

SWAN AND CANNING RIVERS MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2014

Introduction and First Reading

Bill introduced, on motion by **Mr A.P. Jacob (Minister for Environment)**, and read a first time.

Explanatory memorandum presented by the minister.

Second Reading

MR A.P. JACOB (Ocean Reef — Minister for Environment) [3.59 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

This bill seeks to amend the Swan and Canning Rivers Management Act 2006 to support the amalgamation of the roles and functions of the Swan River Trust with the Department of Parks and Wildlife. This initiative will strengthen the management of Western Australia's environment and river parks by providing a more focused conservation and parks department. These proposed amendments will allow the management of the iconic Swan Canning Riverpark to be integrated with the conservation, protection and promotion of Western Australia's unique national parks, marine parks and reserves already managed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

The bill will improve resourcing capacity and combine the expertise of the two agencies, as well as streamline existing arrangements and corporate services.

Debate interrupted, pursuant to standing orders.

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