

DRAFT MENTAL HEALTH BILL 2011 — COSTINGS

**173. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Mental Health:**

I refer to the high number of submissions on the draft mental health bill 2011 expressing concern that provisions in the draft bill will lead to an increase in workload for nursing and other specialist staff at mental health sites.

- (1) Has the bill been costed; and, if not, why not?
- (2) If the answer to (1) is no, will the minister undertake to have the bill fully costed prior to its introduction into the Parliament; and, if not, why not?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the member very much, and I appreciate the questioning; it is fantastic.

- (1)–(2) Yes; the bill has been fully costed. Hopefully, we will start to see some of those costs starting to come through in the next budget, but the implementation of the bill has been fully costed and the government's commitment to implement the bill is the government's commitment to also resource it.