

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT — VOICE REFERENDUM

**403. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:**

I have a supplementary question. Is the Premier confirming that no stakeholder or group has raised concerns with him, his minister or government representatives about the impact of the rollout of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act and the success of or concerns held within the community about the Voice?

**Mr R.H. COOK replied:**

I can honestly say that the only people who have raised it with me are journalists and opposition members—I wonder what their motives are. We know that any changes to a law naturally raises questions and in some cases raises anxiety, but we are consulting and working collaboratively in partnership with industry groups and the community to answer everyone's questions—which we have done—on the impact of these laws that are the same as the laws that have been in place for 50 years but in a modern and more appropriate legal framework, and we will continue to go through it. We are not trying to raise the temperature on this. We are not trying to conflate it with other important national issues like the Voice. We are simply going about the task of implementing important laws that members opposite voted for. If the member is saying that these laws have raised questions that she does not understand, what was she doing voting for legislation that she does not understand? Why is this so difficult? Members opposite somehow voted for the legislation but have then come back to say, "It's very tricky. We don't really get it." Why is that? What other laws did members opposite vote for that they do not understand? The vast majority I suspect, given the nature of their questions. We will continue to make sure that we work collaboratively with industry and the community and answer all the questions on these laws that do the same thing that they have over 50 years but provide a modern, simpler and fairer framework that will allow everyone to go about their lives in like-for-like activities. There is no need for concern and anxiety. We will continue to take up opportunities to be educative in our approach and work collaboratively in partnership with the community. We will implement these laws and I think everyone will be pleased with the outcome because it is a modern framework and a more appropriate framework.