LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 15 October 2025

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 Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:17): I bring up the 70th report of the committee, 2022-25.

Report received.

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN: I bring up the 71st report of the committee, 2022-25.

Report received and read.

Question Time

AMBULANCE RAMPING

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:23): I seek leave to make a brief explanation prior to asking the Deputy Premier questions regarding broken election promises.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: Back in 2022, before the last state election, the Malinauskas Labor government promised that they would fix ramping. However, our state has now endured 40 of the worst ramping months on record under their watch. Patients and paramedics have spent more than 160,000 hours stuck outside our hospitals on the ramp since Labor took office, double the entire four years under the former Liberal government. In September alone, patients and paramedics spent 4,557 hours stuck on the ramp. My questions to the newly appointed Deputy Premier are:

- 1. Does the Deputy Premier and his cabinet find it acceptable that after 3½ years in government his Labor government continues to preside over the worst ramping in our state's history?
 - 2. Does he acknowledge that his government has failed their core election promise?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, Special Minister of State) (14:24): I thank the honourable member for her question. I am very proud to be part of a government that has built a bigger health system with more doctors, more nurses and more beds, and when someone calls for an ambulance—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —they are more likely to get an ambulance with significantly—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —improved response times.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (14:25): I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the minister on her new portfolio. My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport regarding

public transport. Does the minister support the 50¢ fare for public transport as proposed by the opposition?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:25): I thank the member for his question. It's nice to now continue my relationship with the Hoods. You are the last one in the parliament and it is good to be able to continue that on. Obviously, public transport is a really important part of getting people where they need to get and getting them there safely but also getting them there a little bit faster.

Public transport is a system where you can't just focus on one particular component and hope that everything falls together and we have a faster, more efficient and safer public transport system. I know the honourable member was not here when the opposition was in government but considering that we should be looking and thinking about what those on the other side are doing for public transport, we are a government that has delivered on what we said we would do, and that is bringing back public transport into public hands. Our trams and trains—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE: I understand why those on the other side would be getting a little bit upset. Talking about public transport must be really hard because of the word 'public' in the sense that it is in public hands. It is pretty remarkable to be hearing from those on the other side actually saying that word aloud.

Public transport is a really important part of our network. Our trams and trains are back in public hands. We have been able to invest in targeted reduced fares, and this has had significant outcomes for our community. Looking at students, they are now getting the equivalent of 25¢ fares. That is a great outcome when they ride. Our seniors can ride for free. We have seen that there have been incredible outcomes.

What we have also been able to do is that when you tap on the Metro—on the trams, trains or the buses—that money is going back into public hands. That's a really big change. You can't just say, 'Let's reduce the fares,' and then not have money to invest back into the system. I know those opposite put out a media release. I haven't seen your policy yet, but I understand that maybe you are a little bit short on your numbers, increasing your numbers to be able to get more trains and trams into the system if you are increasing the patronage.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE: That is a good thing, but you can't do one without the other. As a government we have done our homework and thought ahead, and we are doing this balanced system of having targeted reduced fares. We are seeing an outcome where younger ones are jumping on and seniors are using public transport, but we are also investing in the infrastructure to keep it safer. In the last budget alone we were able to put an additional amount—over \$9 million, as I'm aware—to have safer and secure tram and train lines but also making those investments where they are needed in infrastructure.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (14:28): Supplementary: the minister mentioned the Marshall government's Stephan Knoll cuts to bus services, and some have been restored. Will the minister consider restoring all of those bus services that were cut under the Marshall government just before COVID?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:29): Thank you for reminding me about those cuts. I think there were 1,200 bus services—I believe it was about that—cut or shortened under those opposite. Again, we are hearing from them that we should be doing this and this and this in public transport, but here we were seeing a government previously that was looking at cutting or shortening around 1,200 bus services. I am happy to look further into it, but I know that even just recently we have been able to expand our bus services into Riverlea. So there are growing areas in our state, there are new homes and new people

going into areas and we are also putting in the supports there with an extended bus service into Riverlea.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (14:30): A great question from the opposition. Supplementary: at a time when other states are slashing public transport fares, how can the minister justify South Australians paying some of the highest fares in the nation, particularly given we are in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, and 50¢ fares would save a family of four up to \$3,000 a year?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:30): I thank the honourable member for his question and ongoing genuine interest in public transport.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE: Just last week, actually. We have been able to do targeted reduced fares and we have seen that they are working well. We have seen that students are jumping on and using them with a reduced fare of around 25¢ equivalent to be able to go on public transport. We are seeing that benefit for seniors as well. I am always happy to look at new options, but we also have to make sure that balance is in place in making sure that not only are we getting targeted fares where they are needed most but also making sure that we can invest in the infrastructure.

You can also now do your app; you can just tap and go on your app. That has just been changed. We just did that—I have lost track of time—either at the start of this week or late last week. There has been an update to the app. Previously you could only purchase a single fare on there and not be able to get the 28-day pass. Now you can get those discounted rates because you are able to get the larger pass numbers as well.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (14:32): Supplementary: minister, you mentioned that it would be a good thing to have greater patronage on public transport. Do you agree that 50¢ fares would lead to greater patronage on public transport?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:32): What I said was we have seen an increase, because our students will be able to get a discounted fare, but also at the same time we have been able to invest in the infrastructure to support those changes in demand. This might come as news to you on the other side, but a bus or a tram or a train doesn't just appear out of nowhere. You have to plan ahead.

If you are thinking of increasing the patronage and it is going to have a really big impact overnight, you might want to think about how they are getting on. If they all decide to start going on a tram or a train or a bus at the same time, and you haven't put a plan in place to increase the number of services or to increase the vehicles and buses and trains and trams that could then be carrying all those new people, you are going to have a very, very crowded public transport system. What do people not want to be doing when they are getting on a public transport system? Being overcrowded. It is about thinking it through and having a plan. That is what we are doing.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Sit down.

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: You can't even add up.

The PRESIDENT: You, don't speak when I am on my feet. The Hon. Ben Hood, final supplementary question and then we are moving on.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (14:33): Supplementary: as the minister spoke about affordability, can she rule out that her government will not introduce 50¢ fares before the state election?

The PRESIDENT: Minister, you can answer if you want. I think we have traversed this.

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:34): As I have said, we have thought this through. We have done our homework, unlike others on the other side. We have started with cheaper fares in targeted ways, with equivalent of 25¢ for our students. We have done it free for our seniors. This is a really good place to be starting to make sure that we can get more people interested and on our public transport system.

HIGH PRODUCTIVITY VEHICLE NETWORK

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (14:34): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport regarding the High Productivity Vehicle Network.

Leave granted.

The Hon. B.R. HOOD: The latest state budget states that the state government will contribute \$125 million to the High Productivity Vehicle Network stage 1, with the federal government's contribution of \$500 million. At the federal Senate estimates earlier this year, Infrastructure Australia stated that stage 1 of the High Productivity Vehicle Network, which we also know as the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass, would cost \$1.05 billion. My question to the minister is: given the state and federal contribution is approximately \$350 million short of the total cost of stage 1, what sections of the project will not be delivered?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:35): I thank the member for his question. The High Productivity Vehicle Network is a critical initiative that is focused on improving freight productivity on existing corridors by moving more freight with fewer vehicles, which creates safer road usage for many. Many may remember how the former Marshall Liberal government abandoned its signature GlobeLink policy, a policy which, I am reminded by many, I think was there to redirect all traffic to the city. It was a policy that I am advised included a 24-hour airport that was going to be at Monarto and potentially removing freight lines. It was a policy that was also not supported by the industry. Importantly, it was a policy where, again, the homework was not done.

Unlike the former Marshall Liberal government, we are doing the necessary planning. I am advised that the strategic business case for the High Productivity Vehicle Network project was submitted to the Australian government in February of this year. I am further advised that Infrastructure Australia reviewed the potential investment options and described the options as rigorous, and this has been published on the website. I am advised that the department is progressing with a detailed, individual project business case for stage 1 of the Swanport Bridge, the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass and the Truro bypass.

HIGH PRODUCTIVITY VEHICLE NETWORK

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (14:36): Supplementary: given the business case from the Department for Infrastructure South Australia informed Infrastructure Australia of the stage 1 cost of \$1.05 billion, I ask the minister again: given that your contribution is \$350 million short, what sections of the project will not be delivered?

The PRESIDENT: Before you answer that, when you start a supplementary question with 'given' and then provide an explanation, remember with a supplementary question, you just have to ask the question, right? The word has to be if, why or when.

An honourable member: Given.

The PRESIDENT: No, not given. I am just about over it.

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:37): As I was mentioning earlier, this is a vital piece of our network and we are doing this as the demand for road freight in Australia is expected to increase by 77 per cent between 2020 and 2050. We have done our homework and we will continue to do our homework to ensure the road network supports this growth and that there is a freight network that allows higher productivity and higher vehicles to divert their way from metropolitan Adelaide roads.

In relation to funding, I am further advised that as part of the 2025-26 federal budget process, the Australian government committed \$525 million, and the state budget committed \$125 million towards progressing stage 1 of the HPVN program. Due to the national significance of this program, we have always maintained the importance of this being a joint partnership.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RURAL WOMEN

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (14:38): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Will the minister please speak to the chamber about the International Day of Rural Women?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:38): I thank the honourable member for his question. Today is the International Rural Day of Women, which celebrates the contributions of women in rural and regional communities across the globe. The theme this year is 'Rural Women Rising'. The International Day of Rural Women was first established in 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly to recognise, and I quote:

...the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty.

I often speak in this place about the importance of women living in rural and regional areas. When rural women rise, we all flourish. Championing women, and making every effort to provide opportunities for women in regional areas, is something that I am absolutely passionate about.

One thing I have noticed in my role is the breadth of involvement women have in their regional communities. They are often wearing many, many hats: working on the farm, being the primary caregiver to children, and volunteering in their community. A lot of women also provide some kind of off-farm income, either through their own business or through other employment. Women are at the forefront of implementing sustainable farming practices and climate resilience. They are innovative and progressive, keeping regional communities together and helping to raise the next generation of farmers.

Rural women make up approximately 22 per cent of the world's population, but are more likely to experience poverty and unequal access to education, health and other social services, and employment opportunities. Despite the challenges, women are responsible for half of the world's food production. Investing in rural women rising is part of safeguarding the future of our regions, our state, our nation and the world. Having women in leadership positions in regional communities is imperative in ensuring our regions are innovative and well placed to thrive into the future. In South Australia, women make up 30 per cent of people working in agriculture, forestry and fishing industries. In the food and beverage manufacturing industry, women account for over 40 per cent of the workforce.

Through my department, I support various programs that provide opportunities for regional women. One such program is the AgriFutures Rural Women's Award, which is now open for applications. The award celebrates women living in regional areas with an existing project, business or program that is creating impact, making a difference or contributing to enhancing the prosperity of rural and emerging industries, and rural, regional and remote businesses and communities. The South Australian component of this national award has been delivered by PIRSA for more than 10 years. I encourage people to find out more about the award and how to apply by visiting the AgriFutures Australia website. Applications close on 7 November.

The Women Together Learning (WoTL) Stepping into Leadership Program is designed to support development of leaders in agriculture and agribusiness, and provides professional development, coaching, networking and mentoring support to 15 women each year across South Australia. It's specifically designed for emerging leaders in agriculture and agribusiness looking for support to prepare for leadership roles in industry, community or business. PIRSA has proudly supported this program since its inception in 2012.

Another program supported by me through my department is the Regional Leadership Development Program. Though not limited to women, a very high number of women tend to participate in this program, which is fantastic. When developing the program, the purpose was to assist regional areas with developing and retaining leaders, to ensure that our regional communities

have the leadership capacity necessary into the future for them to thrive. I try to attend as many graduations of these programs as I can, and I often hear from participants that they found the program genuinely life-changing.

Earlier this year, I hosted an International Women's Day breakfast for local women leaders in my area in Mount Gambier. At this breakfast there was support for the establishment of a mentor program for women living in the Limestone Coast. The other fantastic characteristic of regional women is their willingness to give up their time to champion other women. With the help of RDA Limestone Coast, I have established a mentor group in the South-East where these well-respected local leaders are giving up their time to assist other women, whether it's in developing confidence, increasing skills or building their networks, to ensure the Limestone Coast is well-equipped with the next generation of women ready to enter into leadership positions.

I would like to thank all the rural and regional women in South Australia who play key roles in their communities, whether that's through unpaid work as carers, as food producers, as innovators, business owners, volunteers or community leaders. In my role, I will continue to champion regional and rural women to ensure that we have the capabilities and, importantly, the development opportunities that are imperative for regional women in terms of the prosperity of their state, their communities and their networks.

VIRTUAL FENCING

The Hon. S.L. GAME (14:43): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question without notice to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development regarding virtual fencing.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.L. GAME: Virtual fencing uses GPS-enabled collars on livestock to deliver sound, vibration and minor electric cues, creating boundaries that allow farmers to shift and monitor their animals without the need for physical fencing. Extensive trialling across Australia proved that this technology dramatically increases productivity, improves animal welfare and reduces labour and infrastructure costs. Virtual fencing is already being used in Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia, and will soon be used in Victoria and New South Wales.

The South Australian government Animal Welfare Act 2025 was passed on 20 February this year. One day earlier in this chamber, the minister made a commitment about the use of virtual fencing, promising the government would draft regulations once the bill had passed parliament and put them out for public consultation. Today, virtual fencing remains prohibited in South Australia. My questions to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development are:

- 1. Can the government guarantee South Australian farmers will have access to virtual fencing and virtual herding before the state election in March?
- 2. Is the government serious about helping the state's battling farmers, given it has had seven months to legalise this game changing technology and given the government's own drought hub spruiks the benefits of virtual fencing?
- 3. What does this ongoing delay say about the priority the government places on the survival and sustainability of South Australia's food producers?
- 4. Lastly, does this delay again underline that the survival and sustainability of South Australia's food producers are a low priority for this city-centric government?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:45): I thank the honourable member for her question, although it sounded like the sort of wording that those opposite usually use. That's not a compliment, but I am happy for the member to take it however she wishes. It is certainly the case that our government has made a commitment to introducing regulations that will enable virtual fencing. I notice that—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: Would anyone like to listen to the answer? I think those opposite are being very disrespectful to the Hon. Ms Game. She has asked a question and yet they don't want to hear the answer.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Minister, just give your answer.

The Hon. H.M. Girolamo interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Ms Girolamo, listen.

The Hon. B.R. Hood interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: And the Hon. Ben Hood.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: As I was saying, it is certainly the case that this government has made a commitment to drafting regulations to enable virtual fencing. That is expected to be part of the regulations in regard to the Animal Welfare Act, which of course is under the purview of the Minister for Environment and Water. According to my advice, that drafting process is still underway.

It is worth noting that other places, such as New South Wales, which have made announcements about enabling virtual fencing are not as far progressed as we are in that regard; they have simply made an announcement. I think it is important that we have the best tools available for our farmers. This is something that I have had a keen interest in since becoming minister.

A number of trials and research projects were conducted at Struan Research Centre. Members may recall—I think I have discussed it in this place—that there was a slight interruption there because of the fires that occurred at Struan, but it is something that I have followed closely. I have already raised it with the new Minister for Environment in the other place and I look forward to being able to update the chamber further in the near future.

VIRTUAL FENCING

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (14:47): Supplementary: why has South Australia gone from leading virtual fencing to being one of the last of the states to actually implement virtual fencing?

The PRESIDENT: I think I will allow that.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (14:48): I think the facts the honourable member raises in that are not facts—they are not true.

BALLAST WATER

The Hon. C. BONAROS (14:48): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development a question regarding the discharging of ballast water in coastal South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. BONAROS: I understand that vessels loading at Port Adelaide often take on ballast water to maintain stability. When those same vessels later travel to locations such as Ceduna to load cargo, they typically need to discharge the excess ballast water they are carrying. Such practices are common in the shipping industry and not limited to waters at Port Adelaide. My questions to the minister are:

- 1. Has the department given consideration to the biosecurity risk these practices present?
- 2. What, if any, mechanisms and protocols are in place to mitigate the risk of transferring ballast water affected by algal bloom, like that in Port Adelaide, to other coastal regional towns of South Australia?
- 3. Will the minister seek further advice about the biodiversity risks associated with such practices and report that advice back to this place?

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 happy to take the detail of that on notice and bring back a response, but what I can say more broadly is that we have extremely high biosecurity standards and practices here in South Australia. I know that obviously the practices around ballast water have been established for a long time. I am happy to bring back further information in regard to those particular requirements.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC ZONES

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:50): My questions are to the new Minister for Infrastructure and Transport regarding school traffic zones:

- 1. Why are the new 40 km/h school zones only being introduced at three schools next month, being Marryatville High School, Goodwood Primary and St Thomas Primary School, when the government claims 150 schools have been identified as needing safety improvements?
- 2. How does the government justify the potential confusion facing motorists regarding the three different school speed limits that will be faced across the state, including 25 km/h, 40 km/h and 60 km/h depending on the school and the time of day?
 - 3. What infrastructure will be put in place at each of these sites?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:50): I thank the honourable member for her question. This actually falls under the Minister for Road Safety, but I am happy to also provide you some updates on what this would look like. The 40 km/h zone will actually bring us in line with every other state. Most other states already have this in place and this will enable us to be in line with them, having 40 km/h zones. As I am advised, that would make us consistent with other states.

As you have rightfully highlighted, we will be starting with a number of schools, particularly the Goodwood Primary School and St Thomas School as I have been advised, and also the Marryatville High School. As you have also rightfully highlighted, this will be done in a rolling stage of works. There will be an additional 25 on top of the three that I have just mentioned. Then we will be growing to the 150 target that I have been advised we are seeking to achieve. The 25, I have been advised, will be happening by the end of December 2025 and the first two locations, which takes in three schools in total, will be early November.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC ZONES

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:52): Supplementary: what infrastructure will be put in place and what involvement will you as minister have in this?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order, the Hon. Mr Hunter!

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:52): In regard to infrastructure, my understanding is it will be different depending on the site, depending on how busy that particular site is. Some sites will have illuminated lights, others will have alternative warnings to say that you are entering a school zone. Those signs will also be sometimes quite prior to the actual dedicated new 40 km/h zone just to give warning to people. The information will also be made available to the schools.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC ZONES

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:53): Supplementary: how will the different infrastructure be determined for the different sites?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:53): As I said just earlier, it will really come down to how busy that particular site is. The departments will work through what they think is the most appropriate option.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC ZONES

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:53): Supplementary: what consultation will occur to determine what infrastructure is put, given that you have indicated that each site may potentially be different?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:53): As I have said, a number of different sites will be undertaken. I know the education minister, considering he is also Minister for Road Safety, has the ability to be working in consultation with the schools on these matters.

MAJORS ROAD INTERCHANGE UPGRADE

The Hon. T.T. NGO (14:54): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister tell the council about the recent opening of the Majors Road interchange upgrade?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:54): I thank the honourable member for his question and interest in this exciting new upgrade in the south that will provide safer, faster and better connections for the community. The Malinauskas Labor government has delivered yet another election commitment with this \$120 million project delivered early, on budget and by South Australians.

As many in this chamber would know, Majors Road is an important arterial route seeing around 13,200 vehicles daily and is likely to see an increase to about 14,700 during peak times by 2036. The Southern Expressway serves as the gateway to the Fleurieu Peninsula, carrying approximately 74,000 vehicles per day between Darlington and the Reynella interchange.

This project, jointly funded by the state government and the Albanese Labor government, with both contributing \$60 million, is boosting South Australia's economy and supporting around 245 jobs. It is important to note that 99 per cent of the workforce was South Australian, with 97 per cent of the work undertaken by SA businesses. Further, approximately 10 per cent of the workforce on this project consisted of apprentices and trainees.

This project has widened the Majors Road bridge to three lanes in each direction, with two through-lanes and a dedicated right-turn lane onto the expressway, improving travel connections between Lonsdale Road and Main South Road. We have constructed new on/off ramps to the Southern Expressway, improving access to the Adelaide CBD, the north-south corridor, southern suburbs and the Fleurieu Peninsula.

New traffic signals have been installed at the junction of Majors Road and Adams Road, providing safe and direct access to recreation areas like O'Halloran Hill Recreation Park. We have also delivered 1.8 kilometres of new shared-use paths, connecting two major cycling routes and enhancing active transport options—for the Hon. Rob Simms. New road lighting has been installed along Majors Road and the Southern Expressway within the project area, improving visibility and safety.

However, this project has been about more than just roads; it has been about delivering lasting benefits to the local community, including improved access to the Southern Expressway, safer and more reliable journeys for all road users, better connections to important sporting and recreational facilities, protection and enhancement of Glenthorne National Park through extensive planting of trees, enhanced access for emergency services vehicles and a shared-use path, as I just mentioned. This has been achieved because of the partnership we have had with communities like the Friends of Glenthorne.

We also had an open day just recently where we were able to have quite a number of local MPs come along and share in this significant opening with the community. I believe hundreds of people ended up coming on the day. I was there in the morning to be able to enjoy celebrations with a number of the members of the community and also the members that were there: federal minister Amanda Rishworth, who played a significant role in this, along with Louise Miller-Frost; the member for Hurtle Vale, Nat Cook; the member for Reynell, Katrine Hildyard; the member for Black, Alex Dighton; the member for Davenport, Erin Thompson; and the member for Gibson, Sarah Andrews.

DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (14:58): Supplementary: what departmental procurement guidelines determine the businesses involved in state projects are classified as South Australian?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:58): There were a number of South Australian businesses that were able to be a part of this incredible project. As I said, 97 per cent of the businesses that were on this were South Australian businesses, as I have been advised. That is an incredible outcome.

When I went down to the opening of this—before it was open, actually—I went to the quarry across the road and that was an incredible reminder of the benefits that this has not only for businesses across the state but for businesses right at the back door of where this new intersection is being built. The aggregate, I was advised, for all of this road has come from just across the road at the quarry. That is an incredible thing to be able to achieve, but also they are able to benefit from this new intersection as they will be able to keep their trucks off Brighton Road and be more connected and be able to use the Southern Expressway.

DEPARTMENTAL PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (14:59): Supplementary: can the minister take on notice what procurement guidelines within her department determine how South Australian businesses are classified as South Australian?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (14:59): I am happy to look into that.

TRAMLINE EXTENSION

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (14:59): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question without notice to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport on the topic of tram extensions.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: In 2018, when Labor was last in government, they announced a plan to extend the tram to Norwood and to North Adelaide's O'Connell Street. That plan was abandoned by the Marshall government and, under this term of government, Labor have not put forward any plans to extend the tram network. Late last month, the Greens announced a plan to get the trams back on track: a fully costed plan to extend the tram network to North Adelaide and to Norwood. My question to the minister, therefore, is:

- 1. Will the Labor government support extending the trams to Norwood and North Adelaide or will we see more of the same from the Labor government under her ministership?
- 2. Will we finally see public transport getting some attention and love from the Malinauskas government?

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: We will see public transport in public hands; that's a big difference.

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (15:01): The honourable member, you took my opening line.

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Hunter, do you want to answer the question, because you seem to have a lot to say?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: I will defer to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport on this occasion.

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE: Growing the track record of public transport that this government has been able to achieve is a really proud thing to be a part of, because we have brought it back into public hands for our trams and trains. It's a significant outcome which enables us to have, I guess, an ability to invest back into it, and that is what we are doing with investments like the new tram separation to the Bay. That is a massive change—

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE: —a massive change—to be able to take out the boom gates and make sure that we can have not only a safer journey for people and motorists but also a faster and more connected journey for our Bay residents and also people coming into the city and along that corridor. These are investments that we are able to make because we do believe in public transport. We will continue to look at the options that are available to us, because we know how important it is to invest in public transport.

TRAMLINE EXTENSION

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:02): Supplementary: rather than repeating talking points, will the minister outline whether or not she will support an extension of the tramline?

The PRESIDENT: No, the Hon. Mr Simms. I will let you ask your supplementary question, but you must start with just asking the question—and I have just alluded to that fact earlier. Let's try again.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: Will the minister support any extension of the tramline? Will this form part of Labor's election commitments?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (15:03): I feel like I have answered that.

ON-STREET PARKING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (15:03): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport regarding the management of on-street parking and congestion.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: Under section 18 of the Road Traffic Act, the minister has a clear capacity to direct a road authority to install, alter or remove traffic control devices, including parking controls, and to recover the cost of that work where necessary. Congestion on our suburban roads is an issue, particularly in some parts of the eastern suburbs, notably in the Campbelltown City Council, where the former Weatherill government, under the ministership of the Hon. John Rau, enabled blocks of 150 square metres, which enabled increased council revenue but has led to levels of congestion that local people find unacceptable. My questions for the minister are:

- 1. Has she taken steps to address congestion and parking pressures using the Road Traffic Act powers?
 - 2. Has she identified any existing locations in which these laws could apply?
- 3. Has she approached any councils in relation to resolving their congestion issues through the Road Traffic Act?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (15:05): I thank the honourable member for her question. Yes, in my first three weeks I have met with the LGA. I am meeting with as many stakeholders as I can to get a really great understanding of the significance of this portfolio. I know as a government we understand and appreciate that on-street parking is an issue in a lot of communities. My understanding is that we have looked at how we can tackle this problem with new bills relating to garage sizes being actually able to accommodate the size of a car so we can get our cars off streets and into the garage.

I am happy to look into this more. I am happy to continue this conversation further if there is something in particular that you would like to discuss in an area. But, as I said, three weeks in, I am happy to keep looking at these issues.

NATIONAL SAFE WORK MONTH

The Hon. J.E. HANSON (15:06): My question is for the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector. Will the minister inform the council about this year's National Safe Work Month?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, Special Minister of State) (15:06): I would be most pleased to, and I thank the honourable member for his question. Like the person who sits next to him in the chamber, I acknowledge the work that he has done, not just in this parliament but in his working life, making sure that people are safe at work through the union movement.

Each October Australians come together for National Safe Work Month, a chance for employers and workers to renew their commitment to safe and healthy work practices. This year's theme for Safe Work Month is 'Safety: every job, every day' to highlight that no matter the occupation, industry, location or size of the workplace, safety must always come first. The month is split across four main focus areas for the four weeks of the month: identifying hazards, assessing risks, controlling risks and reviewing controls.

South Australia's work health and safety regulator, SafeWork SA, plays a key role in providing advice and education on work health and safety, investigating incidents and enforcing regulations and laws. Throughout the month, SafeWork SA will host a wide range of events across our state, beginning at the Yorke Peninsula Field Day as SafeWork SA advisers will deliver safety presentations.

Some of the highlights include a health and safety representatives (HSR) forum hosted by SafeWork SA in conjunction with SA Unions, the SA Business Chamber and ReturnToWork SA; a series of webinars across a wide range of topics ranging from regulations on crystalline silica substances to reflections on workers' mental health through a work health and safety lens; incident simulators; and mock court situations. The month concludes at the end of this month with the Augusta Zadow Awards, which this year mark their 20th anniversary, a milestone that I will be happy to inform the council of at a later date.

In addition to these events SafeWork SA is launching a 12-month compliance and education campaign from the start of this month, focused on ensuring farmers understand work health and safety responsibilities. A targeted advertising campaign in regional newspapers and on digital platforms will help build awareness in rural communities. I thank SafeWork SA for the work that they do and encourage everyone who wants to be involved to get involved in Safe Work Month.

NATIONAL SAFE WORK MONTH

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:08): Supplementary: is the minister concerned about the safety of public sector workers that are underpaid and overworked and protesting outside of Parliament House today?

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Minister, you can answer it if you want, but I am not really sure I can draw the line there.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, Special Minister of State) (15:08): Yes, I can't draw the line either. It was a nice try, though. He is always trying hard.

PUBLIC SECTOR ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (15:09): But wait, there's more. I seek leave to ask a question of the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector on the topic of EB25 and striking public sector workers. I also seek leave to make a brief explanation first.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: This was coming anyway.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: Today, on the steps, and earlier this week in both Port Augusta and the City of Adelaide, public sector workers in South Australia have taken stop-work action. They

have done so because they are now far behind what they should be being paid due to a previous EB, and are currently in negotiations with this government for a fair wage for a fair day's work.

Reports have been made that labour hire companies are increasingly being used to do essential public sector work. Other reports have told us that because public sector workers are now so low paid they are accessing services such as Foodbank simply to put food on the table and get through. My questions to the minister are:

- 1. Will the government ensure that we do not use labour hire services in this state to do essential public sector work?
- 2. When can these workers expect not to have to resort to services such as Foodbank as they provide our state with the essential services that we all need?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, Special Minister of State) (15:10): I thank the honourable member for her question. In relation to the first part of the question and use of labour hire, I know it certainly is a preference, where possible, to use ongoing full-time employees in most circumstances. I know that in some areas, where it's necessary, given it is still and has been for some time a very tight labour market, that may be required,

In relation to public sector bargaining, as I have said in response to questions in relation to various unions who represent public sector workers, we are in negotiations, genuine and bona fide negotiations, with a number of public sector unions. We have seen a number of enterprise agreements settled this year, I think with allied health professionals in our public health system, and also with salaried medical officers who are public sector doctors.

In recent months both of them have been in the range, on average, of 3 per cent to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent wage increases a year. That has seen real wage increases for these workers, and I know that was a function that was not the case under the previous Liberal government, under the then industrial relations minister, the Hon. Rob Lucas, that did, in fact, see in some areas real wage decreases.

When an industrial agreement has been reached, with the members voting for that industrial agreement with the government, that is not something that we, as the new government, can fix what has happened in the past, but certainly we have been pleased with those couple of public sector health agreements—the allied health professionals and the salaried medical officers—in coming to an agreement with workers in those fields for real wage increases, and we will look to continue to do that.

ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:12): I seek leave to make an explanation before asking a question of the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, regarding road maintenance contracts.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: The Auditor-General's Report tabled yesterday stated that despite his office having raised issues in 2022-23 about the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's contract management controls not operating effectively for road maintenance contracts, a number of them continue to impact the effectiveness of DIT's contract management. In response, the Department for Infrastructure and Transport had introduced a new process for monitoring KPIs that were implemented in July 2025. My questions to the minister are:

- 1. Can the minister advise the chamber of the new processes for monitoring KPIs regarding the road maintenance contracts?
- 2. How will these processes ensure contractor KPI documentation, measurement, enforcement and verification will improve?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (15:14): I thank the honourable member for her question. I am surprised that she is asking this question considering who signed this contract under the previous government.

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE: This contract was locked in for quite some time. Members opposite obviously have seen the report. This is a failed privatisation agenda from those opposite, namely, the \$4.2 billion contract that was signed off in December 2021 when they were in government. It was signed to provide private management of services across more than 3,500 SA government facilities over almost 12 years. I am advised issues of particular concern from the report include noncompliance with the SA government procurement policy required by the contract and also failure to meet the KPIs, as you have highlighted.

As noted in the Auditor-General's Report, the department is already working extensively to address these findings and continues to review the contract with Ventia, including issues of breach notices and other appropriate measures that need to be undertaken because of this contract. This is a disappointing situation that the government finds itself in and one that was, unfortunately, put upon us because of the outsourcing obsession of the previous government.

ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:16): Supplementary: when will these processes to ensure contractor KPI documentation, measurement, enforcement and verification be enforced?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Autism) (15:16): I will continue to work through this with the department.

ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

The Hon. B.R. HOOD (15:16): Supplementary: what will the minister do to ensure that these contracts are going to begin to operate as intended, as outlined in the Auditor-General's Report?

The PRESIDENT: Minister, if you can add anything, you can, but I believe that question has just been asked a couple of times. We are going to move on to the Hon. Mr Wortley. A bit of respect for the Hon. Mr Wortley, please.

VARROA MITE

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (15:17): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Will the minister update the council on the recent increase in biosecurity measures to protect Kangaroo Island from varroa mite?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:17): I thank the honourable member for his question. Members in this place may be aware that Kangaroo Island is home to an exclusive Ligurian bee population. This particular species was brought over from Italy in 1884 and has thrived on the island. The island's isolation and strict biosecurity measures have protected it largely from disease and from breeding with other types of honey bees. As a result of this, Kangaroo Island's Ligurian bees are the purest strain of Ligurian bees remaining in the world.

Unfortunately, the exotic bee pest varroa mite was detected in hives at the Port of Newcastle, New South Wales, on 22 June 2022 as a result of routine surveillance on the sentinel hives. Varroa mite is considered the greatest biosecurity threat to both Australia's honey bee industry, valued at some \$363 million per annum, and Australia's agricultural and horticultural honey bee pollination-dependent industries, with an economic value of honey bee pollination nationally being estimated at some \$14 billion per annum.

Varroa is now considered established in Australia across multiple jurisdictions, including New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and the ACT. On 2 September 2025, varroa mite was detected in hives in an almond orchard in the Hundred of Pooginook in the Riverland. The detection was confirmed by SARDI on 3 September. I understand all hives in the consignment have been treated and moved out of the state in line with their permit conditions.

PIRSA established a 25-kilometre surveillance buffer around the detection sites and has contacted and is supporting beekeepers with surveillance within the area. Testing associated with this buffer surveillance has returned negative results for the presence of varroa mite, but as a result

of the recent detection here in South Australia biosecurity measures have been bolstered to further protect Kangaroo Island's world-famous Ligurian bee population.

I was pleased to recently visit Kangaroo Island and meet with both commercial and recreational beekeepers to discuss the action being taken by the state government to protect the island's pure strain of Ligurian bees from varroa mite. Additional biosecurity staff have been employed by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions to ensure biosecurity checks are carried out on 100 per cent of ferry departures from Cape Jervis to Kangaroo Island.

As a declared bee sanctuary, there are restrictions on the movement of bees, honey and beekeeping equipment to Kangaroo Island. Random biosecurity checks of travellers on board ferry services to the island have been in place for over a decade. This recent change ensures every ferry will be subject to biosecurity checks. In addition to this, a sentinel hive program is also being rolled out as an early warning system to help reduce the risk of varroa establishing and spreading on the island.

I am advised that sentinel hives are now in place at Cape Jervis, Penneshaw, Parndana and Kingscote Airport—that last one being one I had the opportunity to visit while on the island. I also understand American River and Kingscote will be deployed later this week, and D'Estrees Bay, Flinders Chase, Vivonne Bay and Emu Bay over the next fortnight. These hives will be monitored regularly in a collaboration between the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, the apiary unit of the department, the Kangaroo Island Biosecurity Program and Kangaroo Island beekeepers.

The South Australian government is committed to working with the Kangaroo Island apiary industry to ensure we keep the precious Ligurian bees on Kangaroo Island free of varroa mite wherever possible. I want to thank all of the beekeepers who took time out of their day to meet with me recently to discuss these issues and I look forward to continuing to work with them into the future.

VARROA MITE

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:21): Supplementary: has the minister considered implementing information material regarding varroa mite, such as flyers, signage or digital alerts to be distributed to all travellers arriving on Kangaroo Island, as suggested by Kangaroo Island beekeeper Brenton Davis?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:21): Yes, at the meeting that I had, as I mentioned, with both recreational and commercial beekeepers we discussed a range of potential additional measures, including such as those that have just been raised, and we are looking into that at the moment.

VARROA MITE

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (15:21): Supplementary: can I ask the minister, have any quantities of honey brought onto the island been seized in the last three years or so, and can the minister come back with any details on seizures?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (15:21): I am happy to look into that. I think it's fair to say that where honey that contravenes the strict biosecurity requirements is detected, it would be seized, but I don't have those details in front of me here.

ALGAL BLOOM

The Hon. J.S. LEE (15:22): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking a question of the Deputy Premier about legal liability for surf lifesavers.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.S. LEE: Recent reporting has raised concerns about the health risks posed by the harmful algal bloom to both beachgoers and surf lifesavers. While surf lifesavers play a critical role in public safety, questions have emerged about their potential legal liability if a person suffers a severe reaction after swimming between the flags during an algal bloom. Additionally, there is

uncertainty around what legal protections exist for surf lifesavers themselves when patrolling in hazardous environmental conditions. My questions to the Deputy Premier are:

- 1. Could surf lifesavers or their governing bodies be held legally liable if a beachgoer suffers a serious health reaction after swimming between the flags during an algal bloom?
- 2. What legal protections are currently in place for surf lifesavers who may be exposed to environmental hazards such as algal blooms while performing their duties?
- 3. Will the government work with Surf Life Saving SA to clarify liability and strengthen the legal protections for volunteers operating in high-risk coastal environments?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, Special Minister of State) (15:23): I thank the honourable member for her question. I think we are all very, very grateful for the work that surf lifesavers do around South Australia every summer. I think the official season has just started now, but every summer surf lifesavers, the vast majority of whom are volunteers, keep people safe on the beach.

They do this, as I said, largely as a volunteer force, and I think it is a remarkable service and sacrifice that many of our surf lifesavers give to the community. They do this already knowing that in the attempt to make sure the beach is safe, and in fact save people's lives, they are taking risks themselves in putting themselves sometimes in harm's way to help keep others safe.

In relation to protections that are in place, particularly for volunteers not just here but other places, I am happy to get some details and bring that back for the honourable member.

Matters of Interest

WOMEN IN THE WORKFORCE

The Hon. J.S. LEE (15:25): I rise today to speak on a matter that is both urgent and deeply personal to many South Australians: the need for policies that support women, especially vulnerable women, to enter or re-enter the workforce. Today, more women are working than ever before, with workforce participation at 63.5 per cent, but this headline masks the fact that many women are still locked out of employment opportunities due to structural, financial or social barriers.

Factors contributing to this include the gender pay gap, over-representation in part-time and low paid work, and barriers to career advancement, which are often linked to unpaid care responsibilities. Additionally, factors like family and domestic violence, and compounding forms of discrimination, often with women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, can further increase poverty risk for many women.

Parental leave remains unequal, with only 17 per cent of primary carer leave taken by men, reinforcing outdated caregiving norms and placing additional pressure on women. While most employers now have gender equality policies, many women still struggle to access flexible, supportive workplaces that meet their needs. One of the most significant barriers remains childcare affordability. For many women, particularly single mothers and those returning to work, the cost of child care can outweigh the financial benefits of employment. This is not just a family issue, it has economic implications.

We know that domestic and family violence is not only a crisis of safety, it is a crisis of economic exclusion. Women escaping violence often lose their homes, their jobs and their financial independence. Without safe housing, stable child care and trauma-informed support, re-entering the workforce becomes nearly impossible. That is why we must treat workforce participation as part of the holistic recovery journey.

One of my key priorities is to advocate for policies that empower women and remove the barriers that prevent them from entering or re-entering the workforce. These policies must be practical, inclusive and responsive to the lived experience of women across South Australia. To better support vulnerable women in this state, I am calling on the government to provide: (1) affordable and accessible child care; (2) flexible training and employment pathways; (3) financial

support for jobseeking essentials; and (4) trauma-informed services for women recovering from violence or homelessness.

Recent initiatives in other states have shown that small, targeted investments such as career grants of up to \$5,000 for women can unlock opportunities for thousands of women. These grants cover practical costs like child care, transport, training and work wear, and are designed to empower women to re-enter the workforce with dignity and confidence.

I recently had the honour of participating in the Rotary Walk for Respect, a community-led initiative that calls for an end to domestic and family violence and promotes dignity and equality. These same values must be reflected in our policies. In this context, I want to acknowledge the work of Catherine House, South Australia's only dedicated homelessness and recovery service for women. Their upcoming New Generation Catherine House project would deliver 52 social housing apartments with wraparound support, an inspiring model for integrated care.

I was proud to also support Catherine House through the South Australian Ladies Badminton Association Atalanta Jamboree Championship recently, which raised vital funds for this important service supporting women in crisis. I also recently visited the Hutt St Centre, which has seen a 30 per cent increase in women clients since 2022, with over 80 per cent experiencing homelessness for the first time.

I commend the Hutt St Centre for supporting the Louise Homefulness Fund, providing emergency financial support to help women secure safe accommodation and to rebuild their lives. These organisations are doing extraordinary work, but they cannot do it alone. We must ensure that our policies reflect the reality that economic empowerment is essential to holistic recovery. When women work, communities thrive. When women are supported, our economy grows.

FARMERS

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:30): As I have said in this place many times before, our farmers are the backbone of this nation. They feed us, they clothe us and they underpin our economy. Yet every year they are asked to do more with less, to produce more food, to meet higher standards and to absorb more risk, all whilst competing on a playing field that is anything but level.

Across the world, governments understand that food security is national security. The United States heavily subsidises its farmers through direct payments, crop insurance programs and fuel rebates. The European Union spends tens of billions of euros each year through its Common Agricultural Policy supporting farming, environmental practices and rural development.

Meanwhile, here in Australia our farmers compete in that same global marketplace with a fraction of the support. They are told to adapt, to innovate and to become ever more efficient, yet they are already among the most efficient producers in the world. What do we reward that efficiency with? More regulation, more compliance and more cost. We lecture them about consumer expectations and global standards, while conveniently ignoring that their overseas counterparts are being propped up by enormous subsidies that shield them from the full volatility of markets, of weather and of global trade shocks.

Our farmers are not asking for handouts. They are asking for fairness, for recognition that while they operate in a global market they do so under Australian conditions, conditions that are harsher, more variable and less subsidised than almost anywhere else on the globe. It is time we cut the spin about efficiency and started talking about survival, because there is no point in being the most efficient farmer in the world if you have been driven off your land.

We cannot keep squeezing farmers to extract every last drop of productivity while ignoring the reality that margins are shrinking, costs are soaring and red tape is strangling innovation. We must stop pretending that market forces alone will protect our agricultural future—they will not. The global market is not free or fair. It is distorted by billions of dollars in foreign subsidies, by trade barriers and by political decisions made oceans away from the people who grow our food.

Food does not come from supermarket shelves; it comes from the soil, from sweat and from generations of knowledge. If we want to keep that here in Australia, we need to back our farmers,

not burden them. That means investing in productivity through research, water infrastructure and biosecurity. It means equal trade, fair taxation and genuine recognition of agriculture's national importance.

That means investing in productivity. It means not covering our prime agricultural land with transmission lines, wind turbines and solar panels. If we want to secure Australia's food and fibre future, we must ensure our best farming country remains just that—farming country. Renewable energy has a role to play, but it must not come at the expense of food security and regional communities.

Above all, it means rejecting the lazy narrative that farmers just need to work smarter. They already do. It is governments that need to get out of the way, to understand that policies made in Canberra and made here in Adelaide have real consequences in Wudinna, in Peterborough, in Murray Bridge, in Loxton, in Naracoorte and everywhere in between. Let's ensure our farmers are competing on a fair field, not one that is tilted against them, because when we lose our farmers we lose far more than food production: we lose communities, we lose families and we lose part of who we are as Australians.

ELDER ABUSE

The Hon. S.L. GAME (15:34): I rise today to speak on the issue of elder abuse. The World Health Organization defines elder abuse as 'a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person'. Elder abuse includes financial, psychological, physical, and sexual abuse and neglect.

In June of this year, the Elder Abuse Unit at Uniting Communities partnered with Flinders University to release a report on the prevalence of elder abuse in South Australia. The report analysed data from some of the 1,300 referrals received by the Elder Abuse Unit since its inception. It also presented studies of selected cases of elder abuse that the unit has dealt with over the years. According to the report, approximately 50 per cent of reported elder abuse cases relate to financial abuse. The report also found that most cases of elder abuse were perpetrated by immediate family members. Many were adult children, with sons being the primary abusers.

The following is a common scenario: an adult child moves back in with their elderly parent because their living arrangements have fallen through, perhaps due to a relationship breakdown or failure to pay rent because of gambling, drug or alcohol addictions. These problems manifest themselves in the new living arrangement and the adult child engages in abusive behaviour, such as incurring expenses and refusing to pay for them, threatening the parent into giving them money or disclosing bank account details or coercing the parent into handing over financial power of attorney.

Elder abuse is hard to detect. Given the social isolation and dependency created by the perpetrator, older Australians can find it difficult to speak out due to a lack of understanding and therefore an inability to recognise abusive behaviour, fear of retaliation or feelings of guilt, especially if the perpetrator is a family member.

Former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Mick Gooda has spoken at length in the past about how older Indigenous Australians are particularly vulnerable to elder abuse. So this is a problem that affects all of us. It is also a problem that is set to worsen as Australia's population continues to age. The proportion of elderly people in Australia has increased exponentially over recent decades. According to data from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, by 2066 it is projected that Australians aged 65 and over will make up between 21 per cent and 23 per cent of the total population compared with 16 per cent in 2020.

Our ability to care for our older people will be tested as our aged-care systems come under further pressure to accommodate this increase. Our commitment to caring for the elderly relates directly to our response to elder abuse as a society. Elder abuse is a betrayal of trust. When someone deliberately manipulates an older person, often a family member, in such a way that causes emotional distress, financial loss, social isolation, or even physical harm, they have grievously wronged a person whose inherent vulnerability makes them deserving of protection.

Perpetrators of elder abuse seek to erode family networks, isolating the older person from their means of support and making them easier to control. Elder abuse is complex, often involving multilayered problems such as mental health, addiction and family conflict issues. But elder abuse is also symptomatic of an erosion in the social fabric of Australian society. It is so much easier to isolate an older person these days because our society has become atomised: we increasingly live our lives in isolation from the people around us. We must seek to nurture communities where people are concerned about each other's welfare, where neighbours visit each other's homes and are part of each other's lives, such that perpetrators of abuse are not afforded the kind of secrecy and isolation they require.

From a legislative point of view, I support the recommendations of the report by Uniting Communities, among them the call to introduce elder abuse as a standalone offence in South Australian law. The recommendations show this is an area of legislation crying out for reform. As a private member, I recognise the limited ability I have to bring about such extensive reforms and I am calling on the government to take up this issue and make it a priority. In the words of the Australian Law Reform Commission:

Ageing eventually comes to all Australians and ensuring that all older people live dignified and autonomous lives free from the pain and degradation of elder abuse must be a priority.

WALLIS FAMILY

The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:39): Today marks the first day of the 2025 Adelaide Film Festival. This celebration of cinema is when filmmaker and audiences come together for local and international film premieres. It is also the perfect time to reflect on how four generations of Adelaide's Wallis family members have contributed to the proud film culture we celebrate today.

When we think of South Australian icons, few stories shine brighter than that of the Wallis family. This is a family whose love of film, heritage and community has shaped the way generations of South Australians have experienced the magic of cinema. Long before the first Adelaide Film Festival lit up our screens, the Wallis family was already bringing the wonder of cinema to local communities.

Hugh Wallis, a refrigeration mechanic, had a vision and took a risk, determined to make film accessible to everyone. This led to the opening of Adelaide's first drive-in theatre, the Blueline Drive-In, at West Beach in 1953. The drive-in was the foundation for what became Wallis Cinemas, and for more than 70 years the Wallis name has demonstrated innovation and commitment to fostering a love of film and storytelling.

Under the leadership of Hugh's son, Bob Wallis, the company expanded, never losing heart for community or respect for heritage. This was evident in 1983, when Hugh and Bob Wallis purchased the Piccadilly Theatre on O'Connell Street. This iconic building was saved from demolition and lovingly restored, maintaining its elegance, character and original name when it reopened in 1990.

In recent years, the Piccadilly Cinema has undergone major renovation works to ensure its heritage is preserved and the building remains a tribute to its past and a vision for the future of entertainment. Lorna Wallis recently passed on the reins to her daughter, Michelle Wallis. It is now Michelle's leadership and guidance that will continue to shape the future of Wallis Entertainment.

Fourth-generation Deanna Wallis, the director of Wallis Entertainment, told me of her family's exciting vision for the future. Just like her grandparents and mother, Deanna is not daunted by taking a risk to make a vision a reality. In her role as director, she is all fired up to support her mother, Michelle, and honour the family's remarkable legacy, taking bold steps to diversify in the changing landscape of film and cinema.

The Wallis legacy transcends business; it is a testament to vision, perseverance and a desire to create spaces where people come together. Every detail of the recent restoration at the Piccadilly moves people through well designed, sensitive and elegantly restored areas of the cinema. From the terrazzo floors and the recently discovered terrazzo on the lower walls of the staircase to the painstakingly restored original mural, the curated fabrics, furniture and the timeless art deco inspired bar all come together to make a visit to the Piccadilly an experience.

The Wallis family's enduring vision is that cinema is more than entertainment; the Piccadilly is a place of beauty and an opportunity to foster connection within the local community. An integral part of the family's vision is the expansion of Mount Barker's Auchendarroch House, built in the 1860s and purchased by the Wallis family in 1999. Through thoughtful restoration and innovation, the family is transforming the property again so that it celebrates both heritage and hospitality, creating a thriving community hub, including a 100-room hotel scheduled to open in 2028.

South Australians are set to benefit as we see Wallis Entertainment flourish under the stewardship of Michelle, daughter Deanna, and the team of dedicated staff, many of whom have worked for the family for decades.

RIVERS, MS L.

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (15:44): I am pleased to have the opportunity today to belatedly reflect that in July the SDA family lost a person very near and dear to us: Lyn Rivers, long a guiding light to our union and its people, was our branch president, our colleague and our friend.

A committed and loyal SDA member for over six decades, Lyn was elected to the SDA SA, NT and Broken Hill Committee of Management in the year 2000. She went on to serve as branch president for nearly 20 years. She worked closely with the SDA secretaries over the course of her service, spanning the SDA leadership terms of Don Farrell, Peter Malinauskas, Sonia Romeo and Josh Peak.

Lyn spent her childhood living on Dulkaninna Station on the Birdsville Track, 84 kilometres north of Marree, where her parents and grandmother worked. As a young person she drove cattle from Dulkaninna to Marree. Her young life on the station was one of significant responsibility and hard work. Despite limited opportunity for education, Lyn's thirst for knowledge was insatiable, as was her long love of reading. Lyn moved to Adelaide as a teenager in the 1960s and began working in a finishing factory. Lynn helped make sheets and pillowcases, handling rolls of fabric that stretched right across the factory floor. She worked three days a week, which was enough to cover her rent and some food but not much else.

When she was 16, Lyn's lifelong career in retail began. She started working at John Martin's, and in time she worked across all the major retailers in Adelaide, including Paynes, Myer, David Jones and, eventually, Harris Scarfe, where our paths crossed. I was a new organiser, and she sized me up and put me to the test. I worked with her in many different roles over the years, and Lyn always contributed and fought the good fight, selflessly putting others' needs before her own.

Being a union member was never a question for Lyn. Her mother's family was from Broken Hill, where it was ingrained at an early age that, whatever industry you worked in, you joined your union, and it was a benefit to us all that Lyn did so. She was always modest about her contribution to the SDA. She attributed her growing involvement in the union to the fact that she simply showed up every morning and that she was not afraid to take on her employers and speak out about what she described as any 'unsavoury things' that were happening.

Lyn made significant contributions to many of the SDA's wins over the years. She was a strong voice in campaigns around ending retail worker abuse, protecting penalty rates, changes to public holiday arrangements, and opposing mass deregulation of trading hours. Well into her later years, Lyn was tireless in her determination to see these campaigns through.

Lyn was a beacon of principle and purpose for SDA officials, staff and members. I am confident that we will continue to be guided by her example and that she will be remembered for many, many years for all that she did for the SDA. I extend my profound condolences to Lyn's family and friends, and indeed to all those across our community who knew and loved her. Rest well, Lyn, you have earnt it.

ALGAL BLOOM

The Hon. C. BONAROS (15:47): The seafood sector is the backbone and lifeblood of our coastal regional communities, contributing more than \$800 million to the gross state product and directly employing more than 6,250 South Australians. The recreational fishing sector provides

recreational activities for more than 300,000 South Australians and is acknowledged as a critical and vital economic driver for many coastal towns and communities.

The toxic algal bloom crisis is the single biggest challenge the fishing industry has had to deal with in a generation, and it is unprecedented. It has killed more marine animals across all 400 species than we have ever seen before, and we are still unsure of how long it will last.

Naturally, I support the measures taken under the joint state and federal governments' \$102 million Algal Bloom Summer Plan, because I have lobbied extensively for many of the measures that are included in that plan, in consultation with the seafood sector. But we do know it is a summer plan. It is not a long-term plan. Investment to date is a long way off from where we will end up, and it is a far cry less than what it would cost us if a natural disaster were to be declared.

For the hardest hit regions like Gulf St Vincent, the north coast of Kangaroo Island, Investigator Strait and northern pockets of the Spencer Gulf, where marine scale fisheries dominate, it will be a long and turbulent road to recovery. For Gulf St Vincent coastal regional towns, which survive off fishing and especially fishing tourism, that road is even more rocky but not insurmountable.

There have been some calls for a ban on fishing in bloom-impacted regions such as Gulf St Vincent. I think it is important to note what a closure would do. Closures serve one purpose—namely, sustainability. They give our waters and our fish stocks the opportunity to repair and to replenish. But you cannot talk about closures in the absence of a buyback scheme. As we know, fishers have sunk a lot of money into fishing in those regions and they have paid some of the most expensive fees in the nation, if not the world, for that privilege over a lifetime.

When you hear about closures, what we are talking about is sustainability of our waters. In order to deal with sustainability you need immediate and long-term planning, and that includes sustainability of our fish stocks and marine environment. A buyback does provide the exit strategy that is needed for people to leave the industry with dignity—people who have spent their entire lives providing seafood for SA—and a way for those same operators who can withstand this crisis to remain, with economies of scale, for SA consumers and employment for coastal regional towns.

I welcome the Premier's comments yesterday in relation to this issue and look forward to further comments and statements from him about how this progresses forward. The reality is that both major parties in this state have tried buybacks in the past, and they have failed. They have not worked. They have thrown money at processes that have been driven by departments that do not know how to do a buyback scheme, plain and simple. There are precedents about how buyback schemes should work and the sort of rigour they need to work, but in order for us to do that those processes need to be stakeholder and industry driven. The departments have to have a seat at the table and an important role to play, but they cannot drive the process.

The current cost-recovery review process that is underway is a perfect example of how a process can work well if there is the political will to make it work. That is the challenge we face, and I look forward to seeing how this issue develops.

CHILDCARE SERVICES

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:52): I rise today to speak on a matter that goes to the very heart of the safety and wellbeing of South Australian children: the state of our childcare and early learning system. Let me be clear: the vast majority of childcare centres do the right thing. However, over the last three years we have seen an alarming number of reports emerge about incidents in our childcare centres.

Those incidents include children being left unsupervised, unexplained injuries, failure to meet staffing ratios and serious breaches of trust. These are not isolated events. They paint a concerning picture of a system under stress, one that is crying out for stronger oversight, better resourcing and a government that is willing to act, not just react.

The government's current approach has been focused on audits. While audits are important, they are not enough. It is not good enough to simply step in after something goes wrong. What we need to see is a proactive, front-footed approach that identifies problems before they occur. That is

why the opposition has called for what we have described as a SWAT style approach—a coordinated, resourced and rapid intervention model that can be deployed to centres showing early signs of risk.

This is about preventing harm, not just documenting it after the fact. It is about giving parents confidence that when they drop their children off in the morning they are leaving them in a safe, stable and caring environment.

Sadly, confidence in the system has been shaken. The recent forced closure of Edge Learning Centre at Plympton is a clear example. That centre was closed for an initial two-week period and then a further three months. It is hard to imagine a more distressing situation for families, and it underscores just how stretched some services have become.

We know that staff shortages, turnover and burnout are major issues across the sector. Educators are doing their absolute best under difficult conditions, but they are being let down by a government that has failed to plan for workforce pressures that have been building for years. That brings me to Labor's 2022 election commitment to deliver universal three-year-old preschool. Let me be clear: giving children the best possible start is something we all support but what Labor has failed to be honest about is the sheer scale of the challenge involved and the risk to quality and safety if these reforms are rushed or under-resourced.

The government's entire plan depends on partnering with existing early childhood providers, the same providers who are already struggling to meet national quality standards and staffing ratios. Incidents like those at Edge Plympton demonstrate exactly what can go wrong when services are under pressure. If centres are barely coping with current enrolments how can we possibly expect them to safely expand to include younger children or more children as well? Every time a new child walks through the door, the supervision ratios tighten, the staffing demands increase and the risks of failure grow.

To succeed, Labor's plan will require hundreds of additional qualified educators, more regulatory oversight and better support for training staff and retention. This government has a habit of announcing ambitious reforms without doing the hard work to make them succeed. Whether it is a ramping crisis, the housing shortage, or now the childcare system, South Australians are growing tired of the same pattern: big promises up-front followed by slow delivery, poor oversight and spiralling costs.

Parents deserve better than this. Educators deserve better than this and, most importantly, our children deserve better than this. A safe and high-quality learning system does not just happen by chance, it requires clear standards, strong leadership and proactive engagement with providers. It means making sure that the Education Standards Board has the resources and mandate to provide real-time support and intervention, and can step in swiftly with compliance directions and notices where risks emerge, rather than discovering problems after the fact. When it comes to the safety of our youngest South Australians, prevention will always be better than the cure.

Bills

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (LAND FOR FOOD AND GROCERY STORES) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:57): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (15:58): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

This bill seeks to address one of the issues that emerged as part of the Select Committee on Grocery Prices that I chaired last year. Members may recall that that inquiry handed down its report in the latter months of last year. One of the key elements that was examined by our inquiry, and indeed has been the focus of a federal parliamentary inquiry as well, was the issue of supermarket chains

buying up land in greenfield developments so that they can effectively land bank and ensure that they maintain a competitive advantage over smaller chains and retailers.

The select committee heard evidence that for many years Coles, Woolworths and Aldi have lobbied governments to rezone land in regional and some metropolitan communities outside of the established town centre and retail precincts. We heard evidence that these sites offer cheap land not zoned for retail when acquired, and that allows the big food retailers like your Coles, Woolworths and Aldi to avoid more expensive sites already zoned and, again, to increase their market share. Foodland, one of the smaller food retailers in our state, therefore gave evidence to the committee that it considered it appropriate for the state government to prevent rezoning of these greenfield sites, except in exceptional circumstances.

The rezoning, it was suggested, draws customers away from established town centres and retail precincts, creating dislocation in the local community and hollowing out the town centre, with main streets being reduced to empty shopfronts. I believe we had some evidence as well from advocates in the farming and growing community, who also talked about their concerns and their experiences in regional centres where you had a Coles or a Woolies popping up and basically driving the small food retailers, like your local greengrocer, out of business.

Foodland further advised the Select Committee on Grocery Pricing that, through their parent companies or third parties, Coles and Woolies engage in land banking. They acquire or secure control of land in strategic growth corridors, some tenanted by local independent grocers, who then become one of the duopoly's tenants. When the lease expires, the independent store owner can be ousted from the site, with Coles or Woolies then able to establish a larger supermarket over the top.

Moreover, Foodland has no presence in South Australia's large shopping centres, and this stems from Coles, Woolworths and Aldi offering to pay higher rent per square metre, which independent Foodland owners are not able to do if they are to remain profitable. I understand that was some of the evidence provided to the inquiry.

It is worth noting that, in its findings, the committee refuted the evidence from Woolworths that smaller food retailers are contributing to higher prices in South Australia. I thought it was a rather curious claim, that more competition is somehow bad for pricing, but that was the view that Coles and Woolworths put to our inquiry. People criticise green economics, but I am not sure that really follows. It sort of confounds most people's understanding of how a free market works. But it was the view of Coles and Woolies that the smaller retailers were driving up prices for others.

What we did find at the committee, however, was that lack of competition is in fact a factor that is contributing to higher prices, particularly in regional areas, and there is a need to promote further competition to potentially reduce the cost for consumers. In particular, the committee recommended that the Minister for Planning investigate potential amendments to state planning laws to prevent the rezoning of greenfield sites to retail in instances where this would have had a negative impact on existing businesses. It was also proposed that the state government consider options to discourage the practice of land banking by the major food retailers.

That is where this bill comes in. The bill amends the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act in an effort to try to crack down on the practice of land banking. In particular, the bill would require any change to rezoning or any change to the use for the development of a supermarket to consider some of the following criteria:

- the distance of this food premises from other food retailers in the relevant area;
- the impact on existing businesses involved in the sale of food and groceries in the relevant area;
- the extent and nature of the growth of the population in the relevant area;
- the availability and appropriateness of alternative sites for such premises in the relevant area;
- whether detailed plans have been prepared relating to the development and operation of a business involving the sale of food and groceries on the land;

- whether there are reasons why the amendment should be proceeding at a later time;
 and
- whether the amendment in terms of the use of land is in the public interest.

My bill would also require these developments to be subject to public consultation. This is not a radical proposition, it is seeking to introduce a public interest test into these zoning decisions, which I think any planning minister would welcome. It strengthens the hand of the government of the day to ensure that any of these approvals are really in the interests of the public, rather than the interests of these large corporations.

I had hoped, when we handed down the report some 12 months ago, that the government would come to this place with their own bill in an effort to address some of the issues that have been raised at the parliamentary inquiry. Unfortunately, which has often been the pattern of the Malinauskas government when it comes to select committees, the report was handed down, it was put in a top drawer somewhere, and it has been gathering dust ever since.

That is disappointing, but at least this private members' bill provides an opportunity for the government to address one of the key recommendations that came out of the report. I see the Hon. Reggie Martin nodding enthusiastically. He was involved with the committee and I hope that he will impress upon his colleagues the importance of action in this regard. With that, I conclude my remarks.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (UNAUTHORISED TREE-DAMAGING ACTIVITY) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:06): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:06): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I rise today to put before this place a bill in regard to unauthorised tree-damaging activities—indeed, dodgy tree loppers. Nobody approves of it. Our laws not only discourage it but criminalise it, but when it happens our responses are wholly inadequate. A tree lopper recently was fined in the ERD Court for the third time this year after illegally removing a protected river red gum on a Salisbury property. That tree measured 6.8 metres in diameter and likely predated European colonisation. The tree lopper was both unethical and unlucky, as it is actually rare for them to be caught and even fined. The fine for removing this beautiful tree was a mere \$10,000.

Whilst the maximum fine is more than \$10,000, the maximum penalty is one that is rarely, if ever, applied. The intent of this bill is quite simple: it is to make it less attractive for unethical tree loppers to run the risk of removing trees illegally. A significant body of work has been undertaken by the Conservation Council of South Australia and community advocates to improve this state's tree protections, and I commend the Malinauskas government for their efforts in this. This is simply yet another good idea that we continue to progress that work.

But there is more remaining to be done, and community advocates recognise that changes made last year were a great first tranche. Unfortunately, though, we are still seeing good numbers of illegal tree removals occurring. Not only this, we continue to see the same names time and time again responsible for that. Fines for what the regulations refer to coyly as 'illegal tree damaging activity' and which are mostly illegal removals remain insignificant, partly by comparison to the amounts that can be made for their removal. We know that these fines are not a deterrent. If they were, illegal tree removals would slow and we would not see those same names cropping up time and time again in the ERD Court, nor would we see cleanskin trucks (unlabelled trucks and equipment) removing trees illegally and getting away with what many in our community see as murder.

One can only assume that unethical tree loppers see fines of a mere \$10,000 as one of the basic costs of doing their dodgy business, just as the unethical developers who seek the services of these loppers are happy to risk an insignificant fine should they be caught. It is fair to say that the Greater Adelaide area does have some serial offenders.

This bill introduces the further sanction of forfeiture of equipment. The equipment required for a tree-lopping business is not particularly expensive: a couple of chainsaws, a trailer, a chipper, a basic truck to shoot the chippings into, and you are good to go. You could easily set yourself up for somewhere around \$150,000, possibly less. You do not need a qualification, which I find extraordinary, and there is nothing to stop you from calling yourself an arborist if you want to in this state—another area, of course, that needs addressing for the sake of ethical expert arborists who do good work for our industry, the community and our environment more broadly.

Whilst the fine might be insignificant, immediate forfeiture of your equipment is another matter, one with the potential to have an immediate impact on that business. This bill adds immediate forfeiture of equipment to the fines which can be issued by the ERD Court. It is hard to run a business removing and chipping trees illegally without the equipment that enables you to do that.

This bill would also give the ERD Court the capacity to order that such equipment can be forfeited to the minister, who then has the discretion to sell it, with moneys from that sale being paid into the Urban Tree Canopy Offset Scheme in the council area where that applies, or directly to the council in areas where that does not apply. Any such funds are to be applied to planting, maintaining or preserving vegetation in that council area where the offence was committed. The bill that I put before this council today also aims to ensure that any moneys that arise from the sale of forfeited equipment are applied to produce a benefit as close as possible to where the illegal removal occurred.

Lastly, the bill seeks to ensure that landholders take responsibility for trees on their property. It is not uncommon to see trees mysteriously die after permission to remove them has been refused. It is impossible to believe that those mysterious deaths that happen after those refusals are always coincidental, or that an unknown third party has somehow unlawfully entered a randomly selected property and poisoned that tree.

South Australia's recent Biodiversity Act is a nation-leading act. The community responses on that bill and that consultation indicated a preference for the strongest possible protections in our state for biodiversity, and it is fair to say many wanted to see that act go further. Whilst urban trees are covered by the Planning and Design Code, they are viewed by community members as essential pillars of our urban biodiversity. Community members rightly recognise that, while planting trees is important, retention of mature and maturing trees should be our priority. They can provide valuable habitat, of course, for species, cool our streets, cool our suburbs, cool our homes, and make the places we live far more liveable.

They are the best tool we have in that toolbox to mitigate the impacts of climate change, and we should really be thinking about the sort of city and suburbs we want our children and grandchildren to live in. The amenity available to future generations, and residents of Greater Adelaide, can be directly influenced by the changes that we debate here in this place and leave as a legacy for them. Stopping dodgy tree loppers in their tracks, stopping them having the equipment to continue to do those illegal, unethical and immoral works, where they are happy to pay a few thousand dollars here or there as a necessary cost of doing business, would be a great step forward. With that, I commend the bill to the council.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

Motions

SOUTHERN OCEAN DISCOVERY CENTRE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:14): I seek leave to move Notice of Motion, Private Business, No. 5 in a slightly amended form.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: I move:

That this council-

- Applauds the vision and mission of the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre proponents to create a
 world-class marine education and tourism hub, inspiring South Australians and visitors to
 appreciate, protect and sustain the rich coastal and marine environments of the Great Southern
 Reef:
- 2. Acknowledges the support for the proposed Southern Ocean Discovery Centre to be built at Wara Wayingga-Tennyson Dunes Conservation Reserve;
- 3. Notes South Australia is the only state not to have a publicly accessible marine centre of this nature despite the fine but physically constrained work of the Marine Discovery Centre; and
- 4. Commends the proposal of the proponents of the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre to the Senate Environment and Communications References Committee inquiry into Algal Blooms in South Australia and requests the President communicate the passage of this motion to the Chair of that inquiry.

For those following at home, it is a very minor clerical correction of the 'Chair' rather than the 'Presiding Member'. It is a great pleasure to bring this motion before this council today, and I note the willingness of members to engage in what is a reasonably rapid debate in terms of the introduction and passage, hopefully, of this motion today.

Just over a year ago, I had the absolute pleasure of visiting the Marine Discovery Centre, and I know that many members of this council and of this parliament have had that same pleasure. I was given a guided tour there by Carmen Bishop, the centre's director. The Marine Discovery Centre was established in 1997 and has been a beacon of marine education in our state, welcoming some 8,000 eager learners each year.

During my visit, I was able to witness the centre in action as a group of OSHC students, who were on their school holidays, got to experience all the education and fun the team at that centre provide. I was delighted to see these children learning not only about our environment and the role that they can play in protecting our marine ecosystems but also about the unique marine life that populates our waters.

Carmen and her team embody the passion and love of our marine ecosystems that drives that centre's operation, and they do an absolutely phenomenal job of educating children and young people about our remarkable Great Southern Reef. It was a joy to witness the children on that day that I visited, smiling and enjoying themselves while learning about our state's incredible biodiversity and marine life.

However, there are challenges facing the centre, and indeed that current space is limited to some 10,000 visitors a year. In fact, that accounts for less than 4 per cent of all students in our state of South Australia and leaves very little, if any, room for the wider public or for tourism. The current facility simply cannot accommodate the buses that would be needed for visiting schools or tour groups, and the current location of the centre, which is on school grounds at the Star of the Sea School, limits the ability for the general public to even engage and be able to access the centre.

That is why they have for some time debated the need to lift the vision higher and broader, and that is what leads to this motion today. It is for all those reasons that a proposal has come together and proponents have come together to build a new state-of-the-art, purpose-built home: the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre. That centre would allow for the wider public, for more school students, for the connection so evident now with the challenges that we face with the algal bloom, and for our scientific and citizen science community to come together.

There is, of course, also a significant tourism opportunity in having a Southern Ocean Discovery Centre. South Australia is actually—and I was really quite surprised to learn this—currently the only Australian state or territory without a dedicated marine education facility that is publicly accessible. Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane all have a Sea Life aquarium. WA has the Busselton Jetty, Tasmania has Seahorse World, and even the NT and the ACT each have a facility. If you look around the map of the nation, in Cairns you have an aquarium, in Townsville you have the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium, in the Sunshine Coast you have Visit Sea Life and in WA you also have a Ningaloo Reef centre.

In fact, having grown up in Sydney, I was quite surprised to learn that the delights that I had had in my childhood of visiting the then Manly aquarium, almost any opportunity I got actually at one point, or indeed what you have now in Sydney with the Sydney Aquarium, is not one that is available to children in such a broad scale in South Australia and certainly not one that is available to the public.

I have to say—I do not know about other members of this place—I love to go to an aquarium. I love the marine ecology. It is incredibly interesting. In South Australia we have the Great Southern Reef and we have unique species here. We celebrate and protect our biodiversity, but we do not have a showcase for it. There are so many reasons why we really should and that is what brings me to this motion today.

We know that the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre could be and should be a world-class marine education, research and tourism hub in South Australia. It would also assist us in addressing the national challenges in public health, in environmental literacy and coastal resilience that we need now more than ever. It matters now, as we well know, because we are facing a current environmental crisis. We have been for some time. In fact, the scientists have been telling us that what is happening now has been coming for some time. It is just extraordinary that when they say it is now here that we have not quite listened.

South Australia is experiencing a persistent large-scale harmful algal bloom with significant ecological, economic and public health impacts. The community urgently needs long-term trusted sources of science-based information to counter misinformation, aid in recovery efforts and restore public confidence in using the coast and purchasing local seafood sustainably, just to name a few. Indeed, there is a public health and literacy gap, and some 10 per cent of the children visiting the current Marine Discovery Centre have actually never even been to the beach before. Many have never seen or entered the ocean or understand ocean currents. This disconnect increases risks in coastal safety, reduces community resilience and weakens our environmental stewardship.

There is an argument here of national equity and, as I mentioned, every other state and territory has at least one dedicated marine or ocean discovery hub that is publicly accessible—some have several. South Australia has none, despite the fact that we are home to the Great Southern Reef, one of the most biodiverse marine ecosystems on our planet. It is not just an ecological argument here. The Great Southern Reef is an economic powerhouse: commercial fishing, carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, recreational fishing, diving and snorkelling, and other recreational activities. It is not just invaluable—indeed in the many hundreds and thousands of millions of dollars—the existence value also in itself is extraordinary.

The Albanese government recently committed \$100 million to the Great Barrier Reef's Townsville discovery centre and so there is a precedent here that I hope the federal government will take up for South Australia. The Southern Ocean Discovery Centre offers a comparable opportunity for the Albanese government to ensure we have a national investment in South Australia to show not just commitment but indeed to strengthen what could be and should be a nationally significant hub that offers a vibrant, inclusive space where students can learn, where families can explore and young people can develop a lifelong connection to the ocean, encourage active lifestyles and coastal safety and help disconnect children from devices and reconnect them to nature, improving our mental health, our resilience and, of course, our environmental stewardship.

The Marine Discovery Centre and the team there have a proven track record and a strong foundation from which to work and were previously the recipients of some international recognition, receiving a UNESCO award for environmental education. They are currently the state's only coastal marine and coastal education facility for school students and have won so many awards that we know that should they be given the opportunity they could really make this happen.

The proposal that we have before us in this motion takes the threat of the harmful algal bloom and sees it as an opportunity because currently there is a Senate inquiry, as we well know, into the harmful algal bloom in South Australia and a committee looking at all the options, all the ways that we cannot just respond to this crisis but can create resilience and strengthen ourselves for the future. This an opportunity for this council to come together, cross-party, to show our support for what is, I believe, an incredibly inspirational proposal by guite expert people and not just Carmen Bishop—and

I think all of us have probably met the not only erudite but exuberant Professor Chris Daniels—for anyone to be inspired and to present real solutions moving into the future as we address what is quite a significant environmental challenge.

Indeed, this weekend we celebrate yet another Tennyson Dunes Open Day. I know the Hon. Ian Hunter had quite a bit to do with the creation of that very special place in our state and that is the place that this team has identified, with the support of the local council, the Charles Sturt council, that the car park would be the perfect location for the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre. It will be wonderful this weekend to celebrate yet another wonderful Tennyson Dunes Open Day. For those members who have been, you will know it is a really special experience to do the talks and the tours and to see the local community come together to not just preserve that environment and protect it and nurture and nourish it but, right across the board of the ecological movement, to work together for a better planet for us all.

It would be a wonderful way to celebrate Tennyson Dunes Open Day for this council to have come together and urged the federal Senate committee, and in turn the federal members of parliament, who we know are often more where the purse strings are than in a state parliament, to take a really serious look at an investment in a Southern Ocean Discovery Centre for South Australia. It would be a wonderful institution to create more access to, whether for our school students or our community or our tourists, and also a way of really coming together and challenging the misinformation and providing a base for all across our community, scientists and non-scientists alike, to combat the serious challenge of the harmful algal bloom and, no doubt, many more challenges to come and to turn those challenges into a real opportunity and create optimism.

With that optimistic end, I look forward to the contributions of other members and to hopefully being able, Mr President, to have you write to the chair of the Senate's algal blooms in South Australia committee sometime soon and announce that this has happened to the Tennyson Dunes Open Day on the weekend.

The Hon. T.T. NGO (16:28): I rise today to speak in support of the honourable member's motion on behalf of the government, and I commend the Hon. Tammy Franks for her interest and passion towards our marine environment.

In 1997, the Catholic school Star of the Sea in Henley Beach established SA's first Marine Discovery Centre. Since then, the centre has been refurbished and its long-running programs expanded for students and the public. The programs offered at the school have included the opportunity to learn about local marine species, Aboriginal culture with Kaurna volunteers sharing culture and language connections to the sea and land, and a chance to engage in interactive exhibits, such as sustainable fishing. Qualified marine scientists and a cultural educator have led these long-running opportunities.

The Marine Discovery Centre's interactive exhibits and aquariums have helped foster an understanding of marine ecosystems and their importance to South Australia's environment to over 130,000 students since 1997. The Star of the Sea school and Marine Discovery Centre has been well loved and has earned a UNESCO award for environmental education. It has also traditionally enjoyed strong support from the Department for Education, the Department for Environment and other government departments. However, it is no longer fit for purpose, and the demand for services from the community far exceeds its capacity. Consequently, the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre proposal is not simply about bricks and mortar, it is about continuing this inspiration and stewardship.

The proposed location, at Wara Wayingga-Tennyson Dunes Conservation Reserve, offers an opportunity to integrate marine science, conservation education and sustainable tourism within a living coastal landscape. The location is rich in natural and cultural heritage, where people can not only connect with marine life but also with the stories, knowledge and custodianship of the land's traditional owners.

The proposal will expand marine and STEM education from 8,000 to more than 30,000 students annually, offering increased participation in STEM pathways linked to marine industries. The Southern Ocean Discovery Centre will have the ability to expand curriculum-aligned programs for primary, secondary and tertiary students and offer greater professional development opportunities for educators in marine science and sustainability. The discovery centre is about

fostering in South Australians, as well as in visitors, a deeper appreciation for the Great Southern Reef, one of the most diverse and productive marine ecosystems on our planet.

The facility could attract more than 80,000 visitors per year, resulting in considerable economic benefits through extended visitor stays and additional support for local businesses. However, not only is the Great Southern Reef a biodiversity melting pot but independent research has valued it at \$11.56 billion per year, based on a subset of values including but not limited to commercial fishing, carbon capture and storage, recreational fishing and recreational activities.

The Southern Ocean Discovery Centre has already been set up as a company limited by guarantee, with a high-powered board that is chaired by the highly respected South Australian Professor Chris Daniels. While this particular site is overseen by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and is dedicated to council for the purposes of car parking and community, the DEW Crown Lands operations team are ready and willing to work closely with everyone involved, including the City of Charles Sturt, on their proposal to use the Crown land that is currently dedicated to the council in Tennyson.

An essential aim of the centre would be to inspire people to protect and sustain the remarkable coastal and marine environments for generations to come. The establishment of the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre could position South Australia as a national leader in marine education, health literacy and environmental resilience and will provide a trusted platform for science communication, tourism growth and lifelong connection to the Great Southern Reef.

This proposal is the culmination of an 18-month multisector process, and I commend the hard work, dedication and foresight of all those involved. The government gives this bill its full support.

The Hon. J.S. LEE (16:34): I rise in support of this motion, moved by the Hon. Tammy Franks, recognising the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre proposal to establish a world-class marine education and tourism hub at Wara Wayingga-Tennyson Dunes.

South Australia is home to the Great Southern Reef, a globally significant reef system that supports rich biodiversity, including species found nowhere else on earth. This reef underpins local industries such as fisheries, aquaculture and nature-based tourism and plays a significant role in our coastal identity. Independent research has valued the reef's services at over \$11.5 billion annually, driven by industries such as fishing, tourism and environmental services.

Despite this, South Australia remains the only state without a publicly accessible marine centre of scale. The Marine Discovery Centre at Henley Beach continues to deliver excellent educational programs for school-age children, but its physical constraints limit its capacity to serve broader public and tourism needs. It currently reaches only 4 per cent of South Australian students annually despite growing demand.

The Southern Ocean Discovery Centre would help fill this gap and much more. It would offer hands-on, engaging experiences for people of all ages, helping them learn about our marine environment and why it is important to look after our coastlines. More importantly, it would also serve as a gateway to the Great Southern Reef, helping to position South Australia as a leader in marine education and sustainable tourism.

The chosen site, Wara Wayingga-Tennyson Dunes, is ecologically and culturally significant. Located just 12 kilometres from Adelaide, the dunes are one of the last remaining remnant dune systems along the metropolitan coast. They support unique vegetation zones and threatened species and hold deep cultural importance for the Kaurna people.

This Sunday, 19 October, the community will gather for the annual Wara Wayingga-Tennyson Dunes Open Day, a free event supported by the City of Charles Sturt and run by dedicated volunteers. The program features guided walks, cultural workshops and biodiversity tours. Events like this demonstrate the strong public interest in our coastal environment and the potential for a permanent centre to enhance year-round engagement. I want to give a shout-out to all the volunteers who have run the programs.

As a former shadow minister for tourism, I note that Tourism SA's 2020-30 plan sets an ambitious target to grow the visitor economy to \$12.8 billion and to support over 4,400 new jobs by the end of the decade. Much of this growth is expected to be from nature-based tourism, especially coastal, wildlife and educational experiences. The western beaches of Adelaide, including Tennyson, Semaphore and Henley Beach, are well positioned to benefit from this trend. These areas attract visitors but lack a centralised marine education and tourism facility, which the Hon. Tammy Franks is calling for.

The Southern Ocean Discovery Centre is projected to attract over 80,000 visitors annually, extending average stay durations, encouraging off-peak visitation and supporting local businesses. It would also support efforts to grow tourism in western Adelaide by helping develop new visitor experiences and attractions. A centre like this would boost local business, create jobs in tourism and education, and strengthen the cultural and environmental value of the coast and also the local economy.

Beyond tourism, the centre would deliver tangible benefits in education, public health and environmental literacy. It would expand marine and STEM education to over 30,000 students per year, offer professional development for educators and embed Aboriginal cultural knowledge of, and perspective on, sea country. It would also serve as a trusted source of science-based information, which is particularly important considering the harmful algal bloom currently affecting our coastlines and seafood industries.

The proponent has made a submission to the Senate inquiry into algal blooms in South Australia, highlighting the role a centre like this could play in improving public understanding, countering misinformation and supporting long-term coastal resilience. In short, the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre is more than a visionary idea; it is smart investment in South Australia's tourism, environment and community wellbeing. With those remarks, I strongly commend the motion.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:39): I, too, rise today to speak in favour of the motion for the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre. The Marine Discovery Centre is a coastal and marine education facility that values partnership and actively engages with community, incorporates cultural heritage, and seeks to promote local, state and federal nature-based tourism and environmental strategies.

South Australia has a proud history of leadership in conservation with the world's first legislated national park system in Belair in 1891, and an ongoing commitment to conservation measures. If South Australia is the only state without a publicly accessible marine centre of this type, it is inconsistent with our historical commitment to conservation. It makes sense to further enable this work to continue with greater effectiveness and engagement through the proposed establishment of a purpose-built education and tourism hub, and it is something that the opposition supports. In fact, it is my understanding that the shadow minister for environment, the member for Finniss, visited the current Marine Discovery Centre on Military Road earlier this year.

The member for Finniss speaks very positively about the commitment and the passion of the staff at the Marine Discovery Centre, but it is my understanding that there are some limitations regarding access to that centre and its current location. We acknowledge that, and therefore absolutely support the development of a new Southern Ocean Discovery Centre, and support this motion.

The challenges presented by the current harmful algal bloom have increased the focus on and understanding of the importance and unique nature of South Australia's marine environment. Promoting conservation and educating the public about our coastal marine asset is absolutely important and more topical than ever. I congratulate the honourable member, Ms Franks, for bringing this motion to the chamber. The opposition wholeheartedly supports this motion and we—without, of course, pre-empting the vote in this chamber—look forward to its passage.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:42): I also rise to speak in favour of the motion. I should say that when I saw the Hon. Tung Ngo stand earlier I did have a sense of dread wash over me, as I thought that he was going to oppose the motion on behalf of the government as he is often deployed to do. I was very relieved to see that, in fact, the government is supporting the motion and that the Hon. Mr Ngo had been deployed to deliver some good news.

I thank the Hon. Tammy Franks for putting this forward for discussion and decision today. I agree with all of the comments that have been made. I think this is a timely proposal and one that would bring significant benefits to our state. I understand that since 1997 the Marine Discovery Centre has been South Australia's cornerstone for marine education, engaging over 130,000 students and thousands of community members with hands-on learning.

It has achieved international recognition, including a UNESCO award for environmental education, as the state's only coastal and marine educational facility for school-age students and the wider community. The facility has delivered award-winning programs to integrate marine science, coastal safety, sustainability and Aboriginal cultural education. But, as the Hon. Nicola Centofanti alluded to, there is, of course, a problem, though, in that demand for the centre far exceeds the capacity.

With its limited facilities located within a school, the MDC serves only 4 per cent of South Australian students annually and can only be opened to the public on weekends. That is despite the fact that there is a growing community appetite for science-based, trusted marine education. I understand the proponents of the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre are seeking \$25 million to design and construct the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre at Tennyson Dunes, building on the success of the award-winning Marine Discovery Centre.

The proponents have created the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre as a company limited by guarantee, underpinned by a board of experts, a number of pre-eminent people, as the Hon. Tammy Franks has identified. The centre would bring a number of benefits, I believe. I think the toxic algal bloom that our state has been grappling with over several months now demonstrates the vital role of our oceans and demonstrates that we are all at the mercy of the sea and the natural world. I think this will lead to a renewed interest in science and research at the moment.

There is also a significant public health and literacy gap in our nation, with 10 per cent of children visiting the current Marine Discovery Centre having never been to the beach and many having never entered the ocean or understanding ocean currents. This disconnect increases risk to coastal safety, reduces community resilience and weakens environmental stewardship. This new centre has the opportunity to bring in more people.

It is also the case that South Australia is the odd one out here. Other states have centres such as this in place—we should be doing the same. I hope the federal government and the state government can make this a priority. I thank the Hon. Tammy Franks for putting this forward.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:46): I thank those speakers who have made a contribution today: the Hon. Jing Lee, the Hon. Tung Ngo, the Hon. Nicola Centofanti and the Hon. Robert Simms. There is truly cross-party support for this motion, which I am sure will be very much celebrated at the Tennyson Dunes Open Day this weekend, but hopefully also listened to by the Senate inquiry into the harmful algal bloom in South Australia.

I also note that, should the support of this council be heard, it is only because we simply are echoing and illuminating the fine work of not just Carmen Bishop, who is utterly inspirational, but Professor Chris Daniels, Dr Zoe Doubleday, John Schutz and Phillip Henshall, who are now the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre Company Ltd by guarantee high-powered board, but ably assisted of course by their advisers John Shephard and Karl Telfer. They have taken a vision, come together, and I do hope that this council, in commending their fine efforts, will be able to not just celebrate this weekend but celebrate in coming years with announcements of support from the Albanese government for this extraordinary vision, and we will all be able to go and enjoy and invite our friends when they come to visit South Australia to visit the Southern Ocean Discovery Centre. With that, I commend the motion.

Motion carried.

COUNTRY SHOWS AND FIELD DAYS

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:47): I move:

That this council—

- Acknowledges the commencement of the spring season of country shows and field days across South Australia, following one of the most difficult seasons in recent memory for many regional communities;
- 2. Recognises that field days provide an essential forum for industry engagement, innovation, and networking, and that country shows highlight community spirit, showcase regional excellence, and foster friendly competition;
- 3. Notes that both country shows and field days are important in supporting regional families, strengthening local communities, and attracting visitors and tourists to our state; and
- 4. Commends the dedication and contribution of volunteers, organisers, exhibitors, and participants—including Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia, Country Shows SA, and the Association of Agricultural Field Days of Australasia—whose efforts ensure the success of these iconic events year after year.

I rise today to move that this council acknowledge the commencement of the spring season of country shows and field days across South Australia. These events are more than just dates in the regional calendar, they are a part of the heartbeat of country life and they matter deeply to the people who live, work and raise their families in our regions.

As someone who grew up in the Riverland and later served my community as a country veterinarian, I know firsthand the significance of these events. Country shows are the highlight of the year for many towns. They showcase our agricultural produce, our livestock, our arts and crafts and, most importantly, our people. They bring together families, schools, service clubs and sporting groups, and they remind us all of the strength and pride of regional South Australia. From the Jamestown Show to the Keith and Tintinara Show, to the Murray Bridge Show and so many more, these events celebrate the character of our regions, while supporting local fundraising efforts to keep our communities strong.

Field days, by contrast, are where the business of agriculture comes to the fore. They are vital forums for innovation and industry connection, giving our farmers direct access to the latest machinery, technology and practices. The Yorke Peninsula field days, for instance, attract more than 30,000 visitors and 700 exhibitors, injecting millions of dollars into the local economy. Likewise, the Eyre Peninsula, Lucindale and Mallee machinery field days are cornerstones of the agricultural calendar, where ideas are exchanged, partnerships are built and the next generation of farmers can see what their future might look like.

This year, these events took on an even greater importance. Regional communities are facing enormous challenges: the ongoing impact of drought, the devastating algal bloom along our coast, cost pressures and a deep sense of uncertainty about the future, and many country people are feeling left behind by both state and federal Labor governments. In that context, our shows and our field days are not just entertainment or business expos, they are opportunities to connect, to restore optimism and to remind regional South Australians that their contribution is valued.

Families are being left to shoulder the burden of the recent drought largely on their own, and it feels like this government continues to turn its back on the very communities that feed and sustain our state. Farmers and regional businesses are crying out for meaningful support but, unfortunately, instead they are being met with empty words, slow processes and a lack of urgency. At a time when action is needed, we have seen largely inaction and we cannot expect rural South Australians to keep enduring this drought with no clear plan, no proper targeted relief and no acknowledgement of the real pain being felt in regional communities.

The truth is, while country people are doing it tough, Labor is nowhere to be seen when the real work of supporting our regions needs to be done. So while the government is MIA, it is our locals who step up. It is also worth acknowledging that none of this would be possible without our volunteers, and these events only happen because of the tireless work of local individuals, agricultural societies, service clubs, CWA branches, sporting clubs and countless others who give their time and energy to ensure success year after year. Their contributions are enormous and they deserve the thanks of this parliament.

Country shows and field days together are a celebration of who we are as a state. They showcase our excellence in agriculture and in innovation, they strengthen community spirit, they attract tourism and economic activity, and they highlight the grit and character of country South

Australians in the face of adversity. So I commend this motion to the council and encourage all members to join me in celebrating these iconic and much-loved events.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Hon. J.S. LEE (16:52): I move:

That this council—

- Congratulates the Islamic Society of South Australia (ISSA) on reaching the remarkable milestone
 of its 70th anniversary in 2025 and recognises its significance as the oldest registered Islamic
 organisation in Australia;
- Acknowledges the founding members, current and past presidents, board members and imams, as well as staff, volunteers and community supporters for their dedication and service to South Australia's diverse Muslim community across six mosques in metropolitan Adelaide and regional South Australia;
- Recognises that since its establishment in 1955, ISSA has played a vital role in supporting the spiritual, cultural and social needs of South Australia's Muslim community, providing educational and community services and actively empowering young Muslims to become future leaders;
- Commends ISSA for its enduring commitment to fostering inclusion, mutual respect and civic participation, including through interfaith dialogue, advocacy, community outreach and charitable initiatives; and
- 5. Celebrates ISSA's legacy and significant contributions to enhancing multiculturalism in our state and its ongoing efforts to support Australian Muslim community members to actively contribute to the economic, political, social and cultural life of South Australia.

It is a great honour to rise today to acknowledge the truly remarkable milestone and congratulate the Islamic Society of South Australia on celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2025. Established in 1955, the Islamic Society of South Australia holds the distinction of being the oldest registered Islamic organisation in Australia. For seven decades, the Islamic Society has stood as a pillar of faith, service and unity, supporting generations of South Australian Muslims and contributing meaningfully to the social fabric of our state.

This milestone is not only a celebration of longevity but a testament to the enduring values of compassion, inclusion and civic engagement the society has championed since its inception. It is only fitting that we honour the society and reflect on the extraordinary legacy of this organisation and the people who have shaped it. I would like to firstly acknowledge the exceptional leadership of Mr Ahmed Zreika, who has served as President of the Islamic Society since 2015. Ahmed is a distinguished and highly respected leader within the South Australian Muslim community and has been deeply engaged in community building for more than a decade.

It is his credibility, integrity and strong connection with the Muslim community that informed the former Marshall Liberal government to appoint Mr Ahmed Zreika to serve on the South Australian Multicultural Commission in 2018. It was truly a privilege to work closely with Ahmed and other commission members to drive key initiatives for multicultural development in our state.

During the time between 2018 to 2022, we have seen some reforms undertaken, including the development of the landmark South Australian Multicultural Commission Act, which included enshrining in legislation interculturalism for the first time in Australia. The commission also did the foundation work for the South Australian Multicultural Charter, which later was adopted by the current government. Ahmed was certainly an integral part of the significant reforms and development.

Under Ahmed's visionary leadership, the Islamic Society has flourished and focused on community development through the establishment of a number of programs and activities for Muslim women, youth, elderly and vulnerable community members. He has driven many initiatives to engage and empower members of South Australia's diverse Muslim community, to build on the legacy of community service that has always been at the heart of the Islamic Society's mission.

I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge and commend the pioneering founding members who first came together in 1952 to serve the spiritual and social needs of Adelaide's Muslim community. At that time, the White Australia policy was still deeply entrenched in our nation's politics,

and forming a group to support Muslim Australians was a courageous step that marked a new chapter in our state's multicultural history.

In 1955, the Islamic Society was officially incorporated, marking the country's first registered, first recognised Islamic association. Thanks to the leadership and service of the past presidents, board members, imams, staff and countless volunteers and community supporters over the past seven decades, the Islamic Society has continued to grow and thrive. In 1975, the Whyalla Mosque was opened and in 1978 the society acquired a property on Marion Rd at Park Holme, which now houses the iconic Marion Mosque, Al Salam Community Centre, and the head office of the Islamic Society.

Today, the Islamic Society manages six mosques across Adelaide and regional South Australia, reaching as far as Mount Gambier and Murray Bridge. There are also a number of exciting projects on the horizon, with plans to renovate and expand the Elizabeth Mosque, the muchanticipated expansion of the Al Salam Community Centre at Marion, and planning approval secured for a new mosque in Smithfield.

As part of their spiritual and religious service, the Islamic Society established a Muslim burial section at Smithfield Memorial Park in 2023, securing 1,000 burial sites in that agreement with Adelaide Cemeteries. The new mosque will be co-located to ensure the growing Muslim community can continue to follow Islamic burial traditions and that grieving families can be supported in a culturally sensitive way.

These places of worship are more than spiritual sanctuaries, they are also vibrant community hubs that foster connection, education and belonging. Through its educational programs, youth leadership initiatives and community services, the Islamic Society has empowered young Muslims to become confident, engaged citizens and future leaders of our state.

The Al Farooq Arabic School was first established in 1996 to provide cultural and language education for the community and was renamed the Al Salam Academy of Adelaide in 2017. The school now has five campuses across Adelaide and an online education platform. Talking about online education, I remember during the time of the pandemic the Islamic Society actually created an innovative way for the imam to deliver services via Al Salam TV. I also connected them to SA Health to provide health advice in terms of protocol for the Muslim community in South Australia. Outreach programs for the community is certainly something that the Islamic Society has always believed in.

The society has partnered with organisations such as Power Community Limited to engage young Muslim South Australians in the Power Intercultural Program, worked with South Australian universities to provide opportunities for students to complete workplace experience, and established an intensive youth program to help develop resilience and capacity through mentoring and leadership programs.

The society's commitment to interfaith dialogue and mutual respect has helped build bridges across communities and foster understanding in an increasingly diverse society. Its outreach and charitable initiatives reflect the values of generosity and compassion that lie at the heart of Islamic teachings and resonate deeply with the Australian community spirit.

In 2012, the Islamic Society established South Australia's first mosque open day, welcoming thousands of community members over the years since to learn about the Islamic faith and to foster intercultural understanding and respect. The annual Al Salam Festival, also known as the Ramadan Carnival, was first established in 2019 under the Marshall Liberal government at the time, and I certainly worked really closely with the young leaders to shape the initiative. It has become an annual event that brings joy to the whole community, coming together after sundown to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan, break their fast together with delicious food, and enjoy a night of festivities and entertainment.

It has been a privilege to get to know the community so well over the years through my ongoing engagement in multicultural affairs. It was a true honour to attend the society's 70th anniversary celebration on 27 September 2025, joined by many community leaders, dignitaries and parliamentary colleagues.

When I looked through the photograph display on the night, I saw pictures of me at the opening of the Al Salam Community Centre. I saw photos of former Premier Marshall and I at the Wandana opening day and also at the Ramadan festival. Overall, the night was a wonderful celebration, reflecting on the achievements and contributions the Islamic Society has made to enrich our proud multicultural community through seven decades of tireless effort and selfless service.

A highlight of the evening was a brilliant documentary that captured the long history of the Muslim community in South Australia, from the early contributions of the Afghan cameleers who made the exploration and settlement of the outback possible, to the inspiring vision and aspirations for the future of the growing community. I encourage all honourable members to watch the documentary, as it honours the enduring faith, resilience and unity that continue to shape the Muslim community in South Australia.

As we celebrate this milestone 70th anniversary and reflect on the history and legacy of the Islamic Society of South Australia, we are reminded of what strong leadership, vision, determination and community spirit can achieve. Community service has been a recurring theme in this speech, and rightly so. It is a value that truly does lie at the heart of the Muslim community and the Islamic Society.

I wish to once again thank Mr Ahmed Zreika and his incredible team, the imam's volunteers and supporters, for their commitment to serving the South Australian Muslim community, and I commend all those who have played an invaluable role in building and maintaining the legacy of this remarkable organisation. Congratulations once again on the 70th anniversary. I wish the Islamic Society the very best in years to come, with more success, peace and prosperity, serving the community. With those remarks, I wholeheartedly commend the motion to the chamber.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. I.K. Hunter.

Bills

PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 30 November 2023.)

The Hon. C. BONAROS (17:04): I rise to speak in support of this bill introduced into this place by the Hon. Rob Simms. Last week on Wednesday evening, I was contacted about the reporting and arrest of two protesters charged with obstructing a public place a few days earlier at a pro-Palestine protest. The two protesters were amongst about 200 protesters who had gathered peacefully for their protest, which we know takes place on a regular occurrence, usually through the mall.

One of them, Ahmed Azhar, was also the SAPOL liaison officer, and the other an organiser. Both voluntarily provided their details to police, as they always do. Mr Azhar was in Rundle Mall. He engaged with police on the day. He introduced himself to the police at the beginning and he did what he needed to do to facilitate a safe protest.

What Mr Azhar and his friend did not expect on that Wednesday evening was a knock on the door by SAPOL. In Mr Azhar's case, when he was arrested by police, reported, he refused to sign the bail conditions which significantly restricted his freedom of movement, and was taken into custody as a result.

He was kept in a cell at Elizabeth Police Station before appearing at court the following morning. He chose to deal with the matter, and had representation to deal with the matter then and there, by entering a guilty plea. The penalty was one imposed by way of time already served, having served 17 hours in custody, for not signing a bail agreement.

I think it is fair to say that, when the events that were laid out before the court were laid out, there were lots of people asking why on earth we were using valuable court time for such a trivial matter. Mr Azhar had not hurt anybody. He did not cause mayhem on our streets. He liaised with police. He tried his best to engage to ensure that police knew what was happening on the day. It is

hard, frankly, to see how he and other protesters that day could have engaged in conduct that was subsequently reported as obstructing a public place.

Of course, obstructing a public place are those provisions that were the subject of the protest laws debated in this place when this Labor government chose to take democracy in South Australia I do not know how far back in time. One of the main reasons Mr Azhar refused to sign his bail agreement and was subsequently taken into custody is the conditions that were being proposed in relation to his bail. They can only be described, in my perspective, as an overreach when it comes to bail because those conditions would have prevented him from attending parts of the city he frequents everyday, namely university. They would have prevented him from using public transport, as he does all the time, to get to university, and they would have seriously restricted his movements in the city.

Bail, as I said at the time, serves as a very important tool, and bail conditions are intended to strike a balance between protecting the community and upholding individual liberty. They are not intended, and never have been intended, to be a form of punishment. It is very, very difficult to understand what risk police thought Mr Azhar presented to the South Australian community after having taken part in a peaceful protest. This is a perfect example of why these laws need to be revisited.

The other young Jewish protester who chose to sign the bail conditions will not appear before court until November. That means that until November his movements will be similarly restricted until his matter is finalised. That means he also will not be able to access things like transport to get to and from work each day. His movements in the city will be severely restricted on a daily basis. It means his movements in and around the city will continue to be limited and restricted until his matter is finalised. It also meant that he could not actually attend the press conference that we held on the steps of Parliament House on the day after his arrest because he would have been in breach of bail conditions imposed upon him as a result of attending the protest in question.

How we can think it is okay to treat otherwise law abiding South Australians in this way is lost on me. We are not talking about thugs who are wreaking havoc down Rundle Mall, the individuals we hear about daily who commit terrible crimes down Rundle Mall and should feel the brunt of our law and have bail conditions imposed on them which prevent them from doing the same. As I said, bail is not intended as a punishment, and in this instance there are clear arguments in favour of the overreach by police when it comes to the bail conditions they sought to apply on these individuals in question.

I remind you again, Mr President, that we are talking about two protesters who volunteered their details on behalf of about 200 protesters who were protesting that day. You do not need to support Palestine. I do not care what your position on Palestine is in relation to the point that I am trying to make—I do care about it overall, of course. You do not need to be a supporter of Palestine to recognise that Labor's protest laws have undermined the core principle of democracy in South Australia and for the first time that these laws have been used we have seen just how far they undermine those principles. We have just seen the worst aspects of those laws come to bear.

Heaven forbid we have the sorts of protests in South Australia that we have seen taking place overseas in other places. Heaven forbid we see the sorts of protests taking place in South Australia that we are seeing in Europe over issues such as this. Overwhelmingly, we have had people who have protested safely, who have been respectful, who have not done anything to wreak havoc on our streets or cause commotion or block traffic. But here we are, sitting with our first cases of two people arrested for obstructing a public place in South Australia, namely blocking traffic, and these two people are the same two people who put their hand up to tell police that they were leading the protest in question only to be arrested as a result.

It puzzles me that we even have to be here talking about this issue, let alone using up the valuable time of our courts, which we did last week and we will do again in November, to deal with matters as trivial as this. My suggestion to the government is that we go back and consult with police about the sorts of bail conditions that are being imposed on individuals when it comes to these sorts of charges. This may have been an overreach because it was the first arrests that have taken place

under these new laws, but no doubt the precedent has been set and we can expect a further demise of democracy in South Australia and further arrests.

I think it is about time the government had a word to our law enforcement agencies about what bail conditions are meant to do and what purpose they are meant to serve. They are not, as I said, meant to serve as a punishment. They are not there to restrict a person's movements, insofar as they have in these cases, where they are not otherwise warranted. I could go on and on about this, but I think I have made my point.

I do support the very sensible proposals and suggestions that have been made by the Hon. Rob Simms. I think it is extremely important for us, in addition to taking back, probably, some feedback on the way that we go about using our bail provisions when it comes to these sorts of laws. I think it is also a timely reminder that these are not even the worst aspects of this piece of legislation. They do not—and I do not mean this disrespectfully to the mover; I mean this with the utmost respect—deal with the most offensive elements of the protest laws that were rushed through this place in 22 minutes because of a cosy deal between the government and the opposition at the time and which sought only to undermine democracy in this state.

These laws have to be revisited. We have to ensure that we are not criminalising otherwise law-abiding people participating in protests and exercising their freedom of speech and their freedom of movement—something we once took for granted in this state.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Deputy Premier, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney-General, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector, Special Minister of State) (17:16): I rise on behalf of the government to indicate that we will not be supporting this bill. The Public Assemblies Act 1972, a Don Dunstan-era piece of legislation, provides a longstanding framework to facilitate peaceful and orderly protests and gatherings in public settings. That piece of legislation regime already includes provisions which provide for a person to not incur civil or criminal liability when acting in accordance with approved proposals for public assemblies. It is the government's view that the act has operated well, stood the test of time and, at this stage, does not need further amendment.

I will be interested, though, and the government will be very interested, to see if the Hon. Frank Pangallo chooses to make a contribution on this particular piece of legislation. Given the Hon. Frank Pangallo spoke for five hours and 21 minutes when we canvassed issues in relation to this sort of legislation, one would have thought the Hon. Frank Pangallo might have something, if not a lot, to say on this bill.

The government did not agree with the comments the Hon. Frank Pangallo made when we last visited this bill. He said things like 'history demonstrates you can never suppress the voice and the will of the people'. It will be interesting to see the Hon. Frank Pangallo's voice and will on behalf of the people. The Hon. Frank Pangallo, the last time this was up, said that he did not think the Liberal Party properly understood the bill. It will be interesting to see, when the Hon. Frank Pangallo gets up and speaks on this, if his position holds or if his internal moral compass might have changed a little bit in recent times. It will be very interesting to see if the self-declared watchdog has turned into a lapdog, or if the cat has got the tongue of the watchdog.

The government's position has been clear. The government's position has not changed. It will be interesting to see if that is case for everyone in this chamber.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (17:18): I rise, reasonably briefly, to support this bill. I opposed the government's draconian, rammed-through-the-parliament crackdown on public assembly when they pushed it through this parliament, and I continue to oppose it and will take every opportunity to support moves to wind it back. I note that this is timely because, just last week, two members of a peaceful protest—the type of protest that in fact happens on most Fridays, starting in Rundle Mall and proceeding to Pulteney Street—were some days later raided by SAPOL officers, detained and presented with really strict bail conditions.

The Hon. Connie Bonaros has outlined exactly what happened in those cases, in terms of one of those people accepting the bail conditions and continuing, into November at the very least, to be very much restrained in their ability to participate in their work life, in their social life and certainly

in their political life. They were not even able to attend a press conference to talk about the restrictions on their civil liberties because of those bail conditions. Another person who refused to comply with those bail conditions then spent 17 hours detained over the course of that weekend and now does not, once they finally have been able to access the courts, have those same conditions restricting their freedom of movement.

All of this is about sending a chilling message to restrict freedom of speech—freedom for people to protest, to proclaim what their views are, in public places. That is, in fact, what this very council, this very parliament, our very democratic institution, is based on. It is something that in this parliament we should be defending and welcoming, where it is done peacefully, not allowing our police force to arbitrarily pick two members of that protest off days later and detain them in the way that has now happened in this state.

I have not seen a statement from the government expressing concern with the policing of these new laws. Where is that, I ask the Malinauskas government and the Attorney-General? Where is that statement of concern that arbitrarily two people from that peaceful protest were days later picked out by the police in what will send a chilling message not just to South Australians who perhaps support Palestine but to any South Australian who wishes to take to the street.

Reclaim the Night is coming up on 31 October; it is always the last Friday of October, right around the world. What is to say police will not later on decide that some of those women demanding a safe, respectful community where they are free, whether it is day or night, to be in public or to be in their homes—what is to say that many of those women might not think twice about attending that Reclaim the Night rally just in case, should they be a marshal and the police have their details, they then get that knock on the door and they then spend an inordinate amount of time detained or are subject to strict bail conditions that stop them attending their place of work, that stop them studying, that stop them from being able to care properly for their children and go to a certain location, that stop them from using public transport?

If you are looking at a police regime that has used the current laws, which this government and the opposition willingly created and rammed through this place, if you see an incident like that used against two people, what is to say it will not be used against 20 people, against 200 people, against people simply peacefully protesting in this state? That is the very thing that this democratic institution relies on, the very thing we celebrate with the Muriel Matters grille in centre hall. The suffragists and Muriel Matters in particular had obstructed the democratic process by locking onto that grille.

We celebrate these things. We celebrate the diversity of opinions. We celebrate the right of people to peacefully protest. But in the state of South Australia in the last week we have detained two people quite arbitrarily who did nothing other than peacefully protest in a way that for week after week for the last two years they have done and in a way that dozens of other people at that protest did not get detained for. Where is the logic in that? Where is the protection of democracy in that? Where is the Malinauskas government in calling out that behaviour and saying, 'That is not an acceptable application of these laws'?

I am glad the Attorney-General spoke in this debate. I am sure he did so to have a go and a crack at the Hon. Frank Pangallo, but it is refreshing to see a government minister coming to talk in a portfolio area in private members' business for a change. You, of course, are protected by parliamentary privilege in speaking in this place. You, of course, are protected by your position, but a person going out on the steps of Parliament House to a press conference to talk about the fact that they are subject to strict bail conditions that stop them from attending anything on the steps of Parliament House, or attending their place of work, or being able to go about their daily business, they are not that privileged and they deserve our protections as well.

That is why I had hoped that in this debate you would acknowledge that this is not how you wanted these laws to work. Certainly, they seem to be working in exactly the way that the opposition and the government intended them to do, and that is to send a chilling message to any South Australian not to raise their voice, not to be out on the streets and not to make a fuss. Should you fall foul of the police mood that day you might just end up detained or on bail conditions and

having to wait for the courts to fix this parliament's mistakes. That is not good enough; it is simply not good enough.

With that, I hope this is not the last time we see this debate, and I hope eventually the opposition and the government will understand that they overreached that day—and it was a day; it literally was a day that we saw it pass through the parliament—it went too far and it has sent a signal to the police that they can go too far when it comes to our democratic institutions.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (17:25): I rise on behalf of the opposition to indicate that we—I think it will come as no surprise—will not be supporting this bill.

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: Yes, I am sure they are shocked, sir. This bill is not without merit. We had a very close look at it because it goes to some of the fundamental principles that we enjoy in our society. I can assure members and those watching on and reading *Hansard* that this is something we have taken very seriously and considered very closely.

The bill seeks to introduce a positive obligation for the state to facilitate assemblies. It provides, for the avoidance of doubt, that organisers of an approved assembly do not incur any civil or criminal liability, even if other persons participating in the assembly fail to act in conformity with the approved proposal—so it would rule that out. Further, it shortens the notice period of an assembly from four days prior to the proposed assembly to 48 hours, with the time for objections reduced from two days to just 24 hours.

These measures would ensure that it is easier for citizens and groups to organise what might be considered spontaneous protests or protests with limited notice, especially in response to what might be considered urgent events. All of these things I think have some level of merit, and the opposition's view was that they are noteworthy and worthy of consideration.

However, the reality is that they could also create potential problems or operational challenges in particular for the police. They could create issues for councils in terms of managing safety, managing traffic and logistical issues because of the reduction in time available for the notice to be given and, therefore, they may actually increase the frequency of short notice events such as this—I might call them pop-up or short notice type demonstrations—and police and councils would therefore need to adapt procedures to comply with the facilitation duty and shorter timelines required under this bill.

We anticipate that one of the results of that is that it would create additional pressure. There may be additional administrative burdens in terms of coordinating public safety and the like, and that is a not insignificant issue that I think also deserves very significant consideration and thorough scrutiny.

The other aspect that we considered in coming to our position on this, which I think is very significant, is that this bill passed this parliament only very recently—in fact, it was May 2023, I think I am right in saying that—with bipartisan support, both the government and the opposition supporting the legislation. It was in response to a series of events but one particular event that really stood out and I remember it quite well. It was a protest by the Extinction Rebellion group which caused significant traffic chaos on North Terrace. That really was perhaps the key impetus—not the entire impetus but one of the key impetuses for this bill.

At that time I think there was a public outcry. I think quite rightly there was a public outcry at that sort of method, if you like, or approach to protests and, as a result of that, the parliament decided to act and act swiftly, and the opposition was in full support of the government's position on that day.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: That is true, but it was a government bill.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: Correct, all that is true. I am talking about the bill that actually went through. The actions of this group, as members would recall, caused significant disruption and therefore the parliament acted. Yes, as the Hon. Ms Bonaros rightly points out, the opposition was

quick off the mark, but what eventually passed was of course not of our own doing, although we were happy to support it, to be clear.

To be fundamentally clear as well, the opposition absolutely supports the right of peaceful protests, but it believes it should always be balanced with the responsibility for peaceful protest and the importance of protesting peacefully and with minimal disruption to the community as a whole. For that reason the opposition will be voting with the government and opposing this legislation.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (17:30): I thank honourable members for their contribution. I am disappointed to hear that the government and the opposition have not reflected over the last two years and recognised the error of their ways. This was an opportunity to try to make amends and put things right. Members may recall that I moved to repeal these laws not long after they were first put in place, with a private member's bill that was once again opposed by Labor and the Liberals. This bill does not junk the laws entirely. That is what I would like to do, but I recognised there was not support for that in this chamber.

This bill introduces a positive obligation to protect assemblies. It is a provision that already exists in a number of other jurisdictions—places like Finland and New Zealand—and it is also consistent with the United Nations declaration and 10 principles for the proper management of assemblies. The other thing that my private member's bill would do, under clause 4, is reduce the timeframe for giving notice of assembly from four days to 48 hours, because four days is really quite unrealistic, particularly when one considers the nature of protest and the kind of issues that people may want to raise.

The other issue the bill deals with, which was raised by a number of organisations in response to the Labor Party's original bill, was this issue of who precisely is responsible around a protest if it gets out of control, so there are some provisions in the bill that deal with that. The Hon. Connie Bonaros and the Hon. Tammy Franks have reflected on the circumstances that unfolded last week with respect to the pro-Palestinian protesters. That really demonstrated for me the importance of bringing this bill to a vote at this time. We saw these protesters being charged with obstructing the public space and facing really quite draconian bail conditions that placed huge restrictions on their civil liberties. This really underscores, as other members have observed, the dangerous and chilling effect that these anti-protest laws can have in our state.

This is not surprising to the Greens, not surprising to me. I am sure it is not surprising to the Hon. Connie Bonaros or the Hon. Tammy Franks. All of us raised these concerns back when the Labor Party, aided and abetted by the Liberals, sought to rush these draconian laws through this parliament in less than 24 hours. That was an appalling state of affairs. In fact, the bill passed the lower house so quickly that one would not even have been able to have completed a load of washing. What a sad indictment that is on democracy in our state.

These anti-protest laws stink. They are an outrage and they are an attack on our fundamental human rights here in this state. What this bill is seeking to do is to at least insert some protections around the right to protest in South Australia.

I am very disappointed that once again the two major parties are going to vote together. Like steel and a magnet, they come together on these issues when it comes to restricting the civil and political rights of South Australians. I think many people in our community will be angry and outraged at the decision that the Labor and Liberal parties are taking today.

It is a reminder of why we need such a strong presence in the upper house of crossbench members to hold the Labor and Liberal parties to account and to ensure that they do not exceed their authority in the future. I indicate to members that I will be bringing this bill to a vote so that the position of all members is put on the public record and all members of this place will be required to justify their position to their constituents.

The council divided on the second reading:

Ayes4
Noes13
Majority9

AYES

Bonaros, C. Franks, T.A. Game, S.L.

Simms, R.A. (teller)

NOES

Bourke, E.S. Girolamo, H.M. Hanson, J.E. Hood, B.R. Hood, D.G.E. Hunter, I.K. Lee, J.S. Lensink, J.M.A. Maher, K.J. (teller) Martin, R.B. Ngo, T.T. Scriven, C.M.

Wortley, R.P.

Second reading thus negatived.

Motions

GREYHOUND RACING

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. T.A. Franks:

That this council notes that—

- Greyhound racing is currently legal in only eight countries across the world, specifically being Australia, the USA, the UK, Ireland, New Zealand, China, Mexico and Vietnam;
- 2. While there are over 50 active tracks in Australia, there are only two operational tracks in the USA, six in New Zealand, 21 in the UK, 17 in Ireland, one in Mexico, and none in Vietnam;
- 3. New Zealand announced a bipartisan phased ban on greyhound racing in 2024 to take full effect in 2026;
- Scotland and Wales have recently announced they will soon ban greyhound racing;
- 5. Tasmania is set to end its funding to greyhound racing by 2029;
- 6. The ACT banned greyhound racing in 2018; and
- 7. South Australia is now in the second half of the two-year timeframe first given in late 2023 when the Malinauskas government gave the greyhound racing industry notice to clean up or be shut down; and that to date slow progress is being made to that goal.

(Continued from 17 September 2025.)

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (17:39): I rise to continue my remarks in regard to the greyhound racing industry, not just across the globe but here in South Australia. Indeed, South Australia is now in the second half of the two-year timeframe, first given in late 2023 when the Malinauskas government gave the greyhound racing industry of South Australia notice to clean up its act or be shut down. We are making very slow progress towards that goal.

I have noted further in this motion, and in my previous contribution, the fact that greyhound racing does not exist in many jurisdictions around the world. Indeed, Australia is the jurisdiction where greyhound racing is the most prevalent. There are only two tracks in the US and most recently New Zealand, through a bipartisan effort, is phasing out greyhound racing in that jurisdiction. The reality of that is we ask ourselves: where are those greyhounds who have been raced going to go? In the interim, New Zealand does have a plan, but I would urge South Australia to be alive to the fact that we may well see trainers attempt to race greyhounds currently raced in New Zealand here more and more.

The greyhound racing industry no doubt would tell you that they do a fantastic job in rehoming here in South Australia. I am sure that that is what they would tell you. I have to say that Google can sometimes be an interesting read. I look at the Angle Park Veterinary Clinic Google reviews, which deal directly with some of those involved in the greyhound racing industry in this state, and I see lots of one-star reviews. One person writes a month ago or so, or perhaps a little longer:

I took my puppy for the second vaccination which was the worst experience she had. The doctor hasn't got enough experience and injected hardly pulling out the needle twice and the poor puppy screaming and has pain for

two weeks not letting us to patting her on her neck. I made an appointment for the third vaccine and asked them to not be with the same doctor and they ensured me it won't be him. When I got there after a long drive it was the same doctor and no body cares. Their management is so disappointing and their manner is unprofessional. It's very inconvenient.

That is obviously a member of the public seeking to have their puppy treated, but she is not alone. Another one-star review writes:

Took my dog for an appointment as it had some sort of skin lesion. Got told in 2 minutes that it was possibly cancer and needed to be removed for \$1000 plus. Got a second opinion, test were done for no more than \$150. Got told it was ring worm.

That is a man called Daniel. Tyla writes one star over a year ago:

Wouldn't recommend. My dog had stitches still in her from November that they apparently 'removed'. Vet didn't introduce his name. Staff throwing empty vials of medicine on desk. Vet did not speak to us or our newly adopted anxious dog. Rang and spoke about needing specific medication—only to drive 45 mins for them not to have it. Waste of time and have now booked a vet appt elsewhere.

And then two more. One-star review from Mikaela:

Do not go here. They have a habit of turning away animals in need over petty unrelated personal issues despite those issues having nothing to do with pet owners. They also love to delete honest reviews on Facebook to hide the fact.

Barbara agrees. One star:

The reason I gave one star was because there was no option for NO STARS. I took my greyhound down to the Angel Park Veterinary clinic for her vaccinations. I have owned dogs for 40+ years and have NEVER had such an appalling experience in that time. Her vaccination given to her in the waiting room. NOT once did the person who gave it to her, speak to her. Pat her. NO interaction what so ever. I cannot say what her occupation was as she didn't introduce herself to me, apart from asking me what I was there for the only other thing she said to both of us was you can go now! NO WAY WILL I EVER TAKE MY FUR BABY BACK THERE, and neither should you.

I seek leave to table a list of reported GAP concerns and incidents at the Angle Park Veterinary Clinic.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: This document has been released to me with a series of concerns about the Angle Park Veterinary Clinic, which is of course the one that the Greyhound Adoption Program favours. The Google reviews I have watched for many years, and they are somewhat publicly available. Of course, the deleted ones are no longer available, but the reported GAP concerns and incidents that have been provided to me are incredibly concerning, outlining ill-treatment of animals, bullying of staff, changing of records and hiding of what is possibly unlawful and certainly unethical practice.

This industry shows time and time again that it cannot be cleaned up. I hope this parliament and this government really meant it seriously when they said that this industry had to clean up its act, that it has to do so. I urge all members of this chamber to read those documents and see what is really going on in the greyhound racing industry in this state. With that, I seek leave to conclude my comments.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (17:46): I move:

That this council—

- Recognises that:
 - (a) 2025 marks the 60th anniversary of the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;
 - (b) the seven fundamental principles—humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality—sum up the ethics of the worldwide movement, the tools and methods it uses to achieve its goal of alleviating suffering wherever it may be found, and the organisational principles that support its operations and impact.

- Acknowledges the significant impact these seven fundamental principles have had in alleviating suffering particularly in times of conflict, crisis and other emergencies—both here in Australia and around the world.
- Commends Australian Red Cross and all members of the International Red Cross Red Crescent for its principled humanitarian action, impartial and independent, taking only action and never sides.

The motion I am moving today recognises the work of the Red Cross, the seven fundamental principles of the International Red Cross movement. The movement is an ethical and operational framework that binds on all of its members, helping to ensure that it is a trusted brand the world over.

These principles are not just a theory; they guide and guardrail the movement's work each and every day. They exist to enable and protect the work and its people for today and tomorrow, often in places others literally cannot go to. Around the world, states have mandated the movement to apply its fundamental principles and they have committed to respecting the movement, abiding everywhere and at all times by those tried and true principles.

The date of 7 October marks the day 60 years ago when the movement's seven fundamental principles were adopted in Vienna at the 1965 Red Cross Crescent International Conference. The four-yearly international conferences are attended by states party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. Every country in the world participates and all members of the global humanitarian movement. I seek leave to conclude my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

BASHEER AM. MR M.R.

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. F. Pangallo:

That this council-

- Mourns the passing of distinguished South Australian National Football League (SANFL) administrator and stalwart, Max Basheer AM;
- Acknowledges his immense contribution and enduring leadership across nearly 50 years of service to the SANFL, including 25 years as League President and as Chair of the South Australian Football Commission;
- 3. Recognises his pivotal role in the establishment of Football Park and in securing the entry of the Adelaide Football Club and Port Adelaide Football Club into the Australian Football League (AFL);
- 4. Acknowledges his long and outstanding career in the legal profession, including his service as honorary solicitor to the South Australian Amateur Football League; and
- 5. Extends its sincere condolences to Mr Basheer's daughters, Jayne and Ann, and to the Basheer family on their loss.

(Continued from 17 September 2025.)

The Hon. J.S. LEE (17:49): I rise to honour the life and legacy of Max Basheer AM, a man whose contribution to South Australian football, the law and community life has left a lasting mark on our state. I had the pleasure of meeting Max on a number of occasions and always found him to be very pleasant, such a true gentleman with a great intellect.

Over the course of his nearly 50-year involvement with the South Australian National Football League, including 25 years as league president, Max transformed South Australian football with integrity, foresight and unwavering commitment. Born in Kalangadoo to Lebanese Jewish parents, Max's early life in a country pub instilled in him the values of community resilience and service.

Talking about Kalangadoo, I was travelling to the South-East two years ago and I happened to have a conversation with David Basheer, who is Max's nephew, about a tourism matter. David encouraged me to visit Kalangadoo. He actually did not just encourage me, he said, 'You must drop into Kalangadoo pub, otherwise I will never speak to you again.' It was to show their pride of the birth place as well as a place of pride for the Basheer family.

Kalangadoo, a small town roughly halfway between Mount Gambier and the Coonawarra, was the home and backyard of the Basheer family. It is incredible how a migrant family in a small

town turned out to be one of the most successful families who contributed significantly to South Australia.

Those foundation years in Kalangadoo and family values would guide Max throughout his life as a lawyer and football administrator and also a proud South Australian deeply devoted to public life. Admitted to the bar in 1951, Max practised law for 68 years, making him the longest serving lawyer in South Australian history. He was a founding partner of Duncan Basheer Hannan, where he remained a valued member of the firm until his retirement in 2019 at the age of 92 years old.

His wisdom, integrity and generosity shaped generations of lawyers and left a lasting legacy within the legal profession. Beyond his professional achievements, Max was a devoted father and grandfather. He was incredibly proud of his two daughters and his two granddaughters. His eldest daughter, Ann, rose to a senior role at Ansett before retiring to raise her family, while Jayne followed in her father's footstep into the law, becoming a Deputy State Coroner and later a District Court judge. His granddaughters brought him equal pride: one is now a young doctor and the other is pursuing university studies, having already gained management experience in retail.

Though Max was known as a strong and tough figure in football and law, he was a real softy with his girls. His devotion to family was matched only by his commitment to the institutions he helped build. He began his journey in football administration as honorary solicitor to the South Australian Amateur Football League in 1954 and from there rose to become one of the most respected figures in Australian sport.

Among his many achievements, Max played a pivotal role in the establishment of Football Park at West Lakes, a landmark that became the heart of South Australian football for decades. He was also instrumental in securing the entry of both the Adelaide Football Club and Port Adelaide Football Club into the Australian Football League, ensuring South Australia's rightful place on the national stage.

In addition to his leadership off the field, Max was a hugely talented footballer. He had hoped to play for Sturt but was zoned to North Adelaide, which, in true footy fashion, refused to clear him. So Max did what any determined young man would do: he played in the amateur league instead and still earned All Australian honours. In a moment of poetic justice and good humour, North finally granted him clearance at a function celebrating his 70th birthday. All this information was supplied by David Basheer, so I thank him for that. Although it took them half a century, they got there in the end.

Max's leadership extended beyond the boardroom. He was a mentor, a builder of institutions and a guardian of South Australian identity. His name lives on in the Max Basheer Stand at Adelaide Oval, a fitting tribute to a man who gave so much to the game and so much to sport. His legacy lives on not only in the stadiums and clubs that he helped shape but in the lives of the players, administrators and communities he inspired.

As there is continued investment in community sport and youth development in 2025, Max's legacy continues to guide our investment in inclusive, community-driven sports, reminding us that leadership is measured not just in titles but in the lives uplifted. On behalf of my family, I extend our sincere condolences to Mr Basheer's daughters, Jayne and Ann, and to the entire Basheer family. May they find comfort in the knowledge that Max's legacy will continue to echo through our communities, our institutions and our hearts. I commend the motion.

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (17:55): I rise today to support this motion and to pay tribute to the extraordinary life of Max Basheer AM. His contribution to football and the law in South Australia will be remembered for generations. Max was a study in determination and dedication to a cause. Born in 1927 to Lebanese immigrant parents, he was educated at Prince Albert College and later the University of Adelaide. Max graduated in law in 1951. He went on to practise law for more than 60 years and was Australia's longest serving solicitor. However, it was his commitment to football administration that made Max Basheer become a household name.

Beginning in 1954, he served as a tribunal commissioner before rising to president of the SANFL, a position he held for 25 years. Max's leadership during this time was one of vision and resilience. He was central to the creation of establishing Football Park at West Lakes, a home ground that served South Australians for more than four decades. He was instrumental in the push for night

football, a battle that went all the way to the Supreme Court before finally being won, and he stood firm when the very future of the SANFL was under threat.

Max ensured South Australia not only retained a strong league but also entered the national AFL stage on reasonable terms. He was instrumental in the way the Adelaide Crows and then Port Adelaide became AFL teams. His service was recognised when he was appointed a member of the Order of Australia in 1988 and inducted into both the SANFL and the AFL Halls of Fame.

The stand at Adelaide Oval that bears his name is a fitting memorial to a life of service. Max Basheer embodied what it means to give back to the community. He combined the rigour of the law with a passion for sport, always with the aim of strengthening South Australia. Max Basheer's recent passing gives us pause to celebrate a remarkable legacy. On behalf of the government, I extend condolences to his family, friends and the football community and I place on record our gratitude for his immense contribution to South Australia.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (17:57): As shadow minister for sport, I rise to speak in support of the Hon. Frank Pangallo's motion calling on the council to mourn the passing of distinguished South Australian National Football League Administrator, Max Basheer AM, and in doing so we acknowledge his immense contribution and enduring leadership across nearly 50 years of service to the SANFL, which included 25 years of league president and as chair of the South Australian Football Commission, and further to recognise Mr Basheer's pivotal role in establishing what was a great facility in Football Park and securing the entry of both the Adelaide Football Club and the Port Adelaide Football Club into the Australian Football League.

Max Basheer sadly passed away on 14 September this year at the age of 98. Max was born in 1927 to Lebanese immigrant parents and was raised in our state's South-East. He was educated at Prince Alfred College and studied law at the University of Adelaide, where he also played football at the amateur level. He was admitted to the bar in 1951, where he built a distinguished legal career spanning nearly seven decades, which is extraordinary, making him in many respects one of the longest serving lawyers in South Australian history. He also gave freely of his time in many capacities beyond his profession, with the Law Society of South Australia describing him as a towering figure in both law and sport, whose warmth, humility and unwavering belief in the value of people defined his approach and his endeavours.

Although Mr Basheer's success in the field of law was exceptional, it was arguably his achievements in the administration, governance and growth of football where his impact in our state is most enduring. Mr Basheer began his administrative involvement as honorary solicitor to the South Australian Amateur Football League in 1954. Over time, he rose through the ranks of the SANFL and the football community, taking on roles as tribunal commissioner, league commissioner and ultimately becoming president of the SANFL in 1978. He remained president until 2003, which makes him the longest serving president in the league's history.

Under his leadership, the SANFL navigated some of the most tumultuous and transformative periods in Australian football's history. He negotiated the establishment of Football Park at West Lakes, a bold move away from Adelaide Oval, amid protracted disputes with the cricketing authorities, which of course included many logistical challenges. He masterminded complex negotiations, at times in the face of significant opposition, to enable night matches and stadium lighting, even enduring royal commissions, judicial inquiries and very long legal processes along the way.

One of his most defining tests of course came when Port Adelaide sought to defect from the SANFL to the VFL in 1990. Under immense pressure, Max held firm to the principle that the interests of South Australian football as a whole had to be the priority. He forged a pathway to ensure that South Australia retained control over its future by securing the entry of the Adelaide Football Club under SANFL's terms, thus preserving local governance over the game. He also subsequently played a key role in facilitating Port Adelaide's entry under terms consistent with NFL's long-term interests.

Mr Basheer's contributions were widely recognised, with a life membership in both the SANFL and the AFL, induction into the SANFL Hall of Fame in 2003 and the AFL Hall of Fame in 2005, and membership of the Order of Australia for services to Australian football. Indeed, as most of us would know, a stand at the Adelaide Oval also bears Mr Basheer's name as a lasting tribute to

his impressive sporting legacy. I take this opportunity to express my most sincere condolences to Mr Basheer's family, his loved ones and his friends. I strongly support the motion.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (18:01): I rise today to pay tribute to one of South Australia's greats, a man whose life left an indelible mark on our state, on our sporting culture and on generations of South Australians who found community and connection through football. Max Basheer AM was quite simply one of the most influential figures in the history of South Australian football. With nearly 50 years of service to the South Australian National Football League, including 25 years as league president and as chair of the South Australian Football Commission, Max guided our game through a period of enormous change with vision, steadiness and heart.

Born in Kalangadoo in the South-East, Max's journey, from being a country town boy and Adelaide University footballer to being one of the most respected administrators in the nation, is a story of dedication, humility and love for the game. His leadership helped shape the modern landscape of football, not just in South Australia but nationally. Among his achievements perhaps none was more significant than his role in the development of Football Park. It was Max's strategic foresight and determination that helped give South Australian football a home of its own, a stadium built by the league for the people of this state. It became a place where generations of families gathered on winter weekends, where history was made and where memories were formed.

Max was also instrumental in ensuring that South Australia had its rightful place on the national stage. He played a pivotal role in securing the entry of the Adelaide Football Club into the AFL in 1991, and the entry of the Port Adelaide Football Club in 1997. He navigated complex negotiations with strength and diplomacy, always putting the interests of South Australian football first.

Beyond the grandstands and boardrooms, Max was a mentor and a unifier. He brought people together across clubs, across regions and across generations. He was known for his integrity, calm judgement and generosity of spirit. Those who worked alongside him often spoke of his ability to listen, to mediate and to build consensus—qualities that are as rare as they are valuable.

Max's contribution was widely recognised. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1988 for his services to Australian football. He was inducted into both the South Australian and the Australian football halls of fame and received life memberships from the SANFL, the AFL, the Adelaide Football Club and the Sturt Football Club. The Max Basheer Stand at Adelaide Oval now stands as a fitting and permanent tribute to his lifetime of service.

Outside football, Max had a distinguished career in the law. He began as an honorary solicitor to the South Australian Amateur Football League in 1954, and he went on to build a respected practice, bringing professionalism and rigour to the administration of the sport he loved. Perhaps most of all, Max will be remembered as a gentleman: loyal, kind and deeply committed to his community. He gave so much of himself to others, and his influence extended far beyond the oval.

Max is survived by his daughters, Jayne and Ann, and by a wider circle of family and friends who loved him dearly. To them and to the broader football community we extend our deepest sympathy and gratitude for sharing him with us. South Australia has lost one of its greatest champions, a man whose leadership, vision and passion built more than a football legacy; he helped build community. His contribution will endure in every child who pulls on a guernsey, every volunteer who turns up on a Saturday morning and every supporter whose stands proudly behind their team.

May he rest in peace, and may we honour his memory by continuing to serve South Australia with the same integrity and devotion that defined his life.

The PRESIDENT (18:04): I rise to associate myself with the excellent contributions of members in this place. Max Basheer was one of the most unassuming but incredibly capable men that I have had the privilege of meeting. My condolences are extended to his family, including to my good friend, his nephew, David Basheer. Vale Max Basheer.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (18:05): I wish to thank the honourable members who have contributed: the Hon. Jing Lee, the Hon. Dennis Hood, the Hon. Russell Wortley, the Hon. Nicola Centofanti and, of course, you, Mr President. Those contributions certainly summed up Max's incredible achievements and long and illustrious life. Clearly, he was held in high esteem in the

community and the legal profession but especially in the world of football. I understand there were hundreds at his memorial at the Adelaide Oval on 3 October, and there were many distinguished speakers there, including former judge Kevin Duggan KC, who delivered a warm and colourful tribute to his dear friend.

I am told by one of his closest friends that Max had written a tell-all book to only be released after his passing. I am sure the contents will be quite explosive if Max made those conditions about releasing the book. Again, condolences to his daughters, Jayne and Ann, his grandchildren and his relatives—his nephews and nieces and others in the wider Basheer family. I commend the motion to the chamber.

Motion carried.

Bills

PREVENTIVE HEALTH SA (COUNCIL GOVERNANCE) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 20 August 2025.)

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (18:08): I rise and indicate the government will be supporting this bill. This private member's bill proposes to amend the Preventive Health SA Act 2024 in relation to the Preventive Health SA Council. In February 2024, the Malinauskas government delivered on our election commitment to establish an independent preventive health agency, Preventive Health SA. Preventive Health SA leads evidence-informed, innovative and integrated action to prevent and reduce the burden of non-communicable health conditions and improve health equity across South Australia and our future generations.

In September last year, the Hon. Chris Picton, Minister for Health and Wellbeing, introduced legislation into this parliament to secure the long-term future of Preventive Health SA as an independent health agency. The legislation was passed by this parliament last year. It is the first of its kind in South Australia and has generated interest locally and nationally as a way of recognising and embedding preventive health policy and action as a crucial area of health policy with a permanent place in the health system in our state.

Part 3 of the act establishes the Preventive Health SA council. It is a statutory body to provide strategic advice and assist the chief executive in relation to the performance of the chief executive's functions under the legislation. The council will advise the chief executive on matters relating to the objects of the act and functions of the chief executive, as well as on existing and emerging data and research on population health and health equity, and opportunities for innovation and preventive health action.

Additionally, the council will advise the chief executive in relation to the development of the strategic plan under the act, and on the development and publication of reports designed to raise awareness and promote action in relation to preventive health priorities. When established, the council will consist of the chief executive and at least eight other members appointed by the minister on the recommendation of the chief executive, of whom at least two must be Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander persons. The level of skills and expertise of council members will add a degree of prestige to the prevention agenda in South Australia, ensuring a renewed interest and focus on this portfolio.

The bill before us proposes amendments to the membership of the council, with the addition of a member with knowledge, expertise or experience in clinical translation and implementation. Whilst under the act a member with knowledge, expertise or experience in clinical translation and implementation could be recommended and appointed to the council, the bill makes this explicit as an additional requirement.

The bill also proposes amendments that aim to strengthen provisions in relation to the declaration of interest for members on the council, both in the recommendation of members and also in the ongoing operation of the council. Whilst the Public Sector (Honesty and Accountability)

Act 1995 and other government policies and circulars governing government boards and committees cover these requirements for advisory bodies such as the council, with associated penalties and fines, the bill defines designated interest, direct interest and relevant industries relevant to the act, and is explicit in stating that a person who has a designated interest, as defined in the bill, cannot be appointed as a member of the council.

The bill is also explicit about declaration processes and timing. The provisions and intent of the bill will be further strengthened under regulations that will be developed under section 21(3) of the act, which specifies that the regulations may provide for a code of conduct to be observed by members of the council. It is anticipated that the code of conduct under regulations will:

- establish standards of conduct, behaviour and professionalism to be observed by council members; outline processes to ensure the integrity of and public confidence in the council is promoted and maintained;
- ensure that the performance of the functions of the council are not affected by pecuniary or personal interests or associations of members; and
- promote ethical conduct and prevent unethical conduct.

The council will also develop procedures to ensure compliance and audit against the requirements of the code via a charter. In line with the bill's intent to strengthen the governance of this very agency that is doing important work across priority areas of prevention, including obesity, tobacco, consumption of alcohol and drug use, mental health and suicide prevention, the government wholeheartedly supports the bill.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (18:12): I rise to speak on the Preventive Health SA (Council Governance) Amendment Bill 2025. This bill was introduced by the Hon. Sarah Game and makes some sensible and well-intentioned changes to strengthen the governance of Preventive Health SA. It makes two main amendments. The first requires members of the Preventive Health SA Council to declare any designated interest, which is defined to include personal, professional or financial interests that could conflict with their duties. The second adds 'clinical translation and implementation' as an area of expertise for council membership.

These are worthwhile reforms which build upon the bipartisan framework established under the Preventive Health SA Act 2024 to improve confidence in the integrity of its governance. Preventive Health SA was created to ensure that South Australia takes a coordinated approach to prevention, focusing on chronic disease, health literacy and wellbeing. It is important that the community has confidence that the advice guiding this body is independent and transparent.

This bill responds to concerns raised by members of the health community, including the esteemed Dr James Muecke AM, who has long advocated for strong preventive health policy and robust standards for managing conflicts of interest. I note that, given the potential of powerful commercial interest, this level of transparency is important. I do not believe these changes alter the purpose of the original act but reinforce it and are consistent with a range of other statutes that apply to similar bodies. With those words, I indicate opposition support for the bill.

The Hon. S.L. GAME (18:15): I thank the Hon. Ian Hunter and the Hon. Michelle Lensink for their contributions and their support of this bill, this commonsense bill that will keep conflict out of health policy.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

Bill taken through committee without amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. S.L. GAME (18:17): I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

NORTHERN PARKLANDS BILL

Final Stages

The House of Assembly agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council without any amendment.

TAFE SA BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

At 18:20 the council adjourned until Thursday 16 October 2025 at 11:00.