

PRIVACY LEGISLATION

**897. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:**

I refer to the government's stated commitment to introduce legislation to reform personal privacy protections and the accountability of information sharing within government?

- (1) When can the Parliament expect to see a bill introduced?
- (2) What guarantees can the Attorney General give to Western Australians that their private information is currently being handled responsibly?

**Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:**

On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General, I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following response has been provided by the Attorney General.

- (1) In December last year, the state government announced that drafting was underway on landmark legislation to reform personal privacy protections and the accountability of information sharing within government. The drafting of that legislation remains underway.
- (2) When agencies are operating under legislation that contains specific provisions about the use or disclosure of personal information, they must comply with those protections. More generally, the interim privacy position for the Western Australian public sector is that agencies should ensure that their actions are consistent with the Australian privacy principles set out in schedule 1 to the commonwealth Privacy Act 1988. Notably, this includes Australian privacy principle 6, which deals with the use and disclosure of personal information.