

Harmony Day 2015

(Mr Guy Barnett MP)

“Madam Speaker, I give notice that on tomorrow I shall move that this House:-

1. Recognises that this coming Saturday, 21st March 2015, will be Harmony Day, an annual celebration of Australia’s cultural diversity;
2. Notes that the event, a Howard Government initiative celebrating its fifteenth year in 2015, is a valuable chance to learn more about each other, recognising what unites us and celebrating our unique contributions to Australia;
3. Further notes that the theme for this day is ‘Everyone Belongs’—a worthy recognition of the contributions made by all the groups that make up our community from the traditional custodians of our land to the most recent migrants;
4. Acknowledges that today, alongside the more than 88% of Tasmanians born in Australia, we have more than 57,650 people (11.6%) of the Tasmanian population who were born overseas with over 24% of Tasmanians (113, 969 people) have one or both parents born overseas;
5. Notes further that Tasmania is home to residents from over 170 countries with over 75 languages spoken across the state;
6. Acknowledges that the diverse community that we have is a key asset for the State, bringing economic and social benefits that help enhance and strengthen Tasmania, with the Liberal Government committed to fostering a culture of respect and dignity for all Tasmanians.

(19 March 2015)