DRAFT SECOND READING SPEECH

DEPUTY PREMIER

Crown Lands (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2026

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

The Crown Lands (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2026 delivers reforms under the Government's commitment to action areas of red tape reduction identified through the Audit of Tasmanian State and Local Government Licences, Permits and Approvals.

Streamlining business licensing requirements on reserved and Crown land will cut red tape, improve Government efficiency and remove barriers for businesses in Tasmania.

The Bill also includes a minor amendment to an out-of-date requirement around serving infringement and withdrawal notices, which will improve safety and Government efficiency.

The first matter addressed by this Bill is that, under the *Crown Lands Act 1976* and the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002*, small businesses are currently required to obtain an individual business licence to be able to trade at events held on reserved or Crown land, where the event holder is authorised to hold the event.

This means that for events, such as food and wine events, festivals and community markets, the event organiser and each individual vendor must obtain a business licence from the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service. The current requirements create a burden for businesses involved in events, as well as inefficiencies for the Parks and Wildlife Service.

This Bill cuts this unnecessary red tape by removing the requirement for vendors to hold their own business licence if they are trading under an overarching business licence held by an event organiser. This will allow events to operate under one overarching licence.

With these changes, event organisers with a licence will be empowered to enter into their own arrangements with vendors participating in their events without Parks and Wildlife Service involvement. At the same time, the Parks and Wildlife Service will continue to oversee the overarching event-holder licence to make sure events have the appropriate and necessary protections in place for reserved and Crown lands.

The Bill introduces the amendments required to put this system into place, including arrangements for where there is already a lease, licence or business licence in force that authorises an event or other commercial activity. These amendments will make

approvals faster and simpler and provide certainty and confidence to event organisers.

Secondly, the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* currently requires a business licence for anyone filming or taking photographic images in Tasmania's national parks and reserves with a view to receiving some form of payment. This payment could be monetary or some other benefit, such as endorsements or gifted products.

This means that a business licence is required for small-scale content creators making minimal revenue from their content, through to large film productions.

In December 2025, the Tasmanian Government introduced a temporary Enthusiast Business Licence with low fees and limited requirements for small-scale filming and photography using hand-held equipment with negligible impact on reserved land.

This Bill now creates an exemption from business licensing requirements for some filming activities, with thresholds in place for when a business licence will still be required.

This removes the default requirement for a business licence for filming and taking photographs when it is for social media content, speculative commercial use, or as part of an authorised group activity like a wedding. A business licence will still be required if these activities trigger a threshold such as the activity will cause damage to the environment or significantly inconvenience another person, or is away from a formed track or generally accessible area.

This amendment removes red tape for people filming or taking photographic images for commercial purposes where there is negligible impact to reserve values.

Digital imagery and social media have become an important part of modern society, and the changes will provide a clear pathway for people who create content to obtain the appropriate authorisation to legally conduct their activities on reserved land. The streamlined process will balance the needs of small-scale content creators with the need to protect reserve values and the enjoyment of other visitors.

Importantly, the amendments introduced in the Bill retain the existing protections that apply on reserves. Anyone filming or taking photographs on reserved land, whether they need a business licence or not, will still be required to do the right thing and comply with the prohibitions in the *National Parks and Reserves Management Regulations 2019*, such as not disturbing wildlife or using drones.

Finally, under the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002*, Infringement and Withdrawal Notices currently must be served in person to anyone who has committed an offence under the Act or the Regulations. This creates inefficiencies, requiring staff to invest time and travel around the State to serve notices in person. It also poses a safety risk for those serving notices. To minimise the risk and avoid future incidents the Bill modernises requirements by allowing notices to also be served by post or electronic means.

This change brings requirements for serving notices in line with the *Crown Lands Act 1976* and the *Police Offences Act 1935*, which both allow notices to be served by post.

Madam Speaker, I commend the Bill to the House.