



Legislative Council

MEDIA RELEASE

23 July 2011

SURROGACY BILL 2011 & SURROGACY (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2011 REFERRED FOR INQUIRY

The *Surrogacy Bill 2011 & Surrogacy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2011* were referred to the Legislative Council Government Administration Committee 'A' for further consideration on 16 June 2011 prior to being debated in the Legislative Council later this year.

Inquiry Chair Ruth Forrest MLC said today the purpose of the Inquiry was to consider operational aspects of the Bills that are currently before the Council. The Inquiry would not be dealing with issues such as whether surrogacy should be regulated or the appropriateness or otherwise of access to surrogacy.

The Committee will be considering issues including:

- the supervision and sanction of pre-conception altruistic surrogacy agreements;
- the making of relevant parent recognition orders and general parenting orders;
- matters related to the certification of the birth; and
- the recording of genetic parentage.

It is important to note that the purpose of the Inquiry is not to revisit the work of the many inquiries into the issue of surrogacy. The Inquiry aims to ensure that any legislation related to surrogacy is of the highest standards and actually achieves its intended purpose – primarily to ensure the best interests of the child are the paramount issue in all considerations.

Media Note: The order of the Council referring the Bills to the Committee is attached.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Ruth Forrest MLC on 0419 879 524