

**DRAFT SECOND READING SPEECH**

Honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP

**Legislation and Regulatory Review (Premier and Cabinet) Bill 2026**

**\*Check Hansard for delivery\***

Honourable Speaker, I move that the Bill now be read a second time.

I am pleased to introduce this Bill, which makes a series of modest amendments that update and clarify five different pieces of legislation within my Premier portfolio.

The amendments contained in this Bill are administrative in nature. However, Bills of this kind play an important role in maintaining the Tasmanian statute book.

They demonstrate the government's commitment to removing legislation that is outdated, unnecessary and no longer fit for purpose. They also ensure that our laws remain clear, accessible and contemporary.

There is value in legislative housekeeping as part of sound public administration. Removing spent Acts, redundant statutory rules, and obsolete references improves the accessibility and credibility of the statute book and provides clarity for all.

This work also helps government agencies administer legislation more efficiently, by removing provisions that no longer serve any practical purpose.

I will now outline the amendments proposed in the Bill.

The Bill inserts transitional provisions into the *Public Works Committee Act 1914* to ensure that repealing the now obsolete *Public Works Committee Amendment Act 2009* does not affect any legal arrangements made under that Act. In practical terms, these provisions confirm that the 2009 Amendment Act has served its purpose and can be formally repealed.

The Bill also repeals the *Australia Acts (Request) Act 1997* which never commenced because the associated Commonwealth republic legislation was not made. Its repeal simply clears an inactive statute that has no legal or practical effect.

In addition, the Bill revokes three redundant statutory rules:

- *Proclamation under the Constitution Act 1934*
- *Proclamation under the State Service Amendment (Performance) Act 2011*
- *Proclamation under the Parliamentary (Disclosure of Interests) Amendment Act 2017.*

All three instruments are no longer needed. The *Proclamation under the Constitution Act 1934* simply appointed a date for a poll and has no ongoing legal effect.

The remaining proclamations served only to commence their respective Acts and are no longer required once commencement has occurred.

The Bill has been deliberately scoped to low-complexity, non-controversial amendments, and as such public consultation was not required. This reflects the technical nature of the changes and their focus on updating existing legislation.

This Bill forms part of the government's commitment to hold a Legislative Repeals Day in the August-September session of Parliament.

Honourable Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.