

Mr Speaker, I reserve my right to speak later.

**Debate adjourned.**

## **CONSOLIDATED FUND APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2) 2008 (No. 33)**

### **Second Reading**

[3.43 p.m.]

**Mr BARTLETT** (Denison - Premier - 2R) - I move –

That the bill be now read the second time.

Mr Speaker, the Government gave a commitment in the 2006 state of the State address that separate budget appropriations would be made to the parliamentary and independent agencies. As a result of this commitment, appropriations to the House of Assembly, Legislative Council, Legislature-General, Office of the Governor and Office of the Ombudsman were provided in a separate appropriation bill for the first time in 2007-08. These agencies will continue to receive appropriations in a separate appropriation bill in 2008-09, the Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2008. In addition and to fully implement the Government's commitment, the appropriation to the Tasmanian Audit Office will be included in this bill from 2008-09. This appropriation has historically been included in the appropriation for Finance-General.

The Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2008 appropriates \$19 640 000 from the Consolidated Fund in 2008-09 for the recurrent services and capital works of the important agencies that I have mentioned above. The bill recognises the unique role of these agencies in Tasmania's parliamentary and democratic systems and makes the independence of these agencies crystal clear. I commend the bill to the House.

**Debate adjourned.**

**The House adjourned at 3.44 p.m.**