

MOWEN FOREST

6. Hon LYNN MacLAREN to the minister representing the Minister for Forestry:

- (1) Has the minister received an offer to buy the Mowen forest from the Margaret River Regional Environment Centre for the purpose of protecting it from logging now and into the future?
- (2) Is the minister aware that the offer of \$90 000 was raised by crowdfunding over the summer parliamentary break?
- (3) Will the minister accept the offer?
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the Minister for Forestry.

- (1) The state government has received an offer to buy the harvest coupes Mowen 1 and 2.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) No.
- (4) The forestry industry has important economic and social benefits, particularly for the south west. The state government is committed to the forestry industry.

The PRESIDENT: Does Hon Rick Mazza have a question? No? Happy birthday anyhow!