

**STATUTES (REPEALS AND MINOR AMENDMENTS) BILL 2009**

*First Reading*

Bill read a first time, on motion by **Mr C.C. Porter (Attorney General)**.

*Second Reading*

**MR C.C. PORTER (Bateman — Attorney General)** [4.50 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

This bill is what is commonly known as an omnibus bill, introduced into Parliament as part of an ongoing program of legislative review. An omnibus bill is an avenue for making general housekeeping amendments to legislation. It is designed to make only relatively minor, non-controversial amendments to various acts and to repeal acts that are no longer required. Omnibus bills assist in expediting the government's legislative program and parliamentary business by reducing the number of separate amendment bills that deal with relatively minor amendments and repeals. They also help to weed out spent or redundant legislation from the statute book. The Department of the Premier and Cabinet provided oversight of the original bill. However, oversight has since been transferred to the Department of the Attorney General.

The bill deals with two main categories of amendments—acts repealed and acts amended. Part 2 of the bill provides for the repeal of unproclaimed or obsolete, redundant, spent and inoperative acts. Part 3 of the bill contains a range of miscellaneous, non-controversial and administrative amendments to a number of acts across various portfolio areas. These are minor or technical changes to legislation that the Parliamentary Counsel's Office considers are appropriate for inclusion in the bill. Examples of such amendments are corrections to typographical, grammatical, formatting and cross-referencing errors; amendments that are believed to better implement the object or intent of the legislation; amendments arising out of the enactment or repeal of other legislation; and amendments updating terminology. The various amendments are explained in detail in the explanatory memorandum. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned, on motion by **Ms R. Saffioti**.