—to come into the region, and other people are learning the joys of regional tourism right across this state.

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (12:36): I rise today to speak to the motion moved by the member for Mount Gambier in support of the importance of recognising the regions of Mount Gambier and the wider Limestone Coast and the Coorong, and the huge potential that exists for enhancing tourism experiences from our unique natural assets that exist in these areas.

In his motion, the member for Mount Gambier has identified the need for the state government, through the South Australian Tourism Commission, to prioritise product development and tourism experiences in future funding opportunities. I am excited to talk to this motion, based on the number of ideas that come from the electorate as to how we can best utilise, and protect, our natural assets while increasing regional revenue and job opportunities.

The opportunity for tourism is well established by the work previously and currently being undertaken by federal, state and local governments. The federal government's THRIVE 2030, a national strategy for Australia's visitor economy, aligns well with South Australia's desire to enhance its own regional visitor strategies. This started with the development by the previous government's 2020 and 2025 regional visitor strategies, and the South Australian Visitor Economy Sector Plan 2030 that was released back in 2019.

The Hon. Zoe Bettison, Minister for Tourism, has also committed to delivering world-class experiences and memories for visitors to enjoy within our state. All these reports acknowledge the potential for growing visitor expenditure in our regions.

Talking to this motion, I will use one of our greatest natural assets and opportunities we have in my region, and that is the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Naracoorte Caves. Unique cultural experiences, wellness, tourism, soaking up nature, and wining and dining are the themes we should be highlighting. We can also add the opportunity for embracing education, an integral part of any major investment for the Naracoorte Caves. So what are some of the facts we know?

The Limestone Coast has 67 parks over more than 117,000 hectares that generate \$35 million to regional economies and support over 100 jobs in the private sector. The largest contributor in the region is the Naracoorte Caves National Park, which contributes \$17.7 million (47 per cent) of the region's total. A total of 90,812 people visited the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Naracoorte Caves from 1 January to 31 December 2022. This is a 35 per cent increase in visitors in the past 12 months.

I thought this was an amazing statistic, acknowledging there have been some welcome additions over recent years with upgrades to site amenities, including the installation of the new Fossil Hunters Playground. However, the feedback locally is that, despite these additions, not a lot has changed over the last 20 to 30 years, and opportunities exist to develop this site further whilst being mindful of the environmental impacts.

There is an opportunity to develop accommodation at the caves, from high end to more budget-friendly ecotourism options. There is an opportunity for a restaurant or food precinct that showcases our first-class local produce: everything from seafood to the amazing lamb and wagyu beef from Mayura Station. There is an opportunity for an enhanced visitor information centre, which incorporates a local providore. This could showcase our amazing wines from the Coonawarra, Wrattonbully, Padthaway, Cape Jaffa and Mount Benson, all in the one spot.

There is an opportunity to host events, big and small, and capitalise on funding such as the Regional Event Fund for events including opera, musicals in a natural amphitheatre, art installations and dining experiences, to name a few. Further linkages could be created through the development of nature walks and mountain bike trails. These could be short to multiday offerings that cover the whole Limestone Coast, Mount Gambier and Coorong regions.

There are already some local operators, including Walk the Limestone Coast, which offer walks that cover part of the Aussie Camino (from Port MacDonnell to Penola) and Naracoorte to Piccaninnie Ponds. With more resources, all these offerings could be expanded. These are just some of the multitude of ideas that I believe should be investigated.

I have not even touched on some of our other amazing natural assets, including the Ramsar-listed Bool Lagoon, Lake George, Coorong National Park and Tantoola Caves, which is one of

Australia's few wheelchair-accessible caves where visitor numbers have also risen 25 per cent to 34,158 over the last 12 months.

I highlight further the opportunity that exists for education in the natural environment. We could use the natural assets that exist in our region for education experiences for primary, secondary and tertiary students. A good example of this can be found in Queensland's Eromanga National History Museum, which unites education and tourism under the one facility. We could bring students to Naracoorte and capitalise on existing research that is happening at the caves. We could replicate the Flinders Maths and Science School, which is based in Adelaide, and bring elements of the space sector to the region. Imagine having the Naracoorte Caves as a backdrop. Again, ideas and opportunities abound.

I think it is fair to say that Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast have not had their fair share of tourism infrastructure project funding over the last decade compared with other regions within South Australia. Our proximity to Victoria, our World Heritage listed natural assets and our produce put us well placed for future funding.

I share the member for Mount Gambier's desire to see the profile of Mount Gambier and the wider Limestone Coast recognised as a major area of importance to the state's visitor economy. We need to continue to advocate and capitalise on the incentives, grants and support on offer through the state and federal governments. We want to ensure Mount Gambier and the Limestone Coast visitor numbers return to the pre-pandemic levels and be part of the national plan to grow to \$230 billion by 2030.

I do hope that this parliament and the state embrace regional tourism investment in the Limestone Coast. It is well deserved and long overdue. I thank the member for Mount Gambier for bringing this to the parliament's attention. I commend the member for Mount Gambier's motion.

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (12:42): I, too, rise in support of this motion and thank the member for Mount Gambier for bringing it to the house. My childhood was spent in the Limestone Coast and I want to say a few words about the wonderful experiences I had growing up in the beautiful region of Bool Lagoon and Naracoorte.

For me, the Naracoorte Caves are the absolute pinnacle of that area. My mum worked under Professor Rod Wells at the Naracoorte Caves after she left school and it is one of her fondest experiences in her late teens and early 20s, helping find fossils within the caves. I was there last school holidays with my two children, as I am most school holidays, heading home to Naracoorte. A visit to the caves is always top of the list. They are absolutely beautiful. I give a shout-out to my little boy, Ned. The Stick-Tomato Cave is his absolute favourite and we never miss it whenever we visit home.

I want to mention as well, as the member for MacKillop did, the Fossil Hunters Playground. This playground was developed thanks to the former Weatherill Labor government's Fund My Neighbourhood program, and I was proud to be a part of its development as an adviser under that government. What three local mums were able to achieve there is a really beautiful nature playground that I know my kids absolutely love and so many other local children love as well.

One thing that I think sometimes does get missed in Naracoorte is our amazing Naracoorte Swimming Lake. I spent many summers there as a child. It is where I learnt to swim, it is where I became a lifeguard—I always joke that I was the palest lifeguard probably in South Australia—and it is where I also taught VACSWIM.

It is an absolutely beautiful asset, and just a couple of months ago I was there at the Naracoorte Swimming Lake volunteering for the local Naracoorte parkrun, which is based at the lake. We have gorgeous trails around the lake and through our beautiful gum trees, and it was really lovely to spend some time with locals I grew up with, volunteering on that particular parkrun. It is absolutely glorious in the summer, so I encourage anyone visiting the South-East to make sure you include the Naracoorte Swimming Lake on your list.

Another shout-out is to beautiful Mount Gambier. I often visit there as well, having family there—a particular member from the other place who lives in Mount Gambier. We especially love visiting the Valley Lake playground. In autumn it is absolutely stunning. The kids love visiting there.

There is so much natural beauty down there. Also, of course, what is a visit down to Mount Gambier without a walk around the beautiful Blue Lake?

Summers were always spent in Robe, growing up in the South-East. Again, a trip to Robe is never complete without visiting the absolutely stunning Robe Obelisk and experiencing the beautiful seafood, the beautiful produce and the wineries there. We really are so spoiled for choice in the South-East.

I commend the motion and congratulate the member for Mount Gambier on raising this and also the member for MacKillop on his comments about my beautiful home town. We look forward to many people across our state visiting this absolutely spectacular part of the world.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (12:46): I, too, rise to support this motion. The reason I rise to support the motion is that I think not only is the Limestone Coast a great attraction in regional South Australia but the regions of South Australia are complemented by the Limestone Coast. Starting my life on the Limestone Coast, or very close to it, I quickly learnt that every part of the regions in South Australia in particular has assets, and those assets are the destinations we all long to visit and all long to be a part of, none more so than the assets in the electorate of Chaffey—in the Riverland and the Mallee.

Some of the coastlines South Australia has are second to none. Every part of regional South Australia has its strengths, whether it is a coastline; whether it is visiting the beautiful Barossa, looking at some of the wineries, vineyards and historic assets they have; or whether it is travelling to Clare, which is very similar. If we look to other regions that have great assets, Eyre Peninsula has some of the most picturesque coastline in the world, and it also has some of the best fishing that I know. I must say that it is an absolute joy to get out into the regions and to visit probably some of my favourite playgrounds.

Tourism in the regions is a major South Australian contributor to its economy. For every tourism dollar spent in South Australia, 48¢ is spent in the regions. The regional visitor expenditure is up 25 per cent from pre-COVID levels. What it is showing is that not only this government but the former Liberal government have always prioritised regional tourism.

In the Riverland, tourism is a key economic driver—about \$254 million into the Riverland's economy, with 300 tourism businesses in the Riverland, 1,400 people employed directly and another 500 indirectly. The 412 overnight visits is the important stat: that is when people spend money on accommodation, on meals, on food, and you get the value add.

Whether they are out driving around some of the beautiful horticulture settings, whether they are out enjoying the River Murray—some call it the Murray River—I must say that some of the year-round events up there are quite unique. The Dinghy Derby is unique to the Riverland and is also unique anywhere in the world, with the creek network up there.

Everywhere we go in regional South Australia we have food and wine festivals, live music and history events. The Riverland Rose and Garden Festival has been ongoing for many years now and brings in a lot of people. Murray River water sports and houseboat holidays are unique experiences like no other. Some other famed events are the sheepdog trials and the Running of the Sheep in Baramba and the True Grit festival in Cadell.

Some of those businesses that have reaped the rewards of government funding streams have gone on to bigger and better things. I know that Riverland Classic Limousines, Murray River Trails, Bellbird Tours, Orlando houseboats, just to name a few, have been recipients of taxpayer funding and have gone on to bigger and better things.

To grow South Australia's regional visitor expenditure by \$4 billion to 2025 will take a commitment from the government. It will take a commitment from the tourism operators that are prepared to put their money where their mouth is. They take the leap of faith to build a business and to showcase the region they call home. Again, I call on the government to continue that legacy. Support to TiCSA for future funding opportunities is also important, just as it is for the South Australian Tourism Commission.

I must say that the South Australian Visitor Information Centre network in the Riverland is a great conduit. They are great institutions that give direction for people who come up to the Riverland, just as they do for any of the regional settings.

Everyone in this place at some point in time will visit a region. You will go up, you will take your family and you will have a great time. Whether you are visiting a coastal setting, a beautiful vineyard, historical sites or a waterway, do it. It is just a great experience, it is a great holiday and it is a great living, lasting memory for your children. To every visitor coming to South Australia, put the Riverland first on your list. Once you have visited the Riverland, you can go and visit some of the other offerings in regional Australia.

It is a good motion, well worth supporting. It is a motion that I think every member in this place should be a part of because tourism is such an important part of our economy. It is about supporting not only inbound but outbound tourism as well. Thank you to the member for Mount Gambier.

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (12:52): I rise to speak in support of this bill that the member for Mount Gambier has brought forward. I especially want to highlight paragraph (a) about the importance of South Australia's regional areas to the state's visitor economy. Eyre Peninsula, as has been briefly mentioned, is one of the most active tourism hotspots in South Australia. It is one that is obviously a bit further away from Adelaide, so it does not always get the same attention. It is one that has not had the same marketing budget spent on it that our friends across the water on Kangaroo Island have, but nevertheless it is one that is exceeding expectations and exceeding targets.

Eyre Peninsula enjoyed an overall tourism spend of \$503 million to year end last year (December 2022). Its target to reach in 2025 was \$397 million—it has exceeded that already. The target for 2030 was \$500 million—already it has exceeded that target. This is where Eyre Peninsula is really highlighting the offering that they have at the moment.

I especially want to highlight some of the nature-based and adventure tourism businesses within the sector because, although we talk in this place about making laws which reflect the needs of our communities, they are businesses for which I worry we are putting in place extra impediments and extra red tape. I want to highlight nature-based and adventure tourism sectors in particular on Eyre Peninsula and go through a few very briefly.

EP Cruises are based out of Fowlers Bay at this time of year, and during the summer months they provide an island experience—a unique, amazing and incredible insight into West Coast nature. I would recommend everyone in this place getting up to Fowlers Bay and experiencing the whale tours. I also want to highlight the bureaucratic red tape that is actually holding this industry back.

We are getting extra opportunities for nature-based tourism, but departments are putting extra hurdles in place for those businesses. I want to highlight EP Cruises, who want to put together this island experience, but the burden that is being put on them is actually going to create that much of an impediment it is probably not going to be worth them developing that product. This is from a Department for Environment that is a long way away in Adelaide.

Decisions are made in a department building, decisions that affect businesses, especially those such as Rod from EP Cruises, who know the environment in that area better than anyone else. They know their local environment. They are being told, 'No, we're going to restrict your movements, restrict what you can do.' If we are going to have decision-makers supporting nature-based tourism and adventure tourism, we need to make sure we are not putting extra impediments in place.

That bureaucratic red tape and green tape is holding back the opportunities in our regions. I am hearing the same from the Baird Bay Ocean Eco Experience, an incredibly unique sea lion experience where you can be up close and personal with nature of the most unique, untouched aspect. With our shark cage diving, which is world renowned, Calypso Star Charters and Rodney Fox Shark Expeditions are having layers and layers of bureaucratic red tape added. These businesses should be activated, promoted and enabled, not held back by government.

I also want to give a shout-out to a couple of hardworking characters within our regional tourism offering on Eyre Peninsula: Craig 'Hassie' Haslam from Untamed Escapes and David 'Lunch' Doudle from Australian Coastal Safaris, two businesses which are highlighting the unique nature of

Eyre Peninsula. We are now putting forward our slogan on Eyre Peninsula as The Wild Side. We are the wild side of South Australia. We have a unique environment. We have unique nature-based experiences. Government and decision-makers should be making sure they are not holding back those opportunities.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call on the next speaker, I would like to acknowledge in the gallery the former Deputy Speaker and member for Flinders, Mr Peter Treloar. Nice to see you, Peter.

Motions

REGIONAL TOURISM

Debate resumed.

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (12:57): I thank the member for Flinders for cutting his speech short, because I know he has so many things to be able to talk about on beautiful Eyre Peninsula, which he refers to as The Wild Side.

I am so delighted to have the opportunity to speak in support of the motion put forward by the member for Mount Gambier and also to reflect not only on the fantastic things that the Limestone Coast brings to our visitor economy here in South Australia. As the member for Schubert, I represent what are hands-down two of the very best regions in South Australia—I am so fortunate to represent the beautiful Barossa Valley and also the northern part of the Adelaide Hills.

Our reputation has been cemented as a beacon and an icon on the international stage. That has not just happened overnight; in fact, it has happened over generations and generations. The reason we are so successful in the Barossa is that we are so community focused. We have a very strong sense of authenticity. We have traditions that we really value, but we are also not afraid of a strong nod to innovation because, of course, that is what a region like the Barossa is founded on.

Every weekend when I am in the main streets right across the Barossa Valley or the northern Adelaide Hills, they are absolutely bustling. In the Barossa Valley, whilst there was an obvious decline throughout the COVID period, to see that pick up yet again and almost reach a next level is, I think, truly fantastic. It is a vote of confidence in all the work of our hardworking business owners, our wineries and all the workers right across our region. They are doing a remarkable job. I look forward to the Barossa Valley and the northern Adelaide Hills contributing even more to the state's economy and reaching new heights in the years to come.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:59): I want to commend all speakers who have contributed to the motion. Thank you.

Motion carried.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Committees

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr BROWN (Florey) (14:00): I bring up the 37th report of the committee, entitled South Australia Police Barracks Relocation Project—Gepps Cross.

Report received and ordered to be published.

Mr BROWN: I bring up the 38th report of the committee, entitled South Australia Police Barracks—199 Grenfell Street Adelaide.

Report received and ordered to be published.

Mr BROWN: I bring up the 39th report of the committee, entitled South Australia Police Barracks—Specialist Investigations Unit Relocation Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

Mr BROWN: I bring up the 40th report of the committee, entitled 2022-23 Annual Report.

Report received and ordered to be published.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (14:01): I bring up the 29th report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

Question Time

FEDERAL VOICE TO PARLIAMENT REFERENDUM

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:01): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier aware of Marcia Langton's comments made on 10 September and does he agree with them? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS: In recent days, prominent Voice advocate Professor Langton has said that every time the no case raises one of their arguments, if you start pulling it apart, you get down to base racism or just sheer stupidity.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:02): I am more than happy to address the Leader of the Opposition's question. I will tell you what I do know. I haven't followed every single comment that has been made in respect of the referendum. I am following it as best as I can. I can't say I have read every transcript of every interview, but I am more than happy to make clear to the house that I am very aware that Marcia Langton has been an extraordinary advocate for the interests of Aboriginal people for many, many decades. She is an extraordinary woman and her contribution towards Indigenous affairs and the lives of Indigenous people I am more than happy to commend, and I would certainly hope that almost everyone in this chamber would be willing to commend.

In respect of the Voice more broadly, I think it is well known, and I hope it becomes increasingly known, that I am a very strong supporter for a yes vote indeed. I believe that an Indigenous Voice to our federal parliament has the power to be a very practical and instructive tool to result in better outcomes for the lives of Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal people throughout the nation.

We definitively know that what we have tried to do up until this point hasn't worked and I for one don't believe the status quo is okay; that is to say, I support doing something different. History tells us that, where Aboriginal people have been able to make a contribution to policy development on matters that affect them, those policies tend to be more effectual. The Voice facilitates just that. It is an advisory committee. It does not bind the parliament, it is not a third chamber of the parliament, it is an advisory committee, and I would have thought that an advisory committee in this area of policy is a good thing.

I appreciate that throughout the course of this debate some people have changed their positions on this issue.

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

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! There is a point of order from the member for Morialta, which I will hear.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Standing order 98: halfway through the question the Premier has answered that he is not aware of the comments. The rest of his reflections—

The Hon. P.B. Malinauskas interjecting:

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Well, in that case, sir, I would encourage you to draw the Premier back to the question, which is whether he agrees with the comments.

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

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: What I was saying was that I am aware of the fact—and, in fact, many people in this house are aware of the fact—that some people have changed their position on the benefits of a Voice to parliament. I am not aware of anyone on this side of the house having changed their position, but there are others who were powerful advocates previously—

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

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Order, member for Chaffey and the member for Florey! There is a point of order from the member for Morialta, which I will hear under 134.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Thank you, sir. Standing order 98 requires ministers to respond to the substance of the question. Taking the topic and going into broader debates, including particularly commentary on members of the opposition, is debate and it's ruled out by the standing orders.

The SPEAKER: Every speaker is of course permitted a degree of compare and contrast between positions that might be different with respect to major parties—as well context has been introduced. All that for the moment aside, we are two minutes in and I bring the Premier to the question.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you, Mr Speaker. People throughout the country, sir, are entitled to form their own opinion in the lead-up to the referendum; indeed, every Australian will when they cast their vote. Some people may even change their opinion. They might do that for a range of reasons, but I hope that if they do that they are doing it not because they are prone to responding to the political winds of change, like we see others in this place have done, but rather that they do that from an informed perspective.

It is true that there is a degree of misinformation out in the community with respect to the referendum. I think that is desperately unfortunate. I think when Ms Langton refers to, as the Leader of the Opposition illuminated in his question—I agree there is a degree of misinformation out there in the community. I think that is unfortunate. I for one don't believe that every person who votes no on the referendum is a racist: quite the opposite. I think there might be some very good people who, for whatever reason, choose to vote no.

However, I do sympathise with any frustrations that those might have in the community towards the information that exists around the question that is before us, which in my view is very simple and hopefully is met with an answer of yes.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the leader, I acknowledge the presence in the gallery today of year 11 students from St Michael's College, guests of the member for Colton, legal studies students. Welcome to parliament.

Question Time

DEFENCE SHIPBUILDING

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:08): My question is again to the Premier. Has the Premier received assurances from the Prime Minister that the Hunter frigate program will not be cut?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:08): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for this important question. I have made it very clear to the federal government, particularly the Deputy Prime Minister, who is of course the Minister for Defence, that the

South Australian government expects, hopes and advocates for the retention of the Hunter frigate program.

We do not think now is the time for any chopping and changing with respect to the big policy position with regard to the surface ship program that the Navy has. The Hunter frigate program is already well advanced. I have had the benefit of being able to see that firsthand on multiple occasions now, as has the Deputy Premier. We have made a written submission to the surface ship review that has been undertaken on the back of the DSR. We understand that that review is arriving at a conclusion at some point in the not too distant future.

As recently I think as the beginning of last week—or maybe the end of the week prior, but certainly in the last couple of weeks—I have spoken to the Deputy Prime Minister and made clear again our position on this on the back of our submission. The key message that I seek to impose upon the commonwealth is that any chopping and changing to the Hunter program now would act contrary to our interests in building up the workforce that is going to be required for the surface ship program as well as the submarine program.

Any chopping and changing would send a very bad signal to young people throughout the state. Rather, what we want to see is consistency and continuity to the program so that young people can actively choose to participate in the workforce of building these vessels, knowing that this is work that's going to be here for generations. If there is a chop and change to the Hunter program, it would directly undermine that. That is one of the central positions that we put in our submission to the commonwealth.

The Hunter program is on a growth trajectory. BAE have advised me that they are in the market of employing anything up to an additional 2,000 people over and above what they employ now between now and the end of 2026 and early 2027. That is a massive undertaking. Finding 2,000 people in a very tight labour market with record job numbers, which we have here in the state, and record low youth unemployment in this state, will not be easy. It is critical that any decisions that the commonwealth makes are cognisant of that.

The other thing, of course, is that to delay the Hunter program would deny the Navy a capability that they will need in the not too distant future. The question would be what would even replace the Hunter program. The Defence Strategic Review itself makes plainly clear in written form that there must be a continuous shipbuilding program based in South Australia including with surface ships.

A change to the Hunter program would be contrary to what the DSR says itself without actually being able to articulate what would replace it. We are of the firm view that Hunter should stay and, yes, my quick answer to the Leader of the Opposition is that we have made that known to the highest levels of the federal government.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:12): My question is to the Minister for Defence and Space Industries. Has the Deputy Premier spoken with the federal defence minister in relation to the presence of the Australian Defence Force in South Australia and, if not, why not? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PATTERSON: It was reported last week that the federal government intends to transfer thousands of soldiers currently based in Adelaide to Darwin and Townsville, with no plan in place to replace their jobs or to make their homes available for South Australians to ease our housing shortage.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:12): I am more than happy to answer the question. The Deputy Premier and I have naturally spoken about this issue and agree that, given some of the other issues that I have been raising with the Deputy Prime Minister consistent with the Leader of the Opposition's earlier question, I should raise this issue with him, given the media speculation that has been out there. We are aware of the speculation.

At this stage, I am advised that it is speculation. No final decision has been made in respect of the movements of various Army personnel around the country. Of course, the DSR made a number of recommendations, including around the Army; it obviously wasn't exclusively pertaining to the Navy. We know that Edinburgh has seen a massive build-up in terms of the presence of 7RAR. The commonwealth has expended a huge sum of money at Edinburgh to accommodate that and surrounds.

The 7RAR was moved from Darwin to Adelaide in 2013, I think from memory. That brought with it a whole range of benefits, including approximately 1,000 Army personnel and all the ancillary economic effort that comes with it, so we would be alarmed at the proposition of that being moved. We haven't received any formal advice on that. I have been told that a final decision hasn't been made. We would expect to be notified if and when that does occur, but it is a situation that we are actively monitoring because it does matter.

The other element of the shadow minister's question that I think is interesting and worthy of contemplation from the state government's perspective is the issue of the housing. We don't want to see 7RAR move. Let's be clear about that. We have made that known to the commonwealth. But in the event that it were to occur—we are not planning on it occurring, but in the event that it were to occur—I think there is a very serious question that has to be raised about what happens to that housing.

There is a housing shortage across the state at the moment, as there is around the country, and any opportunity that presents itself to address it, we are up for it. I have made that very clear in everything that we have done, particularly in last year's state budget and other things we continue to do. This is a serious priority of the government, trying to address the housing shortage.

We have some big challenges coming our way in terms of workforce. The Leader of the Opposition asked about the frigates. I mentioned the 2,000 workers. There is the Future Submarine program as well. We are going to need a lot of people in South Australia over and above what we have currently to build the homes that we need to have built.

Then there is the north-south project, then there is the Women's and Children's Hospital project, then there is our hydrogen project. We need more workers, more workers in this state, not less—let alone the potential of Northern Water and Olympic Dam.

We need more workers, not less. We need more housing for those workers, and we have a shortage at the moment, so there is a big challenge on our hands in this regard. We are in the market for any solution we can get our hands on in respect of housing, which is why the Treasurer has been working so closely with the Minister for Planning along with the minister responsible for the Housing Trust. We are open-minded to that, and that is something that we will be turning our minds to. That said, our preference, of course, would be not to see that challenge present itself through the retention of 7RAR themselves.

SPACE SECTOR

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:16): My question is again to the Minister for Defence and Space Industries. Has the government modelled the implications of the federal Labor government's savage cuts to the space sector for South Australia's space industry?

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

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order from the Leader of Government Business, which I will hear under 134.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 97, sir: a question should not involve debate or argument.

The SPEAKER: Yes, standing order 97. I am going to give—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! I am going to give the member for Morphett the opportunity to recast the question without argument.

Mr PATTERSON: Has the government modelled the implications of the federal Labor government's cancellation of programs in the space sector for the South Australian space industry? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PATTERSON: It was reported yesterday that the space industry has concerns about the cuts to investment in Australia's space sector, including the cancellation of the \$1.2 billion National Space Mission for Earth Observation.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Premier, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water) (14:17): Yes, I share the space industry's concerns, and I deplore the cuts that the federal government has made in the space sector. In terms of direct impact on current programs, there is in fact very little directly in South Australia, which is fortunate but is not the full story.

While we anticipate that there will be some jobs that will be reduced at the Space Agency, which of course is based in South Australia, we also understand that they are likely to be shifted into other priority areas. We are yet to be informed fully whether there will be an overall reduction in the number of people or not.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: Of course, there was the cancellation of programs that were yet to be commissioned, such as the satellites that were to be built. That said, it is a bad message for the space industry to have the federal government reduce its expenditure, something that I believe in the medium to long term will be affected by the fact that space is an inevitable and important part of the way in which we are going to be managing the information required to be a modern, functioning economy.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: It's interesting how people listen to the man but, as soon as the woman stands up, there's a little bit of this.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: I can't even hear myself think. I am answering the question. I am not not answering the question, and yet I get this.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for Hammond! Member for Chaffey! Member for Badcoe! Member for Elder! The Premier is called to order. Member for Chaffey, you are warned. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: At the same time, I am pleased that the South Australian government has been able to not only reconfirm—

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

The SPEAKER: Member for Mawson!

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: —its commitment to expenditure in space but, in fact, to increase it. We are making sure that our efforts in supporting the space industry are recognised and will make a material difference. I think it is important that, while we acknowledge and recognise and, as I say, deplore cuts that have occurred at the federal level, and understand the implications for the way in which the international space industry might look at an investment, at the same time we mustn't overreact in a way that might in itself cause harm to the space industry in South Australia. It's really important that there has been a bipartisan support for the space industry that has existed for some time from, at the very least, when the international space congress—

Mrs Hurn interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Schubert!

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: —we have increased money. The international space congress was held here in South Australia and then, under the Marshall government, there was the winning of the Space Agency coming to South Australia, and a great deal of support for the space industry during those four years. I have been at pains in this new government to acknowledge the bipartisan nature of this, not least because it's so important that the space industry sees that this is something that South Australia is here for the long term to be involved with.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey, order!

PREMIER'S DELIVERY UNIT

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:20): My question is to the Premier. What is the nature of the advice that Mr Peter Hanlon provides to the Premier's Delivery Unit? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr COWDREY: On 891 ABC Adelaide on 11 September, the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure described Mr Peter Hanlon as, and I quote, 'an adviser to the Premier and an entrepreneur and a filmmaker'.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:21): I thank the shadow Treasurer for his question. Yes, Mr Hanlon has been appointed by the Premier's Delivery Unit within the public sector to provide strategic advice to the Premier's Delivery Unit. I have been advised by the Chief Executive Officer of the Premier's Delivery Unit (PDU) about the value of Mr Hanlon's advice, and it has been substantial. He does a range of different—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier has the call.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —things within the PDU. For instance, he has the capacity to be able to engage in a more thorough analysis or a deeper dive of a particular department if there is an incapacity or a capacity question around its ability to be able to honour and deliver election commitments. We had hundreds of election commitments that we made to the people of South Australia in the lead-up to the election. Some of them vary in complexity, some are pretty stock standard and they are easy to deliver, and we have largely done that through the budget process. But more difficult and more complex ones—

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

The SPEAKER: Member for Morialta, order!

The Hon. J.K. Szakacs interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Cheltenham! The Premier has the call.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —where there is more complex work required, we see there is greater value in the PDU being able to make sure we are delivering our election commitments. Now, why does this matter?

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

The SPEAKER: Member for Morialta!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Because many of us in this place have witnessed firsthand what government looks like when they don't deliver on election commitments. Many of us can recall—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —in the not too distant past, governments not just failing to deliver on election commitments, but actively—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —breaking election commitments—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morialta is warned.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Florey! Member for Playford! The member for Morialta is warned.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —and we saw the consequence of that. So as a government—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Schubert! Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —we are putting in place a range of measures—

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

The SPEAKER: Member for Morialta!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —that the day-to-day operations of the government don't sidetrack us from the fundamental commitments that we made to the people of South Australia.

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

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

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: And one by one each of those election commitments are being ticked off on. Already—

Mrs Hurn interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Schubert!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —some 17 or 18 months in the life of this government, we have already honoured hundreds of commitments that we have made to the people of South Australia, and that work will continue.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta is on a final warning and the member for Schubert is on two.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: We are very grateful for what the PDU is providing to the government in order to deliver on those commitments, and we expect it to continue in the years ahead.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Colton, I acknowledge the presence in the gallery of Andrew and Jenny Tidswell, guests of the member Waite. Also joining the member for Waite today are guests Penny Zeuner and Daryl Zeuner. I understand that Penny is working in the member's office performing work experience. Welcome to parliament.

*Question Time***PREMIER'S DELIVERY UNIT**

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:24): My question is again to the Premier. Has Mr Peter Hanlon provided documentary film production or media services to the Premier or the government and, if so, why?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:24): I am aware that, under the stewardship of former Premier Marshall, who was also the Minister for Arts, Mr Hanlon was appointed to a government board; he was appointed to chair the SA Film Corporation.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morialta is on a final warning. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: I can't speak to that. To answer in terms of this government—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey knows better. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —I am not aware of any such services provided to this state government.

*Parliamentary Procedure***VISITORS**

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Colton, I recognise the presence in the gallery of Mr Peter Treloar, former member for Flinders. Welcome to parliament.

*Question Time***PREMIER'S DELIVERY UNIT**

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:26): And a fine member, indeed. My question is again to the Premier. Has Mr Peter Hanlon provided any services to the Labor Party, and, if so, what services has he provided? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr COWDREY: In his maiden speech to the parliament, the Hon. Mr Reggie Martin in the other place said: 'Some of the advice [Peter Hanlon] has given me has shocked me...and I would not have been able to do what I did at party office for so long without his sage advice.'

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:26): I don't think it is particularly surprising that people on this side of the house value advice from thoughtful individuals who have been in significant positions of leadership in Australia, as Mr Hanlon has. I applaud the Hon. Reggie Martin for taking advice from Mr Hanlon, a fine individual of high integrity and incredibly wise—which is presumably why the former Premier appointed Mr Hanlon to chair the Film Corporation.

I would reiterate and suggest that anybody in this place who hasn't had the opportunity yet to chat to Mr Hanlon should grab it, because it would be a worthwhile one.

CHINA TRADE MISSION

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:27): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please update the house about his trade mission to China?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for Waite, member for Elder, member for Newland! The Premier has the call. Order, member for Chaffey!

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:28): I thank the member for MacKillop for his question. I have spent time with the member for MacKillop and also with the member

Mount Gambier, in their local communities, and have seen firsthand how dramatic an impact the punitive tariffs from the People's Republic of China have been on constituents.

I know that the member for MacKillop cares about his constituents and the impact these tariffs have had, and I know that the member for MacKillop is a strong advocate for seeing change in this area so that the standard of living of those people can be somewhat more similar to what was occurring prior to the tariffs.

This government chooses to engage. We choose to engage with China at the highest levels to make sure that the decisions they make, particularly in respect of a tariff regime that affects South Australians, are done in a more thoughtful way and a way that is not a consequence of sabre rattling or irresponsible domestic political leadership.

The country has seen the consequence of ill thought-through sophisticated diplomatic relations with China. We think that's worthy of being addressed. Absolutely—absolutely on every occasion—state and federal governments should stand up for basic principles that we care about deeply. This state government will certainly be doing that.

We travel to China on this trip because we want to see the stabilisation of the relationship that has occurred at a federal level have practical implications for the people of South Australia. China is our biggest trading partner; \$46 billion worth of two-way trade has occurred with China, between South Australia and the PRC, over the course of the last decade. It is an incomprehensibly large number, but it isn't at the level that we would otherwise like to see in South Australia because of those tariffs.

The relaxation of the barley tariffs has been a positive step in the right direction, but the big ones that really matter in South Australia are in respect of viticulture and aquaculture. We want Chinese consumers to again be able to enjoy some of the best wine produced anywhere in the world. We want Chinese consumers to be able to celebrate over their beloved Red Dragon or our rock lobster produced in one of the best biosecurity regimes anywhere in the world. We are capable of delivering those services if we can get better outcomes with China.

This trip alone, and I have stated this publicly previously, is not going to immediately change the tariff regime, although we would like it to, but we do know that active engagement can result in movement in the right direction. What I say to the member for MacKillop is that it's not just about those industries that I know matter to him and his region, and he covers a large number, but also in respect of international students, who we know are fundamentally important to our universities and the state's economy more broadly. On these matters and others we seek to engage, and we very much look forward to the opportunity to do so.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

CHINA TRADE MISSION

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:31): Supplementary: is the Premier being accompanied by any film or photography crew, media or journalists on his upcoming overseas trip?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for Chaffey, order! I am not certain that the subject matter the member for Colton now wishes to introduce by way of supplementary question arises naturally from the original question. However, if the Premier wishes to answer—he was on his feet.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:32): I am more than happy to answer. Not that I am aware of, although what I would say is that everyone thinks they are an expert with an iPhone these days. Rest assured, I say to the member for Colton, we will be providing images, we will put them up on Twitter and he can stay informed accordingly.

PREMIER'S DELIVERY UNIT

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:32): My question is to the Premier. Has Mr Peter Hanlon been a member of the Labor Party or donated money to the Labor Party?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:32): That is not a responsibility of the executive government.

The SPEAKER: Indeed. It has been the ruling of previous Speakers that party political matters, including party political expenditure, are not the responsibility of elected members of parliament.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! It's a longstanding ruling.

NANTAWARRINA INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (14:33): My question is to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water. Can the minister update the house on the recent Nantawarrina Indigenous Protected Area's 25-year celebration?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Premier, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water) (14:33): I am very pleased to do so. It was a wonderful day spent, a couple of weeks ago, up in the Flinders Ranges to celebrate the very first Indigenous Protected Area in Australia, right here in South Australia, that being Nantawarrina. It is run by the local Aboriginal community at Nepabunna, which is in turn run by a man called Ian Johnson, who is the mayor. His wife, Dulcie, cooked a mean damper the night before.

What happened 25 years ago, as this idea of having Indigenous protected areas came into being in Australia, was that that community decided to have the courage to jump in and try something that had never been done before, which was to say that conservation could occur on private lands—not government-owned protected areas but on private lands—and be managed by an Aboriginal community, with some funding and support from the commonwealth government to provide training and also salaries for Indigenous rangers. That community decided that they were prepared to be part of that pilot program and therefore scored having the very first of the IPAs.

The 25th birthday was held first of all at Nepabunna and then in Nantawarrina itself and was attended by many people, many of whom had gone up the day before in order to do some planting around the Nepabunna community, including Rory McEwen. I wasn't expecting to see our old colleague Rory there, but it was lovely to see him. Geoff Brock, the Minister for Local Government and the member for the area, also attended, which was very well welcomed by all.

What that community have been able to do in terms of protecting and conserving that bit of land has been quite remarkable. They have not only been engaged in native vegetation protection and revegetation but they have also been protecting the habitat for the yellow-footed rock wallaby, which in Adnyamathanha language is called the 'andu'. It is called the 'warru' up in the APY, but the 'andu' in Adnyamathanha. One of the chief ways in which they have done that is a pretty vigorous feral animal eradication, including having a go at goats and foxes that infest that area, and they have been doing so very successfully.

You can, if you want, go on a guided tour run by the Nepabunna community to look at Nantawarrina and not only see the very beautiful environment up there but also be able to have a listen to what the Aboriginal rangers—the Indigenous rangers, as they are called by the commonwealth—are able to tell you about the relationship between the Adnyamathanha culture in the Nepabunna community and that piece of land.

I must say, it was a wonderful occasion to be drawn together with so many Aboriginal people, and also quite a lot of people coming up from the city, to celebrate the way in which Aboriginal culture regards country in a way that we would do well to learn from and to listen to. The fact that this has been an Aboriginal-driven program, that the Aboriginal community embraced and threw themselves into making this work, is an example of ways in which, if we just listen to Aboriginal culture and listen to Aboriginal communities, we can all benefit and, of course, the natural environment can benefit. I pay tribute to all those who were involved.

DERNANCOURT KINDERGARTEN

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:37): My question is to the Minister for Education. Can the minister provide an update regarding Dernancourt Kindergarten's request for a restoration of their student cap? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: The kindergarten's capacity is for 60 and it is in high demand, but the government is restricting them to 44 enrolments from next year, with the kindy zone being applied strictly to control numbers. This will see a loss of staff and a loss of choice for families in Highbury, Dernancourt, Hope Valley and beyond.

The Hon. B.I. BOYER (Wright—Minister for Education, Training and Skills) (14:37): I thank the member for Morialta for his question. I greatly enjoyed a visit to Dernancourt Kindergarten recently with the member for Morialta, where we had the opportunity to meet with the Preschool Director, Natalie Stormonth, who is indeed a very impressive Preschool Director at, as the member for Morialta said, a centre which is in very high demand in that area.

The facts inserted into the question by the member for Morialta about the cap on the centre are correct, about it being 44, and I have absolutely no doubt from the information that Natalie gave me, the member for Morialta gave me and the department has since given me, that there is demand that exceeds the cap in that area. As the Minister for Education, in a government that is seeking, of course, to expand preschool in South Australia considerably, I very much want to give families the opportunity to go to the centres in their local area that they desire to attend.

This Saturday is in fact the 50th anniversary of the centre, if I am correct, and I intend to go along, and I am sure I will see the member for Morialta there, to celebrate the 50 fantastic years of quality early childhood education that have been offered by Natalie and all the preschool directors who have gone before her.

I have followed up on the request from the member, made on the day we visited the centre, around what can be done to accommodate other enrolments at the site. Of course, members in this place will know that, with any boundaries or catchment zones, if you were to move one a little bit in one direction it can sometimes create other unintended consequences for centres in other catchment zones. I am told that I should receive what I am told will be a positive outcome in terms of this centre very soon, and I thank the member for Morialta for his advocacy on this issue.

The SPEAKER: The member for Flinders and then we will turn to the government side at only, I imagine at that point, 20 minutes remaining.

THEBARTON POLICE BARRACKS

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (14:39): My question is the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. What is the total cost to relocate the SAPOL units from Thebarton Police Barracks to Gepps Cross? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TELFER: South Australia Police gave evidence to the Public Works Committee on Monday that there would be an initial cost of \$90 million to establish the barracks at Gepps Cross, but this does not include the cost of the new CBD staging area nor the additional vehicles, floats and staff.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:40): The member's question both questions me and also provides the answer in the same question; \$90 million is the project cost that we have identified. That has gone to the Public Works Committee, as is normal process, and was informed to the member at the Public Works Committee. The work to ascertain the cost, the works to ascertain the schedule have yet to be completed for the city staging area, and I assure the member that he and the rest of his opposition bench will be aware of that as soon as that work is complete.

The SPEAKER: The member for Flinders and then as promised, at 40 minutes in, we will turn to the first government question.

An honourable member: Second.

The SPEAKER: No, I am not certain that's correct. I think it was from the crossbench.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Waite? Very well.

THEBARTON POLICE BARRACKS

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (14:40): My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Will the Courts Administration Authority release land near the Supreme Court building for a staging area and, if so, when? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TELFER: FIVEaa reported yesterday:

We understand the following, and it comes from a good source inside the courts. The Supreme Court Administration is refusing to release land at the rear of the Supreme Court building meaning that the promised staging area will no longer be possible.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:41): I appreciate that the work ethic of the opposition is famous in South Australia, but clearly the member was asleep some 15 minutes after that rumour was put to air and didn't hear me on FIVEaa confirming unequivocally that the staging area would be proceeding at the courts.

If my word wasn't enough, he could have changed the dial to the ABC who quoted directly from the Chief Justice himself who confirmed to David Bevan, the presenter of 891, some 20 minutes after the member for Flinders got his corker for today that the city staging area would be proceeding: it would be supported by the courts. The member for Flinders would do well to do a bit of work in the mornings rather than shifting the dial to FIVEaa or 891.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for West Torrens, order! Member for Badcoe—in fact, the second.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (14:42): My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Can the minister update the house on the hydrogen and renewable energy industry in South Australia?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:42): As a matter of fact, for the benefit of the house, I can, and I would like to thank the member very much for her question.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: Are you going to read this one today?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: That was a devastating attack. I am not sure I am going to recover.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: After 25 years, clean bowled!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Why would I read and write and get prepared? Why would you do that? Don't go changing. Don't change a thing.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Don't read anything. Don't prepare anything. Just go by your gut. It has worked for you so well.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for Colton!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Over the past 15 years, we have gone from almost no renewable energy in the state to close to now over 70 per cent renewable energy. The gap—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: There it is. You heard that? You heard the intellectual giants opposite talking about the gap.

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens will not respond to interjections.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: And he is right. It is the gap that is causing the cost, not the renewables, because the gap is what we are paying for. The gap is what pushes up prices, not renewables. The gap is what is the difference. On days like today, you are close to 94 or 95 per cent renewable energy. In fact, last Sunday, on 10 September, rooftop solar alone in this state provided 94 per cent of our electricity during the day. It was a remarkable result.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: You can hear the sceptics across, but the truth is the gap. Like they say on the London Underground, 'Mind the gap.' The gap is the question. The gap between renewables of 70 per cent penetration and 100 per cent is where the cost is. We still need traditional generators. We still need to maintain those gas fields. We still need to maintain those transmission lines. There is the cost, and that cost grows exponentially because, unfortunately, while they are sitting idle, they are not recouping costs. They recoup costs when they fill that gap, so the less time they dispatch, the more they tend to recover to meet that gap.

That is why many Australians, and many South Australians, are saying, 'Given that we have so much potential renewable energy, why do power prices increase?' Well, it is obvious: it is the gap. What members opposite say about renewables being expensive is not true. What is expensive is the firming capacity that keeps the lights on.

Remember, this works both ways. The other way of looking at it is this: the 30 per cent that sits there idle most of the time is being subsidised by free energy operating 70 per cent of the time so that 30 per cent can recover its costs, but we need to fill that gap. Members opposite had a policy when we were only producing renewable energy to turn solar panels off. That was their grand plan. Our plan—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Morphett, order! The minister has the call.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Our plan is to create a solar space—a battery. Storage is the key. When we built the big battery, they ridiculed us. It is now the template not just across Australia but across the globe.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Now we are building a hydrogen electrolyser to store that surplus energy and provide that energy to fill that gap cheaply. What did they say? They called it experimental. Their solution is expensive nuclear power, where the blowout costs alone on the most

recent nuclear investment in the United States were close to \$7 billion. Who would be paying for that? Consumers.

THEBARTON POLICE BARRACKS

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (14:46): My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Has the minister received any feedback from officers of the mounted police or dog operations units in relation to the proposed Gepps Cross barracks and, if so, what feedback has he received?

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:47): As minister, I have certainly taken it as my obligation and part of my day-to-day commitment to police, and in fact the wonderful staff that I have right across my agencies, to go out and talk to them. I know it has not always been the goal and it hasn't always been the tactics of previous ministers to actually go out and do some work and talk to police, but I can tell you—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: Keep talking about—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: Keep talking about it. No-one knows who you or Transforming Health are.

The SPEAKER: Order!

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

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

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for Elder! Premier! Order!

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens! Believe it or not, interjections are contrary to standing orders.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: As I was saying, I have taken it upon myself to speak directly to police, directly to our firefighters and directly to our volunteers. Again, the feedback that I have had from them has been excellent. First and foremost, they have said, 'Geez, it's nice to see a minister,' which is really good.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: The feedback I have received from multiple people within SAPOL, both from mounted operations and from senior leadership within SAPOL, is of course the recognition that the work practices that will be reviewed and changed and of course the personal change that's involved with the decant of mounted operations from its current location to a new location is not insignificant—that is clear. Whether this was to be a move to a Parklands location, whether it was to be a move to greenfields or brownfields, this is a move that is not without change.

I also accept in the question that the flip-flopping from those opposite regarding the type of change that we would like to see our mounted operations undertake has been quite extraordinary. You have got the future—oh, there he is!

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

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! A member raising a point of order is not an opportunity for either side to interject; instead, it will be heard under 134. The member for Morialta.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Thank you, sir. Standing order 98: the minister is debating.

The SPEAKER: That may be. I will listen carefully, and I bring the minister to the question.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: So the question, if I can get to the substance of it, was asking me what the feedback has been from those excellent, wonderful staff that we have in SAPOL. Well, the feedback I have had has changed at various points in time, and that is entirely consistent with the flip-flopping of the opposition, because one minute we see the member for Bragg standing there—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Member for Flinders, your colleague, the member for Morialta, is raising a point of order under 134—

The Hon. N.D. Champion interjecting:

The SPEAKER: And the member for Taylor will not interject at the same time. The member for Morialta.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Standing order 98: the minister was asked about the officers' feedback. His commentary on it in reference to the opposition is debate, pure and simple.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! There is some force in the point of order that has been raised. A degree of compare and contrast might be permissible. Perhaps we have reached the end of it. Minister.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: Thank you, sir. So the feedback has been, as I said, changing. There have been various bits of feedback and it has been entirely consistent with the various propositions, or lack of propositions, put forward by those opposite, but at the core have been two key—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Colton is warned.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned for a second time. The minister has the call.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: There have been two key bits of feedback, the first of which is that there will be—

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Colton is on a final warning.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: —change, and the government empathises with that change, and in fact—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: —the police commissioner is undertaking a series of works to work with his key personnel to ensure that that change from what is now over 100-year-old accommodation at the Thebarton barracks—

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

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta is on a final warning.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: —occurs as soon as possible. It has not been that I have just spoken to our Mounted Operations Unit, sir, but I have visited our Mounted Operations Unit, and I have seen—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: —the type of accommodation that both they and our wonderful police greys have to work in, and what I can assure those opposite is that, despite the fact that they don't want to spend a cent—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: —on mounted operations we will have the best facilities in this country, fit for purpose and fit for the future.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Morialta and the member for Colton are on final warnings. The member for Flinders.

THEBARTON POLICE BARRACKS

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (14:52): My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Have other sites been considered for the relocation of the police barracks and, if so, will the minister reveal them? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TELFER: Earlier this year the Ombudsman ordered SAPOL to release 19 documents relating to the relocation of the Thebarton Police Barracks but this has not been done to date.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:53): On the latter part of the member's question—albeit not a question but a statement—regarding the FOI from SAPOL, as the member may or probably will not be aware, ministers are not responsible for their agencies' FOIs, and our agencies are entirely responsible for fulfilling their obligations.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: But to go directly to the member's question—

The SPEAKER: Minister, please be seated. The member for Colton has exceeded the permissible number of warnings, and will depart under 137A. Minister, you have the call.

The honourable member for Colton having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS: But directly to the member's question: have other sites been considered? Of course they have, sir.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Flinders and then the member for Newland.

COURTS ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (14:53): My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. What is the cost of the proposed staging area at the Courts Administration Authority?

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:54): I could answer this in two ways: I could either refer the member to my previous answer or I could spend four minutes getting stuck in, which I might do halfway between. We know the member doesn't listen to morning radio. We know that he listens to 8 o'clock on FIVEaa, puts his ear pods in and puts his self-help books out—that's okay—but my previous answer about 20 minutes ago is consistent with helping the member understand his current question to me and that is that the engineering works, the scoping works, and the accounting for the city staging site has yet to be completed. When it is it will run through the defined parliamentary processes, and I would hazard a guess that we may even announce this publicly.

COURTS ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (14:55): Supplementary question to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services: as part of that engineering and scoping work that was mentioned, will that include the cost for potential removal and relocation? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TELFER: Recently on the ABC radio the Chief Justice, Chris Kourakis,—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr TELFER: —needed assurance and made the point that it needed to be considered that it is an expense to move when the Courts Administration Authority needs to expand the Supreme Court area.

The SPEAKER: There may be an element of speculation in the question but, in any event, the minister was on his feet and I will turn to the minister.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (14:55): As neither the responsible minister for that project or future works at the Courts Administration Authority I would direct the member to ask the relevant minister that question.

FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARER WEEK

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (14:56): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. How is the government promoting and supporting the role of foster and kinship carers?

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) (14:56): I thank the member very much for this really important question and also for her fierce advocacy for foster and kinship carers. I am utterly committed to doing all that I possibly can to help improve the lives of children and young people, their families and, of course, foster and kinship carers.

This week is, of course, Foster and Kinship Carer Week, a week to recognise the generous and outstanding role that carers play, a role that is absolutely critical in supporting, caring for and nurturing children and young people. Carers provide such love, support and an incredibly strong foundation that helps give children and young people the best possible opportunity to grow, to thrive, to succeed and to live happy, fulfilling lives. Our government is proudly supporting them to undertake this vital role.

There are a number of decisions that our government has made and investments and initiatives that we have progressed to better support carers, to better value their role and to demonstrate our recognition of just how incredibly important they are to the children and young people for whom they care and indeed for our whole community. Our government has recently established a carer council so that we can continue to hear from carers and contemplate their experiences in all of the decisions that we make.

The council will be made up of current paid carers and will provide really important advice to me as minister. We have significantly invested in the recent state budget so that carers caring for children 16 and under will receive an additional \$50 per fortnight as well as a 4.8 per cent increase in carer payments.

This 4.8 per cent increase, as at the end of July 2023, has been received by more than 1,900 carers with more than 1,800 of those carers also receiving the extra \$50 per fortnight. A further 600 respite, emergency and specific child only temporary or post-care carers have also received that really important increase.

We are determined to sustain and support existing carers and attract more people to this incredibly important role. As part of our attraction strategy, the Department for Child Protection, together with community organisations who support carers were out at the Royal Adelaide Show every day talking with South Australians about becoming carers and answering their questions. I thank our partners for participating in this foster and kinship carer stand and I thank the many South Australians who stopped to find out more.

The stand engaged with over 600 conversations and inquiries to receive further information. Every one of those 600 represents generous people who want to be involved and help make a difference of course are potential new carers. I am also really pleased that 80 current carer families stopped by the stand to say hello and show their support to the team.

On Monday, I attended an event with carers to thank them for what they do, to spend time with them and to hear again what is impacting them. I spoke with a lovely couple who have been kinship carers for three children over the past few years. They spoke a lot about the support that the department has been offering to them and their children as they transition from care now that they are aged 19.

Post-care supports are so important, and that is why our government has also invested an additional \$9 million into post-care support programs to enable a really smooth transition from care for both the carer and the child. I thank again the over 3,000 carers in this state for having such full and open hearts and for opening their homes, hearts and lives to children and young people.

The SPEAKER: Minister, your time has expired. Before I turn to the member for Flinders, I refer briefly to earlier remarks, without prejudice, of course, to the opportunity the member will have to ask a question and an answer to be given. Speakers have long held that members are not responsible to the house for administrative matters with respect to political parties, their actions or in relation to political campaigns or for discussions with other members. For example, in 2008, Speaker Snelling ruled out a question regarding donations to political parties, noting:

...donations to a political party are not the responsibility of a minister: they are administered by the political party and, quite rightly, the minister is not involved in collating information about donations.

Original decisions date particularly from Speaker Ryan in 1974.

POLICE RECRUITMENT

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (15:01): My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Is the government implementing relocation incentives or cost-of-living payments for new police recruits to combat the current issues with police recruiting?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir. Standing order 97: the question involves argument at the end.

The SPEAKER: I am going to give the member for Flinders an opportunity to recast the question.

Mr TELFER: Is the government implementing relocation incentives or cost-of-living payments for new police recruits?

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (15:01): Those matters are being considered. I have already flagged publicly that there are matters that are associated with the very significant investment that the state

government has made in this budget that directly goes to supporting the recruitment of 900 police over the next three years. I will say it again: 900 police over the next three years.

We are backing that in with a financial commitment, but at the same time, the police commissioner, with the support of the government, is investigating a number of measures, incentives and retention support to attract police. I have put to him that I think South Australia is a wonderful attraction in itself, but he has put to me that it may require something a bit more. All of that is being considered, and I will certainly be having a bit more to say about that in the near future.

Grievance Debate

LOWER RIVER MURRAY LEVEES

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:02): I rise today to talk about the management of the River Murray pre the recent flood, especially levee management or levee mismanagement, as the case may be. In regard to pre flood, I want absolutely to salute local governments, contractors and volunteers for the work they did in protecting their communities, whether it was at Renmark, where at least 150,000 tonnes of clay was moved, or as you come down the river there was much work done at areas like Cobdogla and Waikerie.

There were multiple earthmoving units from right around the area and further afield like Mount Remarkable and elsewhere, all coming together for the cause to keep those River Murray waters away from communities and away from farmland. Getting down further into my region in the seat of Hammond, levees were built in Mannum.

Levees were topped up along the River Murray. Contractors, volunteers and farmers did what they could to protect their land. One farmer spent north of \$1 million on his own. There was some excellent work done at Mypolonga, where I worked with the heads of departments to make sure we got that 700-metre levee put in place to protect Mypolonga Primary School and the lower reaches of the town.

As things moved on, and we have moved on from the emergency management time, the problem is that things have slowed down dramatically in making sure that the 110 kilometres of levee banks along the River Murray are up to speed. It is a real shame that we have not had the sense of urgency we had during the major flood event to make sure that we could protect communities and protect their land. Farmers have had it tough. They have seen their land flooded, they have re-sown and recently we have seen breaches again.

The minister says that overtopping is not a breach. Well, I reckon if you build a levee and the water is supposed to be on one side of the levee and then it lands on the other side that is a breach. We had seven levees breach the other day. A farmer at Pompoota got hold of the department on 30 August and asked, 'What are you doing about Pompoota? What are you doing about making sure that levee doesn't go because we are frightened it's going to go?' They did not get an answer until a week later. The next night, the Thursday night of the seventh, and on the morning of Friday 8 September, that levee let go. This is on newly sown pastures, and it is not good enough.

The minister keeps using the comment, 'We will see how much money we've got in the future to stabilise these levee banks,' and talks about the \$3.22 million they have spent so far. Over \$4 million has been spent in Mannum alone putting levees in and pulling levees out, so \$3.22 million is minuscule for what will be needed in the future. It will need at least \$30 million in works to not only stabilise these levee banks but get them up to speed so the Lower Murray farmers and those communities can farm in some confidence.

Instead of having a hapless minister missing in action, as she was during four weeks of the peak flood event, when she was too busy touring the Thames in London, she should have been here attending to the River Murray, and it just shows her lack of credibility in managing this flood event. It is an absolute disgrace. Anyone else would have been blown away in the media, but for some reason the minister was not.

It is an absolute disgrace that people have to put up with this. The river was only running at 10 centimetres above pool level and, yes, it did rise 400 or 500 millimetres due to a wind effect. In my mind, those levees should have been up to speed and those low points should have been filled

in so that they did not breach and overtop. It is just outrageous that the work has not gone in and that the government just keeps putting off that long-term work to protect our farmers into the future.

They need to get on the ball and they need to make sure that clay is moved—not like they are doing at Pompoota at the minute, having an hour and a half turnaround on clay from Brinkley when local clays are available that were obviously used in the emergency situation the other day. So listen to the local farmers, use the local clay and use those local black clays to seal the top of the levees.

SALVOS SLEEPOUT

Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (15:07): I rise to show my appreciation to the many people who are joining me and my office crew this weekend and sleeping rough as part of this year's Salvation Army sleepout. In doing so, with three sleeps to go before the big event, there is still time for anyone listening to get involved. For the first time, the Salvos Sleepout will be held within the electorate I represent, in Parafield Gardens.

While I am proud of all the hard work of the local congregation to secure and organise this event, in many ways I wish it was not really necessary. The sleepout is not just about having a bit of fun while collecting much-needed funds; it is also an opportunity to raise awareness for those without a safe place to call home or struggling to make ends meet. Bringing the event to Parafield Gardens for the first time is also a good opportunity to underline that homelessness is not just confined to the doorways of our cities but something on the rise in suburbia and beyond.

I have said a few times already in this chamber that we did not get to this problem overnight. We are in this mess because large vestiges of society, including previous governments both Liberal and Labor, did not see it as a problem. While it is good we now have elements of the media labelling the situation a 'housing crisis', this is a fairly new term and, prior to its creation, it seemed the continual increase in property values was the only thing they reported on. We are now at a point where we need to accept that for this problem to be addressed.

As a country, we need to work together, and we will only succeed if we have the collective will to do so. There has been some progress made at government level, which I am pleased to be associated with, but I think there is no argument from policymakers that there is a huge amount of heavy lifting that remains. Always part of this equation is the Salvation Army as one of the leading providers of homelessness services in Australia.

As mentioned, this event is not just about raising funds; it is also a massive rallying call to see who also dares to care. I am heartened by the likes of Harcourts which, as a major real estate agency, have come on board to cement where they stand on this national problem. At the local level, we have seen agents like Paul Whitney raise thousands of dollars for this worthy cause.

Paul is not alone and, like so many, is committed because he knows his efforts will be put to good use. As an example, \$50 will provide school lunches for a week for a struggling family, \$120 keeps a family from missing out on meals for a week, \$250 covers the shortfall in rent for a person facing hardship and \$700 will provide one week of accommodation, helping them to feel safe and cared for.

It is not too late if you want to join in and sleep overnight or if you want to donate. For those wanting to experience what it is like to sleep rough, you have until the close of business tomorrow to sign up, and there is an expectation of raising a minimum of \$100. The best way of doing this is to jump online and do a google search for Salvos Sleepout SA, where you can either register or find a participant like me to sponsor.

There are some fantastic members of the Salvation Army in Parafield Gardens I have had the privilege to work with since I was elected, none more so than corps officers Lieutenants Aaron and Keryn Coombes. These great people have done a fantastic job pulling this event together and, on behalf of my community, I want to pass on my thanks and appreciation for this and the many other wonderful things the team do in making a difference to the lives of my neighbours.

I know that there are others like them across communities in Australia who care enough to make a difference. If you feel the same way too, please take a few moments to jump online and consider what you can do to support this year's Salvos Sleepout.

AUBURN FRENCHFEST

Ms PRATT (Frome) (15:11): I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the fantastic second season of the Auburn Frenchfest that took place for 2½ days on the weekend. The festival that was the brainchild of the Auburn Progress Association, establishing a subcommittee and imagining and aspiring for the Clare Valley a festival that had not existed five years before but, with hard work, with creativity, with persistence and, very importantly, with sponsorship, we now mark the second year of the festival.

I really want to congratulate and recognise the chairperson of the Auburn Frenchfest, Rhonda Seymour, as well as Kathy Adams and the committee members. Without their dedication, a festival like this just would just not be possible. The entire town turned itself inside out for the second time in a row, being strewn with bunting and the colours of the French flag—the bleu, blanc et rouge—wrapped around Stobie poles and shopfronts in the lead-up to this festival. It really created a fantastic atmosphere for the town.

It is a centrally located town in our valley, so there was no escaping the French festival as we drove around. Everyone knew it was coming, and there was no excuse to miss this wonderful occasion. This year we were delighted to have the presence of the Honorary Consul of France, Marcia McLachlan, and it was wonderful to have someone with that protocol, that diplomatic standing, coming to a little town like Auburn, a village nestled in the valley that turned itself into a Francophile town for a couple of days, celebrating all the wonderful, cultural and colourful elements of the French community.

For participants and tourists visiting our region, it meant they could enjoy a masterclass in champagne, there were cheese tastings—we had raclette on demand—and of course there were any number of cuisine options. I know that, from walking around every day and interacting with both locals and people who were visiting our community, everyone was having a fantastic time.

The Clare Valley can be a cooler climate, and that is what contributes to the fabulous terroir of our wines. But, on this occasion, we had fantastic weather and that certainly helped to bring people along with us.

Events like this are not possible without sponsors, and I note that the platinum sponsor this year was again Gordon Pickard AM. It was significant to have Gordon's generosity and contribution. There were too many local sponsors to name today, whose total sum of generous donations meant that this festival could go on. More money means more opportunities, so I certainly will be encouraging local businesses throughout the valley to open their pockets in two years' time, in 2025, when we mark this event again.

For the activities that I mentioned, of course we had been able to attract interstate and international performers. Again, I want to make special mention of someone who lives locally, called Leonie Moore. She was the conductor, music arranger, part composer, soloist and director of a fantastic event, the only event that really attracted local performers—we had young and old, from Balaklava and beyond—to feature all the fabulous classical music by Camille Saint-Saens. So we had *The Carnival of the Animals* music played in the lovely little Notre Dame church in Auburn.

Some of the businesses that made this event possible, just by virtue of the fact that the town was swimming with people and their services were required, include Becker's IGA; Velvet & Willow Cafe; Wines by KT; Ulster's new cellar door, which is remarkable; Terroir restaurant, which I mentioned; Cogwebs Bicycle Hire; and not forgetting the Rising Sun pub, which really was the centre of the town in hosting so many fabulous marquee events. C'est très magnifique.

QATAR AIRWAYS

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (15:16): I rise today to talk about Qatar Airways and the great work that this airline did in helping South Australians during the two-year national lockdown of Australia when we were dealing with the COVID pandemic. In particular, I want to thank the global

CEO, His Excellency Akbar Al Baker, who has been a dear friend of mine since Qatar Airways first flew into Adelaide back in 2016.

In the aviation world, generally governments go out and try to lure airlines to come and begin services in their states. Usually, that has a big cheque associated with it, and payments, to get these airlines to come into places like Adelaide. The discussions with Qatar had been ongoing, but at no stage did they ask our government to put taxpayers' money up for services to start in Adelaide, and we have never been asked to pay taxpayers' money to have this international airline—judged best in the world for the past seven years—fly people into Adelaide from around the world. They have over 180 cities from which they fly into Adelaide, via Doha. They also take lots of freight from South Australia out to the rest of the world.

They began that service in 2016. During COVID, when so many other airlines pulled out of Adelaide and Australia, they kept those flights coming in, three times a week, to get people who needed to make it home back to Adelaide and Australia. I know several of my constituents were helped out by Qatar Airways because a loved one was diagnosed with a terminal illness and they wanted to get back and be with them, or they had their own issues overseas and needed to get back. SA Health had pretty much an open line to Qatar Airways, in particular to Yen Kho, who manages the west of Australia for Qatar Airways.

There is something about looking after people who look after us. I look at everything that Qatar Airways did for us in that time. A few months earlier, during the bushfires, I had a phone call from Akbar—I was on Kangaroo Island—and he said, 'Leon, I see your island is burning. Is there anything I can do to help?' I said, 'Look, we have some fundraising auctions going and things like that,' and he said, 'I will donate business-class airfares.' That is a pretty generous thing for someone to do. When I see Qatar being prevented from increasing their footprint in Australia for no clear reason, that upsets me a bit. I have been lobbying the federal government since October last year to help them grow.

As Chair of the Major Events Committee, I see what these increased airfares are doing. We are paying about 40 per cent to 50 per cent more for airfares and the same for freight. Every time we bring hundreds of cyclists into Adelaide for the Tour Down Under, the bill for that on taxpayers is huge. We are paying a lot more to get their bikes here and to get all the riders here. Then there are events like WOMAD. Not only are we paying more to get these events into Adelaide but we will get fewer people coming to them if they are being priced out of getting onto planes at one of the 180 destinations around the world to fly into Adelaide.

I have had some correspondence and some discussion with Catherine King, the federal transport minister. I have not been happy with the responses I have received. I was told to contact Qatar's lobbyist instead of getting an answer from the federal transport minister ahead of my most recent meeting with Akbar Al Baker in Doha just a couple of weeks ago. I think we need to do better as a nation in terms of driving down inflation, providing cheaper airfares for people coming in and for our freight to go out.

I want to put on the record again my thanks to Akbar for his generosity, to Justin Kestel, Regional Manager for Australia and New Zealand for Qatar Airways, and to all the team, who do a great job.

ROAD TRANSPORT INDUSTRY

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley) (15:22): I rise today to speak about concerns that have been raised with me from the transport industry about the recent Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Closing Loopholes) Bill 2023 in the federal parliament at the moment. A variety of businesses have also come to me with very valid concerns that I thought I would talk to today.

We are aware, obviously, that it looks like there will be new collective bargaining that will need to be navigated with some road transport workers and digital labour platform employee-like workers as well. Compliance costs for businesses are set to be increased, including costs of engaging industrial relations lawyers. It looks like union delegates will have rights to paid leave for delegate training and employers must provide reasonable facilities and time for them to communicate with and represent members.

What this means is that it is going to result in an increase in labour costs, requiring businesses to rethink the engagement of labour hire and contractors. There are concerns amongst the industry that this will translate to not only lower profit but also higher costs of goods and services, and ultimately it is consumers who are going to have to pay for these increased goods and services.

We just had an example by a Labor member opposite of what happens when freight costs increase. Whether we are bringing in domestic travellers or whether we are bringing in commercial freight, if you increase this cost of doing business, one way or another we are all going to pay. Paul Fletcher MP highlighted in a parliamentary speech recently against the bill amendment deep concerns about deeply problematic changes that are being proposed to the expansion of the Fair Work Commissioner's jurisdiction to cover the road transport industry. My industry sources say that this is actually attempting to revive what was a disastrous and failed road safety remuneration tribunal through this proposed bill amendment.

It is felt that the body proposed within the commission will have a profoundly negative impact on the road transport industry. It is also felt that it will harm the livelihoods of hardworking owner-drivers. These are small business owners, owner-drivers who will then lose flexibility. They will lose their flexibility to set rates and conditions. If we see this occur, costs go up and costs are passed on to the Australian consumers.

Australian consumers are already struggling with increased costs of household goods at the supermarket. Unreasonable demands, be they from the union or otherwise, I do not think should be yielded to because this bill will impose new costs, new burdens, on businesses, workers and consumers. We know that this is being pushed by the federal Labor government. We know that this is to advance the interests of, amongst others, the union bosses. I think there has been a total disregard to the impact on and the economic advancement of the rest of Australia. Recently the Business Council of Australia pointed out:

The government has already admitted these changes will drive up costs for consumers at a time when people can least afford it while adding complexity and confusion for both workers and businesses.

This is from a recent extract from Innes Willox, the chief executive of national employer association Ai Group, who said:

The proposal to give the Fair Work Commission sweeping new powers to re-regulate the Road Transport Industry clearly amounts to an attempt to revive the disaster that was the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal in all but name only. The measures in the Bill that are purportedly directed at avoiding a repeat of past mistakes are wholly inadequate and any contention that there is broad industry support for the kind of change proposed is simply inaccurate. Industry should be deeply alarmed by the approach that has been taken to this issue in the Bill.

Whilst there may be very limited ideas of merit—for example, the eradication of unfair contracts and contract terms, and who would argue with that?—this is a bad bill. It is going to make it harder to do business and, if they make it harder to do business, ultimately businesses are going to go broke and it is going to be everyday South Australians who will have to pay for this poor legislation.

In the remaining 30 seconds that I have, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a fantastic local soccer club in my electorate in Dernancourt, AC Unito, who are now champions in the division 4 league of the amateur league. Congratulations to co-founders Carlo Troncone and George Belperio. These guys founded this club in 2022. This is a truly historic moment for AC Unito Adelaide, becoming back-to-back champions and gaining back-to-back promotion. We wish them all the very best and may they continue on their winning journey.

POSITIVE MASCULINITY

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (15:27): Last week, I attended the official opening of the second stage of the Remembering Courageous Women Mosaic Mural in Gawler. Minister Hildyard was present to cut the ribbon. The mural has been supported by the Town of Gawler and Villawood Properties alongside a number of other donors to the project.

The mural is a place for reflection and peace. It honours the lives of women and children who have been affected by domestic and family violence. It is a bright and beautiful work of art, designed by local resident Sandra Sullivan. It is a work of hope for a better future for all and, in particular, for women and children in our community.

Things need to change if all in our community are going to live in dignity and be treated with dignity. Part of that change requires the way boys, young men and men relate to women. The question then arises: how do we achieve that change? Do we adopt deficit or punitive models of change or approaches that enable communities to raise healthy boys and men for a better society?

I was recently invited to attend the International Conference on Positive Masculinity, hosted by the Australian Foundation for Positive Masculinity, a not-for-profit organisation based in Melbourne. The foundation believes raising healthy boys benefits all genders and society. They argue that sometimes we need backbone, sometimes we need heart. Mostly, we need men who are kind, compassionate and comfortable with who they are, who do not feel the need to prove their manhood, who are flexible when approaching life's challenges.

Instead of leaving things to chance—or worse, risk a lost generation—we should embrace positive masculinity and show our boys how they can make their vital contributions to society, culture, families and friends. The foundation believes that right now boys are at risk. As we strive for an inclusive future, free of gendered violence, we acknowledge that being male has well-documented advantages. But there are also specific challenges for boys and men: higher suicide rates, school dropout rates and incarceration rates, and men are less likely to wear sunscreen or a seatbelt, more likely to be engaged in violence and the list goes on.

Sadly, as boys become men and then elders, these challenges often worsen. It is a wicked problem, but the reality is that traditional masculinities are harmful to boys as well. Through their research, the foundation has found that boys respond well to evidence-informed, high-impact interventions. The best places for these interventions are in schools and sporting clubs. Teachers and coaches play key roles in developing healthy masculinities—boys and young men who understand their place in the world and are motivated to belong.

We want boys who understand the rules of the game in life and respect the umpire. Boys need to be connected to their inner worlds, their imaginations and their emotions. We need boys who understand that there are many ways of being male and that these are not found on the dark web. The complex situation facing our boys is a tremendous opportunity for leadership in our community.

We can create change through positive masculinity, a pro-social and strengths-based approach to raising the boys and men we need for this age. The foundation has evidence-informed programs to train teachers, coaches and parents on how to teach our boys to live emotionally and physically healthy lives. There are resources being developed and measures we can take to raise healthy boys and men for a better society.

The foundation works with a number of schools and organisations to undertake research and deliver these programs. In its first year, the foundation worked with Brighton Grammar in developing a curriculum, being programs, parent programs and staff development. At the moment, they are doing some work at The Browning School in New York, delivering staff development and parent programs. They have worked with the Danny Frawley Centre on athlete and parent programs. They are undertaking research with both the University of California's Centre for Boys and the Orygen Centre for Youth Mental Health.

The conference heard from a number of speakers who provided examples of how the strengths-based approach to developing positive masculinities can improve the lives of boys and the people around them. The foundation argues that we should help boys and young men embrace positive ways to be men in the 21st century for today and tomorrow.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: Sir, I draw your attention to the state of the house.

A quorum having been formed:

Bills

CONSTITUTION (COUNTERSIGNING) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (15:33): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Constitution Act 1934. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (15:34): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I rise to introduce the Constitution (Countersigning) Amendment Bill 2023. This bill amends section 71 of the Constitution Act 1934 to remove the requirement that certain decisions of the Governor be countersigned. Section 71 provides that a government official does not need to obey an order of the Governor that involves the expenditure of public money and that an appointment to or dismissal from office is not valid, unless the order, appointment or dismissal is signed by the Governor and countersigned by a Minister of the Crown.

I wish to make clear that this bill does not change any powers the Governor has to approve the expenditure of public money or to make or revoke appointments, or otherwise. Currently, three signatures are obtained in a meeting of Executive Council: a recommendation signature by a Minister of the Crown on behalf of Executive Council, the Governor's signature and the countersignature of second Minister of the Crown.

While the Legislation Interpretation Act 2021 allows for meetings that would otherwise be required to be held in person to be held via audio or audiovisual means, this does not apply when a person must be physically present to witness the signing of documents. This is the case for meetings of Executive Council. The second minister must be physically present to witness the Governor sign the instruments before countersigning. The proposed Bill removes this requirement that a minister countersign instruments signed by the Governor.

The purpose of this change is to allow for flexibility in decision-making. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us that meeting in person is not always practical or safe and has highlighted the importance of having appropriate continuity of government measures in place. The changes proposed by this bill will ensure that the decisions of the Governor will not be deemed invalid simply because a meeting is held virtually.

Providing the option for Executive Council meetings to be held virtually is an important measure to have available in the future to ensure executive decisions can be made as a usual course of business. To be clear, holding Executive Council meetings virtually will be for extenuating circumstances, approved by Her Excellency as Chair. It will be the exception, not the norm. Administrative amendments are consequently proposed to the heading of section 71 to accurately reflect the content of the provision.

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

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

This clause is formal.

Part 2—Amendment of Constitution Act 1934

2—Amendment of section 71—Signature and counter-signature of certain orders, warrants etc

This clause amends section 71 to remove the requirement for certain orders and appointments to and dismissals from office to be counter-signed by a Minister and amends the heading to reflect the content of the section.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. D.J. Speirs.

*Motions***MOROCCO EARTHQUAKE**

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:37): I move:

That this house—

- (a) notes the devastating 6.8 magnitude earthquake that has struck central Morocco at 11.11pm local time on Friday 8 September, killing thousands of people, injuring similar numbers and causing severe destruction across the country;
- (b) acknowledges the critical work of rescue crews that have desperately searched for survivors in the immediate aftermath, as well as health workers and first aid providers who are providing the immediate health response;
- (c) notes the ongoing impact and displacement that will face many Moroccan people following the earthquake;
- (d) acknowledges the impact this earthquake will have on the small but growing South Australian Moroccan community. The South Australian government stands with our Moroccan community, especially those who have family and friends in affected areas; and
- (e) extends on behalf of the South Australian government our condolences to the people of Morocco and their families and friends here and abroad.

I rise today to convey my sincere condolences to the global Moroccan community in the wake of the 6.8 magnitude earthquake that struck the country just after 11pm local time on Friday 8 September. The epicentre was located in Al Haouz in the High Atlas mountain range near Marrakech. Shocks were felt in Casablanca, Rabat, Fez and neighbouring towns, causing widespread panic among the impacted population.

This is the biggest earthquake in Morocco in over a century. The Moroccan government has assessed that over 300,000 have been displaced by the earthquake and are now homeless. The media is reporting that nearly 3,000 people have died and that another 2,500 have been injured.

Witnessing the media reports of the devastation has been harrowing. Whole families have been killed, children orphaned, families made homeless, villages destroyed and historic buildings potentially lost forever. Our hearts are with the Moroccan people and those immediately affected. The fact that much of the housing and buildings in the rural areas are typically made of mudbricks has complicated the situation immensely.

The immediate impacts are often what we see the most, but there are going to be long-term consequences that can impact those affected for many years to come. We know that the aftershocks will continue to cause havoc in the area, which will potentially cause additional damage. Rebuilding will take a lot of time and there are going to be a significant portion that will be displaced. This will be an enormous emotional toll on the community, and we know that the Moroccan diaspora around the world will be called upon to support people as they build back their lives.

Of course in these moments of despair there are also moments of hope and small moments of joy when loved ones have been found and reunited with their families. This is an opportune time to recognise the rescue crews, first responders and health providers who are working around the clock in such difficult circumstances and putting their own lives at risk. From an Australian perspective, at this stage the Australian government is not aware of any Australian casualties or hospitalisations.

While the Australian government has not received a specific request from Morocco for assistance, it is my understanding that they are ready to consider any such requests in the future. Australia already contributes to the International Federation of the Red Cross Disaster Release Emergency Fund (DREF). The fund has already released one million Swiss francs to assess the response of the local Moroccan Red Cross Society.

South Australia is home to a relatively small but growing Moroccan community. The 2021 Census reported 111 Morocco-born people in South Australia, up from the 80 reported in 2016 and up from the 58 in 2011. I want to convey our thoughts to our community here, especially anyone whose friends or loved ones have been impacted by these tragic events. I can only imagine the worry and concern that our Moroccan community is facing, with loved ones impacted or simply seeing their fellow Moroccans go through such tragic circumstances.

It was only a few weeks ago that we were celebrating together with the Moroccan women's national football team, who debuted at the FIFA Women's World Cup this year, the first country in the Arab world to do so since the competition was established in 1991. At the games played here in

Adelaide and throughout the tournament, crowd support from Morocco was strong and a passionate community spirit was clear for us to see.

All South Australians stand with Morocco in the wake of this devastating earthquake and our thoughts remain with our wider Australian Moroccan community at this time. While I am talking about the earthquake in Morocco, I think it is important for me to mention the terrible floods in Libya. Once again we see a tragic disaster that has caused mass destruction in a country. They estimate that more than 2,000 people have died, but that number could increase to more than 5,000. Reports have also stated that 10,000 people are missing.

I want to convey the state government's condolences to those impacted, and the thoughts of the South Australian government are also with the community here. It is a very small Libyan community, but we are more globally connected than we have ever been before. We know that the world saw Australia when we suffered from our bushfires and our floods. We had incredible donations here internationally, so we know the world responds for us when we are in pain, and of course we want to give attention to those. It is only a year ago that Turkiye suffered such a devastating earthquake as well.

When we see these pictures on our screens, it is hard to comprehend the massive trauma that comes not just from trying to build back the basics of sanitation and power but from all that has been lost and generations who are impacted. To build back normality for those children will take time. We think about the devastation. We take a moment to reflect, and our thoughts are with them. I support the motion, and I think those who will also speak to this motion will as well.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (15:44): On behalf of the opposition, I rise to provide the Liberal Party's support for the motion that the Minister for Multicultural Affairs has provided to this chamber. I will keep my remarks fairly brief because no doubt the sentiment of what is said across the chamber today will be very similar amongst members.

It is exceptionally difficult to know what to say at a time when a particular community in South Australia, geographically distant from their homelands or their place of heritage, know that there is significant suffering, anguish and great uncertainty facing their family, their loved ones and people they do not even necessarily know but people they feel a connection to because of their cultural roots. That anguish and uncertainty that the Moroccan community are facing in South Australia at the moment on behalf of their fellow Moroccans back in Morocco who have been afflicted by this natural disaster are no doubt almost immeasurable and indescribable in mere words.

It is fair to say that the opposition is in entire agreement with the government and the words of the minister. This is a terrible tragedy. It is one that is of course playing out via the media, whether it is TV, radio or social media. We see pictures, we hear stories, we hear individual anecdotes. Increasingly and most disturbingly, I think, what we are hearing is that assistance, aid in terms of rescue personnel and also medicines and food and water, does not appear to be getting to where it needs to as quickly as it might otherwise have been foreseen to get there.

That is greatly concerning, and so it has been heartening to see that the federal government has indicated that assistance will go from Australia. Of course, we support that as well at a national level, and we are grateful for Australia providing that assistance and expertise to Morocco. The Moroccan community in South Australia, albeit small, is passionate and intent on keeping its heritage, its stories and its traditions alive and shared in this state. The opposition want to express our heartfelt condolences, our thoughts and, if we are of faith, our prayers to the Moroccan people.

We join with the government in extending our hand of friendship to the Moroccan community. We hope that the Moroccan community in South Australia do not know too many people who are personally impacted by this natural disaster, but regardless of whether there are individuals who have been personally impacted or not, those cultural ties and that feeling of great grief for their homeland will be immense. Our condolences are extended to the Moroccan community in greatest sincerity.

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (15:48): It is with great sadness that I rise today to address this motion, which of course marks the 6.8 magnitude earthquake that struck on Friday just south, I believe, of Marrakesh. When the first news reports came through, I really did feel very strongly for

the people in Morocco because, 10 years ago, I had the great opportunity of spending a month in Morocco. It was an amazing experience, which I will tell you a bit about.

Of course, when you see images on the television that you can recognise and are familiar to you, it does tug at the heartstrings that little bit more. You really do feel for those people, having met so many people in Morocco and understood just a little of their culture and their way of life, and just how beautiful the people are there. It was really shocking to me to see those images unfold on television.

I thank the minister for bringing this motion today and for this house to have an opportunity to articulate our feelings for those on the other side of the world and for those Australian Moroccans here in South Australia and across our nation who will no doubt be feeling for their families, their loved ones and also their nation as a whole. It is going to have a pretty incredible journey to recovery after this, certainly after a period of very deep grief, so my thoughts certainly are with them.

When I was fortunate enough to go over there it was not for work or anything; it was simply that I was quite fascinated with Morocco and chose to take a break over there. Initially, I was going to go to Spain as well, but I was so fascinated by Morocco that I ended up spending my entire break there. It is just a feast of culture, food, dance and entertainment, and it is a wonderful place because it is such a clash, or a celebration really, of different cultures. It is a place where East meets West, where French culture mixes with Arabic culture and Muslim culture, and somehow it all works together to create a quite special place and somewhere you cannot help but be fascinated by and drawn into the country, as it is such a heady and rich environment while you are there.

Morocco is also a place of great beauty, beautiful landscapes and desert landscapes, and also very dense metropolises, particularly in the medinas in places like Fez. When I went I was slightly ill-prepared. I did not check the calendar and did not realise it was Ramadan for the entire month I was there. There were lots of very hot days, very sweaty days and days of very quietly sipping water from under one's top or jacket because of course the local people were marking Ramadan and did not even drink water during the day, even on those incredibly hot days. At night-time, the markets would just explode with colour and music and festivities to mark their religious rituals.

It was very special to be able to be there at that time, but it also presented a few problems for rather novice travellers. I remember the late-night markets. I remember being in Jemaa el-Fnaa, which is a square in Marrakesh, and it is every bit that you would imagine. There are snake charmers and there are markets selling all sorts of furnishings and things. In my home at the moment I still have a rug on the wall, a beautiful rug that I bought there and carted around. I really should have waited until the last day, but I carted it around for most of my time in Morocco and brought it all the way back from Morocco. I have had it ever since, and it is up on my wall and reminds me of those fantastic times.

I also remember in Marrakesh itself the Jardin Majorelle, which is an amazing place that the Parisian fashion designer, Yves Saint Laurent, actually established. It was where Yves Saint Laurent lived, and there is a great legacy there of these amazing lush gardens in the middle of a pretty arid climate which welcomes many, many tourists. There are manicured gardens: you can look in one direction and see what you would swear is a beautiful impressionist painting with waterlilies and a pond, and you can look in another direction and swear that you are looking at something from Picasso or Matisse. It is an absolutely spectacular place and a really cool haven in the middle of what otherwise can be a rather hot and oppressive city.

I remember being in Rabat, where there are whitewashed homes perched on the edge of the cliff at the beach, teetering on the edge. You can go for a swim if you so dare. Of course, in a Muslim nation you would have to be clothed head to toe to go for a swim, so that is quite an experience in itself. Walking through those little lanes and chatting to the locals as they are going about their business in these almost iridescent whitewashed houses is an experience in itself.

I also remember the medina of Fez. It is a walled city, which has quite a metropolis in it and where markets and homes all mix in together in buildings that are, well, questionable by Australian building standards. It is a hive of activity, and within each of those are riads—palatial homes, really—most of which are now hotels and tourist accommodation.

Essentially they are similar to the medina design itself, with a central square and then a multi-storeyed square shape around the outside of the square, and were used to house big families. They are now meticulously restored with beautiful mosaics and tile work; some of them even have water features and pianos. The rooms have been meticulously brought up to modern standards, and are quite an attraction for tourists like myself.

Each of the places just mentioned felt the impact of the earthquake. It is quite incredible to think that places like Rabat and Fez and Marrakesh, even Casablanca, felt the aftershocks of this earthquake. Those towns basically span the entire country, so essentially the entire country of Morocco, from one side to the other, felt the impact of the 6.8 magnitude earthquake.

That is quite stunning when I consider the long train journeys I took between those major cities, including Casablanca—I actually went to Rick's Cafe and watched the movie *Casablanca* and had a cocktail there; it was quite an experience—when I think about the hours and hours spent on trains, that that is how far those aftershocks spread right across the nation. I cannot imagine the fear people would have felt in those cities that would have been many, many hours away, and also, of course, those at the epicentre and in Marrakesh itself.

As I mentioned, when you go around Morocco you notice that some of the housing is incredibly old but also not really built in any way that resembles Australian standards of building. Those traditional ways of building in themselves have unfortunately contributed to the incredible loss of life and the incredible destruction in Morocco that we see now on our television screens. Some of those clay buildings have simply crumbled and are essentially just piles of dirt.

Of course, we know there are many people under there who are slowly being recovered by rescue forces; unfortunately, not as many are being pulled out alive as we would hope. It is just horrible to think that those beautiful buildings I saw and admired when I was walking down lanes have become the resting place for so many Moroccan citizens.

Another difficulty that will be very hard for Morocco—and other speakers have mentioned this, including the Leader of the Opposition—is that we are now seeing reports of delays in getting emergency help out to people who really need it. That is being hindered by the infrastructure of the country in terms of its roads and building structures and also by the government and political structures not just in Morocco but more generally in that part of the world.

That causes us to reflect on how lucky we are here, that when emergencies and disasters occur in Australia we are very fortunate to have a well set up government structure as well as highly skilled professionals who dedicate their lives to making sure they can react the moment we need them most. The difficulty in places like Morocco—and I will speak about Libya briefly, as well—is that they do not have those systems set up in the same way they might be in some other nations.

That will definitely be a stumbling block for them in this immediate period of getting emergency assistance out to people and saving what lives they can, but also in the recovery effort. That requires an incredible amount of government assistance and coordination, and I really do fear for people in Morocco that they are not as fortunate in having the government systems around them that they so need at this time.

The international community has offered quite a deal of assistance to Morocco, but unfortunately the assistance of only four nations has been accepted so far by the Moroccan government. I do not know the reasons for that. There have apparently been some concerns about flooding the country with additional people from foreign nations at a time when the infrastructure is not coping with the people who are there.

I do hope that the government can find its way to coordinating the massive amount of assistance that is on offer from the international community, including Australia, and that it is put to good use as soon as possible for the preservation of life and also for the clean-up and the recovery to come. As I said, we are very lucky to have expert assistance in this country from our SES, CFS and others, and we wish the emergency workers over in Morocco every fortune in their incredibly difficult task.

I would also really like to shout out to people in Libya who have hit been hit by Storm Daniel in the last 24 to 48 hours. There has been an incredible loss of life there, and the current estimate is

that more than 2,000 lives have been lost, which is a number that is quite mind-blowing to think that all those lives have been lost. Libya is in a similar situation, with some governmental structures that are going to make life pretty difficult for people moving on. Again, I hope that they take advantage of the world's empathy for them, with Australia and other nations putting forward what help they can.

I again thank the minister for putting forward this motion, and I send all my best wishes to the wonderful people of Morocco and Libya. Our hearts are with them.

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (16:01): I will make my comments relatively brief today, but I would very much like to commend the comments of my colleagues and also of the opposition with respect to the devastating earthquake in Morocco. The member for Badcoe already touched on how lucky we are to be in the particular geopolitical climate we are in here in Australia and in South Australia. It is something I always touch on when I bring in schoolkids for school tours.

I talk about the civility of our democratic process and the fact that, when something goes wrong, we work together. I also talk about just how lucky we are to live in and be governed in a place that has the ability to do that—to work together when things are going wrong. I am incredibly proud and glad, as I always am, to see bipartisan support when something is going wrong across the world and when another country or another place needs our support and our help.

Like so many others, I was incredibly saddened to hear of the devastation across Morocco. I read, probably about half an hour ago, that the death toll has increased in the last 24 hours to about 2,900 people, mostly in remote settlements in the mountains. The number of people injured has also doubled from the figures that I looked at just yesterday.

The injuries now are over 5,500, and the reported injuries last night, when I looked, were at around only 2,500 or so, which I think speaks to two things: firstly, it speaks to the impact of the devastation across the country and, secondly, I think it also really shows the absolute speed and tenacity with which the emergency services individuals are going in. They are helping people, they are finding people and they are getting people into health care and finding them the support they need. I think that seeing those figures increase, as sad as it is, does show the work that is going on to recover people and to assist them in the midst of that disaster.

We also know that, as with all natural disasters, we are yet to see the full impacts of that devastation, whether it be in continued increases in injury numbers, the possibility of increased deaths, the possibility of aftershocks and, of course, also the physical and emotional injuries that will have a lasting impact on the Moroccan people.

The Moroccan government have assessed thus far that over 300,000 people have been either displaced or rendered homeless as a result of the earthquake. I think about the impact that that will have, not just on the individuals directly impacted but on the country, both economically and socially and otherwise for many years to come.

We have some relatives who live in Louisiana and who would come to visit us every couple of years. I remember that every visit, even if it had been two or three years between visits, they would talk to us about how where they lived in Louisiana had never recovered and would never recover completely from the impacts of Hurricane Katrina. They talked about how it had very much changed the landscape of where they lived forever; how, economically, they were never fully able to come back from that; and how, socially, they always would carry the wounds of that natural disaster. When seeing the numbers of displaced people and people who are without homes, I worry very much for the long-term impacts on individuals who have been affected by this crisis.

We know that entire villages have been destroyed, historic buildings have been lost and entire families killed. My thoughts are particularly with those individuals, especially children, who have had to watch those things happen and just what that means for their emotional and mental development, particularly in those really formative years, having such an extreme trauma, watching those things happen, not just physical injuries but the emotional injuries that it will cause many of them for the rest of their lives.

As always, I also acknowledge, and I touched very briefly on this before, the critical work of rescue crews and emergency services in searching for survivors, providing critical first aid, and also those who are taking individuals whether it be to hospitals or wherever they may be going in those

final moments. There are, of course, so many health workers, government workers, volunteers and so many people who are already involved in the aftermath, and I would like to very much put on the record my thanks to those individuals who are working tirelessly to save people and bring them back together.

This week, as we all know, marks the anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York City. We all know, and it has been very well documented, the impact that had and continues to have on emergency services persons who attended at the scene and afterwards. I think it is really important to note that in an event like this so many emergency services personnel are putting themselves at risk. They are making the decision to go to work to save people knowing that they may be at risk themselves. I think that is a true testament not just to the emergency services as a whole but to the kind of individual who makes the decision to help people for a living.

I saw a study on the news last night that emergency services personnel are among the most trusted professions in Australia. They are considered the most trusted people. I think that says a lot. The people who have the heart and the strength to go into those roles are the same ones who are putting themselves at risk emotionally, physically and otherwise when saving individuals in the wake of a natural disaster.

I would very much like to express my greatest condolences to the Moroccan community in South Australia, however small it may be. I know that many feel a tie or a connection to Morocco in some way. I studied French at university, and each person had to choose a Francophone country to do most of their thesis work on throughout that study, and Morocco was the subject of my study. So, although I do not have a Moroccan heritage, I do feel a connection to it. As mentioned, the member for Badcoe feels a particular connection to it. I know that perhaps even though the community here is small the love for the country is large, and so many people have been to Morocco and experienced their beautiful traditions and customs with such an amalgamation of different cultures and experiences in such a beautiful place.

I encourage all those who are able to assist, whether it be by small donations to large charities that are assisting. Of course, when it is safe, I encourage those to return to Morocco. We know that the tourist economies after natural disasters never quite return to what they were at the time prior to those natural disasters. I know that when they are able to rebuild, when they are able to take on tourists again, Morocco will continue to have so much to offer people from around the world, whether it be in culture, art, food or heritage and the strength of their people following this horrific event. I very much commend the motion and express my deepest condolences to all those who have been impacted.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (16:08): I rise in support of the motion moved by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs regarding the devastating earthquake that struck Morocco at 11.11pm local time last Friday 8 September. In doing so, I offer my heartfelt condolences to those impacted in Morocco and the Moroccan communities across the world.

With the loss of family and friends, the death toll rising each day and thousands injured, the destruction of their homes and the impact on their communities, the sorrow and the pain, it is truly an enormous tragedy. Anyone who has ever lost a loved one understands the true meaning of grief, and I know that there are no words that can express the suffering that so many in Morocco are experiencing, as are their families spread across the globe including those right here in South Australia.

Just a few weeks ago, at the FIFA Fan Festival, I spoke to Moroccan journalists who were conducting interviews asking fans from all nations to give a shout-out to the Moroccan team. They were so proud of their Women's World Cup team making their debut at the FIFA Women's World Cup here in Australia. I was happy to oblige, congratulating them on their success in qualifying while speaking on camera in my gold and green Matildas scarf. They said that that was why they asked me. They wanted the local crowds to get behind them. I want to say now that today our thoughts are with them.

I understand that the Australian government is providing emergency humanitarian assistance to people affected by the earthquake through local organisations, including the Red Cross and Red

Crescent, to deliver immediate life-saving assistance, including emergency shelter, first aid, protection and psychological support, and it stands ready to consider requests for assistance.

Here in Australia we have watched the devastating impact of the earthquake, as it unfolds, through the media. At this time of turmoil and great sadness, I know the thoughts and wishes of many in our South Australian community are with the greater Moroccan community and those involved in rescue efforts and the provision of medical assistance. I extend my sincere condolences and commend the motion to the house.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:11): Today, I rise in support of the motion put forward by the minister and I would like to convey my express condolences to the global Moroccan community in what is their hour of need. At times like this, you count your blessings. What has happened and is unfolding in Morocco is a huge human tragedy and, as a global community, we need to do whatever we can to assist. I understand that the Australian government makes a contribution through the Red Cross disaster relief and emergency fund. We contribute to that and moneys from that will be used to assist the Moroccan community to rebuild.

In the short term, it is not a case of rebuilding but a case of finding out the extent of the disaster in that country and assisting those people to locate family members. It is my understanding from news reports that at least 2,680 people have already been confirmed dead in this event, over 2,500 have been injured and thousands are unaccounted for.

Sometimes I do not think even the pictures on the television actually convey the enormity of what has happened in an event like this. I have seen the pictures and the sheer devastation. What it does not quite convey is the full impact this event has had on the Moroccan people. When you hear stories of people talking about their family members who have been lost and the sheer grief and trauma they are going through, this is not going to be an event that can be easily rectified or remedied.

From my point of view, the loss of buildings is tragedy enough but, for me, my greatest concern is the impact on the Moroccan people this will have in an intergenerational way. Whole families have been killed, and that continuity of families in villages and communities, that intergenerational culture is taken forward, and this event will have a major impact in the long term on communities in Morocco.

I will not repeat all the things that the previous speakers have said. I think they have put it better than I can. It is great to see that we have bipartisan support on this motion. I would like to take this opportunity to say that the people from Morocco can count on not only the people from South Australia but the people from Australia to assist as much as we can. My condolences to those families.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (16:14): I, too, stand to speak in favour of the motion and to spare a moment for Moroccan Australians—those of Moroccan heritage—who have chosen to call Australia home. One of the things we have become accustomed to in Australia since the war is that we are a nation of people around the world. Morocco is a country that we might not have a terribly large relationship with. I think you could probably count on one hand the number of times that any of us may have had a conversation about Morocco in the last 12 months before this event. This has certainly brought to light an awful natural disaster in another part of the world that people migrate from to come to Australia.

Morocco is an interesting place. It is ranked as having the best infrastructure in Africa, which is unfortunate in a way, of course, because so much of it was destroyed by the earthquake. They spent \$15 billion on infrastructure in just the five years between 2010 and 2015. They were the first African country to have a high-speed train. We know that their neighbours to the north, Spain, spent the nineties and the early 2000s linking all their cities with high-speed trains. Morocco is the first place in Africa to have high-speed trains, so we are not talking about old villages or undeveloped land that have been affected by this; we are talking about a significant investment by a country that has moved into the market system over the last 30 years.

I am certainly hoping they can deal with the bottleneck of accepting aid from the rest of the world that has popped up. I was sad to hear that, after a death count of 2,900, they are now focusing on clearing and looking for bodies than on finding survivors so many days after the event. My

thoughts are in particular with those South Australians who have family ties in Morocco and, as fellow world citizens, the people of Morocco themselves.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (16:18): I thank my colleagues on both sides of the house for the support for this motion. As I said, the Moroccan community is quite small, but it is growing here in South Australia and our thoughts are with them and their families in Morocco. Our thoughts are with people as they recover.

I thank the member for Badcoe for her connection in spending time and looking at the culture and I also thank the member for Newland. Just like the member for Torrens, I met the Moroccans who were here during the FIFA World Cup who were really excited they had a team playing here representing their country for the very first time. They were doing quite well also, so it was a real source of pride.

Australians are going to ask: how can we help, what can we do? Of course donations to groups such as the Australian Red Cross and Human Appeal International are avenues that have those supports. Red Cross often plays a very strong role in connecting families who are often missing or lost, and of course in these natural disasters often one of the tragic things is that people are separated and they spend a lot of time trying to reunite and find out what is happening.

There is a fundraiser here in Adelaide on Monday 18 September. I want to recognise the great work of the Parwana Afghan Kitchen, a famous restaurant here. In conjunction with Adelaide Sisters Association, they are doing a fundraising dinner for rescue efforts for Morocco on Monday 18 September. It is \$100 a head and there will be limited tickets, so I would encourage people that this is something they can do as a way of giving back, but to make those direct donations as well.

I think that when we talk about and see what happens with these devastating natural impacts it kind of takes your breath away. Those pictures on our news show the devastation, but I also know that we often move on quite quickly, and the reality is that it will take an enormous amount of time not only to clean up and to support those with the rebuilding but also to see the trauma that is experienced by families who have lost so much.

Our thoughts are with the diaspora of the Moroccan community and of course those living with this tragedy as well. On behalf of the government of South Australia we move this motion. We wish them recovery as soon as possible but our thoughts are with Morocco as they start to heal and rebuild.

Motion carried.

Bills

CRIMINAL LAW CONSOLIDATION (CRIMINAL ORGANISATIONS - PRESCRIBED PLACES) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (16:22): I move:

That this bill be read a second time.

Today, I introduce the Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisation—Prescribed Places) Amendment Bill 2023.

Under the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935 there are restrictions on participants in criminal organisations entering or attempting to enter a prescribed place. Any person who is a participant in a criminal organisation who enters, or attempts to enter, a prescribed place commits an offence, but this offence carries a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment.

These, and a range of other measures in the act form an important part of a range of strategies to tackle serious and organised crime, which ultimately is about improving community safety. As a result of the recently delivered judgement of the High Court of Australia in *Disorganised Developments Pty Ltd & Ors v State of South Australia (2023)* regulations made by the previous Liberal government in 2020 to declare properties at Cowirra as prescribed places were found to be invalid.

The government intends to do everything within our power to limit any risk of outlaw motorcycle gang participants returning to properties associated with criminal organisations. Therefore this bill will declare certain properties that have continued association with criminal organisations to be prescribed places for the purposes of the definition in the Criminal Law Consolidation Act by making new regulations. The amendments are set out in a schedule to the bill, which will upon commencement amend the Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations) Regulations 2015.

The properties to be declared as prescribed places had all previously been prescribed places for the purposes of the act. These properties are places that continue to be connected with and are at a high risk of being used as meeting places for criminal organisations. It is in the interests of community safety and the disruption of criminal activity that these properties remain as prescribed places.

The bill will also delete and thereby repeal existing regulations that declare prescribed places so the number of properties no longer associated with criminal organisations will be removed as prescribed places. In addition, the bill will amend the act to provide that there is no obligation to provide procedural fairness in relation to the making of a declaration by regulation that an entity is a criminal organisation, an event is a prescribed event, or a place is a prescribed place for the purposes of the definitions in the act.

Labor in South Australia has a proud history of legislation to disrupt, to destabilise and to dismantle criminal organisations in South Australia, making our community a safer place for its law-abiding citizens. This Labor government has absolutely zero tolerance for the misery that outlaw motorcycle gangs bring on our community. We agree with the observations of Justice Steward, who said in the disorganised developments case, and I quote:

It is, with great respect, a remarkable proposition to require the South Australian Government to consult with a criminal organisation before declaring one of that organisation's properties to be a prescribed place.

We doubt it was ever parliament's intention for it to be so, but we are pleased to be acting quickly to rectify the situation with this bill. In concluding, I commend the bill to the chamber and I seek leave to insert the explanation of clauses into *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

This clause is formal.

Part 2—Amendment of Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935

2—Amendment of section 83GA—Preliminary

This clause amends section 83GA of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* to provide that no obligation to provide procedural fairness exists in relation to the making of a declaration by regulation that—

- (a) an entity is a criminal organisation for the purposes of paragraph (c) of the definition of *criminal organisation* in section 83GA(1); or
- (b) an event is a prescribed event for the purposes of the definition of *prescribed event* in section 83GA(1); or
- (c) a place is a prescribed place for the purposes of the definition of *prescribed place* in section 83GA(1).

This clause also amends section 83GA of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935 to update references to the Subordinate Legislation Act 1978 to now refer to the Legislative Instruments Act 1978.

Schedule 1—Related amendments to Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations) Regulations 2015

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Effect of Part 2

This clause provides that Part 2 of Schedule 1 has effect to amend the *Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations) Regulations 2015* and that those amendments have effect to—

- (a) repeal the declaration of certain places as prescribed places for the purposes of the definition of *prescribed place* in section 83GA(1) of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* by deleting regulations 3 and 4; and
- (b) declare certain places to be prescribed places for the purposes of the definition of *prescribed place* in section 83GA(1) of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* by making new regulations 3 to 9 (inclusive).

This clause further provides that—

- (a) section 83GA(2) of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* does not apply to a regulation made under Part 2 of Schedule 1; and
- (b) the *Legislative Instruments Act 1978* does not apply in relation to a regulation made under Part 2 of Schedule 1.

Part 2—Amendment of Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations) Regulations 2015

2—Substitution of regulations 3 and 4

This clause provides that regulations 3 and 4 of the *Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations) Regulations 2015* are deleted (and thereby repealed) and that new regulations are made in substitution declaring various places to be prescribed places for the purposes of the definition of *prescribed place* in section 83GA(1) of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935*. The places that are to be declared as prescribed places are as follows:

- (a) under proposed new regulation 3—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 5995/665 (which relates to property at the address 591 Kenny Road, Cowirra);
- (b) under proposed new regulation 4—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 5880/413 (which relates to property at the address Lot 555 Kenny Road, Cowirra);
- (c) under proposed new regulation 5—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 6142/108 (which relates to property at the address 305 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier);
- (d) under proposed new regulation 6—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 5696/244 (which relates to property at the address 108-118 Francis Road, Wingfield);
- (e) under proposed new regulation 7—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 5249/413 (which relates to property at the address 108-118 Francis Road, Wingfield);
- (f) under proposed new regulation 8—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 5249/414 (which relates to property at the address 108-118 Francis Road, Wingfield);
- (g) under proposed new regulation 9—the whole of the land contained in Certificate of title 5249/415 (which relates to property at the address 108-118 Francis Road, Wingfield).

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (16:26): I rise to indicate the opposition's support for the bill and indicate I am the lead speaker for the opposition. I note the remarks of the minister echoing as they do the contribution of the Attorney in another place just a few days ago on 31 August in the course of the second reading debate in that place.

I indicate to the house that I have had the benefit of that and the balance of the debate which took place in another place yesterday and the bill has made its way here. I am glad to see that the bill has been brought on and given the priority that it has, being at the bottom of the list of Government Business, Orders of the Day, No. 13, but being given priority to move up to be debated now.

It might just bear some reflection of the fact that judgement in this matter was delivered on 2 August. Members of this place will recall that we were in the midst of a rather prolonged absence from this place at about 2 August and if there was one point in particular to remark upon on that occasion I heard the Attorney indicate that we had to grapple with this immediately. It may be that it is necessary to legislate in response and we will take advice and take whatever necessary steps to act promptly in order to deal with the High Court's decision.

We were then in the middle of this long stretch away from this place and my consideration at the time, apart from being directed to the reasons of the court and as these things do from time to time, instruction from the courts about the validity of certain legislation, is something that parliaments need to deal with. As it turns out, it is necessary indeed for the parliament to do something about this. It is not something that has been deemed possible by the government to be dealt with by other executive action.

I really emphasise at this time that, had the parliament been sitting on 2 August, and given the prompt way in which this matter has been able to be considered and brought on by the parliament, then I think I would be confident to say that a month ago at least we could have had this matter dealt with and certainty restored and confidence restored to the people of South Australia, who I am certain require as a basic starting point of their government and of their elected members in their parliament that they take all necessary steps to ensure safety and to ensure that those laws that are designed to have the effect of disrupting the activities of criminal organisations have that desired effect and do not sit somehow in abeyance of invalidity for any longer than they absolutely need to.

So here we are, a month and a half after that judgement was handed down. As we have seen, the legislation was able to be brought on and dealt with by another place. We see it prioritised in this place, and I welcome that. I will address some remarks to the Law Society's response to the bill. There is a thoughtful response from the Law Society, and I take the opportunity to express my appreciation for the Law Society's careful, diligent and principled engagement with this piece of legislation. As is if not universally the case then certainly in terms of the bulk of legislation, the Law Society is a very important source of reference in terms of outside assistance.

The Law Society have provided to the Attorney-General, by a letter that I have seen and had the chance to consider dated 11 September, a view about the merits and their concerns as a society about the unusual nature of this legislation. There is no doubting it is unusual legislation. I welcome and thank the Law Society for those expressions that are set out by its letter dated 11 September.

To my observation, I note for the benefit of members in the house, the High Court here has gone about a process of statutory interpretation and has made findings in relation to the validity or otherwise of regulations, and it has done so by the letter according to law, as you would expect it to do. That is its task and its function. I just indicate to members that I do not see in the reasons of the High Court anything greater than that, to put it that way. The High Court has found that the impugned regulations are invalid because they have not met the necessary criteria, and I will come to that a little more in a moment.

The High Court has not, in finding invalidity, made any wider observation about the nature, the principle or the approach of legislation of this kind. The minister has referred to the remarks of Justice Steward, for example, in observing that even to make the findings that it has might seem on the face of them to a reader to be somewhat unusual, given the obvious intent of the legislation.

To deal with the procedural fairness point first, I draw particular attention (as the Law Society does) to paragraph 35 of the reasons, where the court makes the following observation. I refer to paragraph 5, if not in its entirety, at some length. The court finds:

This is not a case that requires consideration of the scope of procedural fairness in relation to a power liable adversely to affect a large group of persons.

It there cites, to distinguish such a case where there was such wider scope, *Bread Manufacturers of New South Wales v Evans*, *Comptroller-General of Customs v Kawasaki Motors Pty Ltd (No.1)*, *Wasantha v Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs*, *Dighton v South Australia*, *Bank Mellat v Her Majesty's Treasury (No.2)*, to illustrate that there might have been a case where it was necessary to consider scope of procedural fairness, the need to consider what happens when a power is liable to affect a larger group of persons. This is not such a case and therefore, as we come to the legislation, its abrogation is one of more specific remit. The court goes on to say:

In this Court, the appellants' case was based squarely upon their individual property rights and interests that would be directly affected by a valid declaration of the blocks comprising the Cowirra land as prescribed places. Declarations of land as prescribed places affect owners and occupiers of the land to a significant degree and in a manner markedly different from other persons who might be adversely affected by such a declaration, in the sense envisaged in *Kioa*. The possible interests of a broader class of participants in criminal organisations do not detract from the application of the presumption in this case.

Certainly, there is no finding here that the scope of effect on procedural fairness goes any wider than that narrow class of people who are going to be affected. In terms of the scope, there is a limited application of principle in that regard. It is a matter of concern that the Law Society has raised, and I would just put it in that context.

The Law Society says at paragraph 12 of its letter that it:

...queries the justification in abrogating any citizen's right to procedural fairness, including the owners of the properties that were the subject of the High Court's decision.

In the following paragraph:

13. The very reasons that the High Court identified as to why abrogation of the right to procedural fairness should not be implied are the very reasons why such an abrogation should not be made express. The right to procedural fairness is necessary because:
 - 13.1 declarations of land as prescribed places affect owners and occupiers of the land to a significant degree, and in a manner markedly different from other persons who might be adversely affected by such a declaration—

the Law Society there refers to paragraph 35 of the reasons of the plurality I have just referred to and read out. It continues:

- 13.2 matters might be raised by an owner or occupier that might avoid the arbitrary exercise of the regulation making power.

At that point, the Law Society refers to paragraph 42 of the reasons. That bears some brief reflection as well. At paragraph 42 of the reasons the plurality observe:

There is no reason to conclude that the scope of the regulation-making power is unconstrained by a duty of procedural fairness simply because the exercise of the legislative power is not so constrained. Similarly, the general and limited oversight of the regulation-making power by a Parliamentary Committee and the availability of disallowance are not a source of an implication to exclude procedural fairness: South Australia did not suggest that oversight of this kind was likely to afford procedural fairness to owners or occupiers, or that it would involve consideration of matters that might be raised by an owner or occupier if procedural fairness is afforded and that might avoid the arbitrary exercise of the regulation-making power.

I do not think that adds very much. It is really just making the concession that just because you have the Legislative Review Committee here in the parliament that could have a look at regulations, that is not going to provide an alternative source of some form of satisfactory procedural fairness.

The Law Society is certainly appropriately raising those matters. As I read it, though, the High Court is going no further than to say that there is a narrow group that is involved and there is nothing to provide a source of implication for excluding the application of procedural fairness unless something more is done. We see it now expressed explicitly in the legislation.

We are left with the point of principle, and the Law Society maintains then its paragraph 12 query as to the justification for abrogating what it describes as 'any citizen's right to procedural fairness, including the owners of the properties'. It is really putting the proposition back to the parliament that no matter what the circumstances, it seems to me as I read the Law Society's view, of those owners and occupiers are, and no matter how narrow the class or group as to which they belong, no matter how narrow in its scope the application of the abrogation is, then the query would remain. The Law Society is not, as I read it, providing some alternative threshold but rather maintaining a query as to the abrogation at all in such circumstances. The Law Society says a little earlier:

- 9 The abrogation of any entitlement to procedural fairness in the context of a declaration of a 'prescribed place'...is explicitly stated so as to overcome any ambiguity. It will achieve its effect of removing uncertainty. However, that gain will be achieved by a potential increase in the risk that individuals will be prevented from accessing their property, that is, effectively confiscating their property, without justification. The amendments will bolster Parliament's ability to exclude people from property without being heard on the matter. Further, there is no suggestion that the exclusion results from the property having been unlawfully acquired. This more overarching implication, rather than the intention to resolve an isolated issue, should be carefully considered by the Parliament in assessing this reform.

I think those are certainly observations that ought to be carefully borne in mind by the parliament. I note further that the Law Society draws the analogy—I think it does, at least, in this letter—to the 2005 confiscation legislation introduced, as it was, to deal with the confiscation of assets. Having talked about property rights and the nature of the effect on those property rights, the Law Society, at paragraph 10, draws the comparison to the 2005 confiscation act in the following terms:

- 10 The practically untrammelled power of effective confiscation under Part 3B Division 2 of the Act may be compared to the assets confiscation regime that already exists under the Criminal Assets

Confiscation Act 2005...Where assets are found to be the proceeds of crime, this Act provides a robust basis for those assets to be forfeited or disposed of efficiently and effectively.

It is drawing the distinction there in terms of those assets having been found to be the proceeds of crime, whereas of course, in the case of this legislation, the Law Society is making an argument that you are effectively confiscating land in circumstances where there is no suggestion it was acquired unlawfully, but you are affecting the property rights of the owner or occupier in a way similar to the way in which you are affecting the property rights of the owner under the confiscation legislation.

Of course, in confiscation legislation you are in a much more cut and dried, crystallised set of circumstances. This legislation might be comparable, as the Law Society has done, but you are dealing much more with the active disruption of the activities of the criminal organisation. The structure is different, and of course the whole premise for doing so I might perhaps compare more to the force of a mandatory injunction. That sort of extraordinary power is available in a variety of civil circumstances as well.

That probably comes to a point of illustrating what it has been convenient to do in the course of this legislation as well in that it is a dynamic process and this legislation will take the opportunity to demonstrate that by removing from the register of such prescribed places, places that are no longer associated with criminal organisations. There might be something of an answer or something of a characterisation of the purpose of the legislation that is to be found in the fact that it is taking the opportunity to remove certain prescribed places that are no longer associated with criminal organisations.

I suppose if there is something for the Law Society and for those who are concerned about the extraordinary nature of these provisions to keep a close eye on, it ought to be the active oversight of that body of prescribed places to the extent that there is any risk of injustice that is associated with leaving them on the register for any longer than they absolutely need to be, then the bill is a way of demonstrating that those prescribed places are going to come off the register from time to time when that permits and that should happen when there are grounds properly for that to occur.

I made some short observations about the reasons of the High Court, the decision that has been the cause for this legislation to be needing to be brought to the parliament, and I have addressed at some length, and I hope faithfully, the concerns that have been addressed by the Law Society by its letter to the Attorney dated 11 September.

It might be again timely to make an observation about opportunities for consideration of legislation of this kind. The reasons, as I have said earlier, were delivered on 2 August and the bill was introduced at a fairly early stage once the parliament finally did return, introduced by the Attorney on 31 August. In terms of explaining the reasons for the Law Society not having responded any sooner, the Law Society just indicates its understanding that the matter would be coming on when it did and, as it has turned out, there is this considered view from the Law Society but it has come along in just a matter of hours ahead of the introduction of the legislation.

I would always encourage to the extent that it is possible and practical, the provision by the government, not only to the Law Society but particularly in these circumstances to the Law Society, of both its thinking and draft legislation at as early as possible a time so as to permit the view of the Law Society to contribute to consideration of the matter as a whole and not only on the eve of its introduction or, indeed, at about the time that the bill is ready to be considered by the parliament.

All of that said, it is a contribution that is theirs to be considered, and I understand it was available to those in another place in recent days as well. So I note with thanks the Law Society's view and, for the reasons that I have described in the context of the High Court's reasons, I do not share the concerns to the point of opposing the legislation, applying as it does to the particular targets of those members of criminal organisations and the prescribed places they own and occupy.

The minister has made observations about the history in this state of steps being taken actively to disrupt the activities of criminal organisations. The parliament has certainly displayed over an extended period of time on both sides of parliament and in governments over a sustained period of time a desire on behalf of South Australians to take all legislative action that can be taken to disrupt the activities of those criminal organisations, including those declared the subject of this bill.

When that occurs, it is going to be necessary for the parliament to do the work that it needs to do to back the government to take action that will disrupt these organisations. It can only do that if the legislation that is relied upon is effective and if it is upheld in the courts. When there are defects that are found in the legislation or in regulations made pursuant to the legislation, then it is important that the parliament get to grips with those matters, take appropriate advice and the government take appropriate action.

As I have said, it has been necessary to bring legislation to the parliament. I am glad that that has happened promptly and been given the priority that it should. It is a matter of regret that parliament was not sitting any sooner so that the parliament could more promptly consider the necessary action to apply what the government has now presented on advice as measures capable of achieving the objectives the subject of that relevant legislation.

It is with those remarks as to context, and I hope by reference to the consideration that the High Court has had about the matter, that I again indicate the opposition's support for the legislation. I commend its objectives to the house. I commend the bill to the house, and I hope it will enjoy a speedy passage.

S.E. ANDREWS (Gibson) (17:00): I rise to speak on the Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations—Prescribed Places) Amendment Bill 2023. This government will pursue all options at our disposal to disrupt outlaw motorcycle gangs and their criminal activities. There is no place for drugs, violence and intimidation in our state.

A recent High Court decision held that a set of regulations was invalidly made by our previous Liberal government. It was also held that reasonable notice needs to be given to an owner or occupier of a proposal to declare a place a 'prescribed place', even though those owners or occupiers are participants in criminal organisations. Members of my community would find it extraordinary that we are providing notices to criminal organisations to let them know we are going to disrupt their activities.

Everyone in our state knows criminal activity is wrong, especially activities carried out by these groups. This bill therefore amends the act to provide that there is no obligation to provide procedural fairness in relation to the making of a declaration by regulation that an entity is a criminal organisation. An event is a 'prescribed event', or a place is a 'prescribed place', for the purposes of the definitions in the act.

The bill also declares a list of properties to be 'prescribed places'. These have all previously been prescribed places for the purposes of the act. These properties are places that continue to be connected with and are at risk of being used as meeting places for criminal organisations. This includes properties at Cowirra, Mount Gambier and Wingfield. Any person who is a participant in a criminal organisation who enters, or attempts to enter, a prescribed place commits an offence. Participants include office holders, members and those seeking to be members of a criminal organisation. As my friend the Attorney-General said in the other place, and I quote:

This government and previous Labor governments have a proud history of legislating to disrupt, destabilise and dismantle criminal organisations in South Australia, making our community a safer place for its law-abiding citizens. This Labor government has absolutely zero tolerance for the misery that outlaw motorcycle gangs bring on the community.

There is no place for criminal organisations in South Australia and no place for violence in South Australia. I commend this bill to the house.

Mr BROWN (Florey) (17:02): It is with great pleasure that I rise to support this piece of legislation. Firstly, I would like to talk about some of the technical aspects of the legislation before talking about the issue more broadly.

In this bill, any person who is a participant in a criminal organisation and who enters a prescribed place, or attempts to enter a prescribed place, commits an offence. A participant for the purposes of the legislation includes office holders, members and those seeking to be members of a criminal organisation.

A 'criminal organisation' means an organisation of three or more persons who have as their purpose, or one of their purposes, engaging in, organising, planning, facilitating, supporting or otherwise conspiring to engage in serious criminal activity and who, by their association, represent

an unacceptable risk to the safety, welfare or order of the community; or a declared organisation within the meaning of the Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act 2008; or an entity declared by regulation to be a criminal organisation.

A participant who enters a prescribed place, or attempts to enter a prescribed place, commits an offence that carries a three-year maximum term of imprisonment as a penalty. A person who commits the offence must be sentenced to a term of imprisonment, which cannot be suspended other than in exceptional circumstances.

The Malinauskas government is strongly committed to taking every practical measure to disrupt the criminal activities of outlaw motorcycle gangs. Any reasonable government acting in good faith would be similarly committed. To curtail the criminal activities of outlaw motorcycle gangs is unequivocally in the best interests of the South Australian community in terms of promoting and protecting the safety and wellbeing of our people.

A recent decision by the High Court in the matter of Disorganized Developments Pty Ltd & Ors v State of South Australia (2023) handed down in August held that a set of regulations made by the previous government was invalidly made due to problems with the drafting of the regulations. The court also decided that reasonable notice must be given to an owner or an occupier, indicating that there is a proposal to declare a place a prescribed place even in the event that those owners or occupiers are participants in criminal organisations and that the appellants had been entitled to reasonable notice under procedural fairness.

The bill now before us will amend the act to provide that there is no obligation to provide procedural fairness in relation to the making of a declaration by regulation that an entity is a criminal organisation; an event is a prescribed event or a place is a prescribed place for the purposes of the definitions in the act.

The bill also declares a list of properties in South Australia to be prescribed places. Each of the list of properties therein has previously been declared a prescribed place for the purposes of the act. These properties are places that we understand, on advice from SAPOL, to be connected to criminal organisations and to be at risk of being used as meeting places for criminal organisations.

The decision of the High Court strikes down regulations made by the former Liberal government in relation to two properties at Cowirra, which is located across the Murray River from Mannum. These are properties which are linked to the Hells Angels outlaw motorcycle gang. The appellants, who are members of the Hells Angels, appealed to the High Court against the decision of the South Australian Court of Appeal.

The argument put forward by the appellants held that the South Australian Court of Appeal was in error in failing to find that the Cowirra regulations are invalid on two grounds, the first of which was in relation to the efficacy of the regulations and the second of which was that the Cowirra regulations were made in breach of a duty to afford procedural fairness to the appellants as the owners or occupiers of the land.

The court unanimously agreed that, due to problems with the drafting, the Cowirra regulations did not effect a valid declaration. The High Court found that the South Australian Court of Appeal erred in finding to the contrary and should have found that the Cowirra regulations were invalid by reason of their lack of efficacy. Four members of the court held that the appellants should have been afforded an opportunity to be heard before the Governor made the regulations.

Despite their finding that the regulations were invalidly made, they had been asked to consider the second ground irrespective of their findings on the first. Notably the judgement reads, and I quote:

As the determination of the first ground of appeal is dispositive of the appeal, it is not strictly necessary to address the second ground, which contended that the declaration power is conditioned by a duty to afford procedural fairness to the appellants as owners and occupiers of the Cowirra land.

However, it is appropriate to do so in the light of South Australia's stated intention to seek to remake the declarations without affording procedural fairness to the appellants if the first ground of appeal is successful.

The court further found, and I quote:

As owner and occupiers, the appellants have property rights in the Cowirra land. Mr Stacy and Mr Taylor seek access to the Cowirra land in order to exercise their rights as occupiers including, from time to time, to reside on the land.

Disorganized Developments also has interests in accessing the Cowirra land through its directors in order to maintain it and otherwise discharge its obligations as owner of the land. The obligations include statutory obligations under various South Australian statutes and regulations and common law duties to protect invitees and trespassers from harm or injury arising from conditions on the land.

Notwithstanding that an argument could be made in relation to some irony in the notion of the appellants protecting persons from harm and injury, in light of the activity that is understood to have occurred on the properties in question, the court further determined, and I quote:

...[the] scheme requires reasonable notice to an owner or occupier of a proposal to declare a place a prescribed place, to give them an opportunity to supply information or make submissions as to matters within their knowledge as an owner or occupier that may be relevant to a decision to exercise the declaration power.

It was Justice Steward who dissented on the second ground. His dissenting opinion is worth consideration. He writes:

I do not, and with great respect, agree that the Governor of South Australia owed the appellants, as the owner and occupiers of the Cowirra land, a duty of procedural fairness prior to the making of the Cowirra regulations.

He goes on to explain:

...there is the regulation making power in s 370(1) of the CLC Act. It provides:

The Governor may make such regulations as are contemplated by, or as are necessary or expedient for the purposes of, this Act.

This is the context for determining whether the Governor of South Australia owed the second and third appellants, who are members of a declared criminal organisation, and a company they own, an obligation of procedural fairness, and if so its content, before making the Cowirra Regulations. For the reasons which follow, any such obligation would be antithetical to the statutory regime enacted in Div 2 of Pt 3B of the CLC Act.

It is, with great respect, a remarkable proposition to require the South Australian Government to consult with a criminal organisation before declaring one of that organisation's properties to be a prescribed place. In such particular circumstances, the presumption in favour of conditioning the power to make regulations for the purpose of s 83GA(1) with an obligation to provide procedural fairness to the appellants is rebutted.

Justice Steward further wrote, and I quote:

...any duty of procedural fairness, if it exists, must ultimately arise as an implication which conditions the power to make regulations under s 370 of the CLC Act for the purposes of s 83GA(1). Whether it should not be presumed, in a given case, that such a condition exists turns on whether the legislation, properly construed, distinguishes the obligation to afford procedural fairness.

His Honour further writes:

Division 2 of Pt 3B of the CLC Act, from the perspective of the declared criminal organisation, is not beneficial legislation. Rather, the legislative object is the injury and disruption of the criminal activities carried out by offensive and dangerous organisations. It uses unambiguous, if not blunt, methods. Decisions are based on police advice and criminal intelligence. The aim is to leave the criminal organisation diminished and wounded. The appellants rightly accepted as much.

In such circumstances it is simply incongruous to conclude that Parliament did not intend to eliminate the presumption in favour of the giving of procedural fairness in the case of participants in criminal organisations and any entity associated with such participants.

A simple, and perhaps typical, example illustrates why this must be so. Suppose, as a result of police surveillance, it is discovered that prohibited drugs are stored at a property owned and occupied by a participant in a declared criminal organisation. On police advice, a decision is made to make a regulation declaring that property to be a prescribed place.

It would be nonsensical to conclude that, in such circumstances, Parliament intended to impose a requirement that the South Australian government 'tip off' the participant in the criminal organisation first, before making the regulation. Indeed, courts have long accepted that the need for urgent action may result in the exclusion of procedural fairness. Any such obligation would therefore greatly undermine the very purpose and object of Div 2 of Pt 3B of the CLC Act and would sit in direct tension with the confidential nature of the material upon which the cabinet of South Australia is to act.

Therefore, recognising that, per the decision of four members of the court, procedural fairness was necessary to afford in the case of the two appellants—then, toward avoiding what I personally would characterise as the obvious absurdity of having to consult with members of the criminal organisation before determining that they will no longer be able to access a property they own, for whatever means the property was acquired and has been used or is to be used—this government is quite sensibly availing itself of the option to change the law so that procedural fairness is not an obligation that must be afforded to such persons.

Justice Steward's dissenting opinion in the matter of Disorganised Developments Pty Ltd & Ors v State of South Australia (2023) offers a number of points that are noteworthy in relation to the government's decision to take this step. The broad support that this bill enjoyed when it was passed in the other place underlines the notion that it puts forward sensible provisions which had the potential to produce good and desirable outcomes for our community. I commend the bill to the house.

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (17:12): I am delighted to be rising to speak on the Criminal Law Consolidation (Criminal Organisations—Prescribed Places) Amendment Bill. This is an important piece of work that this parliament needs to consider and progress. Of course, the parliament has spent much time over recent years, and in fact decades, trying to legislate for this quite tricky area in terms of organised crime.

It is a very difficult area to be able to govern because, of course, the people it seeks to police are exactly the kind of people who go out of their way to try to circumvent the law at every possibility. Not only that, but these people are people who are incredibly well equipped and very well resourced—with lawyers and other professional assistants—to do exactly that and to try to circumvent what it is that this parliament intends, what it is that this government intends, in terms of stamping out organised crime in our state.

I feel like in recent years South Australians have been quite fortunate really in comparison with previous years in terms of the prevalence of that organised crime element in our community. It was not that long ago when this state was facing quite a challenge when it came to bikies, organised crime elements, who were indeed a threat not only to themselves and fellow bokie members but also to the public at large.

I certainly remember a shooting in North Adelaide at a cafe. The opponents of a person who was a rather undesirable person in the bokie community decided to take aim at him quite literally in broad daylight—in fact, it was quite a busy mealtime—and shot through glass to try to not just injure but kill their target. We simply cannot have that happening in South Australia.

We have not seen incidents like that, with that degree of public threat, for many years, but the reason why we have not seen that is that action was taken by a previous Labor government to not just address but really out-and-out attack these bokie gangs to make sure that they knew that the people of South Australia would not stand for the activities and the risks that they were presenting to our community.

A great deal of thought, effort and work were put into putting together a legislative structure and many other measures as well, policing measures and other enforcement and corrections measures, to ensure that these criminal gangs could be suppressed. I would love to say 'eliminated', but unfortunately we are here today still making legislation, which I hope one day will mean that these criminal organisations cannot operate, certainly in our state.

I was very pleased and lucky in a past life in between stints as a journalist—and not just a journalist but a court reporter, so I was very close to a lot of these shootings and crimes that were happening in our community a good 10 or 15 years ago—to then work for the then Attorney-General Michael Atkinson and be right on the frontline when some of these legislative reforms were being made.

It was tricky work, it was tricky politics, but it was also tricky work from a legislative point of view in crafting laws that would be absolutely airtight and make it absolutely clear what the will of the parliament and the people of South Australia was and our attitude towards those who sought to risk the lives and welfare of other South Australians.

These are not nice people. My parents are motorcycle enthusiasts. These people are not motorcycle enthusiasts; in fact, many of them do not even own a motorcycle. It is actually quite galling that they carry on their criminal enterprises as though they are simply having a good time riding around motorbikes. It is a complete fallacy, and one that for some reason persists, when really these people—most of them are blokes; sometimes women, but most of them are blokes—are just groups of utter criminals aiding and abetting each other to commit criminal activities, and that stretches right across the spectrum of criminality.

Whether you are looking at drug dealing in a range of different illicit substances or whether you are looking at things like blackmail, assault and even murder, these organisations are behind some of the most atrocious crimes that we have seen in this state. If you have a look at the missing persons list, if you have a look at the most wanted list for South Australia, you will find a very strong connection between quite a lot of those and suspected organised crime activity. That is no accident.

These people, who are members of so-called bikie gangs or serious and organised crime gangs, are some of the worst criminals, the most heartless, the most brazen and the most dangerous people we have in this state. So I am completely and fully on board with this government's approach when it comes to serious and organised crime and making sure that the laws we have are as strong as they possibly can be, as targeted as they possibly can be and leave our state, our judiciary and our police in a position where they can act and where they can identify and stamp out the atrocious criminality of these gangs.

If we think that this is confined to South Australia, or that the criminals involved in these gangs based in South Australia only have their talons reaching as far as our state borders, we are mistaken. These people are members involved in state offences and also offending that takes place and is facilitated right across our country and right across the world. These are international, national and state-based criminal enterprises, and South Australia is as responsible as any other jurisdiction to make sure that we do our part to stamp out the crimes that these people commit.

A lot of the time the crimes being committed here, especially assaults, blackmails, kidnappings and abductions, are often committed between gangs or within the different criminal enterprises. We also know that there are other people who are affected by that.

These people who are involved sometimes, when you are talking about associates, are often young people. They have families, they have friends, they have children, they have grandparents, and every time something happens it affects their whole circle of family and friends. That is the first layer of people who are affected by this offending. Then, of course, there are also others—particularly across our business community—who are affected by this, and then our broader community in terms of how safe we feel in our own community, and how safe we are.

I bet those people sitting in the cafe in North Adelaide several years ago had no idea when they were having a lovely meal out with their friends and family that they would have bullets scrape by the sides of their heads and that they would be literally in the middle of a gang war, but that is what happened to members of our law-abiding community. Certainly, I think that put fear into the hearts of many South Australians, Adelaideans in particular, about just how safe we were—and the answer was we really were not safe. At that time, anyone could have become entangled in some of the incredibly public and incredibly violent crime activities that were going on.

I am pleased to say that those things are not happening as frequently on a public basis. Certainly, there are crimes being committed by bikie gangs at the moment in South Australia, and our law enforcement agencies need every possible weapon to be able to tackle that, and to confidently tackle it; to know that when they go and make that arrest, when they refuse bail, when they lock that person a pending trial, they are entitled to do that and they are not going to face some sort of appeal later on down the line.

These laws obviously are part of that wider environment that I have just laid out, but what has happened here is that a recent High Court decision held that a set of regulations was invalidly made. It was also held that reasonable notice needed to be given to an owner-occupier of a proposal to declare a place as a prescribed place, even though—and this is the laughable bit—those owner-occupiers are participants in criminal organisations. It did stun me to read this judgement and to find that the government would have to notify those it was seeking to enforce the law against that

they were doing the wrong thing, when clearly they would know that. Nonetheless, we find ourselves here.

This bill will amend the act to provide that there is no obligation to provide procedural fairness in relation to the making of a declaration by a regulation that an entity is a criminal organisation, an event is a prescribed event or a place is a prescribed place for the purposes of the definitions in the act. Ordinarily, I would defend a citizen's right to such processes, and being able to know what the state might allege against them before taking action, but I really do not think that this deprives those who it targets of the opportunity to make an appeal later or to call out if they think that something has been applied unfairly—for instance, if they were not a member of a criminal organisation.

It is patently ridiculous to say that the state needs to give notice to someone it alleges is a dangerous offender and who may, indeed, take action immediately in trying to effect the law. It compromises the regulation that is sought to be imposed and really does not make any sense at all. This piece of legislation is obviously aimed at remedying that.

I commend the Attorney-General and his staff for their many hours of work in formulating this legislation, this amendment, to make sure we can strengthen these laws that are so dearly needed. What this legislation also does is put on notice those who are bikies, those who are members of criminal enterprises, and indeed those who seek to be. Sadly, we do have people in our community who, for whatever reason, seem to think being a member of a bikie gang is somehow glamorous and will somehow open opportunities for them. The only opportunities it will open for them are the opportunities of injury or jail or even death. That is what frequently happens to people who are involved in these gangs.

I hope this legislation will send a message that this state remains as committed to stamping out bikies' serious organised crime as it ever has been, particularly our party that led the way in terms of reforms a decade or so ago. We remain as committed to stamping out this evil form of crime today as we ever have been. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

DISABILITY INCLUSION (REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 12 September 2023.)

S.E. ANDREWS (Gibson) (17:27): I rise to speak on the Disability Inclusion (Review Recommendations) Amendment Bill. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recognises that disability is an evolving concept, and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

People may live with disabilities that are visible or invisible to others, and some may live with varying degrees of requirements for assistance. It is never for us to judge or deny a person their rights due to a disability. The federal Disability Discrimination Act 1992 that protects Australians against discrimination based on disability provides a broad definition of disability including these eight types: physical disability, intellectual disability, mental illness, sensory disability, neurological disability, learning disability, physical disfigurement, and immunological disability.

Clause 3 of this bill deals with the definition of 'barrier' as something that is physical, architectural, technological or attitudinal or based on information and communications or the result of policy or practice. Let's look at some examples.

Does a building only have stairs, so that it cannot be accessed by someone in a wheelchair or with other mobility issues? Does a building have glass doors with nothing tactile on them to warn a visually-impaired person? What about touchscreens that do not have screen reader software for the hearing-impaired? Does a document only have text and no images, or does an organisational policy intentionally or otherwise discriminate against a person living with disability? If any of these things are true, then a person living with a disability is at a disadvantage, and that is not okay.

Clause 4 of the bill takes the effort to remove barriers even further by inserting an object that demands we make gain towards achieving an inclusive community where the principles of the UN convention underpin the development and delivery of services, especially by removing barriers so that people with disability, regardless of age, are able to access services and participate in the community in the same way as other members of the community. This importantly recognises that disability can be lifelong, or can develop throughout a person's life, or occur suddenly due to an accident or other devastating event, such as an instant loss of hearing. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

At 17:30 the house adjourned until Thursday 14 September 2023 at 11:00.