

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Thirty-eighth Report — “Residential Tenancies Legislation Amendment (Family Violence) Bill 2018”— Tabling

HON DR SALLY TALBOT (South West) [10.10 am]: I am directed to present the thirty-eighth report of the Standing Committee on Legislation entitled “Residential Tenancies Legislation Amendment (Family Violence) Bill 2018”.

[See paper 2222.]

Hon Dr SALLY TALBOT: The report I have just tabled advises the house of the committee’s findings and recommendations regarding the Residential Tenancies Legislation Amendment (Family Violence) Bill 2018. The bill introduces a new statutory process for the termination of residential tenancy agreements on the grounds of family violence. This is a significant shift in contract law, which initially met with industry resistance. Those matters of concern have now been resolved.

The committee was permitted to inquire into and report on the policy of the bill. Overall, the committee is satisfied that the bill reflects the policy intent that persons experiencing family violence will be able to quickly and efficiently terminate their tenancies using a seven-day notice accompanied by a family violence report that must be completed by various professionals. The committee considered evidence from a range of stakeholders, with all submissions supporting the bill. The committee recommends that the bill be passed, subject to the recommendations it has made. I commend the report to the house.