

**STATUTES (REPEALS AND MINOR AMENDMENTS) BILL 2010**

*First Reading*

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

Explanatory memorandum presented by the Attorney General.

*Second Reading*

**MR C.C. PORTER (Bateman — Attorney General)** [1.16 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

This bill is what is commonly known as an omnibus bill to be 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 the acts that are no longer required. Omnibus bills expedite 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 Attorney General provided oversight of this bill.

The bill deals with two main categories of amendments: acts repealed and acts amended.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, obsolete, redundant, spent and consequential amendments necessary as a result of those repeals. 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 are considered appropriate for inclusion in the bill. Examples of such amendments are corrections to typographical, grammatical, formatting and cross-referencing errors; those that are believed to better implement the object or intent of the legislation; those arising out of the enactment or repeal of other legislation; and those updating terminology. The various amendments are explained in detail in the explanatory memorandum. The bill was referred to the Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and Statutes Review for consideration and report. Following the tabling of report 57 into the bill, a number of amendments were made to the bill with the agreement of the government.

I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned, on motion by **Mr D.A. Templeman**.