for Aboriginal people is that they may get representation on the commission board but only at the minister's discretion.

Now this side intends to take the minister on his word that there will be continued Aboriginal representation on this board. This side would also consider the current nomination method for Aboriginal representation on this board be continued to determine Aboriginal representation on this board.

Here is the test for the minister with this legislation. We will not oppose it at this time or seek to table amendments because we want the minister to honour his commitment to the second reading speech. The minister should get back to the land councils and allay their fears about this amendment. He should commit to them continued board representation and method of representation and move towards improving trust between land councils and his government. If the minister does not honour his commitment to his second reading speech, we will be back with amendments of our own looking to reinstate formal Aboriginal representation on this board.

Tourism industry comments in relation to this amendment - there was some concern that a smaller board could lead to less stakeholder consultation. Industry representatives would like the new board to look at formalised effective stakeholder community consultation committees to advise the board on park management issues as well as receive, in a formalised manner, strategies and management issues being addressed by the board. They suggest there could be two committees made up - one from the Top End and one from the centre - and existing tourism bodies could then nominate people to represent the tourism industry in those regions.

The minister has stated the primary reason stated for the reduction in board size is to reduce expenditure on administration by way of decreasing the complexity of organising large numbers of people to travel to board meetings and educational visits to outlying areas. I'd be interested to hear what the notional dollar value saving is anticipated to be through this measure. The opposition supports continued effort to streamline government processes, to aid decision making and to reduce costs. However, that should not mean less consultation, rather that the new board work hard in the area of stakeholder consultation. With these comments, the opposition supports this amendment.

Mr REED (Parks and Wildlife): Mr Speaker, I thank the honourable member and the opposition for their support for this legislation. The commitments made in the second reading speech that I delivered during the course of the last sittings speak for themselves and will stand on their merits. I think that a streamlined board will add to the efficiency of operation of the commission.

Mr Speaker, I move that the bill be now read a second time.

Motion agreed to; bill read a second time.

Mr REED (Parks and Wildlife) (by leave): Mr Speaker, I move that the bill be now read a third time.

Motion agreed to; bill read a third time.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Mr PALMER (Leader of Government Business): Mr Speaker, I move that so much of standing orders be suspended as would prevent the *AustralAsia Railway (Special Provisions) Bill* (Serial 209) passing through all stages at this sitting.

Motion agreed to.

NORTHERN TERRITORY LICENSING COMMISSION BILL (Serial 183)
GAMING CONTROL AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 184)
GAMING MACHINE AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 185)
KAVA MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 186)
LIQUOR AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 187)
PRIVATE SECURITY AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 188)
WORK HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 189)
RACING AND BETTING AMENDMENT BILL (Serial 194)
RACING AND GAMING AUTHORITY ACT REPEAL BILL (Serial 190)

Continued from 14 October 1999.

Mr TOYNE (Stuart): Mr Speaker, the opposition supports these bills.

Mr BALDWIN (Racing, Gaming and Licensing): Mr Speaker, I thank members opposite for their lengthy comments and I thank my officers for making their way here tonight. We will not need you, gentlemen.

This is all about the creation of the Department of Industries and Business and creating some efficiencies in the regulatory regime across the board