

PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE – 8 March 2011

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:05): My question is to the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. Can the minister advise the house why poultry is included on the Property Identification Code (PIC) registration application form, yet owners of properties with poultry and other bird species have been advised by Biosecurity SA staff that they are not required to register their properties?

The Hon. P.F. Conlon: And you're crying 'fowl' are you!

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr PEDERICK: Item 8 on page 2 of that application form states emphatically that all species must be completed for species to be kept. The species listed includes poultry, both commercial and recreational.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! We will have no more of the Minister for Transport's terrible jokes.

The Hon. M.F. O'BRIEN (Napier—Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Northern Suburbs) (15:06): I thank the member for Hammond for this particular question and I am looking forward to the Liberal Party making a decision as to whether they are actually going to support the Property Identification Code.

Mr Pengilly: We're consulting with people.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Finniss will be quiet.

The Hon. M.F. O'BRIEN: On the issue of consultation, I believe the member for Hammond is receiving a large number of emails from industry asking that the Liberal Party support the PIC. On the issue that the member for Hammond has raised, if that advice is being given by the department—and, as the member says, it is incorrect—I will ensure that it is rectified.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:07): I have a follow-up question to the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. When does the government expect to introduce Property Identification Code registration fees for poultry? Biosecurity SA brochures on the PIRSA website state that there is no requirement to have poultry property registered. The brochure states, 'At this stage you will not incur the registration fee.' However it is apparent that the intention is to introduce that fee for poultry.

The Hon. M.F. O'BRIEN (Napier—Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Northern Suburbs) (15:08): Again returning to this particular matter, the member for Hammond is probably aware of the fact that the Hon. Rob Brokenshire has flagged his intention to move a disallowance motion on the PIC fee. The opposition leader, on the Leon Byner show, followed up in support of the Hon. Rob Brokenshire, indicating that the Liberal Party would support—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Point of order.

Mr WILLIAMS: Madam Speaker, the minister is debating the answer to the question.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Sit down. I will consider very carefully your point of order. At this stage the minister is answering the question in the manner he sees fit, but I will listen very carefully to his answer.

The Hon. M.F. O'BRIEN: Madam Speaker, if the Liberal Party supports the disallowance, then the question—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Point of order.

Mr WILLIAMS: Point of order, Madam Speaker: the question is about PIC fees on poultry. It has nothing to do with whether we will support a disallowance or not, and that, quite frankly, is debate.

The SPEAKER: I want to hear the minister's answer on that, because I think he just clarified it then. Minister, would you like to finish your answer?

The Hon. M.F. O'BRIEN: I reiterate the point that if the Liberal Party supports the Hon. Rob Brokenshire, then there is no PIC fee and the question is purely hypothetical.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:10): My question is again to the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. Will the government introduce online registration for the property identification code fee and, if so, when and how will it affect the amount of the fee?

The Hon. M.F. O'BRIEN (Napier—Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Northern Suburbs) (15:10): I thank the member for Hammond. I had a discussion yesterday with my departmental officers on this particular issue to see whether we could actually reduce the quantum of the fee. It was a reasonably wide-ranging discussion and we are looking at online registration, but the advice that I was given, member for Hammond, was that the figure, which I believe is \$38 per annum, is probably as fine as we can shave it. But we are considering that option and I believe it will be adopted.