

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2016
SUPPLY BILL 2016

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (16:02): I rise to complete my speech in regards to the Supply Bill 2016. I want to talk about something that we have committed to in regards to the emergency services levy, which just seems to keep getting raised whenever there is a fire in this great state of ours. We have committed on this side of the house to give back to the public \$90 million of remissions annually over four years.

It is ridiculous that, apart from the fact that the government have taken these remissions away from people, they will use fires as an excuse to raise the emergency services levy, so a land tax; it is just a land tax. It is just not good enough for a state that is already struggling. We heard today in question time how we are an ageing population. I think that is because a lot of people are looking at getting out of the state because of the lack of opportunities. Power prices are cheaper in other states, there is less regulation, less red tape. Somehow we must bring hope back to this state so that we can have young people, young innovators, starting up businesses, working for businesses, and making this state great again.

Something else I want to speak on today is the obsession of this government to reduce speed limits in country areas, and this affects us regional members greatly. A lot of us on this side of the house do up to 60,000 kilometres a year and some do 100,000 kilometres a year, and every 10 kilometres that comes off the speed limit means we are out there for extra hours over the period of that year.

I believe fatigue is a great factor—it is not a great factor, not a good factor at all—but it is a huge factor in road accidents and deaths. You only have to have a look at what happens on the Dukes Highway at times when there are cases where, I believe, fatigue has been at fault. There are also suicides, I will admit that. Sadly, people decide to haunt a truck driver's life forever when they decide to drive under a truck.

We need to stop this obsession in the country to keep restricting speed limits from 110 km/h down to 100 km/h and just put some more money back into regional roads. We are driving very good vehicles these days. As I have said in this place before, we are not driving EHs any more. Some may.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Hammond is speaking.

Mr PEDERICK: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I appreciate—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Another one for you, member for Hammond.

Mr PEDERICK: I appreciate your protection. We have to manage these things better and, instead of restricting and just looking at one factor of what happens on the roads—and, yes, speed can be a factor in accidents, but there are certainly many cases of fatigue impacting on accidents as well.

Another issue that is happening in my patch is about Mobilong Prison. As we have seen through the Public Works Committee, that is expanding to 440. It was originally built for 160. I think this state needs to have a good look at how it is managing these correctional facilities. I am well aware that when the former chief executive, Peter Severin, left correctional services to go to New South Wales, he reminded me not long before he left that we still own the land at Mobilong, and I am well aware of that. I am mindful of what could happen there in the future.

As to metroticketing, I have been campaigning for metroticketing to come up to Murray Bridge the whole time I have been here. Now the government have included all of The Rural City of Murray Bridge council and the other end of my electorate out to Goolwa in its environment and food production area or, as it is described, the greater Adelaide area.

Let's have metroticketing out to these places. If they are good enough to be fenced off and told to be in the environment and food production area, they are good enough for some of these other benefits that should come to these areas so that they can get access through to the city cheaper. It will encourage more people to have the ability to live at home but still travel into the centre of the city whether it is for education, university or general day-to-day shopping or business needs. This would be something that would create much more equity in the seat of Hammond.

I have a few other subjects that I will bring up in the grievance debate in regard to the Supply Bill. I think this government needs to have a good look at itself and govern the whole state and not just the urban areas because too many times, as I have indicated earlier in my contribution, decisions are made blatantly on politics. We see money taken out of the regions, whether it is for the diversification fund or whether it is a blatant disregard for the mobile black spot areas for phone towers and other areas that this government continually disregards.