

MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond

**Shadow Minister for
Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Forests**

Friday March 11, 2011

Question remains over poultry PIC

Poultry farmers and bird keepers still do not know if and when they will be included in the mandatory Property Identification Code (PIC) program now in place for other livestock owners.

Shadow Agriculture Minister Adrian Pederick asked Agriculture Minister Michael O'Brien in Parliament if and when poultry keepers would be expected to register their properties and pay the associated fee.

On January 1, 2011, the state government introduced the PIC for all property owners with one or more sheep, cattle, pigs, goats, deer, horses, donkeys, mules, camels, alpacas and llamas.

The registration applies to all rural and urban areas and attracts a \$76 fee.

In Parliament Mr Pederick asked the minister why 'commercial' and 'recreational' poultry was included on the PIC application form yet poultry owners are being told by the department they need not register.

Mr Pederick pointed out that the government's brochure entitled 'Is your livestock property registered?' states 'Currently, there is no requirement to register properties with only poultry ...' and '... at this stage you will not incur the registration fee.'

'It is apparent from this that the poultry exemption will not be permanent,' he said.

'Minister O'Brien evaded my direct question on this. In fact he seemed unaware of the matter.

'I suggest that the government have realised how many people in SA keep poultry and other birds and are now deciding which they want more - revenue or votes.'