

**RESOLUTIONS PASSED IN NEW SOUTH WALES PARLIAMENT
ON 15 AUGUST 2013 ON AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS**

Mr ALEX GREENWICH (Sydney) [10.32 a.m.]: I move:

That this House:

(1) notes 25 August 2013 as Australian South Sea Islander Recognition Day, marking 150 years since about 50,000 people on 62,000 indenture contracts from around 80 Pacific Islands were recruited or kidnapped to work in sugar cane fields where they were exploited;

(2) notes the Australian South Sea Islanders suffered inhumane treatment, the highest mortality rates of any immigrant group to Australia and mass deportations when the White Australia Policy was introduced;

(3) notes many of the 40,000 Australian South Sea Islander descendants who live in Australia remain marginalised and disadvantaged;

(4) notes thousands of Australian South Sea Islanders live in New South Wales but an official number has not been established;

(5) notes then Premier Carr's memorandum of understanding of 1995 called for adequate programs and services;

(6) acknowledges the Community Relations Commission's initiatives in relation to South Sea Islanders and requests the Government to liaise with the National Body for Australian South Sea Islanders in preparing a demographic, social and economic community profile; and

(7) acknowledges the contribution the Australian South Sea Islander community makes to New South Wales and its history in Australia.