

TOURISM TASMANIA 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 Tourism Tasmania Amendment Bill 2008 amends the Tourism Tasmania Act 1996 to allow for an increase in the maximum number of directors on the Tourism Tasmania Board from seven to eight.

Tourism Tasmania is an authority with an independent board established under the provisions of the Tourism Tasmania Act 1996 in order to maximise the economic and social benefits for Tasmania by fostering a sustainable tourism industry in the state. Tourism Tasmania controls and influences a significant component of our Brand and Tourism proposition and this positioning is increasingly becoming a key economic driver for the State.

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. There is currently no designated directorship on the Tourism Tasmania Board that picks up the broader economic development issues in Tasmania. Given these two portfolios have been combined to better directors to allow for a broader skill set on the board. The bill provides for the appointment for one additional director to the Tourism Tasmania Board, which in this instance, will be the Secretary of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Complementary legislation is currently before the Parliament to allow one additional director to be nominated and appointed to the Tasmania Development and Resources Board. This will further enhance the integration of tourism as a key economic driver of this State.

On behalf of the Government I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the respective boards for their continuing contribution to the development of our State. I am sure that the bill will result in closer cooperation between the two boards to ensure that our State continues to grow in a sustainable manner. I commend the bill to the House.