

ANIMAL ACTIVISM — LEGISLATION

819. Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General:

I advise that Hon Peter Collier is absent on urgent parliamentary business.

I refer to the Attorney General's assertion on 23 May 2019 during a Legislative Assembly estimates hearing that his legislation for increased punishments and other measures to deal with vegan anti-animal cruelty activists "will go to cabinet on Monday week"—namely, on 3 June.

- (1) Has any submission for approval to draft gone before cabinet; and, if not, why not?
- (2) Has any submission for approval to print gone before cabinet; and, if not, why not?
- (3) What is the status of that promised bill and when will it be introduced?
- (4) Will the bill extend to providing additional measures to protect businesses and the community from, and punish, climate change activists who have threatened radical action to promote their cause; and, if not, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) Yes.
- (2)–(3) The bill is currently being drafted and it will be introduced into Parliament in due course.
- (4) No. The government is taking exceptional measures to protect farmers because it recognises that farmers are particularly vulnerable to these acts of trespass since they typically live where they work and live in remote and regional areas. The existing criminal law is otherwise sufficient and police are well prepared to enforce the law should climate change activists breach it.