

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

*Sixty-first Report — Terms of reference: Inquiry into past forced adoptive policies and practices — Tabling*

**HON PETER FOSTER (Mining and Pastoral)** [1.04 pm]: I am directed to present the sixty-first report of the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs titled *Terms of reference: Inquiry into past forced adoptive policies and practices*.

[See paper [2039](#).]

**Hon PETER FOSTER:** The report I have just tabled advises the house that the committee today resolved to commence an inquiry into past adoptive policies and practices during the twentieth century, notably between 1939 and 1980. In particular, the committee will seek to understand the lived experiences of those affected by historical forced adoption practices; examine the role of the state government, health services and private institutions in these practices; identify what measures are currently available to assist persons experiencing distress, their effectiveness and how those persons may be supported further; and consider any other matter that arises during the course of the inquiry deemed to be relevant by the committee. The inquiry arises from the committee's consideration of a petition containing 318 signatures presented by Jennifer McRae and tabled in the Legislative Council by Hon Lorna Harper, MLC, on 15 November 2022. The committee has called for written submissions from the public with a deadline of 21 April 2023.

I commend the report to the house.