

MOTOR VEHICLES (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

21 November 2007

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 14 November 2007. Page 1614.)

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (16:35): I also support the bill. There is an amazing amount of common-sense in this bill, which we do not see in all bills presented to this place. I would like to congratulate the members of the task force, who worked through issues that would eliminate loopholes in the legislation, which have frustrated the police force.

I think people have used it as an excuse to say that they had not received the notice or that they had lost their licence just to suit their own ends. I think that the three-stage process will help to tighten up that procedure down the track.

With respect to demerit points, that only happens once the matter has been settled, but I think that bringing it back to the time when the offence is committed will be a lot simpler for everyone to work out when their points are to be renewed over time. It makes a lot of commonsense that, if someone is picked up for an offence, they can, under instruction from the police officer, work out how many points they will lose from that day forth, instead of having to wait to receive the notice or attend a court down the track.

I also applaud the idea of not having concurrent disqualification periods, and it will certainly make people take more notice of the Road Traffic Act generally.

In relation to the point about foreign licence holders, I think there is a great deal of common sense shown in the bill, with people given more time when they visit this country to obtain their South Australian licence after they get to Australia, instead of from the time they get their visa when they are overseas.

With those few words, I indicate that I support the bill and commend it with the amendments from the other place.