

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Seventieth Report — “Annual Report 2013” — Tabling

MR P. ABETZ (Southern River) [11.18 am]: I present for tabling the seventieth report of the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation, titled “Annual Report 2013”.

[See paper 1260.]

Mr P. ABETZ: This report outlines the committee’s activities in 2013 and comments on significant issues arising from the committee’s scrutiny of delegated legislation in 2013. The committee continues to scrutinise a large number of instruments of delegated legislation. Between 1 January 2013 and 29 November 2013, the committee was referred 476 instruments, including 320 regulations and 64 local laws. Some of the matters highlighted in the annual report are: the committee’s new terms of reference; the standard of explanatory memorandums submitted to the committee by agencies, which leaves something to be desired in many cases, although some do it well; issues relating to local laws, such as plastic bags, assistance animals and the procedure for making local laws under section 3.12 of the Local Government Act 1995; and the issue relating to the courts.

The Supreme Court amendment rules and court fees were the subject of significant reports tabled by the committee this year. The committee takes this opportunity to thank the ministers, the departments and the local governments that provided assistance to the committee. The committee appreciates the work performed by local governments, which, often with limited resources, undertake the difficult challenge of drafting local laws. The committee also appreciates the contributions made by the Department of Local Government and Communities and the Western Australian Local Government Association in association with local governments in drafting their local laws. I commend the report to the house.