

## 4.2 Representation of the People (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2015 – Second Reading approved

**The Speaker:** We turn now to the Representation of the People (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, and I call on the mover, the Hon. Member for Douglas South, Mr Malarkey.

**Mr Malarkey:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

The object of this Bill is to rename the constituency of Douglas West, which was renamed earlier this year under the Representation of the People Act, back to Douglas South.

I explained it when asking for permission to introduce. This was something that was done and caused a little bit of confusion in Douglas South. Douglas South has suddenly been called Douglas West. This Bill, purely and simply, is to bring it back to being called Douglas South. It does not affect anybody else, other than those living in Douglas South. It does not affect any boundary issues or anything else moving forward.

Clause 1 provides for the short title of the Bill.

Clause 2 provides for the revocation of the resulting Act.

Clause 3 defines the 1995 Act in order to avoid cumbersome repetition of the full Act, the Representation of the People Act.

Clause 4 simply renames Douglas West back to Douglas South again, which will make it much clearer for those living in Douglas South and going forward on the voting day.

Clause 5, I would say, Mr Speaker, is the important one. Clause 5 contains transitional and supplementary provision to ensure that anything done before the date on which the renaming takes effect, in relation to the constituency of Douglas West as constituted by the 2014 Act, is treated as having been done in relation to the renaming of the constituency. Basically, if somebody were to stand up now and say they were going to stand for Douglas West next year and put their expenses down and start printing stuff, clause 5 would say that any money you have spent now on Douglas West will be classed as Douglas South come the election time. So you cannot get away with spending a little bit of money doing some advertising now and then suddenly, when the Act comes into force – if we are lucky to get it through – it will still be constituted as being part of Douglas South ... *[Inaudible]* would now be classed as the same.

With that, I would like to move the motion in my name, sir.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Member for Douglas West, Mr Thomas.

**Mr Thomas:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, I put the question that the Representation of the People (Amendment) (No.2) Bill be read for a second time. Those in favour, say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.