

DRAFT SECOND READING SPEECH

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON MP

Appropriation (Further Supplementary Appropriation for 2023-24) Bill 2024

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Madam Speaker

The Appropriation (Further Supplementary Appropriation for 2023-24) Bill 2024 seeks a supplementary appropriation of \$82.050 million from the Public Account for this financial year.

Of this amount, \$74 million represents an operating services appropriation to Finance-General.

This amount is to be applied for the purposes of delivering the Government's commitment to pay a 'supercharged' Renewable Energy Dividend of \$250 to households and \$300 for small businesses, including embedded network customers.

The Bill also seeks additional operating services appropriation of \$8.050 million for the Department of State Growth.

Of this amount, \$5.250 million is to be appropriated for the purpose of funding and administering two grants programs: *King and Flinders Island – Primary Producers – Seasonal Conditions* and *Mainland Tasmania – Livestock Producers – Seasonal Conditions Scheme*, to provide relief to eligible primary production livestock businesses on King and Flinders Island and mainland Tasmania that have or are expected to experience financial impact, causing some hardship, due to extended dry conditions. Funding will also be provided to the Rural Relief Fund, to be administered through Rural Business Tasmania.

The Bill also provides \$300 000 for an initial grant to FermenTasmania to assist with the fit-out and equipping of their Fermentation Hub at Legana in the Tamar Valley. The amount relates to a 2024 State Election commitment to provide a \$1.7 million State Government contribution for the creation of a purpose-built fermentation facility to support Tasmania's agricultural producers for value adding to their produce creating products such as bread, wine, cheese, cider, whisky, and sauerkraut as well as creating jobs in the Tamar Valley. Construction of the facility is due to be completed by the end of the year and be operational in early 2025.

Finally, \$2.5 million is provided for an initial grant to the Devonport City Council toward its Sports Infrastructure Priority Investment Plan "Building a Sporting Legacy" to deliver state-of-the-art sporting and community infrastructure for the region. The amount relates to a 2024 State Election commitment to provide a \$25 million Tasmanian Government contribution to the \$60 million Investment Plan which includes the development of an indoor stadium and sporting facilities at the Devonport Oval Precinct, along with investment in the Valley Road Regional Football Centre.

Madam Speaker

I commend the Bill to the House.