

Partition Act 1869 and Productive Agricultural Land

Ms BUTLER question to ATTORNEY-GENERAL

My question is from Fiona Hume of the upper Derwent. Tasmania's *Partition Act 1869* is legislation that dates back more than 150 years. The concern is that a minority owner of a property may be able to pursue the sale of an entire holding even where that property is a longstanding productive family farm and the majority owners wish to continue operating it. While this issue also has arisen in relation to Arundel Farm in the Derwent Valley, the broader public policy question is whether Tasmania's laws strike the right balance between resolving co-ownership disputes and protecting productive agricultural land, family farming businesses and regional economic activity. Will the Attorney-General undertake a review of the *Partition Act 1869* and advise whether reforms are needed to provide courts with greater discretion when determining applications involving productive agricultural land?