



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2020–2021–2022

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 59

**WEDNESDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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- 1 The Assembly met at 10 am, pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Ms Burch) took the Chair and made the following acknowledgement of country in the Ngunnawal language:

Dhawura nguna, dhawura Ngunnawal.

Yanggu ngalawiri, dhunimanyin Ngunnawalwari dhawurawari.

Nginggada Dindi dhawura Ngunnaawalbun yindjumaralidjinyin.

*This is Ngunnawal Country.*

*Today we are gathering on Ngunnawal country.*

*We always pay respect to Elders, female and male, and Ngunnawal country.*

The Speaker asked Members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

### 2 PRIVILEGE—ALLEGED BREACH—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker made a statement concerning an alleged breach of privilege raised by the Chair of the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023, in relation to a possible interference in the work of the Committee by a Minister.

Having considered the matter the Speaker stated that she was prepared to allow precedence to a motion under standing order 276.

### 3 PRIVILEGES 2022—SELECT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION

Mr Braddock, by leave, moved—That the resolution of the Assembly of 15 August 2022, which established the Select Committee on Privileges 2022, be amended by inserting:

“(1A) the Committee also examine the alleged breach of privilege raised by the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 in relation to a possible interference in the work of the Committee by a Minister;”.

Question—put and passed.

#### **4 PRIVILEGES 2022—SELECT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Mr Hanson (Chair), by leave, moved—That the resolution of the Assembly of 15 August 2022, as amended, which established the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 be amended by omitting “last sitting day of October 2022” and substituting “last sitting in November 2022”.

Debate adjourned (Mr Gentleman—Manager of Government Business) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

#### **5 ESTIMATES 2022-2023—SELECT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Mr Braddock (Deputy Chair), by leave, moved—That the resolution of the Assembly of 24 March 2022, as amended 15 August 2022, which established the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 be amended by:

- (1) omitting paragraph (6) and inserting the following paragraph: “(6) the Committee is to report by Friday, 30 September 2022”; and
- (2) inserting a new paragraph (7A): “(7A) the Committee is to be dissolved on the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on Privileges 2022;”.

Question—put and passed.

#### **6 PETITION—MINISTERIAL RESPONSE—RESPONSE NOTED**

The Clerk announced that the following response to a petition had been lodged:

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services), dated 19 September 2022—Response to petition No 009-22, lodged by Ms Castley on 2 June 2022, concerning parking at the Platypus Centre in Ngunnawal.

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The Speaker proposed—That the response so lodged be noted.

Question—put and passed.

#### **7 CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)—A.C.T. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) made a ministerial statement to update the Assembly on the ACT Government response to the COVID-19 emergency and presented the following papers:

Coronavirus (COVID-19)—ACT Government Response—

Ministerial statement, 21 September 2022.

Update, dated 21 September 2022.

Status of the Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19—Chief Health Officer Report 30—August 2022, dated 29 August 2022.

Ms Stephen-Smith moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**8 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES (INFORMATION SHARING) AMENDMENT BILL 2022—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Berry (Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) made a ministerial statement concerning a consultation draft of the Domestic Violence Agencies (Information Sharing) Amendment Bill 2022 and presented the following paper:

Domestic Violence Agencies (Information Sharing) Amendment Bill 2022—Ministerial statement, 21 September 2022.

Ms Berry moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

**9 THREATENED SPECIES DAY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Vassarotti (Minister for the Environment) made a ministerial statement concerning Threatened Species Day and presented the following paper:

Threatened Species Day—7 September—Ministerial Statement.

Ms Vassarotti moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

**10 PLANNING BILL 2022**

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning and Land Management), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act about planning and development in the ACT, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Mr Gentleman presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

**11 GUARDIANSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF PROPERTY AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Guardianship and Management of Property Act 1991*.

*Paper:* Mr Rattenbury presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

## **12 TRANSPORT CANBERRA AND CITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about city services, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Mr Steel presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

## **13 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

Mr Steel (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

*Paper:* Mr Steel presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

## **14 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMISSIONER BILL 2022**

Ms Cheyne (Minister for Human Rights), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish the office of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People Commissioner, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Ms Cheyne presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

Ms Cheyne moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mrs Kikkert) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**15 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—CONSIDERATION OF ASSEMBLY BUSINESS**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That so much of standing orders be suspended as would prevent Assembly Business, Notices numbers 1 to 4 being called on and debated forthwith.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

**16 SITTING PATTERN 2022—AMENDMENT**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), moved—That the resolution of the Assembly of 11 November 2021 setting the sitting days for 2022 be amended to remove 22 September 2022.

Question—put and passed.

**17 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—PLANNING BILL 2022—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to notice, moved—That, notwithstanding the provisions of the resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended, that established general purpose standing committees, the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services shall present its report on the Planning Bill 2022 by 22 December 2022.

Question—put and passed.

**18 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—URBAN FOREST BILL 2022—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to notice, moved—That, notwithstanding the provisions of the resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended, that established general purpose standing committees, the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services shall present its report on the Urban Forest Bill 2022 by 22 November 2022.

Question—put and passed.

**19 EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—RACIAL VILIFICATION—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Mr Pettersson (Chair), pursuant to notice, moved—That the resolution of the Assembly of 11 November 2021, requesting the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion inquire into and report on the matter of racial vilification, be amended by omitting in part (4)(c) “30 September 2022” and substituting “24 November 2022”.

Question—put and passed.

**20 HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 7—INQUIRY INTO THE WEST BELCONNEN SUPERCELL THUNDERSTORM—REPORT NOTED**

Mr Davis (Chair) presented the following report:

Health and Community Wellbeing—Standing Committee—Report 7—*Inquiry into the West Belconnen supercell thunderstorm*, dated 13 September 2022, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Question—put and passed.

**21 EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION—STANDING COMMITTEE—PETITION—LYNEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL—BUILDING CONDITION—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Mr Pettersson (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion had considered Petitions 015-22 and 021-22 concerning Lyneham Primary School building condition, and the Government response to the Committee's report on its inquiry into the management of ACT school infrastructure, and resolved not to inquire further into the matters raised in this petition.

**22 ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND CONTINUING RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Burch (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure had resolved to conduct an inquiry into and report on the operation of the standing orders and continuing resolutions of the Assembly with a view to ensuring that the practices and procedures of the Assembly remain relevant and reflect best practice.

**23 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION (NATURAL GAS TRANSITION) AMENDMENT BILL 2022—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Clay (Deputy Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity had resolved to conduct an inquiry into and report on the Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Natural Gas Transition) Amendment Bill 2022.

**24 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY—STANDING COMMITTEE—PETITION—KANGAROO CULLING—MORATORIUM AND INDEPENDENT REVIEW—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Clay (Deputy Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity had considered Petition 017-22 concerning kangaroo culling moratorium and independent review, and the Government response, and resolved not to inquire further into the matters raised in this petition.

**25 HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—RECOVERY PLAN FOR NURSING AND MIDWIFERY WORKERS—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Mr Davis (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing had considered Petition 019-22 concerning recovery plan for nursing and midwifery workers and resolved to conduct an inquiry into and report on matters raised in this petition.

**26 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—RENTAL HOUSING MARKET—IMPACT OF SHORT-TERM HOLIDAY LETTING—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that in response to the resolution of the Assembly of 5 May 2022, the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services noted that the impact of short-term holiday letting on the rental housing market is currently well covered by reviews and inquiries, including by the Better Regulation Taskforce and two standing committees. Therefore, the Committee resolved not to inquire further into the impact of short-term holiday letting on the rental housing market at this time.

**27 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—STANDING COMMITTEE—CONSIDERATION OF STATUTORY APPOINTMENTS—STATEMENT BY CHAIR—PAPER**

Mr Pettersson (Deputy Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A and Continuing Resolution 5A, made a statement concerning consideration of statutory appointments by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

*Paper:* Mr Pettersson, pursuant to Continuing Resolution 5A, presented the following paper:

Public Accounts—Standing Committee—Schedule of Statutory Appointments—10th Assembly—Period 1 January to 30 June 2022.

**28 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

**29 HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING—STANDING COMMITTEE—MEMBERSHIP**

Ms Orr, pursuant to standing order 223, moved—Mr Pettersson be discharged from the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing and that Dr Paterson be appointed in his place.

Question—put and passed.

**30 PRESENTATION OF PAPER**

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Bills referred to Committees, pursuant to resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended—Correspondence—

Bills—Inquiry—

Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Natural Gas Transition) Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity, dated 9 August 2022.

Period Products and Facilities (Access) Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing, dated 24 August 2022.

Urban Forest Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services, dated 11 August 2022.

Bills—Not inquired into—

Senior Practitioner Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion, dated 9 August 2022.

CSIRO Ginninderra site housing release—Assembly resolution of 9 June 2022—Correspondence from the Deputy Chief Minister to the Speaker, dated 8 August 2022.

Legislative Assembly (Member's Superannuation) Act, pursuant to section 11A—Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly Members Superannuation Board—Annual Report 2021-2022, dated 19 September 2022.

### **31 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) presented the following papers:

ACT Social Recovery Plan—Update.

ACT Transport Recovery Plan Refresh, dated August 2022.

Crimes (Controlled Operations) Act, pursuant to subsection 28(9)—Annual report 2021-22—Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, dated 28 July 2022.

Crimes (Surveillance Devices) Act, pursuant to subsection 38(4)—Annual report 2021-22—Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, dated 28 July 2022.

Disability Justice Strategy—Third Annual Progress Report, dated September 2022, together with a statement.

Freedom of Information Act, pursuant to section 39—Copy of notice provided to the Ombudsman—Freedom of Information request—Decision not made in time—Community Services Directorate (FOI-CYF-20/15), dated 14 April 2022.

National Agreement on Closing the Gap—Annual Report 2022, dated September 2022.

Non-payment of fines—Penalties for minor offences—Government response to Assembly resolution of 24 March 2022.

Planning and Development Act, pursuant to section 76—Approval—Variation to the Territory Plan No 328—Oaks Estate: Zone changes and amendments to the Oaks Estate Precinct Map and Code, including associated documents, dated 16 September 2022.

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse—ACT Government Fourth Progress Report responding to recommendations, dated August 2022, together with a statement.

Youth Mental Health—A Framework for Change: ACT Mental Health Workforce Strategy—Government response to Assembly resolution of 8 October 2021.

### **32 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH—A FRAMEWORK FOR CHANGE: A.C.T. MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE STRATEGY—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Youth Mental Health—A Framework for Change: ACT Mental Health Workforce Strategy—Government response to Assembly resolution of 8 October 2021.



Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**33 ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE—  
A.C.T. GOVERNMENT FOURTH PROGRESS REPORT RESPONDING TO  
RECOMMENDATIONS—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse—ACT Government Fourth Progress Report responding to recommendations.

Question—put and passed.

**34 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT—APPROVAL—VARIATION TO THE TERRITORY  
PLAN NO 328—OAKS ESTATE: ZONE CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS TO THE OAKS  
ESTATE PRECINCT MAP AND CODE —MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Planning and Development Act, pursuant to section 76—Approval—Variation to the Territory Plan No 328—Oaks Estate: Zone changes and amendments to the Oaks Estate Precinct Map and Code.

Debate adjourned (Ms Lawder) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**35 NON-PAYMENT OF FINES—PENALTIES FOR MINOR OFFENCES—GOVERNMENT  
RESPONSE TO ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Non-payment of fines—Penalties for minor offences—Government response to Assembly resolution of 24 March 2022.

Debate adjourned (Ms Lawder) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**36 CRIMES (CONTROLLED OPERATIONS) ACT AND CRIMES (SURVEILLANCE DEVICES)  
ACT—AUSTRALIAN CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE COMMISSION—ANNUAL REPORT 2022—  
PAPERS NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following papers:

Crimes (Controlled Operations) Act, pursuant to subsection 28(9)—Annual report 2021-22—Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission.

Crimes (Surveillance Devices) Act, pursuant to subsection 38(4)—Annual report 2021-22—Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission.

Question—put and passed.

**37 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT—COPY OF NOTICE PROVIDED TO THE OMBUDSMAN—FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST—DECISION NOT MADE IN TIME—COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE (FOI-CYF-20/15)—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Freedom of Information Act, pursuant to section 39—Copy of notice provided to the Ombudsman—Freedom of Information request—Decision not made in time—Community Services Directorate (FOI-CYF-20/15).

Question—put and passed.

**38 NATIONAL AGREEMENT ON CLOSING THE GAP—ANNUAL REPORT 2022—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

National Agreement on Closing the Gap—Annual Report 2022.

Question—put and passed.

**39 A.C.T. TRANSPORT RECOVERY PLAN REFRESH—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

ACT Transport Recovery Plan Refresh.

Debate adjourned (Ms Lawder) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**40 DISABILITY JUSTICE STRATEGY—THIRD ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Disability Justice Strategy—Third Annual Progress Report.

Question—put and passed.

**41 A.C.T. SOCIAL RECOVERY PLAN—UPDATE—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

ACT Social Recovery Plan—Update.

Question—put and passed.

**42 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER**

Ms Lawder moved—That leave of absence be granted to Mr Milligan for today's sitting for personal reasons.

Question—put and passed.

**43 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022 [NO 2]**

Ms Lee, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

*Paper:* Ms Lee presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

Ms Lee moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

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

**44 PAEDIATRIC EARLY WARNING SYSTEM**

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

- (1) notes the tragic recent deaths of a five year old girl and 13 year old boy and acknowledges parents' concern about ensuring the best hospital care for sick and deteriorating children;
- (2) further notes:
  - (a) there has been media attention on the early warning system for paediatric patients at the Canberra Hospital and how it can be improved;
  - (b) the Australian Medical Association (AMA) (ACT) has called on the Government to consider changing its system so monitoring can be escalated based on one factor (one vital sign) alone and referred to better systems in Victoria and NSW; and
  - (c) Canberra Health Services has said the system has been under review over the past 12 months with input from a range of clinicians; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
  - (a) immediately improve the early warning system for paediatric patients by introducing a new protocol enabling staff to escalate the care of a deteriorating child based on a single vital sign—such as increased heart rate, blood pressure, temperature—which would trigger an increase in patient monitoring;
  - (b) provide training in the new system to all staff to ensure compliance, including in the emergency department, intensive care and paediatrics;
  - (c) release the review into the system as well as recommendations and the Government's response, before the October sitting period;
  - (d) detail what investigations the Government has made into the Victorian and NSW systems which the AMA (ACT) have said are better and the Government's response, before the October sittings; and
  - (e) explain and provide details about what evaluation has been done of the ACT's Paediatric Early Warning System before the October sittings.

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) moved the following amendment: Omit all text after 2(b), substitute:

- “(b) the ACT Government is committed to the provision of safe, high-quality health services for children, adolescents and families in the ACT and surrounding NSW region;
- (c) children and adolescents have specific medical, therapeutic, developmental and broader health needs that require systems to be responsive to their individual circumstances;
- (d) the Australian Medical Association (ACT) has called on the Government to consider changing its system so monitoring can be escalated based on one factor (one vital sign) alone and has referred to alternative systems used in Victoria and NSW;
- (e) under the current system, paediatric patients have all observations recorded on their Paediatric Early Warning Score (PEWS) charts;
- (f) PEWS is a multi-variable track and trigger system where vital signs are recorded at the bedside, a score is allocated to the vital signs and the individual scores are summed to a total PEWS that assists in the identification of deteriorating patients;
- (g) individual vital sign scores (including heart rate, blood pressure, temperature, respiratory rate and oxygen saturations), as well as an increasing PEWS trend can trigger an escalation pathway for clinical review and management of the patient;
- (h) paediatric early warning system training is mandatory training for clinicians at orientation and at consistent refresh intervals to maintain evidence-based practice in the management of acute deterioration;
- (i) the Call and Respond Early (CARE) for Patient Safety program is in place to enable patients, carers and families to escalate concerns around clinical deterioration;
- (j) a working group of clinicians from the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Paediatrics, Medical Emergency Team and Anaesthetics has been meeting for 12 months to review key areas of policy and procedure for the care of deteriorating and critically ill children, and in particular the early warning system in anticipation of the Digital Health Record implementation;
- (k) the Digital Health Record Project Team has continued to work with clinicians to collect data and provide an analysis alongside case scenarios to inform future decision-making regarding the potential adoption of an alternative system;
- (l) an external review of Canberra Health Services’ (CHS) Paediatric Services was conducted in 2021 resulting in the development of the CHS Paediatric Organisation and Service Plan 2021-2023 that outlines recommendations and actions that are currently being implemented at CHS;

- (m) CHS underwent an organisation-wide accreditation conducted by independent assessors in June 2022, meeting the National Safety and Quality Health Services Standards across all aspects of paediatric service provision, including all actions under Standard 8 Recognising and Responding to Acute Deterioration;
  - (n) the Minister for Health will convene a Child and Adolescent Clinical Services Expert Panel to support the finalisation of the Territory-wide Child and Adolescent Clinical Services Plan; and
  - (o) the Expert Panel will review and monitor implementation of existing recommendations and priorities, including recommendations from the CHS Paediatric Organisation and Service Plan 2021-2023; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to report to the Legislative Assembly on the work of the Expert Panel and the development of the Child and Adolescent Clinical Services Plan by 30 June 2023.”.

Ms Stephen-Smith, by leave, was granted an extension of time.

*Paper:* Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) presented the following papers:

Canberra Health Services Guideline—Acutely unwell and deteriorating paediatric patient, dated 8 August 2022.

Canberra Health Services—General observation chart paediatric.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 13		NOES, 6
Mr Braddock	Dr Paterson	Mr Cain
Ms Burch	Mr Pettersson	Ms Castley
Ms Cheyne	Mr Rattenbury	Mr Cocks
Ms Clay	Mr Steel	Mr Hanson
Ms Davidson	Ms Stephen-Smith	Ms Lawder
Mr Gentleman	Ms Vassarotti	Mr Parton
Ms Orr		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes the tragic recent deaths of a five year old girl and 13 year old boy and acknowledges parents’ concern about ensuring the best hospital care for sick and deteriorating children;
- (2) further notes:
  - (a) there has been media attention on the early warning system for paediatric patients at the Canberra Hospital and how it can be improved;

- (b) the ACT Government is committed to the provision of safe, high-quality health services for children, adolescents and families in the ACT and surrounding NSW region;
- (c) children and adolescents have specific medical, therapeutic, developmental and broader health needs that require systems to be responsive to their individual circumstances;
- (d) the Australian Medical Association (AMA) has called on the Government to consider changing its system so monitoring can be escalated based on one factor (one vital sign) alone and has referred to alternative systems used in Victoria and NSW;
- (e) under the current system, paediatric patients have all observations recorded on their Paediatric Early Warning Score (PEWS) charts;
- (f) PEWS is a multi-variable track and trigger system where vital signs are recorded at the bedside, a score is allocated to the vital signs and the individual scores are summed to a total PEWS that assists in the identification of deteriorating patients;
- (g) individual vital sign scores (including heart rate, blood pressure, temperature, respiratory rate and oxygen saturations), as well as an increasing PEWS trend can trigger an escalation pathway for clinical review and management of the patient;
- (h) paediatric early warning system training is mandatory training for clinicians at orientation and at consistent refresh intervals to maintain evidence-based practice in the management of acute deterioration;
- (i) the Call and Respond Early (CARE) for Patient Safety program is in place to enable patients, carers and families to escalate concerns around clinical deterioration;
- (j) a working group of clinicians from the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, Paediatrics, Medical Emergency Team and Anaesthetics has been meeting for 12 months to review key areas of policy and procedure for the care of deteriorating and critically ill children, and in particular the early warning system in anticipation of the Digital Health Record implementation;
- (k) the Digital Health Record Project Team has continued to work with clinicians to collect data and provide an analysis alongside case scenarios to inform future decision-making regarding the potential adoption of an alternative system;
- (l) an external review of Canberra Health Services' (CHS) Paediatric Services was conducted in 2021 resulting in the development of the CHS Paediatric Organisation and Service Plan 2021-2023 that outlines recommendations and actions that are currently being implemented at CHS;
- (m) CHS underwent an organisation-wide accreditation conducted by independent assessors in June 2022, meeting the National Safety and Quality Health Services Standards across all aspects of paediatric service provision, including all actions under Standard 8 Recognising and Responding to Acute Deterioration;

- (n) the Minister for Health will convene a Child and Adolescent Clinical Services Expert Panel to support the finalisation of the Territory-wide Child and Adolescent Clinical Services Plan; and
- (o) the Expert Panel will review and monitor implementation of existing recommendations and priorities, including recommendations from the CHS Paediatric Organisation and Service Plan 2021-2023; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to report to the Legislative Assembly on the work of the Expert Panel and the development of the Child and Adolescent Clinical Services Plan by 30 June 2023.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

#### **45 PUBLIC PLACE NAMES AMENDMENT BILL 2021**

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 and passed.

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to—put and passed.

#### **46 OUR CANBERRA NEWSLETTER**

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

- (1) notes:
  - (a) this Government has a dedicated policy which claims to save the environment via such measures as banning plastic bags;
  - (b) the ACT Government should aim to be fiscally responsible with revenue from Canberrans; and
  - (c) this ACT Government should make information available online wherever possible;
- (2) further recognises the Our Canberra newsletter:
  - (a) is currently available online;
  - (b) is currently distributed monthly for 11 months of the year; and
  - (c) was delivered quarterly prior to the 2016 election; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
  - (a) reduce the Our Canberra newsletter hardcopy delivery from monthly back to quarterly, from 11 times per year to four times per year; and
  - (b) highlight the ability for Canberrans to access the newsletter online more prominently in the hardcopy newsletter.

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) moved the following amendment: Omit all text after “That this Assembly”, substitute:

“(1) notes:

- (a) the ACT Government is committed to making Canberra a more sustainable city;
- (b) the ACT Government should aim to be fiscally responsible with revenue from Canberrans; and
- (c) ACT Government information and communication should be fit for purpose;

(2) further recognises the Our Canberra newsletter:

- (a) is currently available online;
- (b) is currently distributed monthly for 11 months of the year;
- (c) consistently ranks as one of the most preferred methods for Canberrans to receive government communication – particularly for older Canberrans; and
- (d) recently changed to non-recycled, imported paper stock sourced from sustainably managed forests due to supply issues with 100 per cent recycled, coated paper sourced overseas which was previously used; and

(3) calls on the ACT Government to:

- (a) continue monitoring the availability of 100 per cent recycled paper and move back to recycled, coated paper stock for Our Canberra as soon as it is financially viable;
- (b) more prominently highlight the ability for Canberrans to access the newsletter online via other Government communication channels; and
- (c) continue asking Canberrans what communication channels they would like to see the Government use for delivery of important information, with specific consideration of community members, such as older Canberrans and people at risk of digital exclusion, who rely on physical newsletters to receive government communications.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 13

Mr Barr	Ms Orr
Mr Braddock	Dr Paterson
Ms Burch	Mr Pettersson
Ms Cheyne	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Clay	Mr Steel
Ms Davidson	Ms Vassarotti
Mr Gentleman	

NOES, 6

Mr Cain
Ms Castley
Mr Cocks
Mr Hanson
Ms Lawder
Mr Parton

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.



Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
  - (a) the ACT Government is committed to making Canberra a more sustainable city;
  - (b) the ACT Government should aim to be fiscally responsible with revenue from Canberrans; and
  - (c) ACT Government information and communication should be fit for purpose;
- (2) further recognises the Our Canberra newsletter:
  - (a) is currently available online;
  - (b) is currently distributed monthly for 11 months of the year;
  - (c) consistently ranks as one of the most preferred methods for Canberrans to receive government communication – particularly for older Canberrans; and
  - (d) recently changed to non-recycled, imported paper stock sourced from sustainably managed forests due to supply issues with 100 per cent recycled, coated paper sourced overseas which was previously used.
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
  - (a) continue monitoring the availability of 100 per cent recycled paper and move back to recycled, coated paper stock for Our Canberra as soon as it is financially viable;
  - (b) more prominently highlight the ability for Canberrans to access the newsletter online via other Government communication channels; and
  - (c) continue asking Canberrans what communication channels they would like to see the Government use for delivery of important information, with specific consideration of community members, such as older Canberrans and people at risk of digital exclusion, who rely on physical newsletters to receive government communications.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

#### **47 PRIVILEGES 2022—SELECT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Hanson (*see* [entry 4](#))—

Debate resumed.

Mr Pettersson moved the following amendment: Omit “last sitting in November 2022”, substitute “last sitting day in 2022”.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—that the motion, as amended, viz:

“That the resolution of the Assembly of 15 August 2022, as amended, which established the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 be amended by omitting “last sitting day of October 2022” and substituting “last sitting day in 2022”.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

**48 ESTIMATES 2022-2023—SELECT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Mr Braddock (Deputy Chair), by leave, moved—That the resolution of the Assembly of 24 March 2022, as amended 15 August 2022 and 21 September 2022, which established the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 be amended by omitting paragraph (7A) and substituting “(7A) the Committee is to be dissolved on 31 October 2022;”.

Question—put and passed.

**49 JULIA AGOSTINO—RESIGNATION—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER**

The Speaker made a statement concerning the resignation of Julia Agostino from the Office of the ACT Legislative Assembly and acknowledged her contribution to the Assembly.

**50 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 5.46 pm, adjourned until Tuesday, 11 October 2022 at 10 am.

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**MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE:** All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Mr Milligan\*.

\*on leave

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**Tom Duncan**  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly