

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**Thursday, 1 December 2022**

The PRESIDENT (Hon. T.J. Stephens) took the chair at 14:16 and read prayers.

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

*Parliamentary Procedure***PAPERS**

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the President—

Independent Commission Against Corruption: Report by the Commissioner—Integrity
State: Corruption prevention recommendations (Paper No. 5F)
[Ordered to be published]

By the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (Hon. K.J. Maher)—

Reports, 2021-22—
Adelaide Film Festival
Construction Industry Training Board
TAFE SA
Teachers Registration Board
Monitoring the performance of the South Australian health system 2018-19 to 2021—
four-yearly indicator report to the South Australian Minister for Health and
Wellbeing—dated November 2022

By the Attorney-General (Hon. K.J. Maher)—

Reports, 2021-22—
Coroner's Court
Courts Administration Authority
Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner
Report of a review of the operations of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption
to the Office for Public Integrity 2021-22

By the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development (Hon. C.M. Scriven)—

Reports, 2021-22—
Australian Energy Market Commission
Department for Energy and Mining
Office of Hydrogen Power South Australia
Office of the South Australian Technical Regulator
State Planning Commission—Amendment
The Power Line Environment Committee

*Parliamentary Committees***PRINTING COMMITTEE**

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:17): I bring up the first report of the committee, 2022.
Report received and adopted.

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Martin, congratulations on your elevation to high office there.

Ministerial Statement

ICAC EVALUATION OF THE CENTRAL ADELAIDE LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:20): I table a copy of a ministerial statement made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Minister for Health.

APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTOR UNDER THE ICAC ACT

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:20): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: This morning, on the government's recommendation, Her Excellency the Governor's Deputy appointed Philip Strickland SC, a pre-eminent barrister from New South Wales, as the first inspector under the Independent Commission against Corruption Act 2012. This appointment is in accordance with the recommendation of the Statutory Officers Committee of this parliament.

In 2021, parliament passed a range of amendments to legislation regulating governance and integrity in this state. The vast majority of these amendments came into effect in October last year. Commencement of a new schedule to establish the Office of the Inspector was deferred. I can today advise the chamber that this schedule, and thereby the Office of the Inspector, will commence on Monday 5 December 2022.

The importance of the commencement of these amendments and the appointment of the first inspector cannot be overstated. Members will be aware of the widespread coverage and debate regarding the investigation and prosecution of Mr John Hanlon, a former chief executive of Renewal SA. The appointment of the first inspector will allow me, as Attorney-General, to request that the inspector conduct a review of this matter.

Since 2017, there has been a reviewer appointed under the ICAC Act. That statutory officer has been able to receive complaints about the ICAC and the Office of Public Integrity and was empowered to conduct regular examinations of the exercise of their powers.

The role of reviewer has now been replaced by inspector. I would like to thank the Hon. John Sulan KC for his diligent and thoughtful service as the reviewer. The inspector will have greater powers than those available to his predecessor, including the power to summons witnesses to appear before an examination and to require the production of documents.

The functions of the inspector include the conducting of reviews relating to relevant complaints made under the ICAC Act and the Ombudsman Act, reviews requested by the Attorney-General and other inquiries as required under different acts.

The amendments will commence on 5 December 2022. The inspector will commence his appointment on the same day. I intend to immediately thereafter write to the inspector and request that he conduct a review of the investigation of Mr Hanlon.

The inspector and his office will also, necessarily, commence the ordinary business of the role; for example, the review of relevant complaints under the ICAC Act and the supervisory functions of ICAC's powers exercised under various other acts.

The inaugural inspector is ideally suited to the role. Mr Strickland SC has worked as a barrister for more than 30 years, primarily in New South Wales and the Northern Territory. Mr Strickland has extensive experience in criminal law and in the regulation of public officers and authorities. I have no doubt he will bring an impartial and thoughtful approach to this role.

ESCOSA INQUIRY INTO ELECTRICITY AND GAS

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:23): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to the

ESCOSA inquiry into electricity and gas made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.

SOCZEROOS

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:24): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to the Soczeroos made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

Question Time

CHILD PROTECTION

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:24): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Leader of Government Business regarding children's safety in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: An inspection of the Women's and Children's Hospital by the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand on 17 October concluded that the hospital's intensive care unit cannot continue to be accredited for training and intensive care medicine as it falls substantially short of expectations on several fronts. The report by the college also makes reference to the ICU being understaffed and overcrowded and suggests that sick children fighting for their lives are being left without a doctor in sight. My questions to the leader are:

1. When was his government advised by the college that the Women's and Children's Hospital would lose its accreditation for training and intensive care medicine?
2. Will the government give this council assurance that the concerns raised by the college will be resolved to ensure the hospital will have its accreditation reinstated?
3. As the Leader of the Government in this place, what does he say to South Australian parents who are concerned about their children's safety?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:25): I thank the honourable member for her question. Questions that fall wholly within the purview of the Minister for Health, as always, I am happy to pass on and bring back a reply.

CHILD PROTECTION

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:25): Supplementary: why is the Leader of the Government in this place not able to give an account of the government's performance on a serious issue that has been in the public focus for days?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! I am on my feet.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! It's not a supplementary question. You do not speak when the President is on his feet. We will move to your second question.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:26): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development regarding the cost-recovery review for commercial fisheries in South Australia:

1. Will the review include detailed, independent scrutiny of the underlying costs incurred by PIRSA?

2. Will the minister commit to the public release of the terms of reference?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:27): I thank the honourable member for her question. In terms of transparency around costs incurred by PIRSA, that is exactly what the process that is normally involved in discussing the cost-recovery situation involves. It was identified that, whilst cost recovery is of course a matter of covering the various costs involved with administering what is a community resource in terms of fisheries, it is fair and appropriate that those who pay fees to be able to access that resource do understand the sorts of costs that are involved by PIRSA, and so that is already part of the existing process.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:27): Supplementary: will the review include detailed independent scrutiny of those underlying costs?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:28): I have indicated that it will be an independent review, so I think that's probably fairly self-explanatory.

ADELAIDE BEACH MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:28): My questions are to the Attorney-General regarding the Adelaide beach management review.

1. When was the last time the Attorney visited the beach at Henley South?
2. How would he describe the current state of the beach at Henley South?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:28): I thank the member for her question. I think, as has been stated in here, I have been delegated responsibility for a review. The ongoing responsibility for management of beaches does lie with the Department for Environment. I can't remember the last time I was at Henley Beach in particular. Certainly, during the course of this year, I have toured both the southern cell areas, where sand management has occurred for some time, as well as the northern cell areas.

REGIONAL VISITS

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:29): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Will the minister please inform the chamber about how important it is, as a minister, to get out into the regions?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:29): I thank the honourable member for his question. It's incredibly important that members of this place do understand the importance of engaging with people in the regions. It's important, as Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forest Industries, to be out in our regions talking to people, businesses and industries and listening to them so that government can better respond to their needs.

Since the election, my ministerial colleagues and myself have made significant efforts to get out and understand what is happening in regional South Australia, with regular trips to many parts of our state. This is on top of the country cabinets that all ministers and chief executives of government departments have already held, with many more planned. We have already had three country cabinets since coming into government in March, which is three more than the Liberals held in their four years in government. At the public forums for Mount Gambier and Port Pirie—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Government and the Government Whip!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition! Sit down, minister.

The Hon. K.J. Maher interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Leader of the Government!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: At the public forums in Mount Gambier and Port Pirie it was standing room only, as hundreds of regional residents turned out to engage with the government on issues that matter to them. Not having country cabinets was one of the criticisms of the now opposition, it would appear. For example, in the leaked 41-page review of the Liberal's election loss, they suggested to start holding them once more as it is, and I quote, 'important that the Liberal Party regain the confidence of rural South Australia'. But perhaps the members opposite have taken the advice from this leaked report—certainly that would seem to be a logical thing to do—and agreed with the recommendations in that report around the need to engage with country residents through country cabinets. As I note, after a long hiatus—

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO: Point of order: I would argue that the minister is leaning into a debate, rather than answering the actual question.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: What standing order?

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO: We didn't ask for an update on the Liberal Party. You are supposed to be answering your Dixier, which is around the regions.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Minister, please continue.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Thank you, Mr President. With pleasure I shall continue.

The Hon. K.J. Maher interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: You'll be getting a holiday before you need to have one.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Perhaps they agreed with the recommendations, the Liberals, around the need to engage with country residents through country cabinets. As I note, after a long hiatus the opposition has finally had a meeting with local residents in Naracoorte. It is interesting, though, that they didn't have a public forum in Mount Gambier, as far as I can see. In my time as shadow minister—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —and indeed since—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: —I have heard that in many regions—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Sit down again. Minister, I would like you to conclude your remarks. It's taking too long. I would like the opposition to listen in silence so we can move onto the next question.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I heard, both when we were in opposition but also since we have been in government, criticism of those opposite, that they didn't get out very much and, when they did, they only wanted to meet with Liberal Party members and donors. Perhaps they have learnt, in which case I look forward to seeing them out in the regions more, as an entire opposition shadow cabinet.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Wortley and the Leader of the Government!

REGIONAL VISITS

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:33): Supplementary: can the minister detail some of the towns visited?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:33): I am very pleased about the supplementary question, and to answer it:

Almost everywhere, man;

Almost everywhere, man;

Ensuring we're aware, man;

Ensuring we're aware;

Unlike those over there, man, we've been almost everywhere.

The PRESIDENT: Minister, sit down!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I've been to Waikerie, Woodside, Port Pirie, Port Augusta, Jamestown, Moorak, Tantanoola, Cygnet River, Berri, Murray Bridge, Nuri—

The PRESIDENT: Minister! I am on my feet!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I was answering the question.

The PRESIDENT: We will all be going home early if we don't have two ministers, the way we are going.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: No! The Hon. Ms Game.

CHILD GENDER DYSPHORIA

The Hon. S.L. GAME (14:34): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Attorney-General, representing the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, on child gender dysphoria treatment figures.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.L. GAME: There are renewed calls from a number of prominent clinicians and advocacy groups for a national inquiry into how to treat Australian children with gender dysphoria. Unlike other Australian states, South Australia does not report on the number of children who are currently prescribed puberty blockers through public gender clinics, private facilities or general practitioners.

Figures have skyrocketed for children being treated at public clinics interstate; 2,067 children nationally attended public gender clinics in 2021, up from 204 in 2014. These national figures do not include South Australian children as they are not currently recorded. These medications and other related therapies can have lifelong effects, such as the ability to have children, and there is growing research in Europe, the United Kingdom and the United States showing that these therapies can lead to myriad unintended and undesired effects such as blood clots, permanent sleep apnoea, low bone density, brain development issues and even links to early onset Alzheimer's.

My questions to the Attorney-General representing the minister are:

1. How many South Australian children are currently accessing puberty blockers and other cross-hormone therapies?
2. Are there mechanisms for recording and tracking puberty blockers prescriptions from private consultants and GPs?
3. Does the Malinauskas government agree that an inquiry is overdue on the issue of how to treat and monitor children with gender dysphoria in this state?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:36): I thank the honourable member for her question, and as these matters fall within the purview of the Minister for Health I will be happy to pass them onto my colleague in another place and bring back a reply.

ADELAIDE BEACH MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (14:36): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Attorney-General regarding the Adelaide beach management review.

Leave granted.

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO: The opposition understands that the Department for Environment and Water is suggesting that Charles Sturt council pay for a rock wall to be installed in front of Joe's Kiosk, a site of significant erosion. My questions to the Attorney are:

1. Is the Attorney aware of the request from Charles Sturt council to pay for a rock wall?
2. Will the Attorney acknowledge that the need for a rock wall is a result of the lack of sand on the beach at Henley South?
3. Will the state government compensate the council for the true costs of delayed action to adopt a sustainable solution to address coastal erosion?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:37): I thank the honourable member for her question. In relation to the causes of erosion, I am not an engineer and I would not like to speculate on what may or may not cause erosion on anything let alone a part of a beach. I am only in the broadest sense aware of the issues that the member has raised. I have seen them written about in the media, but I am not aware of the details of those. The day-to-day management of beaches and of things of this nature are with the environment department, as I said in response to an earlier question today.

I can inform the chamber a little more about the Adelaide beach management review that the member asked about. As has previously been canvassed in this place, the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water declared a conflict of interest in the beach management review. The Premier determined that I would take the lead as responsible minister into that particular review. The review, as I have said before, will include advice from consultants with expertise in coastal management and community engagement. The experts will provide advice to an independent advisory panel, which will then provide a report to the Attorney-General, myself.

It had been envisaged that this would be an approximately 12-month process. I was pleased recently to appoint members to the panel, namely, Mr Mark Searle as the chair, Kurna representatives Mr Les Wanganeen and Ms Sarah Smith, and professors Beverley Clarke, Nicholas Harvey and Michael Young as experts in their respective scientific fields. It was particularly pleasing, particularly as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, to have strong Kurna representation on the panel with Mr Wanganeen and Ms Smith, given the importance of the Adelaide coastline to Kurna culture. I look forward in due course to receiving the advice from the advisory panel as informed by experts on this matter.

ADELAIDE BEACH MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (14:39): Supplementary: is the Attorney able to outline exactly what he has done to date in relation to this important issue, and what his plan is in future to make sure that it gets resolved?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:39): I thank the honourable member for her question. I have had, as I have outlined to this chamber, an initial briefing about the issue, about some of the options that have previously been canvassed and a tour of that northern cell of the beach area, and I have now appointed, as I have outlined, the advisory panel that will take expert advice and report to me in due course. As I have said, it is envisaged that it will be a thorough scientific review and will take approximately 12 months.

VICTIMS' RIGHTS

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (14:40): My question is to the Attorney-General. Will the minister, who sits in this chamber, update the chamber about the government's election commitments in the area of victims' rights?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:40): I thank the honourable member for her question. She is quite right, that this area under my portfolio responsibilities as Attorney-General sits with me, so it is appropriate that I inform and update the chamber on what we are doing in the space of victims' rights as a South Australian government. The government was elected with a significant policy of justice for victims and we are committed to delivering on it. I will take just a couple of minutes to outline where we are in delivering on those commitments.

Earlier in the year, while in Mount Gambier, I was pleased to make the announcement that the government would be providing the Victim Support Services of the South-East with an additional \$250,000 over the next four years to better support those victims of crime who find themselves in contact with the criminal justice system. The volunteer-run independent service will use these new funds to expand on such programs as court companions, which coordinate volunteers to provide support to victims in court when they give their evidence.

It is safe to say that in the recent times, during the pandemic, greater isolation for many has led to higher rates of anxiety and other mental health conditions, so this support expansion was some small measure to assist people during a very stressful time of their lives and to maintain as best we can adequate and even access to justice in this state. The Safer Spaces initiative in the South-East was also boosted by these additional funds, which assist people to disclose, report and navigate the legal system. I look forward to seeing how these government initiatives improve people's experience with the justice system in the South-East of our state.

The Commissioner for Victims' Rights regularly keeps me informed of the desires of many victims in this state who she represents and for whom she advocates. One issue she brought to my attention was the recommendation to make changes to the Sentencing Act to include that victim impact statements not be able to be unduly edited and that it should be left to a judge or magistrate to exercise their discretion.

I have agreed in principle to that recommendation to make changes to the Sentencing Act that victim impact statements not be edited and be left to the discretion of the court. I was pleased to be able to make the announcement recently, at a Victims' Day event, that the government supports the commissioner's recommendation in principle. I look forward to more announcements in terms of victims' rights in support of victims who find themselves in some of the most difficult and often tragic circumstances that they face in their life.

RIVER MURRAY FLOOD

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (14:43): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Primary Industries a question about power problems caused by impending floods along the Murray River.

Leave granted.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: In the past week, SA Power Networks has indicated that rising levels of the Murray through the Riverland could force them to shut off power to pumping stations to irrigators for safety reasons. If this occurs, it could cause enormous problems for growers trying to keep their crops alive in the event of a hot summer. One almond grower says that it could impact on hundreds of thousands of his trees.

As we know, the Riverland is one of our most important sources of produce. My questions to the minister, hopefully answered without a jolly ditty, are:

1. Has she had discussions with the SA Power Networks about their intentions and have they come up with any solutions to avoid catastrophic losses for producers?

2. Does the government have any measures, including financial assistance, that it can put in place to support those irrigators under threat?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:44): I thank the honourable member for his very important question. It is certainly something that I think has been on all our minds. To answer the first part of the question, yes, I have had discussions with SA Power Networks. The entire cabinet, except for one who I think was sick, was in the Riverland last week. At various times during the day, I was with SAPN and also the Minister for Energy and Mining, the member for West Torrens in the other place.

There are a number of things that have been put in place. The first was the announcement of grants that would be available for those who have to relocate infrastructure or generation equipment. I do also have some information from the minister in the other place. Whilst normally I would take it on notice to bring something back to give that kind of detail, since it is the last sitting day of parliament this year and it is an urgent matter, I will, with the indulgence of the President, read from some of that information:

A new 50-metre exclusion zone around electricity powerlines standing in River Murray floodwaters has been imposed from today to help keep communities safe and avoid unnecessary disconnections.

The 50-metre exclusion will help minimise the potential for disconnection of power supply for Riverland communities as well as keeping people safe from electrocution and electric shock.

SA Power Networks has advised there are thousands of power poles across the Riverland flood plains, with many already standing in or submerged by flood waters. People are warned to keep well clear of the powerlines for their own and others' safety.

As I am sure we would all agree, safety has to be the number one concern. It continues:

Flood modelling shows that at the 160GL flood level around 3000 poles will be standing in water and a further 1000 if levels reach 200GL.

In general, it is highly recommended that all vessels stay away from the flood plain areas where possible. Should entry to the area be required, vessel operators must observe the 50-metre exclusion zone around powerlines and infrastructure.

Failure to adhere to this direction could result in prosecution and significant fines.

People should always assume powerlines are live and potentially lethal, and the risk is heightened with the presence of water. Avoiding the area [where possible] is the safest course of action.

I did also meet last week with the almond growers' association to discuss some of these matters. I am pleased to say that so far the feedback we have had in regard to the grants program has been very positive.

RIVER MURRAY FLOOD

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (14:47): Supplementary: is the minister saying that there could be or may be compensation packages to irrigators in the event of any losses?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:47): The government has made announcements about the first tranche of assistance, which we made last week, over \$51 million of assistance. We will still be looking at what may be needed in the future. As that is developed, it will be made public.

RIVER MURRAY FLOOD

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:48): Supplementary: given the huge costs of generators and diesel, does the minister think that the \$4,000 grant is sufficient to irrigators, particularly those grapegrowers who are already doing it tough due to increased input costs and reduced market access?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:48): I thank the honourable member for her question. She may perhaps not be aware of the \$3 million that was also announced as part of the package.

WINE INDUSTRY

The Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:48): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Minister for Primary Industries about winery support programs.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.S. LEE: Yesterday, the minister was asked if she would stand by a response that she tabled in this place on 2 November regarding programs that supported the wine industry and whether they had ceased. The minister undertook to 'go back and have a look at the *Hansard* and see whether there is anything that needs to be corrected'. My questions to the minister are:

1. Has she now looked at *Hansard*?
2. Does she stand by her response tabled in this place on 2 November?
3. Was it accurate?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:49): I thank the honourable member for her question. I am very pleased to be able to clarify these matters. I am advised that the state government has not ceased any wine industry specific support programs and there is no inconsistency, as was suggested in this place yesterday. I am further advised that the programs listed by the Minister for Trade and Investment in the Auditor-General's Report examination on 15 November 2022 are general programs that operate across many sectors, they are not specifically wine industry support programs.

I am advised that the state government continues to support the wine industry and delivers programs and outcomes under the Wine Export Recovery and Expansion Program through the Department for Trade and Investment. On 28 September 2022, in an answer to a question on notice tabled in this place, advice was provided on a range of other wine industry initiatives that this government has undertaken. I am further advised that since that time there have been several Wine Ambassadors Club events launched and promoted in order to promote South Australian wine in target markets around the world.

CROP AND PASTURE REPORT

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (14:50): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Will the minister inform the chamber about the recently released crop and pasture report?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:51): I thank the honourable member for his question. The latest South Australian crop and pasture report has been released and there is good news coming from farm gates around the state. Members in this chamber would be aware of how important the production of field crops is to our state's economy and our trade relationships around the world, with more than 70 per cent of grain produced in 2021 being exported to countries including Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, China and Bangladesh. The 2022-23 grain harvest estimate of 12.1 million tonnes is a record high, exceeding the previous record, which was 11.1 million tonnes set in 2016-17.

High global prices, along with record production, have contributed to a record high farmgate value also, of \$4.4 billion, a more than \$1 billion increase on the 2021-22 season's record of \$3.3 billion, so a 33 per cent increase overall. These figures take into account the downgrading of some of the grain due to damage from recent weather events. The grain crop area for the state is around the long-term average, currently at about 3.9 million hectares, while hay is around 210,000 hectares and about 836,000 tonnes.

An ideal spring finish to the season with cool conditions, above average spring rain and also good soil moisture for crops that were generally in good to excellent condition have all contributed to the record high production and farmgate values that we are now seeing. Some crop harvesting, as members are probably aware, is behind compared to average years and is expected to continue into the new year in many districts, but it is anticipated that with, hopefully, better weather on the way overall significant tonnage will be delivered into stores in coming weeks.

The report has just been released after its first major review in some 15 years. PIRSA looked at the current and future data requirements, the frequency and method of data collection and analysis, and also the report's final format. The review also included targeted industry consultation to ensure that the report continues to meet the needs of industry. The new look crop and pasture report is more concise and delivers invaluable information, including a statewide summary of crop condition and paddock harvest activities, weather impacts, the current condition of pastures and feed availability, and estimates of crop area and production for 14 districts.

I would like to thank the farmers and producers of our state for the invaluable role they play as the economic backbone of our state's prosperity. It allows regions, communities and supporting regional industries to thrive. I also congratulate them on the record set this year and look forward to witnessing the anticipated positive start to the next season, which I am sure will be reflected also in future crop and pasture reports.

CROP AND PASTURE REPORT

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:54): Supplementary: what is the minister doing in response to reports from farmers and producers that there is a short supply of sulphur, which is critical for the prevention of powdery mildew in crops?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:54): I am not sure that arises from the original answer.

The PRESIDENT: Minister, you gave quite a broad ranging answer.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Indeed, yes. Certainly, the availability of things such as sulphur is an issue. We have had of course ongoing reports around the availability of a number of necessary inputs. We continue to work with industry on those things that can be addressed.

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Ms Franks.

The Hon. N.J. Centofanti interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Hon. Ms Franks will be heard in silence.

UNESCO CITY OF MUSIC

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (14:55): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney-General, representing the Minister for Arts, a question about Adelaide's status as a UNESCO City of Music.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: When it comes to music, Adelaide has a long, proud history. Back in 1883, Adelaide was the first Australian city, post colonisation, to establish a tertiary music institution—that's 139 years ago. In 1973, Adelaide became home to Australia's first major arts centre complex, the much-loved and now less leaky Adelaide Festival Centre. Adelaide hosts world-class music events like WOMADelaide, the Cabaret Festival, the Adelaide Guitar Festival and will this year yet again host the AIR awards, recognising achievement and success in Australia's independent recording industry.

As a result of this rich musical cultural heritage and vibrant music scene, Adelaide was rightly designated as Australia's first and still only UNESCO City of Music back in 2015. UNESCO cities of music have certain characteristics. The designated city is a centre of music creation and activity, and a UNESCO City of Music celebrates music in all of its forms.

Adelaide has much to celebrate. We can now visit No Fixed Address laneway, just off Rundle Mall, or wander Paul Kelly Lane, which is lit with 'love, love, love' as you take a shortcut from Pirie through to Flinders, while Sia Furler Lane now sits near the Jam Factory, not far from Hindley Street west where she used to perform regularly in the 1990s at the now demolished and dearly missed Cargo Club. Those laneways pay homage to the fabulous musicians that our city has fostered in the past, but my hope is to ensure that we continue to provide substantive support for music and musicians in the present, in the here and now.

To do that we need more. We need a modern, purpose-built and accessible Adelaide concert hall. We are the only capital city without one. That concert hall should meet the needs of performers and punters. With great acoustics, the right tech, good sightlines and comfortable seats, it needs to be accessible for everyone in our community to enjoy the performances. The lack of this concert hall puts a question mark over our commitment to truly being a UNESCO City of Music.

A concert hall of course, with perhaps the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra as the anchor tenant and the Adelaide Chamber Singers, the Adelaide Youth Voices, the Artaria ensemble, the Seraphim Trio and Adelaide Baroque also likely to use that facility, would be 'much more than just a high-quality auditorium for classical and orchestral music', it would also provide the desperately missing and long-needed home for music education and community services to our city of music. My question to the minister is: how can Adelaide legitimately call itself a UNESCO City of Music when we have no appropriate concert hall?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:58): I thank the honourable member for her question and acknowledge her, I think, very well-known support and very enthusiastic attendance at local music events and support of local artists. I might say the only blemish I can think of on the honourable member's support of local music is her shameful and longstanding association with the Anchors Reclink football team against the Rockatoos. However, that having been said, I will be happy to pass that question on to the minister in another place and bring back a reply for the honourable member.

WITTON BLUFF BASE TRAIL PROJECT

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN (14:58): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs about the Witton Bluff base trail project.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN: In 2018, the Labor Party made a commitment to the southern community that they would complete the Witton Bluff base trail project to link the beautiful townships of Christies Beach and Port Noarlunga. In 2020, it was a Liberal government who approved the funding for this project, matching Onkaparinga council's commitment. It's my understanding that it now sits with the Labor government and you as minister for approval under the Aboriginal Heritage Act, section 23.

My question to the minister is: does the Labor government remain committed to the 2018 campaign commitment and when, as the minister responsible for the Aboriginal Heritage Act, will you approve the Witton Bluff base trail project?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (14:59): I thank the honourable member for her important question about the Witton Bluff base trail. I can confirm there has been an application made under the Aboriginal Heritage Act by the proponents of a project for a trail that takes you from the Christies Beach area to the Port Noarlunga area.

Under the Aboriginal Heritage Act under section 23, if there is anything that is going to damage or disturb Aboriginal heritage, an application has to be made for the minister to decide whether that is done or not. There are legislative requirements for consultation under, I think, sections 12 and 13 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, which has been in force in South Australia since 1988.

Quite rightly, there are onerous requirements for consultation to make sure those Aboriginal people with an interest in certain Aboriginal objects or heritage are consulted. That consultation has been conducted by the department for Aboriginal Affairs in South Australia, after an application was made by the proponent. One thing I certainly won't do is rush legislative requirements under an act to consider Aboriginal heritage implications for a new project. That is ongoing, and a decision will be made in due course.

WITTON BLUFF BASE TRAIL PROJECT

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN (15:01): Supplementary: does the minister have a time line as to when he will make this determination?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:01): I thank the honourable member for her question. There isn't a fixed date that it is made by. As I understand it, it is not a requirement that there is a three-month or a six-month time line. However, I am happy to see where it is up to and bring back a reply, if there is one that can be given, on a date. If not, I can assure the honourable member it will happen as quickly as possible but as thoroughly as it needs to be.

WITTON BLUFF BASE TRAIL PROJECT

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN (15:01): Further supplementary: did the then Labor government not engage with First Nations people before your party made that commitment, and was that commitment back in 2018 premature?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:02): I thank the honourable member for her question. Whenever a proponent looks at land use—whether it's things like wind farms, whether it's mining operations, whether it's developments in metropolitan Adelaide such as the Women's and Children's Hospital—there often is a process to go through under the South Australian Aboriginal Heritage Act, and that is the appropriate thing to do.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE SERVICES

The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:02): My question is to the Attorney-General. Can the minister inform the chamber about the Community Justice Services 40th anniversary event?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:02): I thank the honourable member for his question. It was asked in the chamber this week about the 40th anniversary of Tullawon Health, which I was pleased to be able to attend. On the same evening, I was able to attend another 40th birthday party, which at my age I don't do that often. This 40th birthday party was for Community Justice Services in South Australia. It was a pleasure to attend their 40th anniversary to celebrate and acknowledge the justice services organisation as such a critical legal community service in South Australia's justice system.

The Community Justice Services of South Australia started 40 years ago, way back in 1982, when the service started as the Noarlunga Community Legal Centre. It then grew to the Southern Community Justice Centre and established two permanent regional offices, one in Berri and one in Mount Gambier. Today, across each of these community justice centres in the south, on the Limestone Coast, in the Riverland, and everywhere in between, there have been invaluable services and resources available to South Australians through the Community Justice Services.

I have regularly visited the Mount Gambier-based Limestone Coast Community Justice Centre, located on Commercial Street in Mount Gambier. Just last week, I had the good fortune of visiting the Riverland Community Justice Centre in the heart of Berri, where I was able to speak to people who work in that centre about some of the important work that they are undertaking—particularly with the rising waters in the River Murray—and the different sorts of questions and different sorts of needs of the community from a community justice legal centre.

I thank all the staff at those offices, both in the regions and in southern Adelaide, who work hard to maintain the fantastic reputation of the legal services provided through Community Justice Services and help to make people's experiences with the legal system as positive as they can be.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, BANKING SERVICES

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (15:05): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney-General, representing the Treasurer in another place, a question about government contracts.

Leave granted.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: I have been advised that the ANZ Banking Group is set to announce a contract with the state government to become its sole provider of core banking services.

Under the terms of the new contract, ANZ will provide transaction banking services and retain its role as the purchase card bank to South Australian government agencies.

I am told the new agreement is for five years, with the option to extend for a further five years, with the ANZ Group securing the contract ahead of the government's existing banking partner, the Commonwealth Bank. It comes, as the Treasurer has just announced in the other place, as Frontier Software will pay \$1.7 million in compensation for a cyber attack last year that saw the personal information of 95,000 public officers stolen. My questions to the Treasurer are:

1. Was the contract subject to the government's normal tender?
2. When was the tender advertised?
3. Was the current contract up for renewal or were there other reasons for the new contract being awarded?
4. What cybersecurity provisions are part of the contract, and has that specific area of the contract been significantly upgraded, given the ransomware cyber attack of 12 months ago?
5. Are there financial penalties included as part of any contract for any cyber attacks?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:06): I thank the honourable member for his questions, and will refer those matters to the Treasurer in another place and bring back a reply.

UNION ADVERTISING

The Hon. S.G. WADE (15:06): My questions are to the Attorney-General in relation to victims of crime:

1. As the minister responsible for the Victims of Crime Act and the Intervention Orders (Prevention of Abuse) Act, does the Attorney consider it appropriate that Emma Walters, a victim of domestic violence at the hands of CFMEU boss John Setka, now daily runs the risk of being confronted with the image of her perpetrator emblazoned on the side of an Adelaide tram?
2. What action is the Attorney going to take to remove this risk?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:07): I thank the honourable member his question. I will be happy to pass those concerns on to the private operator that the Liberals outsourced the train system to.

UNION ADVERTISING

The Hon. S.G. WADE (15:07): A supplementary question: is it therefore the Attorney's submission that he has no power to remove that risk?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:07): I thank the honourable member for his question. I am not aware of a power I would have, but I will take some advice on that.

MARINE BIOPRODUCTS COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (15:08): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Will the minister please inform the chamber about the Marine Bioproducts CRC launch last night, the benefits of their work, and the value of having them based in South Australia?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:08): I thank the honourable member for his question and his interest in some of the outstanding opportunities we have for our state.

I was very pleased to attend the launch of the Marine Bioproducts Cooperative Research Centre (MBCRC) yesterday and meet the key people behind the important work they have recently started. The Australian government's CRC program supports industry-led collaborations between industry, researchers and the community, focusing on developments that will have commercial uses.

The establishment of the MBCRC, based at Flinders University in the Tonsley Innovation District, is an exciting opportunity for South Australia. It is Australia's largest R&D hub dedicated to producing new and sustainable products from our marine environment. I am told that the industry has the potential to generate \$8.6 billion for the Australian economy and create more than 26,000 new jobs by 2035, developing new and exciting marine bioproducts that can protect and enhance both our health and the environment.

It is something of a coup for Adelaide and a real credit to the team behind the early stages of the process behind forming this CRC that we are now able to have this high-level expertise based here in our state, giving us the opportunity to hopefully have the lion's share when it comes to future opportunities in emerging marine bioproducts industries and the investment that comes with it.

Indeed, the increased investment in relation to marine bioproducts has the potential to further enhance our state's already impressive green and renewable credentials. It's not hard to see why South Australia is such a focus in this space. For example, South Australia has more than 1,400 species of seaweed and up to 60 per cent of these are only found in our waters. This represents a startling 15 per cent of the world's recorded diversity for red and brown seaweeds.

High-value marine bioproducts such as nutraceuticals, omega-3 oils, cosmetics, plant-based proteins, agrochemicals and feed supplements, biopolymer and bioplastics all serve a global market that could be worth up to \$780 billion by 2035. I am excited by the fact that our regions, and particularly our coastal regions, could have an opportunity to be a significant part in the research, development and production of these projects and these products.

The MBCRC has partnered with a large cross-section of stakeholders, which proudly includes PIRSA, SARDI and Flinders University but also includes a range of other state and federal agencies, researchers and companies such as CH4, who have significantly invested in our state already and have ambitious plans for the use of seaweed in ruminant feed supplements that can drastically reduce methane output, having a positive impact on climate change and helping to make our agricultural industry even more environmentally friendly. I imagine that this is just a glimpse into the kinds of things that we may see come out of this CRC.

As they have just completed their first year, I look forward to seeing what incredible outcomes their research leads to over the next nine years of their 10-year project and the potentially huge benefits that it will bring to our state.

WORLD AIDS DAY

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:11): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question without notice to the minister representing the Minister for Health on the topic of World AIDS Day.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: Today, 1 December, is World AIDS Day, a day to raise awareness about issues surrounding HIV and AIDS and a day to show support for people living with HIV and to commemorate those who have died. According to the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, there are an estimated 29,000 people currently living with HIV in Australia. Since 2016, notifications of HIV have declined by 37 per cent. This decline has been attributed to beneficial interventions in prevention, diagnosis and treatments.

In Adelaide, people living with HIV can access a number of services, in particular through the O'Brien Street clinic. Earlier this year, it was announced that the O'Brien Street clinic would be relocating the services to a new location. The O'Brien Street clinic provides health services for more than 250 HIV positive patients, plus many more with complex health needs. The service is discreet and conveniently located. A report, along with recommendations, I understand, has been submitted to CALHN by Professor Judith Dwyer regarding the relocation of these services. My question to the minister therefore is:

1. What are the latest approaches to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment for HIV and AIDS in South Australia?

2. Can the Attorney-General, representing the health minister, provide an update on the relocation of the services of the O'Brien Street clinic?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:13): I thank the honourable member for his question and acknowledge the important role that he has played in the community in his advocacy, not just at a state level but previously at a local government and at a federal government level. I know the honourable member has advocated in areas of HIV prevention in terms of funding for sexual health services and treatment, so I acknowledge the leadership the Hon. Robert Simms has taken in this area. I will be most pleased to pass his questions on to the health minister in another place and bring back a reply.

ELECTRONIC IDENTIFICATION

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:13): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on the topic of electronic identification.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: The President of Livestock SA, Joe Keynes, has stated that, for the eID rollout to be successful, it will require a co-investment model and that costs can't be all left up to the producers. Property agent and southern regional manager, Liz Summerfield, also said:

Where is the money coming from? There has got to be some support from the federal and state governments.

My question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development is: can she guarantee to the chamber and to the farmers of this state that her government will commit to significant financial support or subsidies for these farmers for this scheme that the federal Labor government is mandating for the industry?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:14): I thank the honourable member for her question. The topic of electronic identification has certainly been canvassed in this place several times, and I am really, I think, reiterating what has been said on previous occasions, which is that we are in discussions with the federal government in regard to how the rollout will occur. On a state level, we have provided funding to the association to be able to do some research around the most effective way to roll out a potential electronic identification scheme. Those discussions are continuing, both with the federal government and with other jurisdictions.

It's important that we do have a strong commitment to all of the various mechanisms that can be used to assist in terms of addressing, in particular, the potential risks of emergency animal diseases. We have spoken before in this place about the increased risk of foot-and-mouth disease. We also know that there are a number of other diseases that are continuing to increase in terms of their risk. We know that we have had—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Sit down.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Government Whip, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Ms Girolamo, I would like to hear the minister conclude so we can move on. Minister, please conclude your remarks.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Thank you, Mr President. I am disappointed that those opposite asked a question about such an important issue and then don't want to listen to the answer about it.

The PRESIDENT: Minister!

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: And here we go again.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Minister, conclude your remarks. Come on, conclude your remarks.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R.P. Wortley interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order, the Hon. Mr Wortley!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: We have an increasing risk of emergency animal diseases; we need to work together to do all we can to address those increasing risks.

DR UNCLE LEWIS O'BRIEN ORATION

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (15:17): My question is to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Will the minister inform the council about the 2022 Dr Uncle Lewis O'Brien public oration?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:17): I thank the honourable member for her important question. A couple of weeks ago, I was honoured to deliver this year's Dr Uncle Lewis O'Brien Oration. This was the third oration, with previous presenters being Tom Calma and Jackie Huggins. This year's theme was Our Past Informs Our Future—The Next Steps. In my mind, these were very fitting themes when we are considering right now our nation finding itself at a juncture of recognition of First Nations people, and particularly a Voice to Parliament for First Nations people.

It is really quite a remarkable thing when you consider the contribution of Uncle Lewis O'Brien, a Kaurna elder, and what he has seen in his lifetime. Uncle Lewis was born in 1930, meaning his current age is 92 years. South Australia was proclaimed in 1836 and therefore Uncle Lewis is only one year shy of having been here for half the time that South Australia has been in existence.

As was noted by speakers, including myself, at the oration, Uncle Lewis has borne witness to many of the events and milestones of our society's history, as we all know well, and a great portion of it is in relation to some of the treatment—and some very poor treatment—of Aboriginal people that cannot be reflected on proudly in the colony's history and the state of South Australia's history.

With this in mind, the oration reflected on the truth of our colonial past, which included the massacres of First Nations people, the treatment of Aboriginal people returning as veterans from wars and the policies of the stolen generations. There were reflections on different parts of our colonial history. Much of what has happened in our colonial history, including things that we are rightly proud of celebrating, have included very difficult aspects.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the Overland Telegraph line, which connected Australia to the rest of the world. It took approximately two years, covered more than 3,000 kilometres from Adelaide to Darwin and was completed in 1872. It was a significant accomplishment that connected Australia to much of the rest of the world for trade and communication, but it also fast-tracked colonial impacts and conflicts between Aboriginal people, particularly in the centre and the north of Australia.

Towns and settlements were established, pastoralists would claim land that would push Aboriginal people out, and cattle and livestock would decimate land and use water resources. There are documented massacres that were in connection with the establishment of outposts, particularly at Barrow Creek in the establishment of the telegraph line.

Fortunately, as was spoken about on the night, there are bright spots in our history. Through standing on the shoulders of giants we have fought for justice for Aboriginal people, for land rights, and for issues to do with Aboriginal people taking their proper place, not just in our society but economically in South Australia.

There were a lot of words spoken of the leadership of former South Australian members of this parliament, particularly former Premier Don Dunstan, who had a number of significant accomplishments, including changing offences under the Police Act that criminalised consorting

between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, and establishing the Aboriginal Lands Trust, the first legal recognition of Aboriginal land rights anywhere in Australia, in 1996.

It was a night that Uncle Lewis O'Brien was able to be celebrated for his significant achievements, but it was also a very touching and fitting part of the night that Michael O'Brien, his son—who many would know from giving Welcomes to Country at many events in Adelaide—gave the Welcome to Country at the oration for his father.

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING SCHEDULE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (15:21): My question is to the Leader of the Government in this place. How can we defer off business of the day today without a sitting schedule for next year?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:21): I thank the honourable member for her question. My understanding is the sitting schedule has just been published.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Clerk informs me that sitting schedules have recently been circulated.

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING SCHEDULE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (15:22): Supplementary: when was it circulated, because it wasn't this morning when they were trying to defer things off in the other place?

The PRESIDENT: Is that to the Attorney, the Clerk, or me?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:22): My advice is somewhere in the order of within the last half hour.

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING SCHEDULE

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (15:22): Supplementary: why wasn't additional time given, so that people can plan ahead, and that we could actually know what the date was, rather than waiting two minutes before the end of question time on the last day?

The PRESIDENT: You can have a go at it. It is not really a supplementary question.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:22): I think I can provide a bit more—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! I am listening.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: I am advised that the time that it was circulated was at 2.27pm, for members' benefit.

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING SCHEDULE

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN (15:23): Supplementary: did the Leader of Government Business or anyone within his cabinet have any regard to any of both the parliamentary and electoral staff who put their life on hold surrounding parliamentary sittings and have now had to wait until the final day of sitting of this year to be able to plan 2023?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:23): It's a very interesting question, and it gives me an opportunity to thank—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —all the staff in this place for their very hard work, but there will be further opportunities to do that later on, and I wouldn't want to deprive the government of important questions which they have clearly run—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: The opposition—and the government, the government of important questions, because do you know what, the government asks questions of ministers—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —in this chamber nearly every day. The opposition don't.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: It is my understanding that it is regularly the last week of sitting that these things are published.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

PARLIAMENTARY SITTING SCHEDULE

The Hon. S.G. WADE (15:24): Supplementary question: by what means was the advice given at 2.27pm, considering the Clerk's advice only arrived at 3.19pm?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:24): I thank the honourable member for his question, and I can understand why the honourable member thinks it is so important. The honourable member has to plan when he can escape to the Adelaide Club each day. He has to work out when it is time to go to and come back from the Adelaide Club. It is a very important part of his schedule. As *The Advertiser* revealed, he is a longstanding and proud member of the Adelaide Club.

The Hon. J.S. LEE: Point of order.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Everybody sit down. I will listen to the point of order, but question time has expired. What is your point of order?

The Hon. J.S. LEE: Point of order 193: the minister has used insulting language towards the honourable member.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: I withdraw, if the Hon. Jing Lee thinks the Adelaide Club is insulting.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The time for asking questions without notice has expired. I call on business of the day.

Bills

MOTOR VEHICLES (ELECTRIC VEHICLE LEVY) AMENDMENT REPEAL BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 3 November 2022.)

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:26): I rise to indicate that I am the lead speaker for the opposition on this bill. In October 2021, the former Liberal government introduced the EV levy act in response to prevailing and emerging electric vehicle ownership in South Australia. The former Treasurer, the Hon. Rob Lucas, was the lead minister for this policy, and it was developed in coordination with other state Treasurers through the Board of Treasurers Forum.

The road user charge was modelled on similar schemes in New South Wales and Victoria at that time to ensure national consistency as far as possible. Since commencement of the act in South Australia only last year, the Tasmanian and Western Australian governments have also signalled they will be introducing a similar road user charge. In fact, Queensland remains the only jurisdiction that is yet to consider introducing a similar scheme.

During development of the legislation, the former Liberal government received support from key industry bodies, including the RAA, federal Chamber of Automotive Industries and Infrastructure Partnerships Australia. They all supported the introduction of a road user charge that would help drive the take-up of environmentally friendly zero and low-emission vehicles, whilst ensuring there is a long-term sustainable model for critical road funding.

The EV levy act introduces a road user charge for electric vehicles, calculated at 2¢ per kilometre indexed for plug-in hybrid vehicles, and 2.5¢ per kilometre indexed for any other electric vehicles. The road user charge is designed to be applied as part of the annual car registration process. This was estimated to result in the annual road user charge of around \$305 for an average passenger electric vehicle. This compares to approximately \$565 per annum, collected from fuel excise for the average passenger internal combustion engine vehicle.

The lower per kilometre charge recognises the environmental and health benefits associated with electric vehicles. This road user charge is due to commence from July 2027, or when electric vehicles reach 30 per cent of new vehicle sales, whichever comes sooner. The charge was expected to generate \$3.5 million in its first year, increasing to around \$11 million in 2028-29. By 2030-31, it was estimated to raise \$21 million, based on an estimated 40,000 vehicles being subject to the charge.

To provide an idea of the long-term revenue potential, if all vehicles were subject to the road user charge in 2020-21 it would generate approximately \$410 million. Revenue raised through the road user charge was to be hypothecated, going into the existing highways fund, and it was the intention to expand the use of that fund to include expenditure on the installation and management of charging facilities for electric vehicles.

As Liberals, we are committed to protecting and strengthening South Australia's freedoms, its opportunities and its sense of fairness. We also believe in government being sufficiently responsible so that it can meet its proper obligations to its citizens. All motorists who drive petrol and diesel-powered cars pay a fuel excise of around 4.5¢ per kilometre. Much of the revenue the government collects from the fuel excise is used to pay for new roads, road maintenance and infrastructure.

Given EVs are battery powered, EV owners can avoid the existing fuel excise and hence avoid contributing to road maintenance and infrastructure. I would like to think that those members of our community who own electric vehicles would understand the sense of fairness and equality that comes with this act and this road user charge. Electric vehicles still use the same roads that every other vehicle uses. They still have the benefit of enjoying new roads, road upgrades and road infrastructure.

This is not a tax on EV vehicles: it is a road user charge that acknowledges that all vehicles use the roads around our state and it is only reasonable that every driver contributes to their maintenance and upkeep. The introduction of a road user charge is a way for EV owners to pay their fair share for road maintenance and infrastructure and contribute to the provision of government-funded EV charging infrastructure.

Currently, there are very few zero and low-emission vehicles in South Australia, with electric vehicles making up only 1.5 per cent of new vehicle sales in the state. However, it is expected that the uptake of electric vehicles will increase in the future as they reach price parity with internal combustion engine vehicles, not to mention the impact soaring petrol prices are likely to have on consumer demand.

We, as Liberals then in government, recognised the need to provide incentives and resources for the community to encourage the short-term uptake of electric vehicles until the market is able to sustain itself. In fact, to support the passage of the road user charge, the former Liberal

government made a significant investment to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles, and when I say significant, I mean over \$36 million committed.

This investment, importantly, included \$13.4 million to accelerate the rollout of a statewide charging network targeting 53 preferred service locations to deliver approximately 500 rapid and fast-charging stations. It also encompassed an \$18 million electric vehicle subsidy package, providing subsidies of \$3,000 for the purchase of up to 6,000 electric vehicles in South Australia. It is worth noting that this subsidy is more generous than a similar subsidy offered in Victoria.

Finally, up to \$3.6 million was earmarked for smart-charging trials to demonstrate how EVs can be coordinated to charge during periods of high renewable electricity generation or low demand to support the power grid. If Labor were really committed to the climate change cause, they would not have scrapped the previous Liberal government's Home Battery Scheme and the Switch for Solar program as part of its 2022-23 budget.

As previously mentioned, recognising the markets for EVs are still being established, the former Liberal government legislated for the road user charge to commence from 1 July 2027 or when the sale of battery electric vehicles reached 30 per cent of new motor vehicle sales in South Australia, whichever was earlier. The delay in the commencement of the road user charge was in response to feedback received from some groups during the consultation on the draft bill who felt that there should be a delay in the introduction of the road user charge until there is an increase in the uptake of electric vehicles.

Critics have argued the charge will discourage the uptake of EVs, which will impact the state's approach to addressing climate change; however, there is no reliable evidence to support this proposition. Just look over the border to Victoria, where an active road user charge already exists. The take-up of electric vehicles in that state is one of the fastest in the nation.

Without the EV levy act, the arrangements in place at the time would have resulted in EV owners arguably not paying their fair share of road maintenance and infrastructure through the avoidance of fuel excise taxes levied by the commonwealth government. Under current conditions, fuel excise has emerged gradually as an increasing unsustainable tax that will quickly become untenable as those who cannot afford an electric vehicle must foot a growing road bill for those who can. While fuel excise is a federal tax, states have been incentivised through the EV levy act to take a first mover advantage in claiming an ongoing revenue stream that is stable and reliable, in the form of a road user charge.

It is worth noting that the previous Liberal government's approach was taken in the absence of national reform. A national approach would ensure greater consistency between states and greater coordination of policy across state boundaries. However, it does require the states to cede power and revenue to the commonwealth. Given the states have moved to roll the policy out in a semi-coordinated fashion without the commonwealth, it will be difficult to roll this back. In the absence of nationally led reform, South Australia risks being one of the only jurisdictions without a policy to deal with the inevitable fall in fuel excise revenue.

Labor's commitment to repeal the Motor Vehicles (Electric Vehicle Levy) Amendment Act 2021 leaves some serious questions unaddressed. Serious questions arise regarding maintenance and management of the state's roads. For example, what will be Labor's alternative sustainable long-term road funding model that will replace the one established under the EV levy act, and how will this decision impact the future distribution of fuel excise from the Australian government to South Australia?

Will Labor commit to funding the \$36 million in EV initiatives announced by the former Liberal government? How will future governments be able to maintain safe roads without the cost falling on those who cannot afford an EV? How will the revenue shortfall from reductions in the fuel excise be recovered? Will the repeal of the act lead to a reduction of maintenance and quality of road infrastructure? Will the repeal of the act lead to a reduction in road safety?

What are the current projections of electric vehicle penetration as a percentage of the total car fleet in South Australia? Has the government or Treasury modelled the cost of lost fuel excise

from increasing EV penetration, and if so how much will the state lose? We look forward to having these questions answered prior to or during the committee stage. With that, I conclude my remarks.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:37): I rise to speak in support of repealing the Motor Vehicle (Electric Vehicle Levy) Amendment Act 2021. It is no surprise to anybody in this chamber that the Greens were very disappointed when the electric vehicle levy legislation was passed in this place last year. At that time, I reflected on what an embarrassing moment that was for our parliament and indeed for our state, as the Liberal Party, with the support of the SA-Best political party, set to trash our reputation as a clean, green state, set to trash what had been a reputation built over many years across all sides of politics in terms of working together to take climate action.

What we saw was, I think, a really embarrassing blemish on that proud record, where South Australia joined Victoria in becoming one of the only states in the country to have a tax being placed on electric vehicles, one that was actually going to disincentivise people from using electric vehicles during this time of climate crisis.

At that time, the Greens indicated that we would oppose these changes, this tax, tooth and nail. We took that commitment to the election and we welcomed, of course, the Labor Party campaigning strongly on this issue at the election as well. I am excited to now be returned to the parliament and to be in a position to make good on that commitment.

Electric vehicles are the way of the future. They have been shown to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also reducing the costs for households. In this time of climate crisis and a cost-of-living crisis, having a tax on electric vehicles is absurd. Just last year, the RAA survey of South Australian drivers found that 78 per cent of people would consider purchasing an electric car. However, in this state we have a tax that dissuades electric vehicle ownership, and we have seen a real failure, I think, of government to look at what can be done to incentivise electric vehicles.

Australia, and indeed South Australia, has been lagging behind the world in the uptake of electric vehicles. The list of other jurisdictions that have set a date on the end of petrol vehicles continues to grow. China, Costa Rica, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Israel, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan and the UK have all made commitments to eliminate internal combustion engine vehicles. Here in South Australia, where we have a rich source of renewable energy, we are unfortunately not seizing the opportunity to use that energy to power our vehicles.

When the electric vehicle levy was being discussed in this place last year, I spoke of the need to remove roadblocks to purchasing these vehicles. While uptake of non-combustible engine vehicles is increasing, it is vital for us to do what we can to motivate the move towards a future without petrol cars. The Greens-Labor government in the ACT are moving to waive stamp duty, providing two years' free registration and \$15,000 no interest loans for people who purchase electric vehicles. These are the actions of a government that has foresight and a real commitment to taking action on climate change.

Last year, I introduced a motion in this place calling on the then Marshall government to support electric vehicles in South Australia by offering real incentives to increase the uptake of these rather than following the flawed approach that was taken by the government in Victoria. I echo the sentiments of that call of last year and now call on the new Malinauskas government to provide these incentives. I really hope that, following on from its decision to axe the Liberals' tax on electric vehicles, the new government will consider incentives in their next budget, look at things like waiving stamp duty and look at rebate programs for electric vehicles so that we can really ramp up their use in South Australia.

Even electric vehicle manufacturers and automotive bodies have publicly renounced the idea of a road user charge. At the time, Hyundai described it as a 'disappointing development'. Community expectation is that we move towards electric vehicles and, when this is matched by the views and actions of car manufacturers, there really is no excuse for us to continue with an EV tax.

I must say, one of the big failures of both of the major political parties in this parliament over many years has been the failure to really invest in a manufacturing strategy that considers electric vehicles. We could have led the world when it came to manufacturing electric vehicles, but

unfortunately the previous Rann government, when it gave significant subsidies to the car industry in South Australia, never had the foresight to look at investment in electric vehicles, and the Abbott government made the appallingly short-sighted decision to axe subsidies for the automotive industry in South Australia.

I had a bill before parliament when I was in the federal parliament that would have actually reallocated the subsidies that were on the table at a federal level to support innovation and encourage electric vehicles in South Australia so that the automotive industry could have really started to manufacture EVs in SA. We could have led the world in electric vehicle manufacturing. Sadly, I could not get either of the two major political parties to support that bill, but the Greens here in this place, and indeed in Canberra, continue to advocate for electric vehicle manufacturing in states like South Australia and Victoria where we have the skills and experience and we could put those to use.

I also want to reflect on some of the positive innovations of the new government with respect to electric vehicles. I commend the announcement by the Malinauskas government that the Department for Transport are working on a business case for transitioning Adelaide's bus and train network to zero-emission vehicles. That is a really welcome innovation. Electric public transport is one of the keys to low emissions and we need that going forward.

We need to ensure that people who travel by car can also afford to buy electric vehicles without having to pay additional levies or taxes. Just last week, we saw a move by the federal government to make it cheaper to buy EVs. The Greens supported that bill in Canberra, with amendments to phase out plug-in hybrid vehicles and prioritise electric vehicles for the federal government fleet. These are really welcome developments in the move to an electrified transport system.

Electric vehicles are becoming more affordable, they are better for our planet, and they are the way of the future. We support axing the Liberals' EV tax, and we call on the government to go further in its next budget to provide real incentives so that we can speed up our state's transition to EVs. Let's be a real leader in that space. I think with the right political vision we can make that happen.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (15:45): I rise to speak on this bill. This, of course, is just another election promise that the Malinauskas government and the Treasurer intend to be delivered. We supported the levy, along with the Marshall government. It fell in line with what the other states have already done, and that was to have a revenue mechanism in place to eventually replace the loss of revenue that will come from significant reductions in the fuel excise levies. This is revenue that would go towards improving our road infrastructure, road safety programs and the like, and also the installation of EV charging points—because somebody has to pay for them, not have them for free.

When we agreed with the Marshall government, we did manage to get an increase in the number of vehicles that would receive the \$3,000 subsidy off the cost of EVs. Unfortunately, it was around this time of the year and the former Treasurer was in a Scrooge-ish mood and we did not quite get the high numbers that we wanted. Nonetheless, a significant number—I think it was around 6,000 vehicles—along with registration CTP waivers, were part of the package.

I note that since it came in, the number of EVs that have been sold have not been much to write home about. I think only around 200 or 300 vehicles have been bought. Many of these are the Tesla brand, and a significant number of those did not attract the subsidy because they were in line with the luxury car tax that is still in place. That subsidy that I was talking about will run until there is at least a 30 per cent penetration of EVs on our roads or until 2027, whatever comes first. However, seeing the level of EVs that are being sold at the moment and the lack of incentives, I am not confident that we are going to see all that many, the way things are going.

I have not seen much in the way of an EV strategy coming from the Malinauskas government or, for that matter, from the federal government—merely throwing some crumbs at the Greens to keep them happy. Incentives are needed to get more of these vehicles on our roads and they need to be meaningful incentives, much as we have seen, and I have seen, in countries in Europe and particularly in Scandinavian countries like Norway.

I was recently in Europe and, sadly, the take-up of EVs has not been as popular as one would have expected. At the same time, I do not see any of those governments really promoting it

as much, particularly when you consider the cost of fuel at the moment where it is. Strangely enough, while we are complaining about the cost of fuel in Australia, which can vary between \$1.70 and \$2.18, while I was travelling around Europe the cost of fuel was around €2.20, which equates to something like nearly \$3 a litre here. Fuel is extremely expensive in Europe but, strangely enough, I did not see the push towards electric vehicles; I did not see many of them on the roads in the countries I travelled through.

Quite simply, we do need more incentives to get these vehicles on our roads. I know the Hon. Robert Simms has been quite critical of what we did, and I have heard some trash talk today, but we are not against electric vehicles. What we want are more incentives for people to be able to take them up and get the numbers up on our roads.

At the same time, of course, you have to make it fair. You cannot expect the fuel excise levy to be in place and raising revenue for various infrastructure and other needs, yet people who are driving EVs are not paying anything for using the same infrastructure, the same roads, that people with petrol-driven vehicles are using.

I can see what will end up happening here with the repeal of this bill, and it looks quite obvious to me that the government will have the numbers. However, the bill will still be there, I imagine, and eventually the government will have to fall in line with what the other states are doing. I cannot see South Australia being the lone state that does not have any charges. Eventually, they will have to get the money from somewhere, and that is something the Treasurer will have to explain.

How else will they generate road user revenue? How else will they generate revenue that will go towards our crumbling road infrastructure in this state? That is, of course, unless they consider having road tolls. I know that is not in their policy at the moment, but the money will have to come from somewhere eventually.

I think the luxury car tax needs to be scrapped, and I concur with the Hon. Robert Simms regarding stamp duty and other measures. I think the Treasurer does need to provide more incentives rather just saying, 'Well, we were opposed to this bill last time, so we're going to get rid of it,' but there is nothing there to encourage people to take it up.

The motor trade industry itself also needs to have some confidence of where we are going in this state in relation to EVs or hydrogen-powered vehicles, hybrids or whatever, so they know where to invest the millions of dollars that will be required for the upkeep, the maintenance, of these vehicles and other infrastructure that will be required. The way it stands right now, and the way it will stand, is that they are basically going to be in limbo, not knowing what to do or what to spend money on, because of inconsistent policies at both state and federal levels.

To address the Hon. Robert Simms and the trash talk he was hurling our way on our position, that we supported these measures last time that were being implemented—

The Hon. R.A. Simms: That was me being nice.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: You were being nice—

The Hon. R.A. Simms interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Interjections are out of order.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: You want me to sing? I will sing a song.

The PRESIDENT: That is most certainly out of order: no glass tapping.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: I may sing a Johnny Cash song, Mr President.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: To go back, we are not opposed to EVs at all, or these vehicles. We just have to be pragmatic and realistic: the government is going to need some revenue, they are going to have to get revenue from somewhere.

The Hon. R.A. Simms interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Simms!

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: The other issue we have in this country, unlike other countries that are promoting the sales of these vehicles, is we do not have enough models on sale. If we are lucky, there may be 10 or 12 models of fully EV vehicles and then there are the hybrids and others that have been made available, but we are not getting them here. Part of the reason for that is that the federal government also needs to have a look at addressing the issue of fuel emissions standards on vehicles.

What is happening at the moment, because we are not doing what the Europeans have done, is we are also becoming a dumping ground for petrol-driven models that they cannot sell in other countries overseas. Consumers still have five years to make a choice—that is, if this bill comes into place. What we would like to see are further incentives put in place to encourage them to take them up. I think the federal government needs to play an active role here. They need to be the leaders. As I mentioned, part of that will need to be those fuel emissions standards, which need to be addressed pretty urgently.

The one consolation, when this bill goes through this place and is likely to succeed, is at least the existing rebates and incentives will remain in place for the duration of that period that was agreed to previously. With that, I will await the time that the bill comes before the Legislative Council for further debate.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (15:56): I rise to speak on this bill. This bill seeks to reverse the Motor Vehicles (Electric Vehicle Levy) Amendment Act that was passed by the previous parliament just over 12 months ago in this place with the support of the crossbench. That act sought to broadly align ourselves with New South Wales and Victoria, two jurisdictions that have recognised that electric vehicle owners ought to contribute to maintaining our road network as all non-electric vehicle road users must.

Since then, Labor's Western Australian government have also announced a road user charge in an apparent about face from their original 2020 electric vehicle strategy. I note that the ACT, Northern Territory and Tasmania have made noises about reconsidering their position in favour of also introducing one in the future.

On multiple occasions and in different areas of policy, this Premier and his government have trumpeted the benefits of national consistency. On this occasion, however, South Australia is going against the grain and has withdrawn from what appeared to be a consensus position for first movers. I understand that the previous Liberal government received support from key industry bodies such as the RAA, Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries and Infrastructure Partnerships Australia for the introduction of a road user charge here.

I am also aware that the Motor Trade Association agrees with the principle that all road users ought to contribute their fair share to the maintenance and upgrade of our road network. While the MTA would prefer that the federal government regulate in this space, given that there has been a lack of action from the federal major parties so far, it is prudent that we as a state take action where there is a vacuum of leadership.

This Labor government is apparently satisfied with the notion that all South Australian taxpayers ought to subsidise the minority who are on high incomes and can already afford luxury electric vehicles, without expecting them to contribute their fair share to maintaining our roads—a road network, as many country members in particular will be aware, is already under strain across our state and in various states of disrepair. Will this mean less funding for road safety going forward? My regional constituents, who are over-represented in crash statistics, will certainly hope not.

This attempt to repeal the Motor Vehicles (Electric Vehicle Levy) Amendment Act 2021 is a classic example of green virtue signalling. It does nothing to either increase the uptake of electric vehicles, nor does it address the issue of a small but growing cohort of electric vehicle and hybrid owners who are being subsidised to drive on our streets by their petrol and diesel-powered neighbours.

The latest figures—and I thank the MTA for their assistance here—show that just 1.7 per cent of all new vehicle sales in this state to the end of October are pure electric vehicles. This is at the same time that diesel vehicle sales have increased by 4.1 per cent to make up almost 35 per cent of

total sales. So we can see where South Australians are putting their hard-earned money to work, and it is not going towards battery-powered EVs.

If we cast our eyes over the border to Victoria, battery-powered EVs make up 2.6 per cent of all new vehicle sales. Given that they have had a road user charge in operation for almost 18 months, this is evidence that such a levy clearly does not put a significant dampener on EV uptake.

This repeal bill will undo what was a modest and sensible starting point for taxation of electric vehicles. The tax would have charged EV users a road charge of just 2¢ cents per kilometre for plug-in hybrids and 2½¢ per kilometre for electric vehicles, and it was due to begin in almost five years' time, on 1 July 2027, or when EVs made up 30 per cent of total vehicle sales per annum, whichever came sooner.

The previous government expected that it would bring in \$3.5 million in its first year of operation, as a result of an estimated annual charge of just \$305 per vehicle. Compare this with petrol-powered vehicle owners, who are slugged with a fuel excise rate of 46¢ per litre. This adds up to \$13.9 billion in net fuel excise this financial year into federal government coffers, growing to about \$16.7 billion in 2025-26. For a typical household, the Australian Automobile Association estimates annual fuel excise bills to be over \$1,100 or, in South Australia, approximately \$565 per average vehicle.

So while your average Australian household is responsible for contributing over \$1,100 to our road network, those in the market for an electric vehicle are instead being paid \$3,000 in direct subsidies, plus given a three-year registration exemption. This does not include the many extra millions of dollars of investment likely to be spent by the state government to further accelerate EV uptake, nor does it include the many billions of dollars this federal government is wasting in the pursuit of green renewables and upgrading our electricity grid in order to withstand the high and intermittent energy demands of charging electric vehicles.

Not only will electric vehicle owners not be required to contribute their fair share to building and maintaining our road network but it is left to the South Australian taxpayer to foot the bill for electric vehicle charging infrastructure too. How is this fair? When is an appropriate time to start charging EV owners for driving on roads funded by everyday petrol and diesel-owning South Australians? Is it 2030? Is it 2040? The can is getting kicked further and further down the road.

We only have to look to the United States to see what happens as a result of EV subsidies. In just one year, to June 2022, EV prices rose on average by 13.7 per cent to \$US66,000, or almost \$98,000 at the current exchange rate. President Biden's \$US7,000 EV subsidy, ironically packaged up as part of his recent Inflation Reduction Act, was eviscerated in no time whatsoever. In Germany, their finance minister is quoted as saying:

We simply cannot afford misguided subsidies anymore. These cars have so far been subsidised over their lifetime with up to 20,000 Euros, even for top earners. That's too much. We can save billions there, which we can use more sensibly.

The fervent pursuit of EVs inconveniently coincides with state and federal Labor governments doing all in their power to shut down our base load coal and gas power stations that are vital to the mining of the rare earth minerals needed in the production of these vehicles. Without coal, how will we smelt steel and aluminium, process plastics from coal and oil, and produce glass? Presumably, this will all be done in China and overseas markets, where environmental and labour standards are either low or non-existent—out of sight, out of mind.

According to the International Energy Agency, EVs require about six times more minerals to build, compared with conventional cars. Mineral demand for use in EVs and battery storage will grow at least 30 times to 2040, with lithium the major driver at 40 times, followed by graphite, cobalt and nickel. Copper demand, in order to upgrade and expand the electricity network to handle these extra imports, will more than double globally over this period.

It is folly to think that the supply of these minerals is able to keep up with the pace of politicians' fervent demand for decarbonisation. Price volatility will only increase and further push up the cost of clean energy transition. While sticker prices of batteries have come down significantly,

thanks to better technology and economies of scale, raw material costs have actually grown to now account for up to 70 per cent of total battery costs, up from 40 per cent five years ago. Given the meteoric rise in lithium prices, thanks to a combination of high demand and supply issues, both of which will only intensify, it is difficult to see how the economics will stack up.

The International Energy Agency estimates that a doubling of lithium prices would induce a 6 per cent increase in battery costs. If nickel prices were to do the same, then all of the unit cost reductions anticipated from a doubling of battery production would be eviscerated, and this scenario will only be realised if we are able to source the minerals in the first place. Utilising the expected supply of lithium from existing mines and projects under construction, the IEA again estimates that it will be lucky to meet half of global demand for lithium by 2030.

Summing-up, I seriously question the government's motives behind this bill. It is unfair and unjust to repeal a proposed electric vehicle road user charge that was only due to take effect in another five years' time for the benefit of a tiny minority who are already able to afford expensive EVs. I do not believe that this bill will result in any significant increase in the uptake of EVs and I do not agree with the principle that electric vehicle owners deserve a free ride.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. H.M. Girolamo.

Motions

ELECTRICITY ACT REGULATIONS

Orders of the Day, Private Business, No.1: Hon. C. Bonaros to move:

That the general regulations under the Electricity Act 1996 concerning payment condition, made on 9 December 2021 and laid on the table of this council on 3 May 2022, be disallowed.

The Hon. C. BONAROS (16:06): I move:

That this order of the day be discharged.

Motion carried; order of the day discharged.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. J.S. Lee:

That this council—

1. Congratulates Youth Opportunities on celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2022;
2. Recognises the positive impact that Youth Opportunities has made in the lives of almost 15,000 young people across more than 80 schools and organisations in South Australia since its establishment; and
3. Acknowledges the valuable role that Youth Opportunities plays in empowering young people to reach their full potential through its personal leadership programs and social enterprise, Generation Thrive.

(Continued from 19 October 2022.)

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (16:06): I rise today in support of the motion. Youth Opportunities has been working with the Department for Education since 2013, and over that time they have developed many great partnerships with schools and created a wonderful experience for thousands of students.

In 2021-22, Youth Opportunities delivered 49 programs to 925 students across 23 schools in South Australia. One of the important features of the program is a recognition that there are activities and engagement that also need to happen outside the classroom in support of the students' learning pathways. This program is helping to bridge a gap for teachers and schools by helping to improve students' mental health and wellbeing and allowing schools to focus more on students' learning.

The program is designed to lift students' aspirations and empower them to set goals and manage their own careers. The program recognises that, for young people, setting goals for the future, continuing a learning pathway and thinking about a dream job is not possible without

successfully managing their health and wellbeing. The Youth Opportunities program has been effective in improving students' wellbeing and reducing the number of students at high risk of developing mental health concerns, and tracking of graduates two years after their involvement in the program has shown sustained improvements in both their wellbeing and their academic achievements.

As a government, we are committed to working with schools to ensure we set young people up for success by supporting their wellbeing and ensuring that they have the skills and knowledge for future success. This is not just about achieving good outcomes in terms of post-school pathways, but achieving longer term positive social outcomes that we know come from pursuing meaningful education and employment.

By providing individualised support and personalised coaching, the Youth Opportunities program supports students to develop skills and strategies in the areas of wellbeing, resilience, engagement and leadership. The program also supports the development of self-reflection and goal planning, tools that will support students to successfully complete school by making clear connections between their classroom learning and future career pathways.

Students, teachers and Youth Opportunities staff tell us that what they achieve over the 10 weeks of the program helps them set up well to continue schooling and make a successful transition to further education, employment and a bright future.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (16:09): I rise to lend my support to this motion and congratulate Youth Opportunities on a quarter-century of instilling resilience, self-confidence and personal leadership qualities in our young people.

While it is heartwarming to read the overwhelming positive testimonials from the students who graduated from the personal leadership program, it is also reassuring to know that this is backed by statistical data. Using internationally recognised measures, Youth Opportunities are able to proudly claim that a full 93 per cent of their graduates reported feeling that they gained more responsibility for taking action in their own lives.

Similarly impressive results were obtained regarding students' improved confidence levels, self-image, relationships with their parents, students and teachers, and having a clearer understanding of their future. These are the building blocks that make for a resilient, self-reliant and emotionally intelligent young person.

It is further reported that the number of program graduates classed as having a high risk of developing a mental health disorder was reduced by 28 per cent last year alone. Programs like this that seek to prevent the development of mental health issues arising later in life require greater investment by all levels of government. The old adage 'prevention is better than a cure' is apt in this scenario. Economic returns on investing in the sorts of social-emotional learning skills that Youth Opportunities engender in young people is projected to be \$11 for every dollar spent.

One Nation believes that this is an area where more focus and funding ought to be directed, rather than favouring investment to fix mental health crises after they have taken hold. Thank you to the honourable member for introducing this motion to the chamber. I congratulate Youth Opportunities on their 25th anniversary and thank them for their valuable contribution to the lives of 15,000 South Australian young people and counting.

The Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (16:10): I thank the Hon. Russell Wortley and the Hon. Sarah Game for their wonderful contributions. I am sure that Youth Opportunities will really appreciate their support. I commend the motion.

Motion carried.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. L.A. Curran:

That this council—

1. Notes that World Teachers' Day is celebrated in Australia on 28 October 2022 and acknowledges the work of our dedicated teachers across South Australia; and

2. Recognises the commitment of our teachers and education staff over the past two years to keep our schools open and our children safe during COVID-19.

(Continued from 7 September 2022.)

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (16:11): I thank the honourable member for moving this motion, and I rise to support it. Apart from my parents, I think it is safe to say that no-one has had a greater impact on my life than a small number of teachers I was lucky enough to have. Their guidance and ability to shape a young student like myself cannot be underestimated. Mrs Hand, a teacher at Largs North Primary School, shared her love of Antarctica with me and went out of her way and out of her work hours to provide me with extra resources and extra materials to fuel the fire of knowledge. I pay tribute to all of her work.

Mr Day was a teacher who had a fierce reputation of being a strict authoritarian amongst all the children at our primary school, right up until the point where they had him as a teacher and realised that he was a brilliant mind. His methods of engaging the children, building resilience and creating a culture that rewarded hard work had a big impact on me. He later went on to be a quizmaster, who I ran across in a pub a couple of times, and I hope I did well in those things to make him proud.

Mr Weaver was a generous, kind-hearted year 12 maths teacher, who went above and beyond to help his students prepare themselves not just for the year 12 exams but for their future after high school. He actually predicted that I would end up in parliament, and at least somewhat due to his influence that prediction has come true. I recognise these amazing teachers and thank all of the teachers who taught me, every one having had a positive influence.

But, apart from the ones who taught me, a number of others have also had a large impact on my life. My mother-in-law, a teacher for over 40 years, has been a teacher librarian, an English teacher and has specialised in English as a second language. Her dedication to her students is immense, and she is an absolute credit to her profession.

Two teachers who I came to know after they had retired—Michael Cowling and Barbara Burr—were two of the most generous people you could ever meet, and it was clear to anyone who did meet them that they were dedicated teachers who always put their students' interests first. Since their retirement they have been as busy as ever, and their contribution to the Labor Party, via the running of the Labor Academy, has been inspiring. I have done all I can to support them, and I take this opportunity to thank them for all they have done.

In my first speech to parliament I talked about the importance of education and further equity in education. Every child deserves the opportunities that a good education opens up, and supporting and resourcing our teachers is as important now as it ever has been, as we find ourselves in an increasingly competitive global economy. Recognising and acknowledging the amazing work that our teachers do is important, but so is matching our words with our deeds. I thank the honourable member again, and I commend the motion.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:14): I also rise in support of the motion on behalf of the Greens. The Greens believe that a strong public education system for all stages of life is key to building a just and cohesive society. The most vital components of this system are, of course, its teachers. At all levels, teachers guide, they nurture, they educate, and they facilitate. They are required to be many things to many people, and they are integral to the functioning of our community.

Over the last few years, we have seen the growth of the teacher workforce not matching the increase of student demand. According to the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership, fewer people are entering the teacher workforce. According to their statistics, the primary reason cited by teachers for wanting to leave the profession is their workload.

Just this month, the University of South Australia released a report commissioned by the Australian Education Union of South Australia titled 'Teachers at breaking point'. This report found that South Australian teachers were working on average more than 50 hours per week. Teacher job satisfaction has almost halved, down to 52.9 per cent being satisfied with their jobs.

Disturbingly, only 6.8 per cent of teachers feel their views are valued by policymakers in the state of South Australia, so urgent action is needed to ensure that our teachers feel supported, valued

and fully resourced to undertake the vital role they play in our community. Staff working conditions influence student learning conditions. The Greens have continually called for smaller class sizes and more teachers and support staff.

South Australian public schools are terribly underfunded. South Australia receives 95 per cent of the Schooling Resource Standard, the standard that determines the minimum amount schools need per student to provide a quality education. As a proud product of public education, having been to Aberfoyle Park High School and Flagstaff Hill Primary, I am always proud to advocate for public education. The Greens' policy is to fully fund public education with 100 per cent of the Schooling Resource Standard to ensure that our schools have what they need to support teaching and non-academic staff.

The motion calls for us to recognise the commitment of teachers and education staff over the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the report by UniSA, teachers have felt the negative impacts of increased student absences, higher workloads, staff shortages and, of course, the effects on their social and emotional wellbeing. Teachers have had to step in at late notice to relieve others with COVID, often losing vital planning and marking time. They have been exposed to the virus through poorly ventilated classrooms and lecture halls, and they have had to manage hybrid teaching models, sometimes at very short notice.

I know all members of this place will agree that we owe teachers across our state a great debt of gratitude for the vital work they have done during this very challenging period. We certainly thank them for the significant contribution that they have made. I commend this motion and acknowledge the work of South Australian educators, and I do want to thank the Hon. Laura Curran for bringing this proposition to the chamber. As indicated, the Greens are proud to support it.

The Hon. C. BONAROS (16:17): I, too, rise to speak briefly on behalf of SA-Best on this motion celebrating World Teachers' Day. In doing so, I thank the honourable member for bringing this motion to this place and also pay tribute to the selfless, dedicated, kind-hearted teachers who go above and beyond for their students each and every day and, like me, their students' very appreciative families. We also pay tribute to the teachers who recognise the impact that food insecurity, hunger and period poverty can have on a student's ability to learn.

In particular, we acknowledge and say thanks to the many teachers who regularly reach into their own pockets to provide food to kids who turn up to school with empty tummies or without anything for lunch, not even a snack or something from home; who buy period products for girls in need and keep stashes in their drawers to ensure that no girl in their class falls behind her peers; who put food and period products in students' backpacks for their siblings at home; who make sure that students have the supplies, shoes and clothes they need; who lend a few dollars, knowing it will not come back; and who encourage them to be the very best version of themselves in spite of the challenges they face in their upbringing or personal family lives.

We pay tribute to the teachers who do what they can when they see kids who are struggling through circumstances no fault of their own. Finally, our immense gratitude to the teachers who went above and beyond during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by ensuring that their students had what they needed at home, in particular to the very special teachers who dropped parcels at the doors of the homes of kids they knew would be struggling, lent their own iPads or laptops to students who could not access one for online learning, and selflessly kept their classes open for the kids for whom school is the safest place.

A teacher's influence and role in a student's life can never be underestimated. I remember each and every teacher who ever taught me a valuable lesson and am reminded of those very valuable lessons to this very day. So many of them play an integral role not only in educating their students but also in helping shape the person they grow up to be and their career choices. For that, we should all be very grateful. With those words, SA-Best wholeheartedly supports this motion.

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN (16:20): I thank honourable members for their support and their contributions, but in particular I would like to thank the Hon. Mr Martin, the Hon. Mr Simms and the Hon. Ms Bonaros for their contributions to this motion and their support of teachers. Our teachers leave an imprint on us, they leave an imprint on every single one of their students. They educate, they guide and they go above and beyond, often, to provide pastoral care.

I think we all have had at least one teacher in our lives who has left that imprint on us and has helped to shape the way that we see the world, helped us to think critically and to feel that hunger for knowledge that we all have, and perhaps even given us that push that we needed to go that extra mile and work that little bit harder.

Our teachers have had to go above and beyond throughout the last few years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both to keep schools open and also to keep our children safe. As honourable members have also touched on, our teachers are faced with additional challenges. Today, we thank our teachers and we acknowledge them. With that, I commend the motion to this place.

Motion carried.

Bills

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY (CRYSTALLINE SILICA DUST) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 15 June 2022.)

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:22): I rise today to speak on behalf of the government in relation to the bill that is before us. This is a very important issue for the health and safety of the South Australian community. The final report of the National Dust Disease Taskforce in June 2021 concluded that the past decade had seen a re-emergence of respiratory diseases associated with exposure to respirable crystalline silica, driven by the popularity of engineered tabletop stone.

Earlier this year, researchers from Curtin University estimated that over 10,000 Australians will develop lung cancer and over 100,000 workers will be diagnosed with silicosis as a result of their exposure to silica dust at work. At this very moment, jurisdictions around Australia are grappling with how to respond to this issue. I understand that no other state or territory has yet implemented a complete ban on working with materials containing silica in the form proposed by this bill, but some jurisdictions are exploring licensing regimes for these industries.

Others are looking to amend their work health and safety regulations to prohibit the uncontrolled cutting, grinding or abrasive polishing of engineered stone, which produces silica dust. There are a range of policy options open to ensure the health and safety of South Australian workers in relation to these issues, and those options will require careful and deliberate consideration.

The government supports this bill being referred to the occupational safety, health and compensation committee for inquiry, and I look forward to, if that is the course that is taken, the committee undertaking that important work.

The Hon. C. BONAROS (16:23): I rise to speak on behalf of SA-Best on the Work Health and Safety (Crystalline Silica Dust) Amendment Bill 2022, which as we know seeks to amend the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 to ban any work exposing a person to crystalline silica dust. The dust is found in rocks, sand, granite and engineered products commonly known as reconstituted or composite stone, and the minute granules are about a hundred times smaller than sand, as I understand it.

The cutting, grinding, sanding and polishing of that stone in particular generates crystalline silica dust, which can be fatal when inhaled over a period of time. Exposure can cause silicosis or scarring of the lungs, which is serious and irreversible and tragically can be fatal. It can also cause latency diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, lung cancer, kidney disease or chronic bronchitis.

All this sounds terribly familiar and should sound terribly familiar to us when we consider how asbestos was treated previously in Australia and indeed throughout the world. There were the mammoth efforts of this parliament to introduce the dust diseases legislation some years ago, which I was involved with when I worked as a staff member here. I have to say, for the record, that is probably the reason I am standing here today, because it was one of the first campaigns I ever worked on that made me realise that, from very small grassroots campaigns and a lot of political

pressure, this parliament has the ability to do extraordinary work that absolutely changes the course of families forever and a day.

So I do not downplay the concerns we have around silica dust by any stretch of the imagination. I recall the first instances of those cases being exposed and the questions I asked of the then Treasurer, Rob Lucas, in relation to what we were doing to address that issue. I understand that there was a lot being done at a commonwealth level and that we were seeing the flowthrough to the states, but it is certainly something we have kept a keen and close eye on.

Of course, again like asbestos, there is going to be the flipside to that argument in terms of what happens if we were to ban a product like this, because of its broad use and also the flow-on effects from that in terms of, for instance, stonemasons' work with granite and marble, construction workers, engineers, farmers, bricklayers, demolition workers, workers in glass manufacturing and businesses that employ workers in these fields. There are obviously going to be lots of concerns raised by those industries in relation to any measure around this

But the number one priority I think has to be the safety of workers, so for that reason I wholeheartedly welcome the Hon. Tammy Franks' proposal to refer this to an inquiry so that we are all on top of all the issues that exist, all the dangers that are presented and all the things we can be doing to ensure that every worker goes to work, has a safe day at work and comes home safely and does not, as in the case of asbestos, 10, 20, 30 or 50 years down the track find themselves with a terrible fatal and terminal diagnosis.

I know silica dust and asbestos are not the same thing, but I think there is a huge resemblance between the two, so I very much welcome and am supportive of referring this bill for inquiry so that we can all be better informed about where we are at when it comes to these products, where we are at in terms of worker safety around these products and what we need to do to ensure those workers are safe.

According to the Cancer Council, 587,000 Australian workers were exposed to silica dust in the workplace in 2011 alone. If a ban was implemented Australia-wide, that could obviously result in huge job losses and impacts on lots of those businesses, but again I suppose the question is: where do we draw the line between those processes and worker safety? It is for that reason that I think this bill is very important and the inquiry process that the member has proposed is equally as important.

In October 2021, Safe Work Australia released a code of practice titled 'Managing the risks of respirable crystalline silica from engineered stone in the workplace'. It sets standards for ventilation, air monitoring, vacuum extraction, use of PPE and training—again, all sounding very familiar—but there are lots and lots of questions that remain unanswered and there are lots of question marks, I think, that exist over the current standards that apply. These are issues that we may not be able to address today because we simply do not know the long-term effects of some of them.

I think this is a matter that absolutely warrants a lot of scrutiny and the further attention of this parliament. We are fully supportive of the referral to the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation for inquiry and report, and look forward to considering the outcomes of that review in due course.

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (16:30): I indicate that I will be the lead speaker in the upper house for the opposition. I note the motion on the *Notice Paper* and indicate that the opposition will support the referral of this matter to the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation for an inquiry and to be able to explore this important area further.

As a member of this committee, I look forward to further examining the bill in due course. It is important to be able to consider all elements, most importantly the work health and safety and also from a practicality point of view, given that this material is used in a variety of different areas. At this stage, we look forward to working with the Hon. Tammy Franks on this committee and working through this bill, and thank her for highlighting this important area.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (16:31): I rise today to add my voice to call for legislative needs relating to crystalline silica dust to be referred to the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation. It is appropriate that this committee be the place to inquire

and report on the associated issue the honourable member has raised. The health and safety of our community comes first, and a committee is an appropriate place to investigate pathways forward.

Forty-five per cent of the current Australian benchtop market consists of engineered or artificial stone. Many trades and suppliers stock both Australian-made and imported engineered stone products. A 2020-21 audit by SafeWork SA identified a positive increase in compliance with safety measures related to silica dust exposure after a 2019 awareness campaign. Most employers want to do the right thing and they want their workers to be safe. I believe a committee would help find constructive ways forward for industry and trades.

Breathe Freely Australia recommends that when exposures are not controlled to below 50 per cent of the Safe Work Australia Exposure Standard levels for respirable crystalline silica, health monitoring must take place. I absolutely agree with the previous sentiments in this chamber that we must proceed with caution. The litany of ailments exposure to fine crystalline dust can cause is staggering: silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, lung cancer and kidney disease. I agree with the need for a thorough review of compensation measures for those workers and families affected by crystalline silica dust.

Every Australian worker deserves the right to be safe in their workplace. Every worker deserves to know that laws protect them from preventable harm and assist them when things go wrong. A committee with ample expert witnesses and consultants will be the best place to find a safe way forward, if there is one. The Hon. Ms Franks has stated, 'We have to try something else. We have to act.' I agree and believe we should not end the conversation today but refer to the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation as recommended.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:33): I thank those members who have made a contribution: the Hon. Kyam Maher, the Hon. Connie Bonaros, the Hon. Heidi Girolamo and the Hon. Sarah Game. I note that that is Labor, Liberal, One Nation and Greens all agreeing that we need to take a closer look at this issue, and this issue is around manufactured—

The Hon. C. Bonaros: And SA-Best.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: And SA-Best. Sorry, I thought I said SA-Best. I am sorry. All parties represented in this council, in this chamber, are in agreement and I thank them all for their commitment to taking this issue seriously.

Manufactured stone was actually only first used in Australia in 2001, so this century. It is an imported building product made from silica aggregate and resin, and is most often used in those shiny kitchen benchtops and commercial and retail finishes. I note that evidence given to a New South Wales parliamentary inquiry heard from Dr Chris Colquhoun, the Chief Medical Officer of iCare, and he is quoted as saying 'any time you are cutting manufactured stone you have to make the assumption that if you breathe the stuff in you are going to die'.

In 2021, the report by the National Dust Disease Taskforce found that one in four workers who had been exposed had been diagnosed with silicosis. That is in less than 20 years. What happens in the next 20 years? I have to assume that, unfortunately, those numbers and that probability will rise.

It took 70 years for Australia to ban all forms of asbestos. We need to learn from that disaster and act urgently to ban artificial stone. Silicosis is already killing workers, young workers with young families, affecting people who should have had their entire lives ahead of them. I would hope that all legislators, regardless of political party, will put the lives of those workers and their families above the need for shiny kitchen benchtops and that we will act urgently to address this issue and find a solution that effectively bans this new industry—it is not an ongoing, historic industry; it is, in fact, quite a new, emerging industry—and does so swiftly to literally save lives.

I have moved contingently that this bill be withdrawn and referred to the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation for inquiry and report, and I note that as I move that it be read a second time.

Bill read a second time.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:36): I move:

That the bill be withdrawn, and referred to the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation for inquiry and report.

Motion carried; bill withdrawn.

Motions

GENDER INEQUALITY

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (16:36): I move:

That this council—

- (a) notes that gender inequality continues to exist in Australia and notes that addressing this inequality is integral to our economy and every aspect of our state's community life;
- (b) notes that the South Australian gender pay gap was reported at 7.4 per cent in November 2021 across full-time adult weekly ordinary time earnings;
- (c) notes that women's employment was disproportionately affected by COVID-19 as work in hospitality, events and the arts disappeared;
- (d) commits to doing whatever it can to:
 - (i) address the prevalence of women engaged in insecure work, including in casual and part-time employment and through labour hire companies by strengthening labour hire, wage theft and other industrial legislation;
 - (ii) ensure legislation and government policy is inclusive and enables equality of opportunity; and
 - (iii) ensure equal representation across government boards.

Our government is committed to addressing economic inequality through addressing systemic and cultural indicators of gender inequality. As South Australian women, we are fortunate to live in a state with a progressive history of gender equality. While we can acknowledge and pay credit to the past, we must not overstate this. There is much to be done as we strive for equality.

In South Australia, as it is everywhere, gender inequality is the key driver of disadvantage for women. Nationally, women are likely to live longer than men—85 years versus 80 years—however, their superannuation balance in retirement is significantly less than men. Australian men have an average superannuation balance at retirement of approximately \$345,000 compared to women, whose average super is \$279,000. This is an area we must address.

While recent ABS data from May 2022 indicates that the rate of unemployment for women is lower than for men, there are significantly more women in South Australia working part-time or in casual employment. Recent statistics show that, overall, 70 per cent of part-time jobs were held by women and they are twice as likely to be engaged in insecure work than their male counterparts.

Women are not only more likely to work part-time and in casual roles, they are also more likely to have fragmented work histories and precarious attachment to the workplace. They often experience greater levels of discrimination, have fewer employment opportunities, and lower levels of financial literacy and independence. It is this combination of factors that can leave women in poor financial circumstances in later life, and contributes to the gender pay and superannuation gaps. It was also these factors that saw women disproportionately and negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is shameful that women who work in female-dominated occupations attract lower pay than those in male-dominated occupations. At the core of this government's efforts to address the gender pay gap is the establishment of a Gender Pay Gap Taskforce to further understand and address the factors that contribute to the 7.4 per cent gender pay gap in South Australia in a systematic way.

As chair of this task force, I am determined that we cannot be complacent about the impacts of the gender pay gap on women's lives and the community as a whole. The election of the Albanese Labor government and its substantial industrial relations and gender equality reform agenda also provide an opportunity to align the South Australian task force and the actions they take within the broader national framework.

Our task force brings together experts from across government, non-government, business and industries to provide expert advice to our government and recommend specific actions that we can take to address the gender pay gap. Closing the gender pay gap goes beyond just ensuring equal pay. Closing the gender pay gap requires systemic and cultural change to remove the barriers to the full and equal participation of women in the workforce.

Undervaluing the work of women must come to an end. This task force is not only an important step in the work towards closing the gender pay gap in South Australia but also a key step to securing women's financial security across their life span. Our government is committed to a range of other policy initiatives to address inequality and ensure that women and girls can equally and actively participate in our economy and in every aspect of community life. These include:

- re-establishing the Premier's Women's Directory to provide an additional avenue for South Australian women to join boards;
- committing to achieving 50 per cent representation of women on state government boards; and
- reinstating the Women in Sport Taskforce to advise the government on issues preventing women and girls participating fully in their sporting passions and life.

Both the Premier's Women's Directory and the Women in Sport Taskforce were shamefully shut down, cut by the previous government. For a relatively small investment, these initiatives can help make a difference and advance us closer towards gender equality.

We have also launched our \$4 million Women in Business package, which will provide a suite of programs that will be made available to South Australian female-owned businesses. Importantly, we also include an equality bill, which will seek to promote, encourage and facilitate the systemic achievement of gender equality.

These commitments will ensure that South Australian women and girls can build financially stable futures and are empowered to equally participate in all aspects of the community. I am proud to be part of a government that takes the gender pay gap seriously and one that is committed to doing everything possible to address gender inequality at its core.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. L.A. Curran.

LIONS AUSTRALIA

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. J.S. Lee:

That this council—

1. Congratulates Lions Australia for celebrating its 75th anniversary in September 2022;
2. Recognises Lions Clubs throughout Australia, including those in South Australia, who are involved in establishing and managing a range of meaningful projects and foundations to support a wide variety of community needs; and
3. Notes the significant contributions Lions Clubs make in funding vital medical research, improving health care, assisting adults and children with disabilities, responding to natural disasters and emergencies and improving the lives of others.

(Continued from 3 November 2022.)

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (16:43): I would like to support this motion. I am delighted to speak on behalf of the Labor Party in regard to the 75th anniversary of Lions. Too often in human history, it has taken a crisis or emergency for the deep good in people and communities to shine through. Lions Clubs International was founded in Chicago in 1917 in response to hardships that had arisen because of the First World War. This was supposed to be a war to end all wars, but sadly this was not the case, as we have seen in ongoing conflicts around the world today.

Three decades after it began on the other side of the world, Lions began in Australia. Similar to its American origins, the first Australian Lions Club began 1947 in the aftermath of another war that had left people with grief, loss and hardship. But from adversity comes compassion and

creativity, where people ask what they can do for their local communities and for people in need around the world.

The first Australian Lions Club was formed in Lismore in 1947, and the organisation has only continued to grow from there. Seventy-five years of service is an incredible legacy for any organisation, and Lions deserve credit for growing and adapting as the decades continue.

While it took until 1962 for the first Lions Club to be formed in South Australia, there are now over 50 thriving clubs at the heart of our communities. Importantly, many of these clubs are in our regional communities, where people will be familiar with small signs commemorating their work in parks and community spaces. But much of their work does not have a plaque or sign; it makes quiet but valuable contributions to the lives of people around us.

I know the local Lions at Gilles Plains not only contribute to many different projects but also sponsor Operation Flinders, which supports young people to go into the outback and develop skills and camaraderie with other kids. I understand, Mr President, that you once went and visited with Operations Flinders at one stage, and I know you found it quite valuable when you went on the project.

Whether it is a slice of Lions Christmas cake, providing food and emergency relief after a natural disaster or the well-known Lions Youth of the Year Quest, many of us have been touched by their work. In 1965, Lions introduced the first £1 cake, which has since morphed into an incredible annual fundraiser via their famous Christmas cakes. I know the member for Torrens buys many of these and delivers them to all the schools in her electorate, and I know the teachers and the staff of the schools appreciate it very much.

Before this Christmas season, the cakes have raised \$60 million to help drive community programs and projects around Australia. This is simply an incredible achievement that has brought great joy to our lips but hopefully not too much to our hips! I encourage everyone in this chamber to make sure you grab your Christmas cake or pudding to continue to support the important work.

The 2021 SA winner of the Lions Youth of the Year Quest was a young man called Cameron Dixon, from Glossop High School. This again demonstrates the important opportunities that Lions offer to regional communities. We wish Cameron, Glossop and all of the Riverland the best as they face rising floodwaters in the coming month.

This brings me to possibly the most important work of Lions: when they step up as disaster approaches. To quote their own words, 'When disaster strikes, Lions focus on doing what we can to help those in need as quickly as possible; and when the danger has passed Lions will be working to revive these communities into the future.' This commitment not only to emergency relief but also to the care of the community is part of what makes Lions so special. As noted earlier, Lions was founded overseas and its work focuses both on local and international causes.

I want to make particular note of the Glenside Lions Club, which runs the Glenside Bookmart. They donated their entire takings from June to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Just one branch of this mighty organisation raised \$20,000. The money raised went to food, clothing, hygiene supplies, sleeping bags and medicine for those who have fled violence in Ukraine. This is one part of an incredible \$1,153,260 in grants from Lions International, truly making a difference to those suffering as a result of the conflict.

As the motion moved by the member opposite also notes, the Lions have assisted in funding all kinds of medical research, notably the Gardasil vaccination as a groundbreaking development in the fight against cervical cancer. They have also contributed to and funded research and support into childhood cancers, Alzheimer's disease, spinal cord injury and cord blood research—truly important work that we are all so grateful for.

I place on record my thanks, and that of the government, to all of the tireless Lions volunteers for your achievements, your hard work and your impact across our communities. While this motion singles out Lions, I also place on record our appreciation for service clubs and volunteers of all descriptions who give their time and resources freely to make a better community.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:49): I also rise, on behalf of the Greens, to speak in favour of this motion. The motion recognises the 75th anniversary of Lions in September 2022. The Lions Club stands for liberty, intelligence and safety. Lions was first started in Australia in New South Wales in 1946. By 1976 the organisation had spread to 1,000 clubs.

They run a diverse range of programs, including youth exchange and junior public speaking. They are active in the area of health, diabetes, assistance dogs, hearing dogs, children's mobility and eye health. They run a lot of important humanitarian programs: support for refugees, older people and they run a range of fundraising drives. I must say, growing up in the southern suburbs it was always a time of excitement to see the Lions' sleigh move through the streets of Flagstaff Hill as they delivered the annual Christmas cakes.

They have done lots of good works in a range of different communities. They are very active in disaster relief, they have done work in the environment, and they foster research and innovation, most notably in the areas of arthritis, childhood cancer, and treatment for Alzheimer's and dementia. So I want to join the Hon. Russell Wortley, on behalf of the Greens—

The Hon. R.P. Wortley: Wortley.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: Wortley. Pronunciation has not been my strong suit this week. I was reminded of my speech about Reuters media yesterday. I do thank the honourable member and recognise the honourable member's comments and echo his sentiments in terms of praising the remarkable work of these volunteers over many years, and the Greens are very proud to support the motion.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (16:51): I rise to add my comments in support and commendation of Lions Australia for their 75th milestone of significant contributions to our community. As the largest and one of the most impactful service clubs in Australia, Lions volunteers should take great pride in their countless achievements that have enriched their local community and supported worthy global causes.

Whether it is contributing to important medical research, assisting children with disabilities or lending a hand during Australia's fires, floods and droughts, Lions Australia have collectively improved many lives. The numbers are impressive: 25,000 Lions volunteers gather at over 1,200 clubs throughout the country, and in 2021 managed to raise over \$28 million and donate a staggering two million hours of voluntary services. This sort of philanthropy and community-centred focus is just the sort of mindset I believe we need to instil in our young children and young people from an early age, particularly for those of us with a privileged upbringing.

Lions Australia aim to have a membership base that closely matches the demography of our country, and they have been diligently adapting and evolving over the years to achieve this. Various initiatives have been pursued in recent years, such as establishing young Leo clubs for children and young adults, virtual clubs, ethnic clubs, special interest and autism clubs, and I encourage anyone out there who wants to give more back to the community to consider joining or at the very least donating today.

Volunteers' annual membership fees are used to cover administration costs, meaning that 100 per cent of donations go directly to the cause they are pursuing. Whether it is getting a free skin cancer check, raising millions for medical research, lending a hand with the response to floods and fires, or helping our homeless, there is a Lions Club near you that is eager to assist. I thank and congratulate Lions Australia on their remarkable efforts over 75 years and counting, and appreciate the honourable member for moving this important motion.

The Hon. L.A. CURRAN (16:53): On behalf of the mover, the Hon. Jing Lee, I would like to thank the honourable members, the Hon. Mr Wortley, the Hon. Mr Simms and the Hon. Ms Game, for their contributions to this motion. The Hon. Ms Lee thanks everybody for their support and on that note I commend the motion.

Motion carried.

ANGLICARESA

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. J.S. Lee:

That this council—

1. Recognises that AnglicareSA has been supporting South Australians in need for more than 150 years;
2. Acknowledges the contributions of more than 1,800 AnglicareSA staff and 400 volunteers who support more than 55,000 people each year; and
3. Notes the valuable role that AnglicareSA plays in South Australia through its social service programs including housing and homelessness, NDIS services, aged care, foster care, emergency assistance, financial counselling and literacy, Aboriginal services, new arrivals, children, youth and families.

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (16:54): I rise to support this motion and acknowledge the important work of Anglicare across South Australia for an incredible 162 years since its origin in 1860. The Anglicare we see today was formally incorporated in 2000, but the earliest Anglican charitable organisation in South Australia was established by Ms Julia Farr. Most South Australians would associate the name Julia Farr with a building in Highgate that was one of our last large disability institutions. The namesake for the building was an amazing woman who led the foundation of the orphan home for girls aged five to 12 years back in 1860. This was a first step in a series of homes and support services for children and women in need of refuge.

Over many decades, the organisation grew and changed, with the modern AnglicareSA now employing almost 2,000 people, who are helped by hundreds of volunteers. Together, these dedicated South Australians serve tens of thousands of our fellow community members every year. Anglicare's work, as noted in the motion, now cuts across almost every part of our social service system: housing and homelessness, disability, aged care, child protection and foster care, family support, emergency relief, financial counselling, and services for specific groups like young people, Aboriginal South Australians, older people and new migrants.

Around halfway through its history, as the world dealt with the fallout of the Second World War, the Anglican Church established a social welfare committee and bureau in the 1940s. This was a period in South Australia with many parallels to today. The cost of living was escalating quickly, a war in Europe was impacting supply chains, there was a shortage of housing and many people were doing it tough. Government and community organisations both recognised the need to act, and their early work uncovered more needs amongst the community that led to the development of many of the services and supports that we recognise today.

Over the years, AnglicareSA has adapted and expanded in response to change in our social service system, both at the federal and state levels. AnglicareSA Housing recently became Believe Housing, a registered community housing provider that manages almost 1,900 homes in South Australia. Through Believe, Anglicare is a key member of the Adelaide north-west homelessness alliance. This alliance includes seven other organisations that work with people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and their work has never been more important.

The introduction of the NDIS presented challenges and opportunities for many organisations, and over the last decade Anglicare has become a registered NDIS provider. It prides itself not just on individual support but also on a range of programs and therapies to ensure NDIS participants get the quality of services and dignity they deserve.

All of this invaluable work is underpinned by Anglicare's five values: integrity, compassion, stewardship, equity and servant leadership. These values drive the work of Anglicare with some of our most marginalised communities and ensure that people who need help are treated with dignity and respect, particularly when life has not gone as planned. As one of the largest social services organisations in South Australia, Anglicare works collaboratively across the sector in service delivery, leadership and advocacy. It brings a breadth and depth of experience that few organisations can match. Its slogan of 'in every community' rings true, because we can see the evidence of its work in almost every corner of the state.

The organisation has not just produced great services, it has also fostered great people, who the state government has been proud to make use of. The former CEO of Anglicare, the Reverend Peter Sandeman, now works in the SA Housing Authority, and he brings a critical understanding of how different social services need to work together to address serious and chronic disadvantage in

our community. I wish to place on record my deep appreciation and that of the government for the important work of Anglicare across Australia. Its journey began long before any of us entered this world, and I trust it will be there helping people in need long after we are gone.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:59): I rise on behalf of the Greens to speak in favour of the motion. Anglicare has played a really important role not only in South Australia but right across our nation. It established its first Anglican charitable organisation, the Orphan Home, in 1860, established by Julia Farr. As the Hon. Russell Wortley has observed, that led to support homes for children and women seeking refuge. In 1998, the name Anglicare was independently incorporated. It now supports more than 50,000 South Australians. It employs 1,800 staff and has 3,000 volunteers.

Anglicare does really important work across our community in a range of areas, working with older South Australians, providing residential care, home care and independent living options; doing work with children and their families, including parenting support and relationship support, foster care programs and independent living support; providing support for young people, in particular services for young people who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness; and providing migrant and refugee support.

One of the areas where I have come into contact with Anglicare over my work on the city council and more recently in this place is through their support for people who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. I want to commend them for their important advocacy in that space. They really do offer vital services to some of the most vulnerable people in our community, and they have had some really terrific people associated with them over the years. Like other members, on behalf of the Greens I thank them for the remarkable service they have given to our community. With that, I commend the motion.

The Hon. J.S. LEE (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (17:01): Thank you to honourable members for your contributions. I am sure the organisation will gratefully accept this public recognition. I commend the motion.

Motion carried.

Bills

LIVESTOCK (EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The House of Assembly agreed to the bill with the amendment indicated by the following schedule, to which amendment the House of Assembly desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council:

Clause 15, page 8, line 10 [clause 15(4), inserted subparagraph (vii)]—

Delete 'or eradication' and substitute:

, eradication or decontamination

Consideration in committee.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I move:

That the House of Assembly's amendment be agreed to.

I will speak very briefly to this. The amendment is very short. It replaces the term 'or eradication' with the term 'eradication or decontamination'. This is simply to ensure that the terms are consistently referenced throughout that clause.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: I rise to indicate that the opposition will be supporting the amendment. It is a straightforward amendment, a simple drafting error. From memory, the minister did indicate to our chamber that this amendment would be coming up.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: The Greens are also comfortable with the amendment. Indeed, the government did flag it previously during the committee stage of the bill.

The Hon. C. BONAROS: For the record and the same reasons, we too are supportive of the amendment.

Motion carried.

Adjournment Debate

VALEDICTORIES

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:04): I move:

That the council at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 7 February 2023.

I would like to speak to the motion, as is the customary way to do these sorts of things. I would like to place on the record my thanks to everyone who makes this chamber work. I would note that this year the Legislative Council has sat for three more days than the House of Assembly during the calendar year. If I can channel one of my predecessors who stood here: 'Lazy, lazy, lazy House of Assembly'.

We have conducted a significant amount of business in this parliamentary sitting year, which has been shortened because of the election. There have been 31 government bills that have passed all stages of the council, and there have been a number of private members' bills that have passed, for example, the BYO containers bill of the Hon. Robert Simms, the jumps racing bill of the Hon. Tammy Franks, the defibrillators bill that passed this week of the Hon. Frank Pangallo, and the stealthing and consent laws put up by the Hon. Connie Bonaros that passed this week.

It has been a busy year in terms of what our primary function is, that is, debating and passing laws of this state. I think a quarter of the bills have had amendments put to them that have been passed, so it is a demonstration of the proper function of this place, doing its job in scrutinising legislation.

There have been some significant achievements during the year. We have seen tougher penalties for child sex offenders. The strengthening of Carly's Law passed this chamber, as did legislation to enshrine the Nunga Court into legislation and the reform of shop trading hours, the biggest reforms that have happened in a long time—but I shall not dwell on those; we have talked about them enough over the last couple of months.

Occasionally, we have had legislation that has come in that I want to thank members for their forbearance in passing quickly when necessary. We had changes to the Controlled Substances Act that needed to come in very quickly to react to a decision of a court that may have seen, if we had not acted very quickly, people who ought to be getting tougher sentences get off very lightly. As people would expect, when there have been issues that have needed to be dealt with quickly, as we did during COVID, we have as a chamber dealt with them quickly.

I would like to thank you, sir, as our ever-patient President. I would like to thank the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Nicola Centofanti, and the whips, who we all know are the ones who do the most work in this place: the Hon. Laura Curran and, of course, the Hon. Ian Hunter. Members of the crossbench keep us all very honest and shake their heads disapprovingly when we yell at each other across the chamber during question time.

I thank the staff of the council: Chris, Guy, Leslie, Emma, Anthony, Kate, Super Mario, Todd, Karen and Charles. Catering keep us all fed. I would like to thank all the catering staff, even Karen and Nicky, who so frequently look disapprovingly at my fondness for sausage rolls. I will continue to eat them. I thank Hansard, PNSG, building services staff and cleaning staff. I personally want to thank staff from the Attorney-General's Department, particularly legislative services, who do so much work behind the scenes on the legislation that comes before this place, and my own staff: Kim, Roland, Angas, Charlie, Patrick, Elliette, Victoria and Craigie.

I also want to acknowledge the significant contributions of some of the new members of the chamber this year—the Hon. Sarah Game, the Hon. Laura Curran and the Hon. Reggie Martin—who have made their presence felt in different ways in this chamber. There are a couple of reflections I want to make on the year that we have just encountered. It was probably about this time last year that we had a heartfelt farewell speech from the Hon. Russell Wortley. It is terrific to see that the reports of his political death had been exaggerated and he is with us still in this chamber. We look forward to many more farewell speeches from the Hon. Russell Wortley in the future.

I want to acknowledge the many, many contributions of the Hon. Frank Pangallo, who has from his contributions in this chamber taken us on a tour of the globe, regularly speaking about things in the United States, Vietnam, Ukraine, Spain, France, Malaysia, Germany, South Africa, Afghanistan and the UK.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: Wait for it. Just yesterday, we visited Madrid, Doha, Greece and Qatar in contributions from the Hon. Frank Pangallo. We all know that when the Hon. Frank Pangallo stands up and says, 'I have a brief contribution to make,' it is regularly nothing of the sort. If you add up the total time the Hon. Frank Pangallo has spoken for, it has been a combined total of 42 days, which is actually six more days than we have sat in this chamber, which is a remarkable feat.

We also have still with us the lingering ghost of the Hon. Rob Lucas in this chamber, as we have mentioned Single Touch Payroll and reflected on other contributions of someone who had been in this chamber and had such an influence for so long, but thankfully I cannot remember a single reference to roast chickens at Woolies this year, since the absence of the Hon. Rob Lucas.

In summing-up, I think the camaraderie displayed in this chamber is mostly what the public expects of their members. It is a small chamber and by necessity we generally get along. We have our differences in here, but in my experience they are left at the doors of this chamber and we work together in our different ways and as we see fit for the betterment of South Australia and its people.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (17:11): As Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, it is my great honour and privilege to address the chamber and deliver on behalf of my colleagues a Christmas message. I would like to start by saying that 2022 has been an extraordinary year. I feel as though the older I get, the quicker the years pass. As my children feverishly count down the sleeps until Christmas, I am reminded of the year that has passed and all the incredible people I have met, the stories I have heard, the places I have seen and the things we have achieved in this place.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to cause challenges and disruptions, particularly earlier in the year. I think it is a great testament to all South Australians just how resilient and community-minded we are. I know I speak for my colleagues when I say I would not want to live anywhere else in the world.

I think it is important to reflect on and acknowledge the enormous efforts of our dedicated and hardworking team in Parliament House. After any election there is a huge volume of work to be done. There are the sheer logistics involved in physically relocating members, inducting and familiarising new members, getting IT set up, resources allocated and deployed—the list of tasks goes on and on.

I would like to sincerely thank the entire staff who work tirelessly to support the members in Parliament House. Their job is not an easy one, and I would particularly like to note the professionalism and courteous nature with which they discharge their roles. It is an incredible role they play. I am sure you would agree, Mr President, that our parliament could not operate without their tireless, behind-the-scenes efforts.

We are often in the limelight, and I think on this occasion we should all reflect on and acknowledge the parliamentary staff in this place who allow us to discharge our functions as legislators. On behalf of the opposition, I would like to sincerely thank everyone who devotes their time, expertise and service in this place. We are all facilitating something bigger than ourselves, and I want you to know that we are grateful and appreciative of your support.

I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of my colleagues on all sides of the chamber. We have a job that is like no other. I think I can speak for all of us in this chamber when I say it is an honour and a privilege to serve the people of South Australia. I think it is rare to love what you do, and my team and I get up every single day energised and excited to serve.

I would also like to acknowledge you, Mr President, for presiding over this chamber in the excellent way that you do. I, too, acknowledge new members of the chamber—the Hon. Sarah Game, the Hon. Reggie Martin and the Hon. Laura Curran—and congratulate them again on their election.

I turn my mind now to the fact that many South Australians do it tough over Christmas; that this time for joy and celebration for many is not the case for all. There are families and individuals all over our state who are experiencing homelessness or hardship, and I want to highlight the incredible work that organisations like Foodbank, the Smith Family, Salvation Army, Anglicare, Catherine House, the Hutt Street Centre and so many other incredible organisations do to support some of our most vulnerable, not only during the Christmas period but all year round.

This year in particular, my thoughts are with my community in the Riverland, many of whom will experience a difficult lead-up to Christmas as the water levels of the Murray River rise. Many members in my community will be forced out of their homes, and businesses and livelihoods will be significantly impacted. As a community, I know we are strong and resilient. We will come together and we will support one another, because that is what we do best.

At a time when many families sit in their homes and share a meal together on Christmas Day, I think of the families in my community who may not have the Christmas they were planning. I wish them the grace and the strength to handle the challenges they will face, and remind them that they are not alone and that support is available.

Christmas for me is about long summer days, sprinklers on the lawn, kids at the beach or in the pool, barbecues and, where I live, mosquitoes that are bigger than most blowflies at the moment. It is about family and friends, kindness, generosity—a time to reflect and to be grateful. As our parliamentary sitting year draws to a close, on behalf of the Liberal team I would like to wish everyone here in the chamber, and indeed the community of South Australia, a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (17:16): I rise on behalf of the Greens to wish all members here a safe and happy Christmas. Might I begin by reflecting on personally how much I have enjoyed the collegial culture in this chamber. I have had the opportunity to serve, albeit for very brief periods, in the federal parliament and also in local government. I think one of the things that really sets this chamber, and indeed this parliament, apart from others is the collegial culture that we have—the good humour and the strong personal relationships that are built across party lines.

I do sincerely want to thank all members of parliament. In particular, might I say that I was absent from the chamber last year when we had these reflections, but I want to thank everybody for welcoming me into the chamber last year and say what a great privilege it has been to work with you all over the last 18 months.

On behalf of the Greens, I want to thank all of the staff, not only those in this chamber but across the building, for the terrific work they do to ensure that we can all do our jobs effectively. As has been observed, it would be impossible for us to function without the terrific work that they do, so I really want to thank them. I want to thank you, Mr President, for your leadership of this chamber and to congratulate you on your elevation to the chair this year. It is great to have you there.

I also want to thank my own team: Lisa, Melanie, Sean, Zoe (who worked in my office for a time) and, more recently, Rylie. I would also like to thank Malwina, who has recently departed for Tammy Franks' office, who has been a long-term staffer for Tammy and a vital part of the Greens team. Of course, I want to thank my colleague Tammy for all of her support and friendship this year, in the parliament and outside.

Finally, I will make a brief statement around what Christmas represents for me. It is always a time for thanksgiving, for reflection and celebrating the good things of life: friends and family. It is also an important time to remember those who are less fortunate. As observed by the Leader of the Opposition, I know that there will be many who are struggling during this Christmas period—many who struggle with loneliness, many who will struggle to meet the cost of living. I know that our thoughts are with them all during this Christmas period.

It is our sincere hope, from the Greens' perspective, that the New Year brings happier times for all South Australians and, indeed, relief to many across the world who are struggling with significant challenges such as war, famine and growing inequality.

The Hon. C. BONAROS (17:19): I was just going to thank Nicky and Karen and sit down, but I know that that would get me into some trouble, so I will also—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C. BONAROS: Just them. They are the only people who count.

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. C. BONAROS: No, they really are. I will take this opportunity to echo the sentiments of other members and genuinely thank all the remarkable people who work in this building and who, as other members have said, make our jobs possible and make being in here slightly better—a lot better, in many instances. They really do go above and beyond, and it is not always just work, it is the friendly chats in the hallways and the friendships you form along the way.

I am extremely grateful to all the chamber staff, to the external staff who work outside of here, to the building staff, to parliamentary counsel and everybody who makes our work in here run as smoothly as it does.

I would also like to welcome the newcomers to this place. It can be a steep learning curve but one that I think is well worth it and one that I would like to think leaves our community better off. We have seen that you are all in your element in terms of doing the work you do, and I certainly hope you have settled in well and are enjoying your roles.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank our team—Frank's team and my team—who provide all the support they do. Speaking for the crossbench generally, we might be small in numbers but I think we all punch well above our weight, and that is all possible because of the dedicated, very tired and very frustrated staff we ask so much of in many instances and who probably got a lot more than they ever bargained for—certainly in working for me.

Frank—what can I say? I love him, and I know you all love him. I quite enjoy his speeches and I quite enjoy sitting here and travelling the world with him. I cannot get on a plane and go to those places, so I like it when Frank takes us on those trips. I am very thankful to Frank for all the support he has given me over this year and previous years, and to all our team. To all of them I just want to say: thank you for everything, and bless you.

In closing, I just want to wish everyone here a well-earned break, a very happy and safe Christmas and festive season, and a happy New Year.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (17:22): I rise to add my remarks to the other nice sentiments members have expressed as we approach the end of 2022. I will start at the top of the pecking order and thank you, first and foremost, Mr President, for the sage advice you have provided to me on parliamentary processes and for keeping this house in order. Thank you also to the table staff, who so ably assist you.

Thank you to our parliamentary officers, the Clerk, Chris Schwartz, and Usher of the Black Rod, Guy Dickson. I have always found Chris and Guy to be extremely helpful when I have reached out to them, and they have been particularly useful as I navigate the process of chairing a select committee for the first time.

I do not want to forget anyone's name, but thank you to Leslie, Anthony, Peter, Emma, Todd, Charles, Mario, Kate and Karen for the diligent work you do in supporting us members. Thank you to David Woolman and all the building attendants, to Creon, Basil, Anthony, Kylie, Nicky, Belinda, Ben, Karen and all the catering staff who keep me well fed and who are always kind to me. Thank you to Hansard, PNSG, the research library and the cleaning staff for your behind-the-scenes work, and to our protective security officers for keeping us safe and secure.

In particular, I want to thank Mark Herbst, Aimee Travers and Corey Langman for their invaluable legal advice. They have shown me enormous patience. Thanks also go to my tightknit One Nation team—Julie, Jarryd and Linda—for their support and counsel. Anyone who has been in my office will know that I adore the 40th birthday present they gave me recently, an Aboriginal painting by South Australian artist Audrey Brumby that hangs proudly on my office wall.

I thank my parliamentary colleagues for warmly welcoming me to this place and for being, on the whole, helpful and hospitable. This was particularly the case after my first substantial debate in the chamber, when I had a number of members visit my office to offer moral support.

I have received helpful and specific advice from many, including both the Labor and Liberal leaders, the Hon. Kyam Maher and the Hon. Nicola Centofanti. I greatly respect the Attorney-General's passion for South Australia's Aboriginal community.

Fellow veterinarian Dr Centofanti and all her Liberal colleagues have been open to me and informative, keeping me abreast of their party position on matters, and I thank them for that. On the government benches, I am appreciative of the Hon. Emily Bourke, who I know I can go to for advice, and also the Hon. Clare Scriven in particular. They have been helpful and openly communicated with me.

To my fellow committee members, I thank the Hon. Tammy Franks for inviting me to participate on the dolphin select committee, and the Hon. Jing Lee, the Hon. Tung Ngo and the Hon. Connie Bonaros for their participation and support for the committee I have been selected to chair. To my chamber neighbours, the Hon. Stephen Wade and the Hon. Robert Simms, I thank you for your advice on parliamentary processes. The Hon. Mr Wade has been a good-hearted neighbour, who has been very supportive and, on occasion, fought for my right to be heard.

Given the commonly held views of this place from the public, I continue to be surprised and thankful for the pleasant atmosphere in the chamber and halls of parliament between members and staff. Despite disagreements, there is kindness and a businesslike attitude in how members conduct themselves. I have no time or reason to hold grudges or take personally any disagreements, no matter how passionate they might be, and I believe this is reciprocated by you all.

Ultimately, we are all here because the South Australian people put their trust in us to represent their views faithfully and in good conscience. We are their servants and must strive to live up to their expectations. I am finding this is not always easy, but it certainly is rewarding.

I finally want to thank the South Australian people, especially those who have taken the time to reach out to me. Your views are welcome, appreciated and thoroughly considered. To everyone present and those watching outside these walls, I wish you a joyful and peaceful festive season and look forward to returning to this place with renewed vigour in 2023. Merry Christmas.

The PRESIDENT (17:26): I will just add some brief remarks before I put the adjournment motion. I sincerely would like to thank the chamber staff: Chris, Guy, Leslie, Emma, Anthony, Todd, Mario, Karen, Charles and Kate. We could not get this done without your hard work and, in particular to the two gentlemen sitting in front of me, your advice. To the two whips, the Hon. Mr Hunter and the Hon. Ms Curran, thank you so much for everything you do trying to keep this place ticking over and keeping me in the loop.

Nicky and Karen in the Blue Room—everybody knows, if you have been here for a while, to not mention them in these remarks could be extremely dangerous with regard to the food you could be served at some stage, so in particular I acknowledge them. I really want to acknowledge Baz, Kylie, Anthony and Sharon in the members' refreshment room, who keep the caffeine going, because I notice a number of you, if you do not have your coffee, are not all that pleasant to deal with at times.

I really appreciate the remarks of leaders of parties. We are a small chamber. I do really enjoy it when we have a spirited debate but there is a sense of humour and a bit of self-deprecation at times. I take the opportunity to wish you all, your families, your friends and, importantly, your staff a very peaceful, happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Motion carried.

Bills

SUMMARY OFFENCES (DOG THEFT) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The House of Assembly agreed to the bill without any amendment.

At 17:28 the council adjourned until Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 14:15.