

~~federal coalition government in 2020 to 2021. That is record funding under the Turnbull government. That means more doctors, more nurses and more surgeries for Queensland.~~


~~Meanwhile, in its last budget the Palaszczuk government cut funding to Queensland hospitals by \$63.8 million. We have the facts in front of us. We know that this government is not doing its job. It is blaming everybody else. As I mentioned before, it is, 'The dog ate my homework,' 'It's the flu season.' The flu season finished 12 months ago. Why are we still having backlogs in our hospitals? Those backlogs have nothing to do with the federal government and everything to do with the incompetence of this government and its mismanagement of our health system. We are seeing ambulance ramping to record levels. We are seeing dental health waitlists blowing out. It is all because of mismanagement under this government. The ministers should stop blaming the federal government and get on and do the job that the people in Queensland pay them for and stop blaming everybody else.~~

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

~~Motion agreed to.~~

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (12.18 pm): I present a bill for an act to amend the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2003 and the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Regulation 2015 for particular purposes. I table the bill and explanatory notes. I nominate the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee to consider the bill.

Tabled paper: Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Bill 2018.

Tabled paper: Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Bill 2018, explanatory notes.

I am pleased to introduce the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Bill 2018. While this is not a large bill, it makes an important and necessary amendment to ensure true marriage equality is realised for sex and gender diverse Queenslanders. The bill makes an amendment to the Births, Deaths and Marriages Act 2003 to remove a discriminatory and now outdated restriction that applies where a married person is seeking to have the reassignment of their sex noted on their birth or adoption registration.

Section 22 of Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act currently prevents a married person having the reassignment of their sex, following sexual reassignment surgery, noted on the birth register or adopted children register.

018 This restriction was a result of the definition of marriage prior to the introduction of marriage equality. The Commonwealth Marriage Amendment (Definition of Religious Freedoms) Act 2017 amended the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 to repeal the current exemption from Commonwealth anti-discrimination law for a refusal to alter a married person's sex on an official record. The amendment will come into force on 9 December 2018. Since the passage of the marriage equality legislation, stakeholders have rightfully called for the urgent removal of the discriminatory requirement to divorce and stakeholders have requested that this be done well prior to the date of 9 December 2018 set by the marriage equality legislation.

Now that we finally have marriage equality, the Palaszczuk Labor government has acted quickly to ensure that Queenslanders who have undergone sexual reassignment surgery no longer have to divorce their partner to have their sex legally recognised. The current restriction imposed by section 22 is discriminatory and has caused significant anguish for many sex and gender diverse Queenslanders. It is unjust and unfair that some members of our community are forced to face the distressing decision of choosing between their marriage and the legal recognition of their gender identity.

The bill includes a transitional provision to ensure applications to note a person's reassignment of a sex, made prior to the commencement of the amendments contained in this bill, are to be decided in accordance with the new requirements of this bill. The bill also amends the BDMR Regulation to remove the requirement that a person provide evidence that they are not married to note the reassignment of their sex on the births register or adopted children registry.

The Palaszczuk government is strongly committed to ensuring our laws support the rights of sex and gender diverse Queenslanders. The focus of the first public discussion paper for the recently commenced review of the BDMR Act is examining how Queensland life event registration services can improve legal recognition of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex Queenslanders and their

families. I encourage all Queenslanders to access the discussion paper on the Get Involved website and have their say.

Alongside this review, the government is also examining whether other changes are needed to Queensland legislation to ensure all married couples and their families, regardless of their sex, are treated on an equal and consistent basis to ensure consistency with the principles of equality. I commend the bill to the House.

First Reading

Hon. YM D'ATH (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) (12.22 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 Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Stewart): In accordance with standing order 131, the bill is now referred to the Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee.

~~POLICE AND OTHER LEGISLATION (IDENTITY AND BIOMETRIC CAPABILITY) AMENDMENT BILL~~

~~Second Reading~~

~~Resumed from 6 March (see p. 253), on motion of Mr Ryan~~

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

~~**Mr RUSSO** (Toohey—ALP) (12.22 pm), continuing: Prior to the adjournment last night I outlined what the bill would do in relation to a series of pieces of legislation and I do not intend to travel over old ground.~~

~~I take this opportunity on behalf of the committee to thank those individuals and organisations who made written submissions on the bill, those who briefed the committee and those who appeared at the committee's public hearings. I would particularly like to thank our committee secretariat, Hansard, the Queensland Police Service, the Department of Transport and Main Roads and the Liquor and Gaming Division of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General. The committee appreciates everyone's efforts and hard work in helping us to meet our shortened reporting deadline.~~

~~The committee's report made two recommendations. The first recommendation is that the Police and Other Legislation (Identity and Biometric Capability) Amendment Bill 2018 be passed. The second recommendation of the committee was that there be a review of the changes made by this legislation regarding biometrics and the use of identity matching services. The committee noted evidence from submitters and witnesses regarding the potential for function creep in respect of identity matching databases and concerns that there be appropriate review of database access and usage. Accordingly, the committee recommended that a review be conducted two years after the commencement of those provisions to evaluate the frequency, purpose and type of identity matching services used, the users, the error rates and any incidents of service expansion.~~

~~The bill also amends the Liquor Act to automatically authorise licensees in the Broadbeach and Surfers Paradise safe night precincts to sell liquor for consumption on premises for an extra hour each night of the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. The 2017 interim evaluation report on the operation of the tackling alcohol-fuelled violence policy concluded that the widespread and systematic use of temporary late night extended hours permits was potentially compromising the impact of the policy as it allowed licensees to effectively circumvent last drinks times and exposed the community to an increased risk of alcohol related harm. In response to these findings, the government reduced the frequency and extent to which the permits can be used to access late night liquor trading, reducing the number of permits from 12 to six in a calendar year and introducing new criteria that must be met before such a permit could be granted.~~