

**SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019**

*Standing Orders Suspension — Motion*

**MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Leader of the House)** [12.46 pm]: I move —

That standing orders be suspended as is necessary to enable the Small Business Development Corporation Amendment Bill 2019 to proceed forthwith to the third reading following consideration in detail.

We are keen for this bill to be passed before we rise today.

Question put and passed with an absolute majority.

*Consideration in Detail*

Resumed from 13 August.

**New clause 4A: Section 11 amended —**

Debate was adjourned on the following new clause moved by Ms J.J. Shaw —

Page 3, after line 17, to insert:

**4A. Section 11 amended**

In section 11(2):

- (a) in paragraph (fc) delete “bodies —” and insert:  
bodies and government entities —
- (b) in paragraph (fe) after “Minister” insert:  
or any government entity

**Ms J.J. SHAW:** I seek leave to withdraw my new clause.

**New clause, by leave, withdrawn.**

**Clause 5: Section 14A amended —**

**Mrs A.K. HAYDEN:** I appreciate the assistance from the minister, his advisers and the member in withdrawing that amendment made in the wee hours the other day. Thank you very much for that.

Clause 5 states —

(1) In section 14A:

(a) delete “The Commissioner has” and insert:

(1) The Commissioner has

(b) delete paragraphs (b) and (c) and insert:

- (b) to receive complaints about any matter that affects the commercial activities of small business, and do either or both of the following in relation to a complaint —
  - (i) investigate a matter complained about and any person in relation to the matter (including, without limitation, a public sector body or local government);

I would like to know what the difference is between the existing and the proposed sections and why the amendment is necessary.

**Mr P. PAPALIA:** The intent is to provide power to the Small Business Commissioner to do what we want him to do. In the past, he has been constrained to small business matters. The clauses that will be deleted are very specific. He will have power to investigate practices affecting small businesses, provide assistance to attempt to resolve complaints, and receive and investigate complaints by small businesses about the actions of public sector bodies that affect the commercial activities of small businesses. This legislation will expand his role. As the member is aware, the current focus is responding to the challenge confronted by subcontractors, in particular in the construction industry, most importantly, in my view, those who are working on government contracts. Beyond that, we see many benefits in this legislation. The member will be aware that many bodies, such as the Motor Traders Association, have an incredible opportunity here to resolve some of the matters referred to in the committee report tabled in the house moments ago.

Debate adjourned, pursuant to standing orders.

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