

STANDING COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM LEGISLATION AND STATUTES REVIEW

Extension of Reporting Time — Motion

Resumed from an earlier stage of the sitting.

HON MICHAEL MISCHIN (North Metropolitan — Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [6.03 pm]: I will keep it short because I said all that I can usefully say earlier when I tabled the report. I will, of course, respond if any issues are raised by members regarding this motion to extend time to 20 November, but in short form there are issues with the bill that expose questions of parliamentary sovereignty for certain legislation that will come into operation in Western Australia once the bill becomes law without the Parliament necessarily having an ability to consider the merits of that legislation or deal with any issues that arise out of it.

The other element that is particularly significant is that a scheme is proposed by which changes to a national scheme will be incorporated into the laws of Western Australia subject to one of the houses of Parliament disallowing those laws. That is a novel approach that, we understand from the evidence that has been given by departmental officers, may form a model for other legislation adopting and modifying national schemes and incorporating them into the Western Australian statute book. That requires some further investigation and consideration in order that we can discharge our function and responsibility to inform this house. We are awaiting further information from the department and further evidence. The extension is being sought for a relatively long period, but rather than having a further extension, we would seek 20 November with an intention of delivering a report much earlier than that.

HON SUE ELLERY (South Metropolitan — Leader of the House) [6.05 pm]: We agree.

HON ROBIN CHAPPLE (Mining and Pastoral) [6.05 pm]: The Greens also agree.

Question put and passed.