

BIKIE ANTI-ASSOCIATION LAWS

629. Mr J.R. QUIGLEY to the Minister for Police:

In respect of parts 2 to 10 of the Western Australian anti-association laws, the minister said that proclamation is imminent but that the government is waiting upon the outcome of decisions pending in the High Court on anti-association laws in other states. Can the minister kindly inform the house what are those other cases and from which states those cases emanate?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

I will go into a little more detail with this bill, which passed through the houses of Parliament late in 2012.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Mr Speaker, at the start of question time today you suggested that answers to questions had to be relevant to the questions asked.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: The member for Butler asked a specific question about what was happening in the High Court; he has not asked a general question. I ask that the minister answer the question he asked.

The SPEAKER: Minister, can you please address the cases that are before the High Court and from which states they come?

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As surprising as this may seem to members of the house, I do not have at my fingertips the specific names of the individual cases before the High Court from the other states, but I am happy to provide that information on notice.

Mr J.R. Quigley: Which states?

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: What I would like to say on this question is that it is very complex and complicated legislation. Even though we expect the proclamation of this legislation to occur shortly, we realistically do not expect to bring any successful convictions or charges before the courts in this state until at least the middle of 2014.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Armadale!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: That is the amount of time it will take for us to work up the parameters for these sorts of cases and to ensure that we have successful convictions as a result of the efforts put in by police in these matters.