

APPROPRIATION (RECURRENT 2010–11 TO 2015–16) SUPPLEMENTARY BILL 2017
APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL 2010–11 TO 2015–16) SUPPLEMENTARY BILL 2017

Second Reading — Cognate Debate

Resumed from 8 November.

MR B. URBAN (Darling Range) [10.16 am]: I rise to conclude in 17 minutes my speech that I started yesterday. To reiterate, I was describing Darling Range because a lot of people have not been to that wonderful place just south of the metropolitan region.

Mr K.M. O'Donnell interjected.

Mr B. URBAN: Exactly. The member for Cottesloe knows exactly where it is and he loves it because he explained that to me on numerous occasions when I was a councillor. I will go into that later. He loves Araluen too.

The highest point of the Darling Range is Mount Cooke, which is an absolutely wonderful place. I take groups along the lovely trails through the Darling Range, which comes out of the Heritage Society near the old post office in Jarrahdale. One of the trail guides takes walkers through all the trails around Jarrahdale and the Darling Scarp. It is one of the many walks that we do around the area. It is a beautiful place. The trails are maintained by section 95 prisoners from Karnet Prison Farm. A great committee and a great team look after the trails around the area. I want to talk about a couple of other trails, which come out of the Heritage Society, which is Di Henniker's group, as well as all the ladies. My mother-in-law is a member of the executive. They do absolutely wonderful work. We maintain all the walking trails down there. A beautiful walk from Jarrahdale takes people all the way through Kitty's Gorge from Jarrahdale town site to Serpentine Falls. It is about 14 kilometres long. At this time of year, the water is flowing quite well. There is an absolutely unbelievably spectacular view of the rock formations that the gorge created over millions of years.

We go on the Blue Rock trail about late September. We call it the fungi walk because of the amount of fungus around that area. It is sort of a wetlands area. With the blue granite that sticks out of the ground, it is quite a spectacular photographic place. The walkers love that. It is not necessarily a great walk; it probably takes about 40 minutes. It is not that strenuous but it is a really long walk when we take photographers. I have taken many photographers down there from a photographic club, of which I am a member. All the other photographic clubs come down there and they take photographs of just about everything. It is an amazing site.

We also have the Italian prisoner of war camp, which was built in the Second World War for the Italians in Australia. They thought that they were going to be a risk to Australian sovereignty so they were put in a camp at the back of Jarrahdale just off Balmoral Road. The remnants of it are all there. A walk along the old railway track of about 17 kilometres goes all the way back to Jarrahdale. It is not that hard; it is relatively flat. Along the walk we can see all the loading bays where the escarpment has been cut into rock where the jarrah trees were rolled, initially to a box and burden and then the horses and subsequently they went to trains. It is an amazing place where the history can be seen. As an aside to that, about mid-December, all the horses and all the beasts were taken back into Jarrahdale for their Christmas break. Apparently, all these animals going into Jarrahdale was a spectacular sight—a sight for sore eyes.

I want to talk about the Tony Henniker long walk. Tony, who has passed away, was one of the great trail leaders for many years. He passed away doing what he loved best, which was volunteering for the community. On his way back from Pinjarra, where he was on the Hotham Valley committee, he pulled over, had a heart attack and, sadly, passed away. We created a walk around Jarrahdale, which Tony used to love. I was going to swear there, so I apologise. We used to take the micky out of him, because he loved this walk so much, every year—we were doing this for the community—that we would add a little more onto it and a little more. We called it the Tony Henniker long walk. Unfortunately, since his passing, we have not added any more to it, because I think 11 kilometres is quite enough for a long walk around the town site of Jarrahdale.

I want to talk now briefly about the Scrivener Road reserve, which is a gravel pit up in the hill in Serpentine. It is a pit that has been used for many years, but has been sort of abandoned. This gravel pit, which has been used by and is in the control of the shire, should be placed under the state's control for conservation so that it can do what it does already. The black cockatoo nests there, and it is very important for the birds' nesting. The trees are there but I cannot understand why on earth we would want to extract further gravel from the pit when the black cockatoos are there and it will cost millions of dollars to upgrade the road to get to it because the gradient is considerable. I will not say much more about that because it is being reviewed at the moment. The Scrivener Road gravel pit is an amazing place just down from the Buddhist monastery and temple. It is a lovely walk and a great conservation place for Western Australia.

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Thursday, 9 November 2017]

p5733c-5754a

Mr Barry Urban; Ms Lisa Baker; Dr Tony Buti; Ms Janine Freeman; Mr Reece Whitby; Mr Donald Punch;
Amber-Jade Sanderson

I want to talk now about members who have been down there. I will talk about the member for Mandurah when I talk about theatres; do not stress about that. I know he loves Roleystone Theatre. I have mentioned former Premier Hon Colin Barnett, who knows where Darling Range is. I have complimented him on many occasions for coming down there. Whether in cavalcade or whatever, he was always there to open community events, particularly for Araluen. That is no different from what the current Premier does. I was a bit worried during the election campaign because the current Premier spent more time in Darling Range than he spent, I think, anywhere else. I was a bit worried that he was after my seat, but I am glad he remained in Rockingham and is now the Premier. Hon Donna Faragher went out to Darling Range early this year to make a \$2 million commitment for a community centre in the Glades area of Byford. What frustrated me about that commitment was that there was no community consultation about that community centre. Two others nearby are under-utilised. It frustrated me when I saw the press release about the community centre that the Liberal Party was going to build just because it could. There was no community consultation, so it would be just another under-used building. We therefore started a campaign around that new hub that is in the Glades near The Strand Byford Lakeside coffee shop. We want to get a better outcome for that and get a few community groups into that space, which is quite a large area. We are looking at a church group that needs to relocate, and that would be a better outcome. We are doing the work up-front rather than saying we will do it and hoping someone will come in. We are going to try to do that in the latter part of this year and early into next year.

I applaud the member for Nedlands for many reasons. He knew where Darling Range was. He has been out there quite a few times. I met him when I was a councillor.

Dr A.D. Buti: The member for Nedlands has been to every electorate; I can assure you.

Mr B. URBAN: I am sure he has, member for Armadale. The amazing thing about the member for Nedlands is that he also always made time to speak to me as a councillor.

Dr A.D. Buti: He's a very nice man.

Mr B. URBAN: He is a very nice man. He is a very good and a very honourable man. It is on record now, member for Nedlands. The member for Nedlands, in company with the former member for Darling Range, Tony Simpson, made a \$20 000 commitment to build a bus shelter at the Roleystone Community College. We have delivered on that also because we saw that the commitment was needed. Mark Brookes from the Roleystone Community College spoke to me about it and said that it was much needed because the kids were getting smashed with rain. In the summer they had no shelter from the sun and it was right out in the middle of nowhere. We have honoured that commitment. That bus shelter has been built now, which the ex-member for Darling Range, Tony Simpson, started and we have honoured it. Tony Simpson has talked about the Abernethy Road upgrade, which was already happening. When I was a councillor, we lobbied for the Abernethy Road upgrade for a very long time. Eventually, we got some federal funding for it. It is about a \$12 million project and the power has been put underground and this month, about now, the earthworks for the road itself will start. It is a much-needed upgrade, particularly outside the high school, KFC and the petrol station. That intersection near Coles, which is a great development, will be an absolute nightmare given the number of kids crossing that road. It will sort out that mess, which has been created due to an expansion through Byford particularly.

I want to talk about the extension of the railway line from Armadale down to Byford. The member for Scarborough did not get it quite right when she referred to the last time I spoke about this. She said that I think all women should be held in the house and behind the sink. That is not what I said. I said this, minister, "When I was campaigning, I spoke to a number of women, particularly those trapped in Byford because there was no way for them to leave their home to get to the town centre, which was not very good at the time, and get out of Byford." I said that they were trapped in the Byford area because there is no public transport. I am saying that when we bring this rail line down to Byford and, hopefully, further south in the coming years, people will be able to travel out of Byford and get themselves into the city, to Fremantle or to Mandurah where the beaches are.

Mr D.A. Templeman: We welcome anyone in Mandurah.

Mr B. URBAN: He would welcome the money they will spend there.

Mr J.E. McGrath interjected.

Mr B. URBAN: Yes; we have to get South Perth in.

The amazing thing about the train line down into Byford, particularly, was that everyone talked about it—everyone. Just before the state election this year, on 9 March, former member Tony Simpson said that it was needed. I said in a press release, "Darling Range has been neglected for too long by the Barnett government." The former government ignored us for eight and a half years.

A government member: Longer.

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Mr B. URBAN: Longer—yes. We have been ignored. Federal member for Canning, Andrew Hastie, was interviewed by the *Armada Examiner*, the local newspaper, on 6 October 2016, which is about a year ago. He said that the train line extension is much needed. What frustrated me when I read this article was that everyone was talking about it, but nobody delivered on it. Everybody says, “Hey, we need this”, and I am saying that this government is delivering what we need.

[Member’s time extended.]

Mr B. URBAN: The article quotes Andrew Hastie as saying —

“(Last month) I had a conversation with the State Treasurer Mike Nahan, and I said to him, ‘you’ve got to look after the forgotten people of Byford and the way you can start doing that is to get a train station in Byford and to build it quickly ...

Again, that was forgotten about. This government is delivering on that. The fastest growing local government in Western Australia is the Shire of Serpentine–Jarrahdale at 6.8 per cent. About 500 houses a year are being built in that shire. Mundijong has already started and it will have about 50 000 people. We keep planning these things and we allow developers to build these developments and people to buy the blocks so that they have affordable housing, but we do not put anything there to make it affordable living. I have said many times in this place that all these people spend money outside our area, and we need to do something about that. We need jobs within the shire. One of the key transport issues in Byford is the preparation of the train station in Byford. The Minister for Transport is working on that.

I am going to talk about the member for Mandurah’s passion. It is a passion, member.

Mr D.A. Templeman: What’s that?

Mr B. URBAN: Roleystone Theatre—the theatre and the arts.

Mr D.A. Templeman: A fine institution.

Mr B. URBAN: It is a fine institution and it has done many wonderful things, and I continue to support it. I supported it before I came to this place and I will continue to support it after I leave this place.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Do you have a role in their pantomime this year?

Mr B. URBAN: I might be the back end of the donkey!

Mr D.A. Templeman: I might be the front end!

Mr B. URBAN: I have not quite worked it out yet but I am sure that Mark will tell me.

Mr D.A. Templeman: I hope I will not eat anything inappropriate. It could be a very unsavoury part to play.

Mr B. URBAN: I could be a pirate, could I not? Roleystone Theatre has done many good plays this year. It has done *Oklahoma*, which was great. Paul Presbury was a police officer with me in Armadale; I did not even know he was a thespian and he was on the boards, and I sat there and I thought, “That’s Paul Presbury” and he threw something at me, so it must have been him because that is what he used to do when he was a policeman. *Macbeth* was an absolutely wonderful play.

Mr D.A. Templeman: The Scottish play.

Mr B. URBAN: It is a Scottish play by Shakespeare.

Mr D.A. Templeman: No, it is “the” Scottish play.

Mr B. URBAN: It is “the” Scottish play, but it was written by Shakespeare, who was from Warwick in England.

Mrs J.M.C. Stojkovski: You’re going to play *Macbeth* behind the curtain.

Mr B. URBAN: I have not seen *Macbeth* behind the curtain; I am in full view.

Mrs J.M.C. Stojkovski: The Scottish play.

Mr B. URBAN: It is the Scottish play. Now Roleystone Theatre is doing a play called *Mort*, which is a bit macabre. I hope that the member for Mandurah will spend some time to see *Mort*. It is on at the moment and tickets are on sale. If he wants a ticket, I am quite happy to get it for him.

With my remaining 11 minutes, I will talk about one subject—mixed martial arts. I have mentioned in this place many times that I am a mixed martial arts lover. I am a contender. I have been a contender in judo since the age of five. I do Shotokan and now I have the old boys roll around on the mats.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Is this still part of the Roleystone Theatre?

Mr B. URBAN: No; we have moved on from that.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Sorry; you have moved on. I was wondering what production you were talking about.

Mr B. URBAN: If the Leader of the House wants to talk about rolling around on mats, I made a grievance statement last week and a 90-second statement about the Roleystone Gymnastics Club, which is still going strong. I will be there throwing bowls at the Roleystone Bowls Club this weekend as a fundraiser for the kids, because it is an absolutely awesome group and it does some wonderful things. I have mentioned that in this place and I am glad I got it in again. I thank the minister for raising that with me.

Two years ago in Melbourne, the first Ultimate Fighting Championship event came to the shores of Australia. It was an absolutely awesome event—56 124 people went to Melbourne to watch that one fight in the evening. Ronda Rousey was the headliner. That event raised \$102 million for Victoria. I am a very strong advocate for the sport of mixed martial arts. I take the member for South Perth, who is a fine gentleman who likes the horses—the sport of kings. I do not like it; I have no interest in watching a horse run around a track. It does not upset me, but it is not my sport. This is what has been forgotten about in this state. UFC is not the sport for absolutely everybody. I know the member for Cottesloe has raised in this place over many years that he does not like UFC. He does not like how aggressive it is.

I want to dispel a few myths about UFC in the short time available to me. I enjoy watching martial arts in various forms, whether it is a traditional karate kata competition or freestyle. I absolutely love watching judo in any form, which can only be the purest form anyway. I love to watch boxing. It is good to see two people who should be quite similar competing in the same style and being pitted against each other. It is not simply a case of beating each other or elbowing each other in the head. It is about pitting the wits of two equal people. What is quite interesting in the Octagon is that the competitors use different styles of martial arts. It pits a judo or jujitsu technician against a karate practitioner or a boxer or a wrestler. Competitors have to start mixing the different styles. Someone will be beaten if they fight someone in the same style or fight someone who does judo when they are not a judo practitioner, or they are a boxer; it is just a nightmare. Competitors have to pick out bits from the different styles of martial arts. We are in Dana White's great company in the UFC because mixed martial arts uses different styles of martial arts together.

I will talk about UFC 217 in a second, which is the event that will be held in Perth; I hope it will go further than that. UFC supported 894 jobs in that one day in Melbourne, which was about \$40.8 million in wages. The event generated \$170 million across the world in the media. That is not chicken feed. People here in Australia like watching that sport. Unfortunately, Ronda Rousey was beaten by Holly Holm. There were 29 million tweets about the fight in the minute after the defeat. It was a bit of a shock because Ronda Rousey is a great arm bar technician, but she could not take her to the ground. Holly had obviously done her homework.

Several members interjected.

Mr B. URBAN: Who was laughing at me? This is my martial arts side!

After this fight, Danny Green said that he wants to see the sport back in Melbourne. Danny is a very good Western Australian. He is an awesome boxer and advocate for raising awareness about one punch, or the coward's punch—whatever we want to call it. I know that Danny has tickets to the UFC event in Perth so I am hoping that we can catch up and talk about UFC coming back to Western Australia after UFC 217.

The Victorian Minister for Sport, Mr John Eren, lifted a ban on cage fighting in that state in March last year. I hate the term “cage fighting” because it is not a cage—it is an octagon. Anyone who knows about fighting or martial arts—it is not fighting, but more controlled fighting—would know that when someone hits or punches their opponent or uses a kick to the head, their opponent can move out of the way easily or take the kick or the punch and go with it. If the cage is not there, or the mesh is not around the Octagon, and rope is around it, trust me, they will fall through the rope. I am amazed at the number of injuries that were sustained in the old K1 kickboxing fights in a ring. Those injuries were a result not necessarily of the fight itself, but of people going through the ropes.

I want to more or less finish soon on UFC 217, which is to be held here in Perth in February next year. I am looking forward to that immensely. I am waiting online and I have early tickets already set up so that when they get released, I will get my tickets first.

Dr A.D. Buti: No need to worry about getting a ticket for me!

Mr B. URBAN: I know the member for Armadale's thoughts about Octagon fighting and fighting in general. I know his passion is running—long distance, mad running.

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Dr A.D. Buti: Not in a cage—I don't want to be in a cage.

Mr B. URBAN: The member can run around it as many times as he wants. I will say that this sport is not for everyone; but it is for many people. We have to accommodate everyone in our community. The good thing about UFC 217 is that Robert Whittaker—a lad from Sydney and the current Australian champion—has a chance of actually becoming UFC world champion. Under Premier McGowan, we have opened up UFC, or Octagon fighting, and that is why we have UFC here. It was all spinning on the fight in Madison Square Garden on Sunday morning—Saturday night in America—between Georges St-Pierre, GSP, and Michael Bisping. It was a strange fight between GSP, who has been out for a number of years but was making a comeback, and Michael Bisping, who has been the champion for a while. Georges is a pure martial artist and Michael is too, but Georges managed to beat him. It is interesting to see that Georges will be coming to Perth. That has not been announced yet, but I have a funny feeling that an announcement will be made soon that Georges will be coming to Perth. It will be absolutely unbelievable to see such an iconic fighter of his calibre in Perth.

Mr J.E. McGrath: You should bring him here for question time.

Mr B. URBAN: I will bring him here for lunch, but he will probably not eat the food.

Mr A. Krsticevic interjected.

Mr B. URBAN: He will need the energy. I have less than a minute left, and I want to the finish on the “Annual Report 2015/16: For the Safety and Organisation of Combat Sports”.

MS L.L. BAKER (Maylands — Deputy Speaker) [10.44 am]: I would like to speak about a number of topics today in the cognate second reading debate of the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017. I will start by reminding members that last week this house heard an amazing speech by the Premier that committed us to having a bill brought into the house by the Attorney General to remove historic homosexual convictions. I wanted to note that at the beginning of my speech. I was due to make this speech last week, but, as often happens in this place, things were moved and I was one of the things that had to move, so members are getting it this week.

On 18 May 2016, in my contribution to the Address-in-Reply, I put on the record that this was the first time this issue had been raised in the Western Australian Parliament. I spoke for my whole half-hour about the need to fix these grievous miscarriages of justice from an historical perspective. After my speech, which I suggest was very well received by the house, the Premier of the day, Colin Barnett, and the former Deputy Premier and now Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Liza Harvey, thanked me and said that they would fully support overturning the legislation. It was with great pleasure that the Liberal Party has held good to its commitment of 12 months ago, and it was with even more joy that I learnt the National Party also has agreed to support the Historical Homosexual Convictions Expungement Bill 2017 in this house. I thank the house. It is one of the few occasions in my 10 years in this place that something has been brought into the Parliament and within 12 months we are seeing a result. It is a rare occurrence in my view. I am very pleased that I can report to the community at large and to my friends in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex community that, through their lobbying and through any small thing that I have been able to do to help bring this issue forward to the Parliament, there is now a bill in the house that will fix this injustice.

I want to move on to another, I hope, good news story—it will be a good news story. It is a commitment we took to the election. I acknowledge my colleague the Minister for Local Government, sitting in the front row, who has supported us through the early stages of the implementation of the WA Labor McGowan government's stop puppy farming policy. I am very, very proud that probably six or seven years of lobbying has resulted in action now being taken. I want to talk in particular about the very first meeting of the implementation group for stopping puppy farming in this state. The minister and I will be doing something formally next week, but the first meeting of this group —

Mr J.E. McGrath: You've let the cat out of the bag!

Ms L.L. BAKER: No; it is fine.

The ACTING SPEAKER: It was a joke.

Ms L.L. BAKER: I get it—let the cat out of the bag! Thank you, member for South Perth. That is very humorous.

The very first meeting will take place next week, and I am very, very pleased to say that the terms of reference for the working group will help to implement this quite straightforward policy. In fact, there are four key elements to it, which I will mention quickly. The first element is to create a centralised database so that every puppy born in Western Australia has an identification and is able to be traced back to a breeder. That will do a significant amount to police and regulate more effectively this industry—and it is an industry. This centralised database will be modelled on something Queensland has—a couple of other states have similar models—and that will be one of

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the key strategies that our group will start work on. The other thing that is probably a little bit more controversial and will require a little more input from the stakeholders we will be talking to is the issue of mandatory sterilisation. I do not think anybody disagrees that it is a good thing to do that, but there would need to be exemptions.

Mr D.A. Templeman: The member for South Perth is a very strong supporter of mandatory sterilisation.

Ms L.L. BAKER: I just point out that am talking about dogs here.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Oh!

Ms L.L. BAKER: I am sorry, minister. I want to be specific. This is about the mandatory sterilisation of dogs. We want to make sure that the requirement for exemptions can be discussed and workshopped in our group and that we get feedback from stakeholders about that. There are practical reasons why we need to be concerned about getting this decision about sterilisation right. Various veterinary and research advice says that, on the one hand, large dogs should be sterilised later in life, around six months plus, and other schools of thought say that shelter veterinarians will be quite happy to sterilise puppies earlier than that. There are debates to be had. I am not a veterinarian, so I am relying on the expert input from many people who will be in our group from places such as DogsWest, Shenton Park Dogs' Refuge Home, Oscar's Law and many others.

Mr B. Urban: Is the West Coast Rottweiler Club in there?

Ms L.L. BAKER: The Rottweiler group? No. Perhaps the member for Darling Range would like to talk to me about that later.

The next policy commitment in our suite around puppy farming is to introduce standards and guidelines—basically, codes of practice for the breeding of dogs. At the moment, if somebody is looking for a dog online on Gumtree, or in the paper or wherever, they might see a code attached to the advert. It might read, "Rottweiler puppies for sale: property number 68425". A lot of people will mistakenly think that that is a bona fide breeder registration number or that it is, in any other shape, promising that that dog has been bred by the right people in the right place with the right parents. That is not the case. That is often just a kennel licence number issued by a local government authority that carries no weight whatsoever in assuring the new family of a puppy that those animals have been bred soundly from a good breed line and are healthy and well socialised. We need to address that. The Department of Agriculture and Food was looking at companion animals. The Stop Puppy Farming working group will also be taking a role in looking at this issue.

The very practical policy point that we will bring in is to stop the sale of dogs and puppies from pet shops, unless it is through an official and formal relationship that is built and forged with a registered or recognised adoption centre. We have to work out what that all means in plain English for a buyer. We need to work out exactly which ones will be adoption centres, what they will have to do to stay a recognised and accredited adoption centre or rescue group, and how often we need to keep checking that they are doing the right thing.

Point of Order

Dr A.D. BUTI: I am sitting next to the member for Maylands and I am battling to hear her. Maybe members could show some respect.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Ms J.M. Freeman): Thank you. Member for Maylands.

Mr J.E. McGrath interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Member for South Perth, I was trying to get you to shoosh.

Debate Resumed

Ms L.L. BAKER: The issue of changing or transitioning pet shops into adoption centres will require some thought and some good planning, but members must understand that this is a genuine way of futureproofing these businesses into the future. It is very clear to anybody who has the slightest bit of interest in this issue that the social ethics around breeding dogs and cats, and animals in general, has fundamentally changed in the last 10 to 15 years. The community no longer accepts that people do not know what is happening to animals, particularly puppies in this case. People demand more information and they are far more rigorous about their demands of welfare standards when purchasing a puppy.

Mr J.E. McGrath: It is very important now because of security. I find so many people purchase a dog as a guard dog or to be in the home to give them some protection. There is a market out there for people who want a good dog that has been well bred and properly registered.

Ms L.L. BAKER: And well socialised?

Mr J.E. McGrath: Yes.

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Ms L.L. BAKER: I quite agree—dogs as family members and as part of security in homes. Police will tell people that they are the best security a person can have.

Mr B. Urban: Not my Rottweilers.

Ms L.L. BAKER: Yes; apart from the member for Darling Range, who has some singularly unwatchdog-like guard dogs!

Mr B. Urban: My Rottweilers are the most useless guard dogs in the world.

Ms L.L. BAKER: Thank you. We do not want to frighten them. We do not want to startle the member for Darling Range's dogs.

In talking about pet shops and adoption centres, we currently have very good examples of why this is absolutely essential. I refer to a media story that ran a couple of weeks ago. I just assure the house that as far as I am aware, this issue has been closed off, so there is no sub judice attached to this. I will speak about a pet shop in my electorate. Someone was quite proud to stand in front of Channel Nine cameras a couple of weeks ago and say that their pet shop had bought thousands of puppies. These puppies had been flown over. I am thinking that the records will show they were flown over at under eight weeks of age. I cannot prove that, because I have not seen the records, but that is the hearsay. It is of course illegal to fly dogs at under eight weeks of age and it is certainly illegal to fly or sell un-microchipped dogs. The Dog Act was very clear about that. I am aware of a family who purchased two puppies they thought were cocker spaniels. They were assured by this particular pet shop that these dogs were cocker spaniels. I understand that the two dogs were bought two weeks apart. When the second one was brought home, it tried to savage and kill the first one. That is quite an unusual trait in a wee puppy, and one to be extremely concerned about. The family who owned these two dogs, with small children, wanted these dogs to be family members. They took this pet shop to their local Magistrates Court—it used to be called the Small Claims Tribunal—through consumer law provisions. They were finally awarded damages because the DNA testing on these puppies showed six different breeds, none of which was cocker spaniel. This is about the fourth or fifth case that I know of that has been attempted to be taken against shops that retail puppy-farmed puppies, but this is the first one I remember that has been successful. I am very pleased that it was successful.

I will talk about consumer law in a minute. One of the catches in consumer law is that it recognises animals as things or goods. A person cannot say that things or goods—the animal—are being mistreated or poorly treated. Complaining about a thing, a good or a service is the only way that a person can be brought to court—that is, saying that a puppy, a small sentient eight to 12-week-old creature—this thing—is not fit for purpose. I find that deeply offensive on a number of levels, but that would be no surprise to this house. It is clear that if a faulty good is the only option open to a purchaser of a dog—not fit for purpose or not what it says it is—the only redress is to take it to a small claims tribunal through consumer law. In this case, costs were awarded to the people who had purchased these two puppies. The complexities of dealing with this issue, when we are dealing with sentient creatures, is that they brought two new family members into their home and their children were bonding with the puppies. When the family sought redress, they were told to return the puppies. They knew very well that to return the puppies would see them euthanased, and they would not do that. There was no reason that these small creatures should be killed for the sake of the bad treatment they had had to date. They certainly were not going to return them. The pet shop concerned was within its legal rights to say, “You didn't actually return the dogs to us. That is part of law, so bad luck.” The catch is that when dealing with a live creature, returning it means killing it, and families will often not do that. In the end, the family that paid—wait for it—\$2 600 for each puppy managed to get \$600 back through the court. That is an extraordinary situation. Both puppies are still alive and being fostered. One is still in the home, I believe, and the other one has been fostered out. They seem to be all right, but they are certainly not cocker spaniels.

I put that on record because this is the issue when people buy puppies of unknown heritage. People are being assured that puppies are what they want—a cocker spaniel in this case—and then they are finding out that that is not the case. People cannot just make that statement; they have to go through a court process to prove it. It is unconscionable and we need to be far better at legally enforcing these issues.

One of the other two parts of this policy is education. It is no good changing laws unless we tell people about the changes. What happens when a family is walking through a shopping centre, sees a pet shop and all of a sudden it does not see lots of little cute puppies in the window? How much is that puppy in the window et cetera? What do people do? Where will they buy dogs from? That is exactly what we want to stop. We want to stop people impulse buying any animal—particularly puppies and kittens, but any animal. To make it more of a process that a family needs to go through is, in my view, a very good thing. People need to find out, first of all, what kind of dog will suit their family. They need to find out which breeders are registered for that type of dog.

[Member's time extended.]

Ms L.L. BAKER: In fact, they may even need to wait for the mother to give birth to the puppies before they can bring a puppy into the family. That is all normal practice and it should be the way that we go about purchasing new companion animals to share our homes. An education campaign will be part of this work.

Finally, another part of this policy is how to better enforce the Animal Welfare Act and the Dog Act, and how to give general inspectors the right powers to investigate this kind of issue. After 10 years, when I start these talks, I sometimes scratch my head and wonder whether I will be able to fill 30 minutes. The short answer is that it has never been a problem. When talking about things that are so well researched and so well evidenced, I can go on for a very long time. Maybe I should move to the upper house and keep talking for a year and half about this.

A change in laws is required and we will do that. I wish to thank the membership of this committee. Aside from the government departments involved such as the Consumer Protection Division, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and the like, it will include ranger associations, the Australian Veterinary Association, the Dogs' Refuge Home, DogsWest, Local Government Professionals of Australia, the Western Australian Local Government Association, Oscar's Law, the minister's office, the Pet Industry Association of Australia and the RSPCA. Other groups may come to this session as well. We have invited the Australian Federation for Livestock Working Dogs. My argument is that once one group has been invited, we need to include the other seven categories of dog groups that exist in the state. I shall be putting that on the table as part of our first discussions.

I mentioned sentience. I wanted to talk a little bit about animal law and I figured that while I was on the subject of animals, I might as well just keep going because I do not have very much fear of being interrupted in this chamber on that one. Animal law is the field of law that governs interactions between human and non-human animals. I will significantly rely on the work of Voiceless, the Animal Protection Institute of Australia, as a reference for some of what I will talk about. As our understanding of animal behavioural intelligence has increased, so has the acceptance in the scientific community that animals are sentient and should be free from suffering and abuse. Unfortunately, we are in an era in which more animals are suffering than ever before. The law has an important role to play in protecting these animals. Under anti-cruelty statutes that many states, including Western Australia, have, companion animals receive the most protection, while animals that are used in food or are classified as pests are afforded the least. That is largely because they are excluded from a number of protections that exist under the laws currently governing animal welfare. For example, in Western Australia the statutes expressly exclude fish in the definition of animal, meaning that these animals are entirely unprotected from cruelty. That is a discussion that I have not yet had with the Minister for Fisheries. I am sure that he can hardly wait for me to raise it with him! It is an issue that we have debated in this house before when discussing sharks and the like. Farm animals are exempt from some of the basic protections. In New South Wales, for instance, it is legal to castrate cows, sheep, goats and pigs without anaesthetic. However, it would be unlawful to do that to a dog or a cat. In this way, the law operates under a double standard by affording unequal protection to certain kinds of animals, based not on their capacity to suffer, but on economic imperatives. That is the basis of the issue of sentience and why we need to recognise sentience under law. State and territory anti-cruelty statutes are significantly undermined in many cases by model codes of practice for the welfare of animals. Something which exists and which our Minister for Agriculture and Food in the upper house is trying to update is the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines, particularly those about livestock. That minister is trying very hard to bring in a far better set of standards than we currently have in place. Even those industry guidelines outline only minimum recommendations for the proper care and management of animals. They exist for a variety of animal-use industries and largely operate in favour of protecting the interests of the producer. This is partly due to the fact that industry guidelines are developed not by Parliament, but by government department subcommittees that are often heavily represented or influenced and funded by animal industry groups such as the cosmetic industry. Members will be the familiar with the long history of problems with that industry. Under most anti-cruelty statutes, compliance with an industry guideline operates as a defence to or an exemption from a cruelty prosecution. Members may not remember, but I will never forget a case that was heard in the courts over here over the last few years about a station owner in the northwest and some extremely heinous actions that were undertaken with the dehorning of a scrub bull that was brought in. I will not go into that in detail because, quite frankly, no-one deserves to see or hear how that animal was treated. The station owner was originally prosecuted and convicted, but it was overturned by the magistrate because national standards were not adopted. That is something to remember, I think.

Mr R.S. Love: Are you disputing the result of the court case?

Ms L.L. BAKER: No. I stated the result, which is a bit different. It is not sub judice. It is a case that was heard long ago. I have already said that he was let off those charges and why. I have put that on the record before, so I am sure that the member for Moore will be fine with that.

Both anti-cruelty statutes and industry guidelines permit pain and suffering to be inflicted on animals provided it is deemed to be reasonable, necessary or justifiable. These words are subjective and there is wide scope for courts to

determine their meaning in any given situation. For example, courts may be required to consider whether it is justifiable to castrate a pig without anaesthetic for meat production, reasonable to repeatedly whip a racehorse for entertainment purposes, or justifiable to kill bobby calves by means of blunt force trauma as part of milk production.

Although the police have power to enforce anti-cruelty statutes, a considerable portion of animal law in Australia is carried out by the RSPCA, which is a charity. With the \$500 000 or whatever it is that the state government gives the RSPCA—it has been adjusted upwards somewhat—it has to enforce the Animal Welfare Act provisions with the support of the police when it can get it. Of course, police are pretty busy doing other things. Quite often, these cases do not get through the system, so not that many successful cases are prosecuted. Another key body responsible for enforcing animal cruelty statutes—generally those for farm and wild animals—is the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. That department operates with a clear conflict of interest, as was pointed out in 2015 by the Productivity Commission of Australia. The regulatory capture that occurs when we ask the department whose mission it is to strengthen agribusiness or to grow primary industry—I have no problem with those strategies because that is exactly what the mission of that department should be—is completely incompatible with the promotion and protection of animal welfare. That is the regulatory capture that the Productivity Commission spent a great deal of time and effort in 2015 committing to a report.

A solution to this problem of enforcing the statutes is to make it the responsibility of an independent statutory body, such as independent offices of animal welfare at a state and federal level. Another option would be for police to establish a special animal cruelty task force, which we have had in the past, that would investigate animal cruelty matters. It is difficult to commence criminal prosecutions as animal cruelty often occurs on private property. This is particularly the case with factory farms, for instance, but also in other animal use industries. It is a very big problem. One of the issues at the heart of that is that in order to bring a case of animal cruelty, one must have something that the legal system refers to as “standing”. In the context of animal law, standing refers to the ability of an individual or group to commence legal proceedings on behalf of an animal. There is a long history of various bodies trying to get standing.

Animals’ Angels is a German-based group that has been operating in Western Australia for a long time and also operates in the eastern states. In the New South Wales case *Animals’ Angels v the Secretary, Department of Agriculture*, the group Animals’ Angels sought a judicial review of two decisions regarding a live export voyage in 2008 from Australia to Malaysia. The Federal Court held that it did not have standing because it was a registered German charity. On appeal the court held that the matters relied on by the primary judge did not adequately convey the duration and quality of the involvement of Animals’ Angels in the Australian live export trade and he awarded them standing. That is a revolutionary moment for Australian animal law and one of which I am very proud. In my view, Animals’ Angels is very sensible and has always been able to provide me with well thought-out and unemotional advice. This is an area in which that is needed. We do not need to be confronting the likes of the Moola Bulla Station case graphically every time we talk about animal welfare.

I want to finish in my last two minutes by mentioning the book *National Geographic Inside Animal Minds*, which I think was released last month. I will read a little from that about animal sentience. Anthropomorphism, or attributing humanlike characteristics to animals, was taboo for much of the twentieth century, but that resistance would be challenged by a few path-clearing thinkers and spur scientists to devise new, more rigorous ways of testing and measuring animal minds. We understand even more about them now than before. Anthropomorphism is now considered a tool for making sense of animals. They are not merely furred, feathered, or scaled versions of ourselves, but we share a common biological heritage, and that includes the brain. Much of what is important in our own lives—memory, emotion, relationship, daily experience, making plans, problem solving and even spirituality—is not confined just to the brainy creatures we know like whales, chimpanzees, dolphins or crows, but even in songbirds, fish and insects. Our experience of the world is far richer for knowing this. The possibility that we can actually do significantly more work scientifically to investigate the issue of sentience is something that excites me a lot because I think it hinges on not just how we treat animals now, but the future of animal welfare in this country. To not approve of and to not recognise animal sentience is a grave injustice and one that I will certainly seek to overturn when we review the Animal Welfare Act next year.

MS J.M. FREEMAN (Mirrabooka) [11.13 am]: I thank the member for Maylands for such an impassioned speech. I concur with her that we are now in an age in which we need to recognise the importance of animal welfare and sentient beings and that holds very true to many of the beliefs that I practise.

Like the member for Maylands, I missed an opportunity to speak on a bill only a few days ago that dealt with occupational health and safety changes, so I will take the opportunity in this debate on the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 to raise a few matters with regard to that. I make special note of WorkSafe inspector Jenny Testar who died suddenly at the beginning of October this year at the age of 60. She left many heartbroken by her untimely death at such a young age. Jenny was an absolute warrior for workers. The death notice in the

newspaper from her WorkSafe colleagues and friends talks about Jenny having the strength of a bear. I knew her to be a person who brought resilience, mischief—lots of mischief—and strength in her work to ensure a better, fairer and safer workplace. I knew Jenny Testar as the security officers' organiser at what was then the Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union, or the missos, which is now United Voice. It was a role she took on with gusto, despite the bullying of employers. One of the things about the security industry is that because it does not necessarily have the legal firepower in terms of carrying arms, it must be able to have a legitimacy of control over situations. Often security officers have a presence and a sense of their own capacity that, when they go through the ranks into leadership, can be very challenging when we are defending workers, to the extent that they can be extraordinarily aggressive. When Jenny and I dealt with one particular security company that had the contract at the airport, the employer was quite a bully. Jenny was of small stature, but she could stand up to someone who was even an ex-military head of a security company!

Ms S.F. McGurk: That's because she started at the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union!

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: She actually started at the printers' union. I will get to that.

She had a power of presence of commitment and a passion for those people she represented. Jenny's legacy included being the first Mother of Chapel in the Perth Printing Industry Employees' Union. The delegates in the printing industry are called the Father of Chapel. As Mother of Chapel, Jenny fought tirelessly for the removal of hazardous printing chemicals and greater ventilation. In her later working career she was an inspector at WorkSafe, which I have mentioned. This was a long-term ambition that was fuelled by her personal experience of lung cancer, which she vehemently believed was caused by her work at State Print and the chemicals she was exposed to. Her work at WorkSafe was also fuelled by her passion for social justice and the health of the working community and the greater community. I extend my deepest sympathy to her husband, Owen Hintz, and to Harley, Jaxson and Sam and other family members, friends and colleagues who were out in force to celebrate her life at her funeral. They all remembered her fondly. They recounted her outrageous turns of phrase and her exuberant enthusiasm for enjoying life. Rest in peace, Jenny Testar.

Members: Hear, hear.

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: Given that I have had the opportunity to talk about a champion in the space of occupational health and safety, members know that in the past day we passed in this house the Occupational Safety and Health Amendment Bill 2017. That will increase penalties in response to the lack of action by the previous government that saw paltry fines that offered little deterrent value to the deaths in workplaces, such as \$7 500 for the death of a worker who had fallen through a skylight. In 2015–16, there were 23 deaths in Western Australian workplaces. Since that time, workplace deaths have continued. In 2016–17, 11 deaths occurred in the workplace, including the tragic fall of 17-year-old Wesley Ballantine, whose death is under investigation by WorkSafe. The changes that we put through increased the fines under sections 3A, 20A and 54A of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984. Fines under sections 20A and 54A were increased fourfold, and those under section 3A were increased tenfold.

According to WorkSafe's report "State of the Work Environment: Work-related traumatic injury fatalities, Western Australia 2006–2007 to 2015–2016", released in September 2016, over the last financial year, a worker has been killed in the workplace every 19 days; many of them were between 25 and 44 years of age. The changes that we introduced increased penalties for workplace injuries and deaths, and were a response to the harmonisation of occupational health and safety laws in Australia. In 2009 there was an agreement between all states to increase the penalties. Preliminary Western Australian key occupational health and safety statistics for 2015–16 detail that two employees are injured seriously enough to take time off work every two days, and almost 5 000 workers are hurt to the extent that they require two months or more off work. That is an average of around three-quarters of a year lost time to industry. Despite this, there has been only one successful prosecution of significant breaches of the Occupational Safety and Health Act every month for the past two years. The WA Labor government is actively pursuing a framework that will see an improvement in legislation beyond increasing penalties that will deliver safer workplaces, and I welcome this.

However, in this context, it is important to recognise the passing of the industrial manslaughter legislation in Queensland on 12 October 2017, in response to the deaths at the Dreamworld theme park and the Eagle Farm racecourse in 2016. The changes in Queensland created the criminal offence of industrial manslaughter for negligence of an employer, a person conducting a business—a corporation as such—and a senior officer, when a worker dies, either at a workplace or later on, in the course of carrying out work. The Queensland Work Health and Safety Act now includes a maximum penalty of 20 years' imprisonment for an individual, and a fine of up to \$10 million for a corporation. The provisions do not yet cover the mining sector, but they cover many other sectors, including electrical safety. I took the opportunity to read the Queensland Parliament report on the Work Health and Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017, which introduced the offence of industrial manslaughter. The bill introduced quite a lot of changes to the health and safety legislation, including provision for an independent prosecutor. The report was a very comprehensive summary of the debate for and against the introduction of the

industrial manslaughter offence, and members were unable to reach consensus on their recommendations to the Parliament. There is no doubt that this is a contentious area. The government members supported the strengthening of the legislation through introduction of the industrial manslaughter offence, maintaining it would make significant inroads into the attitudes of senior executives of corporations to make safety a priority.

We have to remind ourselves that, in Queensland, the 2009 harmonisation agreement had already been put into place. We in this Parliament have only done that through the changes that the present government has introduced with the increasing penalties. Those penalties, in Queensland, were clearly insufficient and workers continued to die in the workplace and be killed at worksites. The Queensland opposition belittled the legislation and the introduction of the offence of industrial manslaughter as a sledgehammer to crack a walnut. Under the Queensland legislation a person will be found to be negligent when their conduct so far departs from the standard of care expected to avoid danger to life, health and safety, and the conduct substantially contributed to the death. They are quite high hurdles, but the intent is to make it clear that deaths in workplaces should no longer occur. The reason for the offence of industrial manslaughter is to catch a corporation that the criminal code cannot, enabling the conduct of employees, agents and officers to be attributed to the organisation. I will quote from page 12 of the Parliamentary report —

A key difference between defences for industrial manslaughter and manslaughter under the Criminal Code ... is that where an offence of manslaughter under the Criminal Code is based on criminal negligence, the section 23 defence relating to an accident is not available ... the duties owed are of such weight and importance that they cannot be negated by reliance on accident.

The report continues —

Under the Police Powers ... a person is entitled to remain silent when questioned by police ...

In contrast, under the WHS Act, persons who refuse to provide answers to inspectors when asked ... commit an offence, unless they can provide a reasonable excuse for their refusal.

These are major changes, and those opposing the changes stated, at page 7 of the report —

... the industrial manslaughter provisions are unnecessary and duplicative, create additional red tape, and shift the focus from improving health, safety and the primary duty of care to punitive action.

The Australian Capital Territory is the only other Australian jurisdiction with the industrial manslaughter offence, but has seen no prosecutions under the provisions since 2004. I did not have an opportunity to look at the statistics for deaths in workplaces in the ACT, but many times in this place we have put in place legislation whose major value was said to be its deterrence; for example, mandatory sentencing for injuring a police officer. I recall that the then Attorney General, Christian Porter—I do not have a quote—said that its major contribution in policy and legislation was its deterrence value. I do believe there is a proper debate for the industrial manslaughter charge as a deterrent. Similar legislation in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia has been proposed and put to the Parliament, but has not been successful. It is certainly something that needs to be discussed in the review of the model work health and safety laws for Australia in 2018. In the event that legislation for the offence of industrial manslaughter does not come to pass—I understand that our Parliament, having changed these important penalties, will want to see what occurs then and whether they act as a powerful deterrent—it is important that we start to work closely with the police to ensure quicker outcomes for families in the event of workplace deaths. Police in the community suggest bringing in the police earlier to achieve quicker outcomes for families. It is very important that we make sure that this occurs.

I want to speak briefly about occupational health and safety for culturally and linguistically diverse workers. As we know, each worker brings unique experience, assets and challenges to the workplace, and newly arrived Australians often take up employment in industries in which they did not work previously. They are often unfamiliar with machines, chemicals and materials, which presents new hazards. I have an example I want to share. I was talking to a South Sudanese Bor community member the other day. He was a bricklayer in South Sudan, in the Jonglei state. He came over here and had to do his apprenticeship again. He has since gone back and trained others, although the civil war made it difficult for him and he returned to Perth. He said the great thing about learning bricklaying skills here is learning the safety skills. He said that doing bricklaying in South Sudan involves no equipment or machinery. A bricklayer may have 20 or 30 assistants. There is no machine to mix the cement; it is done by the assistants. No-one takes any notice when someone injures themselves, because life is relatively cheap. Coming here and working as a bricklayer has given him an appreciation of not only using machinery, the tools and the technology, but also his safety and that of the people he worked with, his assistant. He said that when he went back that was one of the important messages he took back to his community—that all life is precious, and that should be taken into account in all workplaces.

I also came across language difficulties in contract cleaning. The supervisor was the person who could speak English and became the translator for the workers, particularly Macedonian workers in those days. In my view,

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they were not given very good information on the chemicals that they were using, but it was difficult for me to outline that to them because of the language difficulties. It is very important that we take into account these issues in the area of occupational safety and health. One thing in particular that we need to consider is the cultural preferences and leanings that communities bring to the workplace.

[Member's time extended.]

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: It is often the case that newly arrived migrants want to make the best of it. They want to be able to achieve and excel, so often they will go above and beyond for their employer to show that they are committed and really want to take on the job. That attitude can be exploited to have workers do unsafe activities or work beyond normal working hours. How they use protective equipment can also be exploited. The other thing that is really interesting to note is that the modelling for personal protective equipment and clothing is based on army personnel. People come in different shapes and sizes, and sometimes that protective clothing and equipment is not suitable, but we are seeing a shift in this area. The employer is required to make that shift so that when people are required to wear protective clothing in the workplace, that clothing is suitable given their body types and cultural beliefs and religions.

I now want to move on to the unregulated scrap metal industry.

Mr D.T. Punch: Every ounce counts.

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: Every ounce counts. The member for Gosnells might be able to tell members about a theft recently on 4 October 2017. A *Perth Now* report stated —

POLICE are investigating the attempted theft of copper cabling which caused significant disruption to internet services in Perth's south.

The offenders cut through cables at the exchange in Gosnells last week, cutting services to about 4000 Telstra customers in surrounding suburbs.

Earlier this year on 27 February 2017, thieves stole copper from a Western Power substation in Treendale on a Monday night. What was really unfortunate was that the stolen wiring was almost worthless. An estimate of the damage suggested that the thieves made off with between \$1 and \$2 worth of copper, but they caused quite a lot of damage to the transformers and risk to people in the community.

In 2014, a man was charged with the alleged theft of copper valued at \$15 000 from a Belmont business. At the risk of harping on, I want to share with people that on 2 April 2012 in an article titled “‘Poor man's gold’ — copper thieves will target almost anything”, Ken, who was at the Gladesville Anglican church, was reported to have said about his wife —

“At one stage she was complaining about the fact it —

That is the church organ —

wasn't sounding very good ... would you believe that quite a number of the organ pipes had been stolen?” he recalls.

The unregulated scrap-metal industry is a problem. It was a difficulty in Koondoola about a month ago. Some people turned up to vacated properties that were about to be rented in high-vis tradie sort of clothing. They went into the house, scoured the plaster out of the walls and took copper piping from the house. My questions to the police were: “How can that happen? How can you not pursue that?” It is because these people get cash for the copper and the industry is unregulated. They are not covered by the Pawnbroker and Second-hand Dealers Act 1994. The impact of that on crime, I would suspect, is quite great because those people are exempted from licensing requirements under the Western Australian Pawnbroker and Second-hand Dealers Act, provided they do not deal in certain metals, and that would be gold. New South Wales and Victoria have put a stop to this by changing their laws. The Victorian Law Reform Commission outlined that the scrap-metal industry is highly susceptible to organised crime and the government introduced legislation as part of its Community Safety Statement, which was released by the Premier and the Minister for Police in conjunction with the Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police earlier this year. The Victorian legislation passed on 20 September 2017 and banned cash payments for scrap metal to stop the stolen-car trade.

At this point in time, we know that the Australian Taxation Office—do we not love the ATO, it believes in taxing sex workers in our community despite the fact that they are illegal, and that is the same for the scrap metal industry—has developed a code of compliance for scrap-metal dealers. Legitimate scrap-metal dealers follow the code, record a range of details for each scrap-metal transaction and include the details of sellers and purchasers. We are not talking about legitimate scrap dealers; we are talking about those who give cash for scrap metal and,

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in some cases, cash for cars. I want to talk about cash for stolen cars as part of this, because that was a big issue for the Victorian legislation.

Mr M.J. Folkard: It is a big issue for us

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: It is an issue for us as well. I was not aware of that. I just know that in the community I represent, someone will break into a house to steal copper that is worth about \$5 a kilogram at the moment. I understand that it is a roaring trade.

Mr M.J. Folkard: They even lease houses so that they can get access to the copper.

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: The member for Burns Beach tells me that people will even lease houses to get access to copper. A principal of a school told me a story about how, when she was building a new house, thieves took the water meter away for scrap. She bought a new water meter, and they took that away as well. The police could do nothing in terms of tracking it down and the building insurance did not cover it. She was out of pocket for two water meters and not covered by insurance.

Mr M.J. Folkard: It costs about \$1 500 for the brass alone.

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: It costs \$1 500 for the brass, for one kilogram?

Mr M.J. Folkard: They will do a street. They will take all the meters in a street. They do not stop at one place, they just go—bang, bang, bang!

Ms J.M. FREEMAN: That tells me, member for Burns Beach, that we are talking about organised crime, not petty theft. It certainly is an issue that we need to address, given the response by Victoria and New South Wales.

Recycling metal has financial and environmental benefits. In fact, Henry Ford, who pioneered the mass production of motor cars, also pioneered their recycling. In terms of cars and steel, steel is the world's most recyclable material and can be recycled again and again without reducing the quality of the end product. I thank the Victorian Parliament for its contributions on this issue, which I am probably plagiarising a bit in this house, so I hope members do not mind. I understand that recycled steel uses only 25 per cent of the energy needed to make steel from raw materials. The history in Australia of recycling industrial scrap steel started with BHP Pty Ltd from 1915. I am told by the member for Burns Beach, who is better advised on these issues than I am, that the big issue in Victoria is rebirthing motor vehicles, which occurs also in Western Australia. Rebirthing motor vehicles involves stolen or written-off cars being given a new life by criminals falsifying documentation, changing vehicle identification numbers and often exporting them to other countries or other states for illegal sale. My understanding is that they buy a car that is written off by an insurer to get a vehicle identification number and a few parts. They then put that together with stolen cars and rebirth them. They can do that because they have legitimately bought the vehicle that has been written off by the insurers, and illegitimately gained a car paid for in cash to organised crime.

Other jurisdictions have changed their legislation to address this. In 2012, the United Kingdom banned the cash-for-scrap market, a move aimed at stopping the theft of metal from railways in their jurisdiction. The result was a 30 per cent drop in metal theft. As I said, the Victorian government passed laws on 20 September 2017 banning cash payments for scrap metal to stop the stolen car trade. In New South Wales, Hon Rick Colless, on introducing the Scrap Metal Industry Bill 2016 into the New South Wales upper house, said —

Up until now this trade has been largely unregulated and undocumented making it extremely attractive to criminals as a way to make some quick cash.

It is clearly an issue that we need to think about addressing in Parliament. I have sent off a hasty email to the minister's office to find out whether our act covers it. I am reliably told by the member for Burns Beach and certainly the police in the area I represent that at this point they cannot go into scrap-metal businesses and charge them under the Pawnbrokers and Second-hand Dealers Act with taking stolen goods because it is excluded from the act.

It seems to me that other jurisdictions have set the bar for us and we need to ensure that we respond accordingly and ensure that this trade no longer continues. As I outlined at the beginning, it is a bit pervasive in our community. In Victoria, people were breaking into people's houses at night to take their keys and steal luxury vehicles as part of the trade. In a couple of instances, people were confronted in their cars with people holding weapons, who stole their cars. I have not yet heard of anything so serious happening here in Western Australia. Anything like that makes the community feel unsafe and it is something that we could legislate for to ensure that scrap-metal dealers do not profit from second-hand goods.

MR R.R. WHITBY (Baldvis — Parliamentary Secretary) [11.43 am]: I rise to speak on the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 before the house. We are here today proceeding with this legislation through the chamber because it approves appropriations of spending in previous budgets of a recurrent and capital nature. The amount

in the recurrent appropriation bill, going back to 2011, is \$ 1.965 billion over the past six years, so it is not an inconsequential amount. The reason for a government introducing these bills is often reasonable; it is because an appropriation sometimes does not meet the expected expense bill. This can occur for a number of reasons. Life is challenging, I guess, at the best of times and it is very difficult for a Treasurer to know exactly what appropriation is required. In other situations, there might be totally unforeseen expenses; I can think of a major tragedy or bushfire, when significant infrastructure is lost and the government of the day is required to ensure the great expense to replace that infrastructure is available as soon as possible. We cannot always know what expenses life will throw at us. In the family situation, we do not often know when the car engine will blow up or an unexpected medical crisis will confront the family. We know that in Parliament, when expenses exceed what we expected or an unexpected bill comes before us, we simply get together, come up with an appropriation bill, pass it through the chamber and everything is okay. The ledger is balanced and the required appropriations are approved.

Unfortunately, it is not so simple in the real world when families can incur unexpected expenses. They cannot pass a family appropriation bill to pay for unexpected school fees or to repair the car. It is really important that people in this chamber recognise that we are the custodians of taxpayers' money and that we should always behave as carefully as we can with those dollars. I get accused of a lot of things. Some of those names are fired around without merit and sometimes there is some merit to them. One of the accusations levelled at me from time to time—in a way I am prepared to accept it and maybe even wear it as a badge of honour—is that I am somewhat careful with my finances and maybe even a bit of a tightwad at times. I guess that comes from my background. I grew up in a housing commission house in Balga, where mum and dad did not have any money, so I know the importance of getting money, holding on to it and making sure it goes as far as possible. I think it goes right back to my parents. Dad left Kent Street Senior High School at 15 and knocked around helping milkmen and doing various odd jobs before he finally got into the Navy and eventually established his own small business. Family folklore is that when mum and dad got married in a church in Victoria Park, one of the first things dad did was hit up mum for some money to pay for a room for the night at the hotel. So mum was under no illusion about who she had married and whether he had any money. From very early times, they knew they had to work together and work hard, and that has been instilled in me. I am very mindful of my family's finances, and particularly of government finances. One of the jobs we have to do in here is ensure that at all times, taxpayers get absolute value for money and we spend taxpayer money as though it is our own

It is a particularly important approach to take when representing an electorate such as Baldivis, which has its own unique story about the mining production boom we have just seen come to a conclusion. Many of the people who live in Baldivis now are young families with young children. They started their adult lives and their working lives when things were booming in Western Australia. Many of these young families had not known a downturn until recently. Many people got their first jobs in the mining boom, whether it was in the north as a fly in, fly out worker or in related industries on the Kwinana strip. Since the beginning of the century until recently, the norm has been low interest rates, static house prices and low inflation. When that was coupled with well-paid jobs, young people were encouraged to buy their first home and a new car, and many of them bought other trinkets. This is a good thing; investing in a home is one of the best things we can do. But when things started to turn south, it became more difficult for many of the people in my electorate. The weight of their mortgages started to have an impact. Many of these families had young children at school and this was the first economic shock that they had faced in their lifetime. It is still having a big impact on the community of Baldivis.

Outwardly, the Baldivis community looks quite successful and affluent. There are many new attractive homes with neat gardens and late model cars in the driveways. Often, it can be very deceptive because, behind the facade of a seemingly affluent and successful community, families are doing it very tough. This is the result of one or more breadwinners losing their jobs or losing hours in the resource industry up north or locally in the manufacturing industry on the Kwinana strip. Of course, those job losses have a rolling impact. Restaurants in the Stockland Baldivis Shopping Centre have closed because people are not spending the same amount of money that they used to. The impact is being felt locally among small business people. There is a large community of small business operators, self-employed contractors and even home-based businesses in Baldivis. The community's population is thriving, so there is a very large market, but all these people are feeling the pain right now with the downturn. It can make for some pretty sad stories.

One story that I will relate to members today involves a family losing its main breadwinner. On this occasion, it was not because of the downturn, but because of a family tragedy in which the main breadwinner lost his life. However, it tells a familiar story of when a family loses its main source of income. In Baldivis there are a number of quite active and successful middle-fee independent and Catholic schools, as well as a budding and growing community of government schools. One of the independent schools in Baldivis reports that it is doing it exceedingly tough; the number of enrolments is falling and it has to cut staff as a result. One school,

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Tranby College, has introduced a generous scholarship scheme with \$100 000 for up to a dozen scholarships. It is trying to be as proactive as it can, but it is not always easy and the number of enrolments is falling.

When this family lost its major breadwinner, the mother and three children were left behind. From memory, there were two boys and a young girl, a preschooler. At first, the school did not notice that anything was amiss. The young boys going to this private school—it was not Tranby but another school—were well-groomed. They had their uniforms on and they appeared to be well looked after. Mum would drive up and drop them off in the morning. She had always had a little toddler in the car who was not going to school yet. She would drive off and then at pick-up time in the afternoon, mum would be there again and the young boys would get into the car. It took some time, but the school eventually worked out that the family was not travelling too well and that the only breadwinner of the family, the husband, had lost his life and, as a result, the family had lost its home. This mum was looking after her boys and her young daughter in the family car. She was going to local toilets and other facilities to try to sort them out in the morning. They would get changed and have breakfast in the car. If they could get to a shower, they might have a shower now and again. She did the best she could do to ensure that those children were at school every day. In the hours in between, she would drive around to local parks and try to entertain and occupy her very young daughter and try to get her to sleep in the car.

We can imagine the anguish of the mum as she tried to keep up appearances and manage that situation. The school eventually found out that mum was living in the car and it approached her to try to help her. This often happens in a community such as Baldvis where families have never sought help and never received substantial welfare of any kind; the mum was very ashamed and reluctant to accept any help. The school set up a meeting with a welfare organisation that would help find accommodation, help with groceries and give some sort of financial counselling and other assistance. A time was set but mum did not show up. This happened on a number of occasions. The school immediately froze the school fees for the kids and allowed the children to continue attending the school for free. But the mother was deeply embarrassed about her situation. She was very reluctant to seek any support whatsoever. Eventually, the school reached out and assisted this mother. I believe that things have been slowly worked out, but it is still a very difficult situation and it is one that is being played out across Baldvis and, no doubt, across many parts of the community.

It is amazing how the community can respond when situations like this occur. I want to talk about one group in the Rockingham–Baldvis area that goes to extraordinary lengths to try to help people. Its experience in helping people can also help to illustrate the extent of the problem. I speak about the group called the C.R.E.W., which is based just off Dixon Road in the industrial part of Rockingham. It goes to the local community and local businesses and gets a very good response in donated goods, dry foods, fresh fruit and vegetables and bread and baked goods from local supermarkets, and second-hand clothes and toys. It has a donated factory warehouse where all this material is gathered and then disseminated to needy people. When the C.R.E.W. does not get enough food and fresh fruit and vegetables donated, members of this organisation reach into their own pockets and make up the difference. That is how dedicated its members are. While I am speaking about the group, I should give it its full title. The C.R.E.W. stands for Christians Ready Equipped and Willing. This remarkable group of people was formed in 2015. A story about the group was published in the *Sound–Southern Telegraph* newspaper on Tuesday this week. I will paraphrase some information from it. It refers to the C.R.E.W. having 60 volunteers and one of the co-founders being Julie-Anne Moyle, who used to concentrate her charity efforts on helping people overseas.

However, after the death of a homeless man in Kwinana, she realised that there was also a need at home and that led to the formation of the C.R.E.W.

I went there the other week, and this is something that has to be witnessed. Every Friday the C.R.E.W. opens its doors at 11 o'clock and 30 or more families will be lined up. At 11 o'clock tomorrow, no doubt, it will be the same as always. There will be a group of people in a queue that is snaking out the door and onto the street towards Dixon Road, in a fairly bland industrial area. They will be a mixture of people. They will be homeless. They will be families, no doubt like yours or mine, who very recently have been affected by some major issue, tragedy, downturn or loss of job, which has resulted in them having to reach out. They line up, and slowly and surely the line moves forward. They enter an office area and a warehouse out the back and they take whatever food they need. They may take a hamper of dry food and tins, fruit and vegetables, and baked goods. They may look at donated clothing and try to find clothes for themselves and their kids. Their kids meanwhile are let loose to play with toys, and when it comes time to go, the kids are allowed to keep hold of those toys and take them home.

The C.R.E.W. deserves recognition and it is also in need of assistance. Although the owner of the property its facility operates out of has been very kind and decent by allowing it to use this facility, the time has come that the owners want the property returned because it is for sale.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr R.R. WHITBY: This group has a fine record of assistance to the community, but it is in need of help. My office is working to help find it alternative accommodation, but local council issues mean that it is limited in where it can and cannot establish operations. That is being worked through. We hope that the C.R.E.W. can continue to

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do its good work in Rockingham and Baldivis. It also provides other assistance, whether it is a shower or the use of a washing machine. Importantly, it gives budgeting advice and counselling, even helping people write resumes to try to help them to get back on their feet. It is an incredibly important service for the people of the Baldivis and Rockingham area.

Again I point out that this is why governments need to be committed to living within their means so that they can ensure adequate support is available for people in our community, like those who need the assistance of the C.R.E.W. We also need to do everything we can, of course, to create and secure jobs, and the best way of doing that is by ensuring that a very rigorous and efficient private sector can provide more employment. That is the best way, I believe, that we build the economy and ensure prosperity. We also need to ensure safety nets are there for people who need help when things happen in the private sector, such as what we have seen in this state in the last couple of years.

I would like to conclude by mentioning that Christmas time is approaching and it is a time that can be particularly painful for people who are going through financial difficulties. Every year the local members for Baldivis, Warnbro, Rockingham and Kwinana get together to work with the Salvation Army and their electorates become receipt points for donated tinned goods and toys. I am sure this happens elsewhere, but every year, I and my colleagues in the adjoining electorates, including the Premier, Deputy Premier and Minister for Tourism, gather up that material and take it to the Rockingham Salvation Army. It inevitably involves us wearing a Santa cap.

[Quorum formed.]

Mr R.R. WHITBY: I was getting close to finishing my comments, but I reiterate that it is Christmas time and it is a time at which people who are without can feel the most pain, especially if they have children. I urge everyone in the community to support local charities. I was mentioning how I and members from the electorates surrounding Baldivis do that. This year we look forward to collecting a sizeable contribution of donated goods from our electorates to give to the Salvation Army. I thank the member for Dawesville for calling the quorum because the member for Bunbury has an even greater audience.

MR D.T. PUNCH (Bunbury) [12.06 pm]: I rise to speak in the cognate second reading debate of the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017. I thank the member for Baldivis for his contribution because he brought home the very important point that decisions we make and discussions we have in this place have a profound impact on people in our electorates. In particular, he drew attention to the rapidly approaching festive season and the impact that has on many disadvantaged families in our communities.

It would be interesting to fast-forward 50 years to see how history treats the period that is covered by these bills—the considerable external factors that had such a significant impact on the state’s revenue streams, the decisions of the previous government on the expense ledger, and the structural arrangements within government that led to the divergence of major expense decisions between the two parties in government. I am sure there will be a lot of head-scratching about how the fiscal policy agenda unfolded during this period, and about the success or otherwise of the various projects that have been constructed. There will be a lot of research and opinion because, without doubt, it has been an extraordinary period in the history of the state.

However, I want to acknowledge that there has been a solid success story in the south west—that is, the rise of the creative industries as a new industry sector that has been generating jobs and, importantly, providing new opportunities for young people, training, and ideas generation and innovation. This sector largely goes under the radar in a lot of contemporary thinking about what constitutes an industry, but its overall contribution to the national product is certainly rising rapidly. It is an industry in the south west that has developed in a very deliberate and strategic manner, and is based on some quite unique principles around collaboration, networking and passion. While it has a healthy dose of competition as a principle in the market, the way this industry sector is developing is based very much on the notion of collaborative work across individual businesses and scaling up for particular projects as needed, and it is essentially driving a new form of industry development itself. Because it is a relatively new sector, there is still some debate about what it includes. One view that is agreed upon by everyone is that a key characteristic is that creative industries use creativity for commercial purposes, and its economic value lies in intellectual property.

The creative sector makes a very personalised contribution based on the creativity of individual players themselves. Creative output is the primary source of value, as opposed to a physical product, and the notion of intellectual property sits behind that. The Australian Cultural Ministers Council 2008 report, “Building a Creative Innovation Economy”, identified the creative sector as including film, TV and radio; architecture, design and the visual arts; advertising and marketing; software development and interactive content; writing and publishing; and music and the performing arts. That analysis is from 2008. In the intervening nine years, considerable progress has

been made in the growth of the industry around animation, gaming, digital content itself, graphic design based on digital content and an increasing number of applications in the software industry covering virtually all aspects of modern day living. It is an exponential growth curve associated with the creative industries and provides enormous opportunities both at the individual operator level—individual operators collaborating with other individual operators to build a network structure—and companies forming with major statements of intent.

It is a difficult industry sector to get to grips with, but in 2010, SGS Economics and Planning distinguished between those people employed in the creative industries as creative specialists and those employed in creative occupations in non-creative industries as embedded creative workers. That analysis gives rise to the notion that the creative industries, though it might be defined as a sector in itself, actually spans across an enormous number of other industries from mining through to tourism and small business development. In fact, it is probably as built into the industry environment as tourism is across various sectors. To consider it as a discrete entity of itself would be a mistake; it travels right across many industry sectors. The notion of an embedded worker is the difference between someone producing digital media content in, for example, something like a brand agency that is entirely creative, and a digital media specialist in a manufacturing plant providing some potentially different insights into the manufacturing process itself.

In 2010, the South West Development Commission commissioned a study into the creative industries and it found that back in those days within the south west alone, an estimated 1 000 people were employed across all aspects of the creative sector. Its gross contribution to the region's economy was estimated at around \$360 million and, of that, around \$75 million was in export value. That is a significant contribution. When I looked into export value, a lot of it was made up of smaller businesses engaging in overseas collaboration in areas as diverse as music, publishing, gaming, animation and digital content and, interestingly, photography, particularly digital photography, whereby photographs might be taken elsewhere in the world and sent to operators in Margaret River who do advanced photoshop work on those photographs. That report provided the industry with an economic identity in the south west, and for the first time it drew out the notion that as an industry sector, it deserved attention. Prior to that report, people used to have a sense of the creative industries that was really about the notion of the visual arts and performing arts performing locally for local audiences, and it was not really thought of in the context of a national industry or an industry that earned export income.

Developing the creative industries requires more than simply documenting its contribution. It needed to build strategies in order to position itself effectively as an industry that could grow and continue to make a very prosperous contribution to the south west and to the state, particularly in the potential export market. The SGS report identified that it had been growing at around three per cent to 3.5 per cent annually and had every potential to continue that growth into the future. It would be very interesting to go back and update those economic indicators and see how this sector is performing within both the south west but, potentially more importantly, at a state level.

I want to come back to this notion of strategy in developing an industry. Again, when I look across the research, it is quite hard to find a documented detailed strategy that defines how an industry starts from a relatively small base and grows. The first step that the south west creative sector took was to develop an industry body that could provide a platform for identification and promotion of training and professional development, especially tapping into the potential for on-the-job training for people who might be moving through the TAFE or university system, to adopt almost an apprenticeship model with creative industry providers within the south west itself. The body also provided a platform for networking and collaboration, including opportunities to cluster together and go after and build capability in the pursuit of larger-scale contracts.

Instrumental in developing the industry body, which became known as the Creative Corner, was Mat Lewis, Noah Shilkin and Niomi Ohara. Although many other people played a role, special mention needs to be made of those people in this place, because they have embodied the notion of taking the creative industries forward as a significant and major player within the south west industry spectrum. The next step was to deliver a Margaret River-based event capable of attracting leading industry players. It was quite a clever event because it was not termed a conference, with all the notions of long lists of speakers that that involved, but a festival. It was designed to build an immersion of people from the creative industries mixing, networking and hearing from leading players in areas such as advertising, gaming, digital content and also immersing them in the Margaret River experience, particularly the tourism experience of wine, food and surfing. The festival became both a mix of serious analysis and interaction, and also serious networking based around fun side events. The event is called Emergence Creative. It is an annual festival and it has now attracted both national and international attention in the fields of digital content, design, marketing, publishing and the related field of music and visual mediums. Emergence Creative has become an event on the creative industry calendar nationally, as it also provides a forum for one-on-one speed dating-type networking contacts so that like-minded people can build up the industry capability and gain an understanding of what is happening on the national and the international market scene for the creative sector. It has become an ideal event for business collaboration.

For those members who may be interested in having a look at what happens at Emergence, it is on again next year from 21 to 24 March in Margaret River. Keynote speakers include Ben Akers, a well-known leading Australian marketing and advertising specialist, and Kim Allom, who is a well-known leader in gaming technology and design out of Brisbane. A host of other speakers will be present at the event, but it provides a fantastic and unique opportunity for people to mix with the leading thinking that is happening in the creative space, particularly in the digital content space.

The next step was the support of co-working creative spaces in the south west. Mixtape Creative is a co-working space in Margaret River providing space for photography, design, music publishing and digital content with individual operators collaborating on national and international projects. I am pretty sure there is a similar space operating in the member for Geraldton's area that has also been very active in this area. I note that there is also one happening in Albany. In Bunbury, Maker & Co has emerged as a co-working space focused on start-up, creativity and innovation and is providing a helping hand to young entrepreneurs driving innovation across a range of sectors from food production, fashion, visual arts through to technology and manufacturing. Maker & Co recently teamed up with Edith Cowan University to provide an outreach venue in the CBD, not only for ECU's programs locally, but also for the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts to start running outreach programs for young people in the south west who are keen on a local performing arts career. I recently attended a Maker & Co training event. It was particularly interesting because it taught young entrepreneurs who were emerging with innovative ideas the skill of pitching in a shark tank environment. There is the notion nowadays that people might have five or six minutes to make a pitch to win support for the project they are investing in. That event brought home to me what an important skill that is, particularly for younger people these days who are thinking about going directly into business. They are in a busy sea of other people trying to make headway and be noticed. Being able to succinctly state what a project is, what they think the opportunities are, where the gaps are and what the opportunities for investment are is a very important skill. Maker & Co pursued that with a group of young people who were lining up to take on the Telstra Innovation Challenge. It was not only about local development of local people, but also linked them into a major national event for innovation in the future. Many members in this place have spoken about the importance of innovation to the future of Australia and Western Australia's economies. It should be lauded for that.

In parallel to the development of those spaces, I would like to comment on the emergence of CinéfestOZ as a major national film festival in the south west. It has grown from very humble beginnings as a French film festival into something that is attracting national and international attention. It is an interesting festival because it started out focusing on Busselton, but now stretches from Bunbury in the north, right through to Pemberton in the south, and down to Margaret River. It embraces the whole of the south west in a range of activities associated with the film industry. It incorporates Australia's largest film prize, which is funded by royalties for regions, that draws in major film productions and premieres and promotes regional WA producers as a film-friendly destination. In the past 10 years, starting with the film *Drift*, which was a major surf movie that focused on the Margaret River area and told the story of the emergence of the surf industry, and then *Red Dog*, a film that many members might be familiar with that tells the story of the relationship of a dog to his family up in the Pilbara, there have been a series of film productions. Those film productions have not only catapulted Western Australia into the film industry sector, but have also had a profound effect on local economies and, importantly, how people view themselves and the communities they live in. The most recent example I can think of was the filming of *Jasper Jones*. I had the pleasure of seeing that movie on a plane trip to the eastern states, so Pemberton was catapulted into the skies of eastern states travel.

[Member's time extended.]

Mr D.T. PUNCH: That film production came into Pemberton and, in a sense, took over the town. The townspeople rallied behind it, became film extras and participated in it. It was an absolutely fantastic experience for the community. *Drift* resulted in a direct regional expenditure in the area of around \$1 million, but, importantly, it also generated significant promotional value for the south west as a consequence of the film's promotion and exhibition. I cannot recall the exact figure, but it was in the order of \$6 million to \$7 million worth of equivalent advertising expenditure; it was significant. I am aware that significant tourism opportunities have flowed from people coming from overseas wanting to see the locations where that movie was filmed. The photography was absolutely brilliant and showed off the south west landscapes to perfection.

CinéfestOZ has also built links with Chinese film production markets and has been active in attracting Chinese producers to WA for film production. It has branched into affiliate activities to support young filmmakers and through events such as Cinesnaps it has directly supported youth and disadvantaged youth and encouraged them to express themselves through the medium of film. It recently started IndigifestOZ as a film festival supporting emerging Aboriginal filmmakers. CinéfestOZ is more than a festival that premieres films; it is driving the film

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industry within the south west as a destination for film and is also encouraging young people who have a wish to pursue a career in the arts, particularly the creative arts, by providing an avenue for them to express themselves.

The south west has developed a vibrant and proactive creative sector that operates at the national level. This has been achieved through difficult financial times over the past eight years. I know that members of the National Party think that I have been overly critical of royalties for regions, but I want to acknowledge the role that royalties for regions has played in supporting many aspects of this development. Unfortunately, the member for Warren–Blackwood is not here; at the beginning, he may have had doubts about the value of the sector, but I want to acknowledge in this place his enthusiastic support over recent years to help the sector expand. I have never had an argument with royalties for regions; my argument has been with some aspects of the administration of royalties for regions and the way in which it has been administered as a whole. I want to acknowledge the member for Warren–Blackwood. He has been a great supporter of the creative industries, and it has been great to see the industry develop.

Industry development is a tricky issue for government and requires the highest level of scrutiny to ensure that public funds are used to drive public interest outcomes. The development of the creative industry has been based on a series of funding for events from a range of funding sources that often present a serious challenge for the not-for-profit volunteer sector that has largely been the driver of this industry development. I believe that we need to simplify funding arrangements clearly based on agreed outcomes that take into account the situation of organisations such as CinéfestOZ that currently have to apply to multiple sources of funding to achieve an outcome. Those sources might include Eventscorp, which has specific tourism outcome requirements that do not always line up with the industry development outcomes that we are after. CinéfestOZ has to incur the multiple costs associated the multiple applications and acquittals. I am very hopeful that the machinery-of-government changes will result in a simpler process in the future. As the member for Kalgoorlie has said in the past—he has just joined us—we should acknowledge good outcomes in this place when we see them. This has been a great outcome in the south west and I thank the member for Warren–Blackwood for his previous support.

At a national level, in 2014, the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported that the creative industries were worth an estimated \$86 billion to the national economy, accounting for around 6.9 per cent of national product. It is a significant industry and it reflects the growth of entertainment, especially in the service economy. In 2015, Deloitte Australia published 2013 data that suggested that film and television alone contributed \$5.8 billion to the national economy and employed an estimated 46 600 full-time equivalents. The creative industry sector makes a significant contribution.

I have started work with the Minister for Culture and the Arts on how we might further progress the development of this industry as a job generator, not only in the south west, but also throughout WA. We recently met with committee members from CinéfestOZ. They reiterated that the central issue was their having to apply for a cocktail of funds to enable CinéfestOZ and its related industry development activities to continue. That cocktail of funds included Eventscorp, Screenwest, the South West Development Commission, and royalties for regions amongst others. The problem is that each fund has a specific application process, specific acquittal requirements, differing outcome requirements and different time line requirements. Having a variety of funds that are specific to other industry sectors, such as tourism, makes it difficult for the creative sector to match its unique needs to those of established funding providers, such as Tourism WA. I hope that as we build a greater awareness of the link between creative industries and Culture and the Arts generally, we can begin to see this portfolio in a broader context and develop specific industry assistance programs for the sector. This can include support with leading-edge innovation, training and professional development; supporting collaborative workspaces, events development and management; and direct support to critical sectors that are emerging such as the film sector. The challenge ahead is for us to look for opportunities to grow this state's prosperity and increase revenue flows for government to deal with our fiscal difficulties. Building industry and jobs in all their forms has to be a key plank. I look forward to further work with the Ministers for Culture and the Arts; and State Development, Jobs and Trade to see the role this significant industry can play in relation to jobs, trading and prosperity.

Another south west success story is the development of Bunbury's sister-city relationship with the city of Jiaxing in south-east China. It is very opportune to mention that, given that the Premier is overseas at the moment in China helping to support business opportunities in tourism and education. It has been a very strong sister-city relationship; it is now approaching something like 15 years. Parallel to that there have been sister-chamber relationships between the Jiaxing Chamber of Commerce and the Bunbury Geographe Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The focus of the relationship has been more than civic engagement; it has been looking at establishing civic engagement, cultural awareness, shared understanding and friendship as a basis for supporting and stimulating business development.

We have had some pretty good examples of business outcomes associated with that. Bunbury City Glass is a medium-sized enterprise in Bunbury that specialises in toughened glass. It went across to China as part of a chamber-supported business delegation, teamed up with hardened and toughened glass providers out of the

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Jiaxing area and started to import toughened glass and build it into its local products, manufacturing an added-value product within the Bunbury area. It has been a major strategic advantage to Bunbury City Glass and has helped to establish it as a major supplier in that market area.

On the other side of coin, the Edith Cowan University South West Campus, based at Bunbury, has developed significant ties in supporting education in Jiaxing through the ECU nursing program. It regularly sends delegations of lecturers and nursing professionals from ECU in Bunbury across to Jiaxing to support its nursing education program. That has been reciprocated by visits from Jiaxing to ECU. The strength of those relationships helped build a foundation for international student exchange. I am very hopeful that that will provide a very promising series of outcomes for our region.

A few years ago we hosted 10 Guangzhou outbound travel operators. Guangzhou is a major provincial city centre for the Jiaxing area. They came across and provided a pretty frank appraisal of tourism familiarisation through the south west. We took them through the south west and they experienced our tourism product and gave us a perspective from the Chinese market point of view, particularly the market sectors that they dealt with. As part of that, the travel operators sponsored a major advertising campaign for the south west in the local papers in the Jiaxing area, which equated to about \$15 000 worth of direct marketing sponsorship of tourism product from the south west. The sort of feedback they gave us was that the market that we compete against is of course the packaged holiday Gold Coast–Sydney market, with very established icons that people could say they visited. But they did see the potential for us to add in a market component on the back of that packaging, whereby people could fly into Busselton, experience the south west and then exit back to China through Perth. The sort of products they were talking about were experience based; for example, people might come across and do a fishing course and then a cooking course associated with that experience and cook the fish caught on the day, photograph that and receive a certificate at the end for completing the course with the chef. That has enormous significance when people return to China from their holidays and can say that these are the activities they engaged in and these are the things they achieved. The operators told us that adventure-based products would be really interesting, such as products involving golfing and golfing experiences; fishing, as I have mentioned; and cycling, interestingly. The ability to do adventure cycling and four-wheel driving was particularly popular. They are all the sorts of things that people from China, who traditionally work incredibly hard and have little leisure time, can really get into and have some exciting breakout stuff in the south west. The feedback was really interesting because we tended to think that it would be a standard food-and-wine tourism package, but the operators were telling us that this really needed to be an interactive package in that people felt that they had left having made significant contacts with leading people in those fields and received a certificate signed off by those people.

To finish, I make special mention of the director of the Jiaxing Municipal Foreign Affairs Office, Ms Zhuang Yue. She has been a stalwart supporter of the south west in all aspects of agricultural opportunity, wine opportunity, food, tourism and manufacturing, and continues to this day to speak very strongly about the opportunities for Chinese people to engage with south west businesses and look at the opportunities for prosperity that flow from that. China has a very aspirational middle class that is emerging as a high wealth sector that pursues opportunities for a quality, prestige product, and the south west has plenty of that to offer.

MS A. SANDERSON (Morley — Parliamentary Secretary) [12.36 pm]: I, too, rise to speak on the Appropriation (Recurrent 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017 and the Appropriation (Capital 2010–11 to 2015–16) Supplementary Bill 2017, which we are examining cognately. These bill deals with the supplementary expenditure from 2010 to 2016, and this gives us the opportunity to discuss a range of budgetary issues and have a general broad-ranging debate.

We find ourselves in a very difficult time, with very challenging economic circumstances. I earlier listened to the member for Baldvis describe the circumstances of a family he has been supporting in Baldvis. It was really heartbreaking. As a mother, when your family experiences traumatic events, whether it is divorce or death, it is really your job to keep the show on the road and everyone moving and everything as consistent as you possibly can for your children. That is really all you want. The lengths to which parents will go to do that for their kids is extraordinary, and I am glad that family is receiving the support it is. It is a great credit to the school that it has those relationships and can identify when families are struggling and put supports around them, whether they are independent schools or public schools. I am always blown away by schools in my electorate and their P&C associations. Sometimes one or two people are really active and sometimes it is 10 to 15 people. Geographically it does not matter where the school is. The school next door in one suburb will have 15 active members, and the other will have one or two, but the commitment and time that they give to the schools makes a huge difference to the school community and is incredibly invaluable, particularly the pastoral care and extra supports that they provide.

Touching on the subject of pastoral care and supporting struggling families, I want to acknowledge Nollamara in my electorate of Morley. It is a suburb of quite significant disadvantage. Next to Mirrabooka it has the second

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highest unemployment rate—nearly 12 per cent—and a whole range of challenges and social issues come along with that. It has experienced very significant subdivision over the last 10 years, and not the best kind of subdivision, I have to say. I am a supporter of higher density and affordable housing, but I am also a supporter of liveable environments and the appropriate amenities being provided for that density. Nollamara has simply had an explosion of units, with no increase in amenity to support that community. It has actually divided the community quite significantly between those who have been there for many years and live on a 1 000 square metre block and have brought up their children there, and the block next door, which now has four families living on it with two cars for each unit. It makes for a really different kind of community. They do not have the access to improved transport infrastructure that they should have at that kind of density. It is a credit to the previous state government—it was late, but it happened—that it changed the planning code, so that unchecked density increase could not continue. I think the horse has bolted in Nollamara, unfortunately, but we can hopefully save other suburbs from the same fate, while supporting affordable housing without ruining the suburb.

The Uniting Church in Nollamara provides support for families and individuals who are really doing it tough. It is running on very little. I recently attended its annual general meeting with the member for Mirrabooka, Janine Freeman. It runs on a Lotterywest grant of \$135 000 a year, with some supplementary fundraising from the Uniting Church, and a small \$20 000 grant from the Department of Communities. It is a really small amount of money for the number of families the church supports, and the volunteers do an incredible job. I am looking forward to going down there tomorrow to catch up with them again. They provide a range of services and link people in with other services. The church provides emergency food packages, Christmas packages and clothing packages, and can provide some casework and link in with the Department of Communities to support people with mental health and domestic violence issues. It is an incredibly valuable and much-needed resource in Nollamara.

Of the local schools in Nollamara, Dianella Primary College, formerly known as Mirrabooka Primary School, and Nollamara Primary School are relatively small but deal with very complex cohorts. Nollamara is also an English language school, providing support for newly arrived families with children who have never spoken English. When I go into their classrooms, years 1 and 2 in particular, it is mind-blowing to see how the teachers manage to teach these skills so quickly. I recently held a sustainability competition in the schools, and students needed to come back with a project that they had put in place in their households to save the environment and to help improve sustainability. The Nollamara Primary School opted for its English cohort stream to take part. The language skills they developed through that school and their understanding of sustainability was a real credit to that school. Similarly, Dianella Primary College has recently received 2.5 full-time equivalent Aboriginal and Islander education officers through the government's increase of 300 education assistants across the state. The school really needs those AIEOs. It has a significant Aboriginal population, and it had lost its AIEOs over the past few years. They are now back in the early years, starting with one FTE this year and building up to 2.5 over the next two years. I am really pleased for that school. The work it does in engaging the whole community to support families is quite astounding.

The other group I have met with recently, and I have met with previously as the upper house member, is the Salvation Army in Morley. It is based just outside my electorate, but it services my electorate significantly. It runs a range of programs, including food packages. It used to run financial counselling but unfortunately, with the removal of that funding by the last government, it no longer does so. It has an outstanding youth service that, again, it runs on a relatively low budget, considering what it does. The service runs on \$135 000 a year, employing a full-time caseworker and a 0.5 FTE youth worker. It runs the breakfast club at John Forrest Senior High School—my old school—which services 125 kids a week, which is a huge number. It also works out of Hampton Park Primary School and Kiara. I will not touch on Kiara, because that is in the electorate of the member for Bassendean. Hampton Senior High School is also in Bassendean, but a very significant part of its cohort lives in my electorate. Hampton has had some significant challenges this year, and I mention these to highlight the importance of these programs. Many members may have heard of the young 14-year-old boy who committed suicide earlier this year in Morley Park. He was a year 9 student at Hampton Senior High school, and a member of the Perth-Bayswater Rugby Club, which is in Morley, just behind my office. That was an utterly devastating event for the family and the community. There was also a serious assault at the school, involving two students, that, disappointingly, made the news. I am always disappointed when the news reports issues like that at schools, because it is not good for the school, and I do not think it is necessarily in anyone's interest—the parents are always made aware of anything serious at schools—but it does put a cloud over a particular school, and unfairly so, I think. Hampton has had a few challenges this year and the Salvos were some of the first to arrive on the scene at the school when the news broke, talking to the other kids, playing soccer with them and trying to get them to open up a bit about what had happened. They have been working consistently with those kids in that school.

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The non-government organisations have faced a range of uncertainty over the past few years. The previous government put in place a review of non-government funding, so they had an extension of 12 months. The change of government also created further uncertainty for a lot of them, so they have been given another extension of 12 months. I know that Labor went to the election with a policy of providing longer term financial certainty for those NGOs providing really important support in our community. Given the increase, under the previous government in the number of NGOs providing support, it is even more important. Twelve-month, or two or three-year contracts make it really hard for organisations to continue to operate, because, not only is it difficult for the organisation to plan long-term projects, it is also very difficult for staff, who never know whether they will have a job after 12 months. Therefore the organisations lose really good staff. In an area like youth development, where relationships are key, it is about people on the ground and the relationships they have with the kids. Losing those people means that they have to start from scratch again when they have to employ someone else. They are still part of the broader NGO review, but I am very pleased that we will hopefully be able to provide them with some longer term funding.

I place on the record my concern at the lack of youth services in the Morley area. When I was hanging around the Morley Galleria in the 1980s, looking for things to do, there was nothing to do but hang around in the Galleria or get into trouble. It is still the case; there is literally nothing to do. The alleyway next to my office often has kids from John Forrest smoking cigarettes and hanging out and just generally doing what teenagers do. There is no youth centre as such. There is a fantastic youth centre in Altone and one in Bassendean, run by the Town of Bassendean, but there is absolutely nothing in Morley or Noranda covering that area. Considering the size of the schools there—we are looking at cohorts of up to 2 000 kids for each of the three major schools in that area—it is really lacking a youth centre. I hope to be able to work over the next few years with the local government and state governments to improve youth services in Morley. It has some pockets of challenging communities that need particular support. It has a high proportion of fly in, fly out employees, so was hit particularly hard by the slowdown in the mining sector, and those families were particularly challenged. In the 12 months leading up to the elections, speaking to many thousands of people, I found that jobs and job security was by far the number one concern on people's minds. There were many instances of people who had lost their contract or their job and were simply not able to make ends meet. They were looking for economic policies from a government that would give them some hope.

Debate interrupted, pursuant to standing orders.

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