

4. notes that, notwithstanding this review of the GST, there remains great uncertainty for the Queensland budget as the ~~Turnbull government still holds the ability to impact on service delivery in Queensland through withholding non-GST funding.~~

~~MOTION~~

~~Suspension of Standing and Sessional Orders~~



~~Hon. SJ HINCHLIFFE (Sandgate—ALP) (12.36 pm), by leave, without notice: I move—~~

~~That, notwithstanding anything contained in standing and sessional orders, the Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment be permitted to move at 5.30 pm today the motion of which he gave notice of earlier today, with time limits for speeches and debate as follows—~~

- ~~• Five minutes for each member; and~~
- ~~• Total debate time before question put—30 minutes.~~

~~Question put—That the motion be agreed to.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

LAND, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction



Hon. AJ LYNHAM (Stafford—ALP) (Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines) (12.37 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Aboriginal Land Act 1991, the Cape York Peninsula Heritage Act 2007, the Explosives Act 1999, the Explosives Regulation 2017, the Foreign Ownership of Land Register Act 1988, the Land Act 1994, the Land Regulation 2009, the Land Title Act 1994, the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014, the Mineral Resources Act 1989, the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004, the State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2014, the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 and the legislation mentioned in schedule 1 for particular purposes. I table the bill and explanatory notes. I nominate the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Land, Explosives and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017.

Tabled paper: Land, Explosives and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017, explanatory notes.

The Land, Explosives and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 covers a wide range of amendments that will streamline and ensure the effectiveness of key regulatory frameworks within the Natural Resources and Mines portfolio. This government is committed to increasing the ability of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders to access and utilise their land, as well as enhancing opportunities to achieve home ownership. The purchase of social housing stock is the most feasible path to home ownership in Indigenous communities.

The bill proposes amendments to the Aboriginal Land Act 1991 and the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 to provide greater flexibility for the government and trustees when determining or agreeing to the sale prices for social housing. Further amendments to the Aboriginal Land Act 1991 and the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 expand the circumstances in which registered native title bodies corporate may hold land, subject to a number of safeguards. The bill proposes to enable a registered native title body corporate to hold land that is adjacent to or in the vicinity of their existing holding if there is the same or similar traditional owner groups.

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This may remove the need for establishing multiple landholding entities with the same or similar membership and administrative and governance arrangements. The bill will also make amendments to the Cape York Peninsula Heritage Act 2007 to support the protection and cooperative management of cultural and natural values of Cape York Peninsula. These amendments will ensure that the existing prohibition on resource extraction activities on two properties is retained following the transfer of the properties to Aboriginal freehold land. These prohibitions were put in place to protect the outstanding cultural, environmental and landscape values of the Shelburne Bay and Bromley properties on Cape York Peninsula, and the amendments ensure that the protection of these values continues now that the properties are transferred to Aboriginal freehold land.

The Land Act 1994 currently does not provide the tools required to allow the Department of Natural Resources and Mines to appropriately manage state land, particularly unallocated state land and reserves that have no trustees. Key issues include the lack of contemporary powers required to address issues such as the illegal dumping of rubbish, noise and erosion caused by motorbike riders

and four wheel drives and illegal camping. There is also an inability to deal rapidly with dangerous infrastructure of risk to public safety or to address the burden to the state and taxpayers of unsafe and inappropriate buildings and structures.

The authorised officer provisions in the Land Act are proposed to be amended to provide protection to government officers as well as modern safeguards to the community. The bill also proposes minor amendments to streamline processes for tourism lease renewals on regulated islands, providing greater security for leaseholders of tourism leases which support and strengthen the tourism industry.

Queensland is well on the way to a completely online electronic conveyancing system after computerising its property titles register in 1994. Since that time, people have shown that they are increasingly comfortable with not requiring a piece of paper to evidence ownership, with only some 12 per cent of properties in the state still having a paper title in existence. Following Queensland's approach, all other states have or are in the process of eliminating duplicate paper certificates of title. Amendments to the Land Title Act 1994 encourage and facilitate the take-up of online e-conveyancing by removing the legal effect of these duplicate paper certificates of title.

The bill proposes to amend the Foreign Ownership of Land Register Act 1988 to make definitions for 'foreign person' and 'foreign corporation' consistent with those used in the Duties Act 2001, reducing duplication and red tape. Other minor amendments will generally update the act, including contemporary penalty provisions.

The bill also amends the Explosives Act 1999. Queensland is the largest user of explosives in Australia, predominately in the mining industry, using approximately one third of the three million tonnes consumed annually. In Queensland, 'explosives' includes ammunition, blasting explosives, distress signals, flares, fireworks, propellants and pyrotechnics. Licence holders can purchase, possess, use, transport and store various amounts of explosives depending on their licence. Explosives safety and security are critical to the resources industry and for the protection of the Queensland community. This bill includes amendments to improve community safety by strengthening security provisions under the Explosives Act 1999. The amended act will prohibit a person who is the subject of a domestic violence order from holding an explosives licence, contributing to this government's strategy to end domestic and family violence in Queensland by its support of the *Not now, not ever* report. Further amendments will align Queensland with the national harmonisation process to achieve national consistency in explosives regulation.

The bill amends the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004. Workplace safety of the gas industry is regulated by this act. The bill aligns gas safety laws with mining safety legislation and general workplace laws, revises and modernises safety reporting requirements, clarifies definitions in the act to bring regulatory certainty to both the gas industry and the regulator and introduces a new framework for managing an operating plant that has been abandoned. A regulatory framework that is effective and up to date assists in meeting industry and community expectations for competent safety regulators. The explosives and gas safety amendments in this bill achieve another milestone by the government to ensure Queensland's resources safety legislation is contemporary and effective.

Amendments to the Mineral Resources Act 1989, the Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014 and the Petroleum and Gas (Production and Safety) Act 2004 are proposed to address minor issues in the overlapping tenure framework for coal and coal seam gas. These amendments are technical and non-controversial. The bill also makes a range of minor amendments to operational and technical provisions in each of the amended acts. These changes will ensure the state's statute book remains up to date, effective and reflects contemporary drafting practices. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

~~Hon. AJ LYNHAM (Stafford ALP) (Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines) (12.44 pm): I move~~

~~That the bill be now read a first time.~~

~~Question put—That the bill be now read a first time.~~

~~Motion agreed to.~~

~~Bill read a first time.~~

~~**Referral to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee**~~