

Conclusion

Speaker, in our time in office, this government has radically changed the dynamics of the state budget.

We have shifted the budget towards giving priority to core public services, such as education, health, transport and community safety.

We have quadrupled investment in vital public infrastructure since 1999.

We have rebuilt hospitals and health centres, aged-care services, schools and community facilities right across the state.

We have turned around decades of underinvestment in regional Victoria.

We have shown that it is not necessary to starve core services of funds, sack workers and slash public investment in the name of good economic management.

In doing these things, we have strengthened the underlying capacity of this state to survive the current global economic downturn.

We do not know how far-reaching the impacts of this downturn will be. No-one can predict exactly when the global recovery may kick in. But we do know that Victoria is well positioned to manage these impacts and make a good, strong recovery.

By investing even further in skills and infrastructure, this budget puts a very solid floor under Victoria's longer term economic prospects.

By delivering jobs, this budget not only boosts economic activity but secures the livelihoods of many Victorians and their families during the economic downturn.

In this budget, the Brumby Labor government delivers the strong leadership and responsible investment needed to see Victorians through the global financial crisis and build for a better, brighter future.

It is a bold and forward-looking budget. It is the right budget for the times and it is the right budget for Victoria.

Speaker, I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr WELLS (Scoresby).

Debate adjourned until Thursday, 7 May.

Serjeant-at-Arms escorted Mr Lenders from chamber.

APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT 2009/2010) BILL

Message read recommending appropriation and transmitting estimates of revenue and expenditure for 2009–10.

Estimates tabled.

Introduction and first reading

Mr BRUMBY (Premier) introduced a bill for an act for the appropriation of certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund for the Parliament in respect of the financial year 2009–10 and for other purposes.

Read first time.

Statement of compatibility

Mr BRUMBY (Premier) tabled following statement in accordance with Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act:

In accordance with section 28 of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities, I make this statement of compatibility with respect to the Appropriation (Parliament 2009/10) Bill 2009.

In my opinion, the Appropriation (Parliament 2009/10) Bill 2009, as introduced to the Legislative Assembly, is compatible with the human rights protected by the charter. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of bill

The purpose of the Appropriation (Parliament 2009/10) Bill 2009 is to provide appropriation authority for payments from the Consolidated Fund to the Parliament in respect of the 2009–10 financial year.

Human rights issues

1. *Human rights protected by the charter that are relevant to the bill*

The bill does not raise any human rights issues.

2. *Consideration of reasonable limitations — section 7(2)*

As the bill does not raise any human rights issues, it does not limit any human rights, and therefore it is not necessary to consider section 7(2) of the charter.

Conclusion

I consider that the bill is compatible with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 because it does not raise a human rights issue.

John Brumby, MP
Premier

Second reading

Mr BRUMBY (Premier) — I move:

That this bill be read a second time.

The bill provides appropriation authority for payments from the Consolidated Fund to the Parliament in respect of the 2009–10 year including ongoing liabilities incurred by the Parliament such as employee entitlements that may be realised in the future.

Honourable members will be aware that other funds are appropriated for parliamentary purposes by way of special appropriations contained in other legislation. In addition, unapplied appropriations under the Appropriation (Parliament 2008/2009) Act 2008 have been estimated and included in the budget papers. Prior to 30 June actual unapplied appropriation will be finalised and the 2009–10 appropriations adjusted by the approved carryover amounts pursuant to the provisions of section 32 of the Financial Management Act 1994.

In line with the wishes of the presiding officers, appropriations in the bill are made to the departments of the Parliament.

The total appropriation authority sought in this bill is \$96.048 million (clause 3 of the bill) for Parliament in respect of the 2009–10 financial year.

I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr WELLS (Scoresby).

Debate adjourned until Tuesday, 19 May.

RULINGS BY THE CHAIR

Adjournment: guidelines

The SPEAKER — Order! I wish to clarify a matter regarding the raising of issues in the adjournment debate. Previous rulings make it clear that a member can raise only one matter for the attention of one minister during a contribution to the adjournment debate.

A more recent trend has developed where a member raises an issue, for example, road problems in their electorate, and seeks action from the minister to address that problem. In doing so the member may illustrate the issue by identifying a number of specific road problems

they believe need rectification. In my view the raising of an issue in this manner is appropriate, as one issue is being raised within the responsibility of one minister.

Last sitting week the member for Doncaster sought action from the Treasurer to deliver funding in the upcoming budget for facilities and services in the Doncaster area. The member then went on to identify three projects that fell within the responsibilities of the Minister for Health, the Minister for Public Transport and the Minister for Roads and Ports respectively. It is not reasonable to expect the Treasurer to respond in detail to issues that fall within the responsibilities of other ministers. In my view this violates this house's practice of allowing a member to raise one matter for the attention of one minister, and such action will not be permitted in the future.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

Review of joint standing orders

Mr BATCHELOR (Minister for Community Development) — By leave, I move:

That the resolution of the house of 4 December 2008 providing that the Standing Orders Committee be required to present its report on a review of the standing orders regarding the passage of legislation, the opening of Parliament and petitions by 4 June 2009 be amended so far as to require the report to be presented to the house by 10 December 2009.

Motion agreed to.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Program

Mr BATCHELOR (Minister for Community Development) — I move:

That under standing order 94(2), the orders of the day, government business relating to the following bills be considered and completed by 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, 7 May:

Crimes Amendment (Identity Crime) Bill

Justice Legislation Amendment Bill

Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Amendment Bill

Planning Legislation Amendment Bill

Road Legislation Amendment Bill

The motion clearly indicates that the legislative program being put forward by the government this week is being curtailed to accommodate the