

An update from

# ROBERT SIMMS MLC & TAMMY FRANKS MLC

your Greens in State Parliament

Dear resident,

It's an honour representing you in the state's Upper House. Here's a snapshot of some of the things we've been working on in Parliament over the last year.



## HOUSING FOR ALL

South Australia is in the middle of full-blown housing crisis. Thousands remain on the waitlist for social housing, and rent prices have continued to spiral out of control. We desperately need to invest in public housing and reform a rental system that is skewed in favour of landlords.

While many South Australians are being locked out of the rental market, some landlords are making record profits. We've introduced a Private Members Bill to cap rent increases in line with CPI and restrict them to once in a 24-month period. This has worked in Canada, France, and New York for years - why not SA? We're also calling for action on vacant properties and a big investment in public and social housing.

## REDUCING WASTE

In July our bill protecting food businesses that allow consumers to use their own takeaway containers passed both Houses of Parliament, becoming law. South Australians have a proud track record when it comes to waste reduction, and this is just another example of us leading the way.

Some of the world's biggest companies are selling products with deliberately short lifespans, knowing full well that they will only last a few years before we need to buy replacements. The result is a growing mountain of e-waste. We've

introduced a bill that will require the shortest lifespan of the product to be advertised at the point of sale and applies to any electrical products that have built in (non-removable) batteries or plug into electricity sockets. This is a common-sense initiative that will enable consumers to make an informed choice about the lifespan of a product before they buy – a good outcome for consumers' hip pockets and our environment.



Campaigning with the Anti-Poverty Network

## BRING BACK ETSA

Skyrocketing prices and unreliable supply over the last months has demonstrated that the privatisation of electricity has utterly failed us in SA. We've called for a commission of inquiry to examine reviving ETSA and returning South Australia's electricity distribution and transmission network to public ownership.

We've also called on the Malinauskas Government to restore a range of

solar and battery storage subsidies it axed in last year's budget. Public utilities should work for the interests of the community – not corporate shareholders.

## PROTECTING OUR PARK LANDS

The Adelaide Park Lands are an iconic and cherished part of our state. They should be for all South Australians to enjoy. But they continue to shrink. Each successive generation loses a little bit more, and we need action now to ensure that this unique part of SA is not lost.

We cannot wait any longer to protect our cultural, historic and environmental heritage. Last October our bill to add the Adelaide Park Lands to the State Heritage List successfully passed the Upper House. It's now time for the Malinauskas Government to back our bill in the Lower House and pass it into law. Our Park Lands should not be for sale.



Visiting the Murray Bridge Foodbank

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### PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

We've moved a motion calling on Parliament to join the many scientists, academics, civil society organisations and cities throughout the world in endorsing a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to end expansion of new fossil fuel projects and ensure a just transition globally for workers, communities and countries that have been dependent on fossil fuels.

We've also spoken out in Parliament about the continued attempts by big companies and authoritarian regimes to launder their reputations through sponsoring sporting events. Santos sponsorship of the Tour Down Under is sportswashing 101 by a company seeking to green its tarnished image. We see through that – they are still a fossil fuel company that directly contributes to the climate crisis no matter what cover they seek from associations with a cycling event.

Last year, Premier Peter Malinauskas welcomed the LIV Golf International Series, which is majority owned by the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia, coming to South Australia in 2023. Perhaps if 2022 is sportswashing's biggest year, we can make 2023 the year we end it.



Visiting the St. Kilda Wetlands

### ANIMAL WELFARE

South Australia has some of the weakest animal welfare laws in the nation and reform is urgently needed. We've reintroduced our bill to strengthen animal welfare in SA, which includes provisions to introduce a code of practice and licensing requirements for animal shelters and empowers the RSPCA to take action to prevent animal cruelty. It will address of SA's woefully inadequate minimum animal welfare standards and bring much needed transparency and accountability to the practices of shelters. Soon we will be introducing a much-needed Bill for an independent Office of Animal Welfare.

We have known for a long time that jumps racing is dangerous for both horses and jockeys, and we are glad that the South Australian Government has finally taken action to ban jumps racing by passing our Bill in the Lower House. This is a massive win for animal welfare in our state!

### VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

The Greens are committed to supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart in full. First Nations people and communities have made it clear that they want to have a say in their affairs based on the principle of self-determination. That's why here in SA we've worked with the Malinauskas Government to ensure that its Bill for a directly elected First Nations Voice to SA Parliament becomes a reality.

The State First Nations Voice will be able to address Parliament on legislation of interest to Aboriginal people, make an annual address to Parliament, and engage Ministers and Chief Executives about budgets

and priorities. This is a historic reform that will enable South Australian First Nations people to be heard at the highest level of decision-making in our state like they never have before.



with Ngarrindjeri Elder  
Uncle Moogy Sumner AM

### GET IN TOUCH

We'd love to hear from you about how we can better serve you and our SA community. You can contact using the details below.

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