Extract from Hansard

[COUNCIL — Wednesday, 16 March 2011] p1411b-1412a Hon Simon O'Brien

APPROPRIATION (CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT) RECURRENT 2009–10 (SUPPLEMENTARY) BILL 2010

Receipt and First Reading

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by Hon Simon O'Brien (Minister for Finance), read a first time.

Second Reading

HON SIMON O'BRIEN (South Metropolitan — Minister for Finance) [9.37 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

This bill seeks to appropriate out of the consolidated account the sum of \$820 365 527 for recurrent payments made during the financial year ended 30 June 2010 for the purposes and services detailed in schedule 1 of the bill. These payments, which were of an extraordinary and unforeseen nature, were made under authority of the Treasurer's Advance Authorisation Act 2010. The payments were charged to the consolidated account under the authority of section 27 of the Financial Management Act 2006, and reflect excess expenditures against appropriations and expenditures for which there were no appropriations during the year.

In 2009–10, recurrent appropriations amounted to \$16 724.6 million, a net increase of \$438.7 million from the 2009–10 budget estimate of \$16 285.9 million. The unforeseen appropriation of \$820.4 million sought in this bill was offset by underspending of \$411.8 million against other votes and overspending of \$30.1 million authorised by other statutes. As underspending against other votes cannot be netted against excesses or new items approved under the Financial Management Act 2006, parliamentary authorisation is required for each vote when expenditure exceeds appropriation or for a new item.

The amount sought in this bill is \$1.1 million higher than the amount published in the *Annual Report on State Finances*. Following discussions between the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Office of the Auditor General, it is considered that this variance is not material enough from a whole-of-government perspective to warrant a corrigendum. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned, pursuant to standing orders.