

RETIREMENT VILLAGES ACT — AMENDMENT BILL

**38. Hon KATE DOUST to the Minister for Commerce:**

- (1) Why has the government continued to stall the introduction of a Retirement Villages Act amendment bill?
- (2) When will this bill be introduced to Parliament?
- (3) Will these arrangements seek to introduce a power to remove “non-performing” managers and to appoint an administrator where the wellbeing or financial security of residents are at risk; and, if not, why not?
- (4) Will these amendments include provisions to introduce a limit on the time an outgoing non-owner resident can be charged for ongoing operating costs; and, if so, what time period is being proposed?

**Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question but I take issue with the premise contained in it.

- (1) This government and the staff of my department are committed to supporting retirees and have been working diligently to ensure that the amendments to this act are watertight and do not result in unintended consequences for some of the more potentially vulnerable members of our community. We want this completed as quickly as possible but done right the first time. The proposed amendments to the Retirement Villages Act are complex. The time taken has been to ensure a fair balance between increasing protections to residents and ensuring the continued viability of the retirement villages industry. Much of the time taken has been devoted to solving complex legal issues.
- (2) This bill will be introduced to Parliament before the end of the current parliamentary session.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Yes. The proposed time period is six months.