



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

2012–2013–2014–2015–2016

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 137

WEDNESDAY, 4 MAY 2016

1 The Assembly met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mrs Dunne) took the Chair and asked Members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

2 ABSENCE OF CLERK

The Speaker informed the Assembly that, due to the absence of the Clerk on personal leave, the Deputy Clerk will act as Clerk for the duration of the Clerk's leave.

3 PETITION—STATEMENT BY MEMBER

The Clerk announced that the following Member had lodged a petition for presentation:

Mrs Dunne, from 100 residents, requesting that the Assembly reinstate ACTION bus services and covered bus stops with seating on Burkitt Street, Page as a service to the aged residents of the nearby retirement villages (Pet 2-16).

Mrs Dunne, by leave, made a statement in relation to the petition.

4 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICER) BILL 2016

Mr Smyth, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for a parliamentary budget officer, and for other purposes.

Paper: Mr Smyth presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Smyth moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Barr—Treasurer) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.



5 UNIT TITLES (MANAGEMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 2016

Mr Coe, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Unit Titles (Management) Act 2011*.

Paper: Mr Coe presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Coe moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Barr—Chief Minister) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 HEALTH, EDUCATION AND CONCESSIONS—SUPPORT

Mr Hinder, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) the former Prime Minister, Tony Abbott MP, promised in 2013 that there would be “no cuts to education, no cuts to health, no change to pensions and no cuts to the ABC or SBS”;
 - (b) in its 2014 Budget the Abbott Government cut funding to education, health, concessions for pensioner concession card and seniors card holders, the ABC and SBS;
 - (c) the Turnbull Government has refused to reinstate the full amount of funding cut from education, health and concessions;
 - (d) the Commonwealth views repairing its budget as more important than funding health, education and important concessions for pensioners and seniors;
 - (e) the ACT Government has filled the shortfall in funding caused by the Commonwealth’s axing of the “National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card Holders”; and
 - (f) the Commonwealth has shifted the responsibility for funding this concession directly back on to States and Territories; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) continue to provide support for low-income Canberrans, including through the ACT Concessions Program;
 - (b) continue to provide high quality health, education and community services for the Canberra community; and
 - (c) welcome the commitments from Opposition Leader Bill Shorten and federal Labor to resource the full Gonski needs-based funding model for Australia’s schools.

Mr Hanson (Leader of the Opposition) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “notes that”, substitute:

- “(a) Andrew Barr, when Education Minister, closed 23 schools;
- (b) Health Minister, Simon Corbell, cut 60 overnight beds from the University of Canberra Public Hospital;

- (c) the ACT Labor Government is cutting jobs in ACT Policing and Access Canberra;
 - (d) the former ACT Labor Health Minister cut \$41m from the redevelopment of The Canberra Hospital;
 - (e) Canberrans suffer the longest emergency department waits in Australia and overcrowded schools;
 - (f) household rates, household electricity bills and other fees and charges are being gouged by ACT Labor to pay for light rail; and
 - (g) ACT Labor's only response is to blame the Federal Government for ACT Labor's own appalling performance; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) stop light rail and instead start providing high quality health, education and community services for the Canberra community;
 - (b) stop tripling Canberrans' rates and gouging Canberrans through massive increased fees and power costs;
 - (c) provide better support for low-income Canberrans; and
 - (d) accept responsibility for poor performance in service delivery and massive hikes in the cost of living.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That Mr Hanson's amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 8		NOES, 9	
Mr Coe	Ms Lawder	Mr Barr	Ms Fitzharris
Mr Doszpot	Mr Smyth	Ms Berry	Mr Gentleman
Mrs Dunne	Mr Wall	Dr Bourke	Mr Hinder
Mr Hanson		Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury
Mrs Jones		Mr Corbell	

And so it was negatived.

Ms Burch moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “That this Assembly”, substitute:

- “(1) notes that:
- “(a) the former Prime Minister, Tony Abbott MP, promised in 2013 that there would be ‘no cuts to education, no cuts to health, no change to pensions, and no cuts to the ABC or SBS’;
 - (b) in its 2014 Budget, the Abbott Government cut funding to education, health, concessions for pensioner concession card and seniors card holders, the ABC and SBS;
 - (c) the Turnbull Government has refused to reinstate the full amount of funding cut from education, health and concessions;
 - (d) the Commonwealth views repairing its budget as more important than funding health, education and important concessions for pensioners and seniors;

- (e) the ACT Government has filled the shortfall in funding caused by the Commonwealth's axing of the 'National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card Holders';
 - (f) the Commonwealth has shifted the responsibility for funding this concession directly back on to States and Territories; and
 - (g) the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Budget has imposed increased efficiency dividends on the Australian Public Service; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) continue to provide support for low-income Canberrans, including through the ACT Concessions Program;
 - (b) continue to provide high quality health, education and community services for the Canberra community;
 - (c) welcome any commitments made to resource the full Gonski needs-based funding model for Australia's schools;
 - (d) condemn the increased efficiency dividends imposed on the Australian Public Service by the Federal Liberal Government in the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Budget; and
 - (e) continue to support the ACT economy in light of the impact caused by the ongoing cuts to the Australian Public Service."

Debate continued.

Debate interrupted in accordance with standing order 74 and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

8 HEALTH, EDUCATION AND CONCESSIONS—SUPPORT

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Hinder, and on the amendment moved by Ms Burch (*see entry 6*)—

Debate resumed

Question—That Ms Burch's amendment be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - “(a) the former Prime Minister, Tony Abbott MP, promised in 2013 that there would be ‘no cuts to education, no cuts to health, no change to pensions, and no cuts to the ABC or SBS’;
 - (b) in its 2014 Budget, the Abbott Government cut funding to education, health, concessions for pensioner concession card and seniors card holders, the ABC and SBS;
 - (c) the Turnbull Government has refused to reinstate the full amount of funding cut from education, health and concessions;

- (d) the Commonwealth views repairing its budget as more important than funding health, education and important concessions for pensioners and seniors;
 - (e) the ACT Government has filled the shortfall in funding caused by the Commonwealth's axing of the 'National Partnership Agreement on Certain Concessions for Pensioner Concession Card and Seniors Card Holders';
 - (f) the Commonwealth has shifted the responsibility for funding this concession directly back on to States and Territories; and
 - (g) the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Budget has imposed increased efficiency dividends on the Australian Public Service; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
- (a) continue to provide support for low-income Canberrans, including through the ACT Concessions Program;
 - (b) continue to provide high quality health, education and community services for the Canberra community;
 - (c) welcome any commitments made to resource the full Gonski needs-based funding model for Australia's schools;
 - (d) condemn the increased efficiency dividends imposed on the Australian Public Service by the Federal Liberal Government in the 2016-2017 Commonwealth Budget; and
 - (e) continue to support the ACT economy in light of the impact caused by the ongoing cuts to the Australian Public Service."—

be agreed to—put and passed.

9 GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT (CAPITAL METRO) AMENDMENT BILL 2016

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 8		NOES, 9	
Mr Coe	Ms Lawder	Mr Barr	Ms Fitzharris
Mr Doszpot	Mr Smyth	Ms Berry	Mr Gentleman
Mrs Dunne	Mr Wall	Dr Bourke	Mr Hinder
Mr Hanson		Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury
Mrs Jones		Mr Corbell	

And so it was negatived.

10 SUPPORT FOR SENIORS

Mr Doszpot, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:

- (a) the 2011 Census recorded 38 159 ACT residents, or 11 percent of the population, are aged 65 and over;
 - (b) from June 2012 to June 2013, the ACT had the second highest percentage increase in the 65 years plus population;
 - (c) the 2015 Inter Generational Report predicts that aged workforce participation (65+) will rise to 17.3 percent from 12.9 percent over the next 40 years;
 - (d) by 2055, life expectancy at birth will be 85.1 years for men and 96.6 years for women in Australia;
 - (e) the Chief Minister at his recent State of the Territory address failed to make any mention of Canberra’s senior population; and
 - (f) that at the event at which the address was delivered, the Chief Minister implied, in response to a question, that seniors were becoming a problem in the ACT because they chose to stay in Canberra, when previously they retired to the coast, thus posing a future burden on the ACT economy; and
- (2) calls on the Chief Minister to:
- (a) apologise to Canberra’s seniors’ population for the disrespect he has shown them;
 - (b) recognise the important contribution that seniors have made to the ACT economy;
 - (c) acknowledge the vital role that seniors continue to play within the ACT economy and social community;
 - (d) provide reassurance to ACT seniors that he and the ACT Government do not support ageist policies and attitudes;
 - (e) ensure equal employment opportunity practices, including for seniors, are applied within the ACT Public Service; and
 - (f) ensure Government policies and practices identify and appropriately support the needs of ACT seniors.

Dr Bourke (Minister for Veterans and Seniors) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “notes”, substitute:

- “(a) the ACT has one of the fastest growing populations of people aged 65 and over in Australia and that this trend is expected to continue;
 - (b) the barriers currently experienced by some mature age workers, preventing them from gaining meaningful employment; and
 - (c) the extensive community consultation carried out to inform the *ACT Active Ageing Framework 2015-2018* which expresses the Government’s guiding principles and priorities for ACT seniors over the next four years; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to continue to improve outcomes for ACT seniors by implementing the *ACT Active Ageing Framework 2015-2018* as outlined in the *ACT Active Ageing Action Plan*.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 9		NOES, 8	
Mr Barr	Ms Fitzharris	Mr Coe	Ms Lawder
Ms Berry	Mr Gentleman	Mr Doszpot	Mr Smyth
Dr Bourke	Mr Hinder	Mrs Dunne	Mr Wall
Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury	Mr Hanson	
Mr Corbell		Mrs Jones	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - “(a) the ACT has one of the fastest growing populations of people aged 65 and over in Australia and that this trend is expected to continue;
 - (b) the barriers currently experienced by some mature age workers, preventing them from gaining meaningful employment; and
 - (c) the extensive community consultation carried out to inform the *ACT Active Ageing Framework 2015-2018* which expresses the Government’s guiding principles and priorities for ACT seniors over the next four years; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to continue to improve outcomes for ACT seniors by implementing the *ACT Active Ageing Framework 2015-2018* as outlined in the *ACT Active Ageing Action Plan*.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

11 ALEXANDER MACONOCHIE CENTRE—MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY PRACTICES

Mr Wall, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the rise in numbers of Indigenous detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) according to recent data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS);
 - (b) ongoing security breaches including the recent escape of a prisoner whilst receiving medical treatment at The Canberra Hospital; and
 - (c) the total cost per prisoner per day at the AMC has reached \$421.26, the highest of any jurisdiction in Australia; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
 - (a) report to the ACT Assembly on the findings of any investigation into the rise in the numbers of Indigenous detainees at the AMC by 30 June 2016; and
 - (b) commit to implementing a thorough review of management and security practices at the AMC, with an objective to reducing the total cost per prisoner and subsequent impost on ACT taxpayers.

Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Corrections) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “notes”, substitute:

- “(a) the recent concerning rise in the number of Indigenous detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), which has been reflected in data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics;
 - (b) the Minister for Corrections’ recent public comments regarding the need to better understand and respond to these increased rates of incarceration;
 - (c) the ACT escape from secure custody rates for 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 was zero. The 2015-16 year-to-date for escape from secure custody rate is in the order of 0.26 (noting that this is not the final figure and can vary depending on adjustments in detainee numbers across the reporting year);
 - (d) the real net operating expenditure, per prisoner per day over the past five years has reduced from \$355.37 to \$296.04 in 2014-15;
 - (e) the real net operating expenditure, per prisoner per day for 2015-16 year-to-date is \$282, and this figure accounts for significant investment in critical infrastructure; and
 - (f) the unique nature of the AMC in providing detention for both sentenced and remand detainees and male and female detainees, and all security classifications; and
- (2) calls on the Minister for Corrections to report back to the Assembly by the last sitting week of August on the result of any data analysis regarding the recent increase in Indigenous detainees at the AMC.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - “(a) the recent concerning rise in the number of Indigenous detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), which has been reflected in data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics;
 - (b) the Minister for Corrections’ recent public comments regarding the need to better understand and respond to these increased rates of incarceration;
 - (c) the ACT escape from secure custody rates for 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 was zero. The 2015-16 year-to-date for escape from secure custody rate is in the order of 0.26 (noting that this is not the final figure and can vary depending on adjustments in detainee numbers across the reporting year);
 - (d) the real net operating expenditure, per prisoner per day over the past five years has reduced from \$355.37 to \$296.04 in 2014-15;
 - (e) the real net operating expenditure, per prisoner per day for 2015-16 year-to-date is \$282, and this figure accounts for significant investment in critical infrastructure; and
 - (f) the unique nature of the AMC in providing detention for both sentenced and remand detainees and male and female detainees, and all security classifications; and

- (2) calls on the Minister for Corrections to report back to the Assembly by the last sitting week of August on the result of any data analysis regarding the recent increase in Indigenous detainees at the AMC.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

12 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Ms Lawder, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
- (a) recent research from a consortium comprising ACT Shelter, the ACT Council of Social Service, the Youth Coalition and Women’s Centre for Health Matters found 13 per cent of all ACT households faced housing stress, which equates to about 19 600 households in the ACT;
 - (b) about 6600 households in the lowest 40 per cent of combined household income found their rent or mortgage payments quite or very difficult to pay in the past three months;
 - (c) among those individuals and households reporting housing stress in Canberra, single parent families are amongst those who are particularly overrepresented;
 - (d) in the last 12 months in Canberra, of households in the bottom 40 per cent of household income, 7000 households made compromises on food and household groceries;
 - (e) the research found “a significant intersection” between gender inequality and housing inequality;
 - (f) St Vincent de Paul’s recent report, *The Ache for Home*, states Australia has a crisis in the supply of social and affordable housing, as evidenced by “the hundreds of thousands who are experiencing homelessness, on wait-lists for public housing or living in severe housing stress. Taken together, the statistics tell us that across Australia there are over 105 000 people experiencing homelessness and 875 000 households experiencing housing stress”;
 - (g) Anglicare Australia’s 2016 Rental Affordability Snapshot was released on 21 April 2016 and notes that “the private rental market in Canberra...is extremely unaffordable for people on a low income, such as minimum wage or government benefits”;
 - (h) of the 1497 affordable and appropriate properties in the ACT and Queanbeyan surveyed by Anglicare Australia, there were no properties available for a single parent on Newstart Allowance with one child aged over 8;
 - (i) the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute’s *Supply shortages and affordability outcomes in the private rental sector: short and longer term trends* report released in June 2015 shows that of Q1 private renter households (households with incomes of \$30 000 a year or less, which would include all single people and single parents with one child, solely reliant on pensions and benefits), 63 per cent of Canberrans were paying severely unaffordable rent. This is in comparison to 31 per cent for the

- same category of people living in Melbourne and is the second highest percentage after Inner Sydney;
- (j) housing stress has a range of detrimental impacts on a person, including financial pressures, as well as impacts on mental health and wellbeing;
 - (k) the affordability of housing in Canberra is directly related to the rate, timeliness and manner of release of development-ready land; and
 - (l) the affordability of housing in Canberra is also related to the high cost of Government fees and charges; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) fully implement measures in the Affordable Housing Action Plan to provide the capacity for houses in the “affordable” range;
 - (b) provide new affordable housing sector supply through private financing;
 - (c) acknowledge that increasing supply is the only sustainable solution to the provision of market supplied affordable housing for purchase and rental markets. Increasing the housing supply/stock will ensure that supply can meet or exceed demand, therefore moderating price increases, leading to more affordable housing;
 - (d) guarantee loans to the Community Housing Provider (CHP) sector;
 - (e) remove barriers that prevent CHPs from recycling their assets;
 - (f) raise or guarantee affordable housing bonds;
 - (g) include the active responsibility and administration for responding to homelessness in the role of housing ministers and their departments, including renaming the position to Minister for Housing and Homelessness, with clearly defined strategic responsibility for ensuring that sufficient housing is available for people experiencing exclusion;
 - (h) amend the ACT Human Rights legislation to recognise the right to housing;
 - (i) amend ACT anti-discrimination legislation to protect those in housing deprivation;
 - (j) independently benchmark land development costs every two years;
 - (k) repeal the lease variation charge in the city and town centres;
 - (l) establish shovel ready inventory of land for development ahead of demand, based on population projections;
 - (m) provide information to the Assembly detailing median house prices over the past 10 years, including a breakdown of what percentage is attributable to, the cost of land, the cost of Government fees and charges, the cost of construction and any other costs for new and existing properties; and
 - (n) report back to the Assembly on all these matters by the last sitting day in June 2016.

Mr Hinder moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “notes”, substitute:

- “(a) the extensive range of research and report literature the ACT Government is considering in shaping its ongoing responses to housing affordability and homelessness issues, including:
 - (i) the reports of the Housing and Homelessness Policy Consortium;
 - (ii) the Productivity Commission’s Report on Government Services;
 - (iii) reports and workshops of the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute;
 - (iv) St Vincent de Paul’s *The Ache For Home* report;
 - (v) Anglicare’s 2016 Rental Affordability Snapshot;
 - (vi) local property market data and trends; and
 - (vii) reports from local housing and homelessness services;
 - (b) the importance of considering these sources in total and not selectively using point-in-time data;
 - (c) that, on numerous indicators, the ACT rates as the best or among the best in its performance on housing affordability and provision of housing support and homelessness services;
 - (d) the active role played by the ACT Government under the Affordable Housing Action Plan in improving housing affordability for all Canberrans through measures such as phasing out stamp duty and accelerating land supply; and
 - (e) that housing affordability is influenced by a range of factors and policies at both the Territory and national levels;
- (2) further notes that:
- (a) the ACT Government has led calls among State and Territory governments for the Australian Government to lead co-ordinated national action to improve housing affordability across Australia;
 - (b) the Minister for Housing, Community Services and Social Inclusion tabled the ACT Government’s submission to the Commonwealth Affordable Housing Working Group in the Assembly on 3 May 2016;
 - (c) State and Territory housing and homelessness ministers issued a unanimous call to the Commonwealth for greater funding certainty for housing and homelessness services at their meeting held on 31 March 2016; and
 - (d) the 2016 Commonwealth Budget released last night indicates that the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness will cease in June 2017, removing funding for frontline homelessness services; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) progress work through ministers and senior officials to:
 - (i) provide whole-of-government oversight and advice for the Government’s actions in housing affordability; and
 - (ii) consider the Affordable Housing Action Plan and any options for improving housing outcomes for target groups such as private renters in the second income quintile; and

- (b) report back to the Assembly on any formal response received from the Commonwealth to the ACT's submission to the Affordable Housing Working Group.”.

Ms Lawder addressing the Assembly—

Adjournment negatived: It being 6 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Ms Lawder continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7		NOES, 6	
Dr Bourke	Mr Gentleman	Mr Coe	Mr Smyth
Ms Burch	Mr Hinder	Mr Doszpot	Mr Wall
Mr Corbell	Mr Rattenbury	Mrs Dunne	
Ms Fitzharris		Ms Lawder	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
- (a) the extensive range of research and report literature the ACT Government is considering in shaping its ongoing responses to housing affordability and homelessness issues, including:
 - (i) the reports of the Housing and Homelessness Policy Consortium;
 - (ii) the Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services;
 - (iii) reports and workshops of the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute;
 - (iv) St Vincent de Paul's *The Ache For Home* report;
 - (v) Anglicare's 2016 Rental Affordability Snapshot;
 - (vi) local property market data and trends; and
 - (vii) reports from local housing and homelessness services;
 - (b) the importance of considering these sources in total and not selectively using point-in-time data;
 - (c) that, on numerous indicators, the ACT rates as the best or among the best in its performance on housing affordability and provision of housing support and homelessness services;

- (d) the active role played by the ACT Government under the Affordable Housing Action Plan in improving housing affordability for all Canberrans through measures such as phasing out stamp duty and accelerating land supply; and
 - (e) that housing affordability is influenced by a range of factors and policies at both the Territory and national levels;
- (2) further notes that:
- (a) the ACT Government has led calls among State and Territory governments for the Australian Government to lead co-ordinated national action to improve housing affordability across Australia;
 - (b) the Minister for Housing, Community Services and Social Inclusion tabled the ACT Government's submission to the Commonwealth Affordable Housing Working Group in the Assembly on 3 May 2016;
 - (c) State and Territory housing and homelessness ministers issued a unanimous call to the Commonwealth for greater funding certainty for housing and homelessness services at their meeting held on 31 March 2016; and
 - (d) the 2016 Commonwealth Budget released last night indicates that the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness will cease in June 2017, removing funding for frontline homelessness services; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) progress work through ministers and senior officials to:
 - (i) provide whole-of-government oversight and advice for the Government's actions in housing affordability; and
 - (ii) consider the Affordable Housing Action Plan and any options for improving housing outcomes for target groups such as private renters in the second income quintile; and
 - (b) report back to the Assembly on any formal response received from the Commonwealth to the ACT's submission to the Affordable Housing Working Group."—

be agreed to—put and passed.

13 RENEWABLE ENERGY

Ms Burch, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
- (a) on 22 April 2016 representatives from more than 160 countries, including more than 60 heads of state, met at the United Nations' New York headquarters to sign the Paris Agreement on Climate Change;
 - (b) urgent action is required by national and sub national governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at a rapid rate if there is any hope of meeting the Paris Agreement's goal of keeping global warming below 2°C;

- (c) the ACT Government is continuing to take decisive action on climate change and provide leadership by committing to bring forward the target for net zero carbon emissions in the ACT to 2050, in line with the Paris Agreement, as well as increasing the renewable energy target to 100 percent by 2020; and
 - (d) because of its commitment to renewable energy to date the ACT Government has attracted renewable energy businesses to the ACT, creating new training programs, research opportunities and jobs, and growing a more robust, diverse and vibrant ACT economy providing \$400 million in direct local industry development; and
- (2) reaffirms:
- (a) its commitment to a 40 percent reduction in ACT's greenhouse gas emissions by 2020; and
 - (b) the central role and importance of a 100 percent renewable energy target in achieving this reduction.

Debate adjourned (Mr Gentleman—Manager of Government Business) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

14 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.34 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE: All Members were present at some time during the sitting.

M M Kiermaier
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly