

## **TASMANIAN DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2008 (No.**

### **Second Reading**

**Ms WRIEDT** (Franklin - Minister for Economic Development and Tourism - 2R) - I move –

That the bill be now read the second time.

The Tasmanian Development Amendment Bill 2008 amends the Tasmanian Development Act 1983 to allow for an increase in the maximum number of directors on the Tasmania Development and Resources Board - TDR board - from eight to nine.

Tasmania Development and Resources is an authority with an independent board that was established under the provisions of the Tasmanian Development Act 1983 to encourage and promote the balanced economic development of Tasmania. The TDR board currently has a full complement of eight directors with the backgrounds, experience and skills that are necessary to enable TDR to achieve its objectives.

On 12 February 2008 the portfolios of economic development and tourism were combined under the administrative control of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The TDR board is operating in a highly effective manner, but it currently has no representation from tourism. Given that tourism and branding are significant economic drivers for Tasmania, it is desirable that the board secures additional and complementary experience and knowledge in the tourism field.

The bill provides for the appointment of one additional director to the TDR board, which in this instance, will be the Chair of the Tourism Tasmania Board. Complementary legislation is also currently before the Parliament to allow an additional director with broad economic development experience and knowledge, to be nominated and appointed to the Tourism Tasmania Board. This bill recognises the importance of tourism to Tasmania's economic future and will further support the integration of tourism and economic development.

On behalf of the government I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of both boards for their ongoing contribution to the development of the State. I am sure that closer cooperation between the two boards will help to ensure that Tasmania continues to develop in a strategic and sustainable manner. I commend the bill to the House.