

**SUITORS' FUND AMENDMENT (LEVY) BILL 2017**

*Receipt and First Reading*

Bill received from the Assembly; and, on motion by **Hon Sue Ellery (Leader of the House)**, read a first time.

*Second Reading*

**HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House)** [6.39 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

This bill needs to be viewed in conjunction with clauses 4 and 5 of the Suitors' Fund Amendment Bill 2017, which seeks to address the funding deficiency of the suitors' fund by amending the Suitors' Fund Act 1964 to remove the current cap on the levy and provide for the quantum of the levy to be prescribed in regulations. The levy imposed by the bill amounts to a tax. Section 46(7) of the Constitution Acts Amendment Act 1899 requires a separate bill to impose the levy, and this is that bill.

Pursuant to standing order 126(1), I advise that this bill is not a uniform legislation bill. It does not ratify or give effect to an intergovernmental or multilateral agreement to which the government of the state is a party, nor does this bill, by reason of its subject matter, introduce a uniform scheme or uniform laws throughout the commonwealth.

I commend the bill to the house and table the explanatory memorandum.

[See paper 1778.]

Debate adjourned, pursuant to standing orders.