

CRIMINAL LAW CONSOLIDATION (*THROWING OBJECTS AT MOVING VEHICLES*) AMENDMENT BILL

31 May 2006

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 11 May. Page 176.)

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: I support the second reading. The bill seeks to amend the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935 in order to impose an intermediate penalty for throwing rocks at moving vehicles. In principle, I support the bill. My colleague Mr Evans and I concur in the comments of Mrs Redmond in the other place that there is merit in not prescribing by regulation the categories of missiles but, rather, to say that rocks, stones, pieces of concrete, bricks or other hard missiles will cover every ill that may be contemplated in this regard. Sometimes in this and the other place we can get tangled up in 'what if' scenarios it seems and, frankly, I think a definition such as the above would be much simpler.

To be very brief, I am supportive of the principle of this bill and believe that there is no need for regulations as to prescribed objects. I do believe we need to be more general in the manner in which objects can be projected at vehicles, such as their being dropped or rolled or something of that nature, because it can be equally damaging if they are dropped from a bridge. I also believe that a safeguard of a mental element would ensure that unintentional projecting of missiles towards vehicles does not become an offence; however, in summary, I support the bill at this stage.