



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

2008–2009–2010–2011–2012

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 143

WEDNESDAY, 28 MARCH 2012

1 The Assembly met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mr Rattenbury) 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 ANIMAL WELFARE LEGISLATION (FACTORY FARMING) AMENDMENT BILL 2012

Ms Le Couteur, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about animal welfare, and for other purposes.

Paper: Ms Le Couteur presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

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

Debate adjourned (Ms Gallagher—Minister for Territory and Municipal Services) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (PUBLIC NOTIFICATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2012

Ms Le Couteur, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, the *Planning and Development Regulation 2008*, and for other purposes.

Paper: Ms Le Couteur presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Corbell—Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRESENTATION OF BILL WITHOUT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Ms Bresnan moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Ms Bresnan from presenting a bill without its explanatory statement.

Debate ensued.

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

5 OFFICIAL VISITOR BILL 2012

Ms Bresnan, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the appointment of official visitors, and for other purposes.

Title read by Clerk.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Corbell—Attorney-General) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 2013 CANBERRA CENTENARY—FUNDING AND TOURISM

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

- (1) notes:
 - (a) that the 2013 Canberra Centenary provides an excellent opportunity to boost the ACT economy through increased interstate and international visitors;
 - (b) that the ACT Government has released a brochure giving a sneak peak of the 2013 Canberra Centenary program;
 - (c) that the program includes a number of opportunities for tourists to experience historic, cultural, sports and entertainment events and exhibitions throughout the 2013 calendar year;
 - (d) that tourism opportunities are best realised through collaborative efforts of the ACT Government, business and tourism industry;
 - (e) that the ACT Government has recently set up a taskforce to coordinate the ACT's efforts to secure international flights to Canberra Airport and the group will comprise of Government, Canberra Airport, business and tourism industry representatives; and
 - (f) that the ACT Liberals have voted against measures that boost tourism opportunities in successive ACT budgets;
- (2) calls on:
 - (a) the ACT Government to work with the business and tourism industries to leverage opportunities to bring interstate and international visitors to the ACT during the Centenary year; and
 - (b) the ACT Government to work with the Canberra Airport, local business and tourism industries to secure international flights to Canberra Airport; and
- (3) supports all budget measures that enhance and promote our tourism opportunities for the 2013 Canberra Centenary.

Mr Smyth, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

- (1) Omit subparagraph (1)(f) and rename existing subparagraphs (a) to (e) as (b) to (f).
- (2) Insert new subparagraphs (1)(a), (g) and (h):
 - “(a) the national significance of celebrating the foundation of the centenary of Australia’s capital city;”.
 - “(g) the failure of the Federal Government to match on a dollar-for-dollar basis the funds committed by the ACT Government to programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;”.
 - “(h) the Federal Government’s commitment of \$20 million in capital funding for the Arboretum.”.
- (3) Add new paragraph (4):
 - “(4) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (a) to at least match on a dollar-for-dollar basis the funds committed by the ACT Government to programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013; and
 - (b) to restore funding to the National Capital Authority to enable this agency to contribute effectively to the Centenary celebrations in 2013.”.
- (4) Add new paragraph (5):
 - “(5) calls on the Speaker to write to the Federal Government on behalf of the ACT Legislative Assembly advising of the terms of this motion.”.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Ms Hunter) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

7 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (COST OF LIVING) AMENDMENT BILL 2012

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.

Detail Stage

Clause 1—

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

8 UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA AND CANBERRA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE VENTURE

Ms Hunter, by leave, having amended her notice, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
- (a) that on 3 August 2011, Minister Barr released a report by Professor Bradley AC on options for the future of the University of Canberra and the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT);
 - (b) that on 7 December 2011, the Federal Government announced a grant of \$25.9 million had been awarded to the University of Canberra;
 - (c) that on 16 December 2011, Minister Bourke announced the creation of a collaborative venture between the University of Canberra and the CIT, and that this decision was based on public consultations, stakeholders' views including CIT and unions, and the views of a Government Steering Group; and
 - (d) that a media release from the University of Canberra, dated 16 December 2011, states that the University of Canberra Institute of Technology is an entirely new third institution, and would begin operations in 2013, and will have its headquarters in Bruce; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) make public and provide to the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs all relevant material used in the formulation of a collaborative venture between the University of Canberra and the CIT by 1 May 2012;
 - (b) provide the membership details of, and the terms of reference for, the Project Implementation Group to the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs by 1 May 2012; and
 - (c) make public the details of the proposed model, including the anticipated governance structures and the student enrolment processes of the collaborative venture between the University of Canberra and the CIT by 1 May 2012.

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.

9 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

10 STANDING ORDER 169—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER—SPEAKER'S RULING

The Speaker advised Members of a breach of standing order 169 in relation to the presentation of the Planning and Development (Public Notification) Amendment Bill 2012 (*see entry 3*), in that the long title of the Bill did not agree with the notice of intention to present it. As the breach was minor, the Speaker, having ascertained it was the wish of the Assembly, allowed the Bill to remain on the *Notice Paper*.

The Speaker also advised Members of a similar breach of standing order 169 in relation to the presentation of the Official Visitor Bill 2012 (*see entry 5*). However, as this breach was more substantive, the Speaker, in accordance with standing order 170, ordered that the Bill be withdrawn from the *Notice Paper*.

11 UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA AND CANBERRA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATIVE VENTURE

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Ms Hunter (*see entry 8*)—

Debate resumed by Dr Bourke, who, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

(1) Insert new subparagraph (1)(e):

“(e) that the \$1.75 billion National Partnership on Skills Reform will be discussed at COAG on 13 April; and”.

(2) Add new subparagraphs (2)(d) and (e):

“(d) not proceed any further with the collaborative venture until after COAG meets in April; and

(e) report back to the Assembly following this meeting.”.

Debate continued.

Mr Doszpot, who had already spoken, by leave, again addressed the Assembly.

Amendments agreed to.

Mr Doszpot, by leave, moved the following amendment to the motion, as amended: In subparagraph (2)(a), after “CIT”, insert the following words: “including, but not limited to:

“(i) the financial implications of all options for both institutions; and

(ii) the financial implications of all options for both the ACT Government and potential students of both institutions;”.

Debate continued.

Mr Doszpot, by leave, withdrew his amendment and, by leave, moved the following amendment to the motion, as amended: In subparagraph (2)(a), after “CIT”, insert the following words: “including, but not limited to, the financial implications of all options for both institutions and the ACT Government”.

Debate continued.

Mr Doszpot, who had already spoken, by leave, again addressed the Assembly.

Amendment agreed to.

Debate continued.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

(a) on 3 August 2011, Minister Barr released a report by Professor Bradley AC on options for the future of the University of Canberra and the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT);

(b) on 7 December 2011, the Federal Government announced a grant of \$25.9 million had been awarded to the University of Canberra;

- (c) on 16 December 2011, Minister Bourke announced the creation of a collaborative venture between the University of Canberra and the CIT, and that this decision was based on public consultations, stakeholders' views including CIT and unions, and the views of a Government Steering Group;
 - (d) a media release from the University of Canberra, dated 16 December 2011, states that the University of Canberra Institute of Technology is an entirely new third institution, and would begin operations in 2013, and will have its headquarters in Bruce; and
 - (e) the \$1.75 billion National Partnership on Skills Reform will be discussed at COAG on 13 April; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) make public and provide to the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs all relevant material used in the formulation of a collaborative venture between the University of Canberra and the CIT including, but not limited to, the financial implications of all options for both institutions and the ACT Government by 1 May 2012;
 - (b) provide the membership details of, and the terms of reference for, the Project Implementation Group to the Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs by 1 May 2012;
 - (c) make public the details of the proposed model, including the anticipated governance structures and the student enrolment processes of the collaborative venture between the University of Canberra and the CIT by 1 May 2012;
 - (d) not proceed any further with the collaborative venture until after COAG meets in April; and
 - (e) report back to the Assembly following this meeting.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

12 2013 CANBERRA CENTENARY—FUNDING AND TOURISM

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

Mr Smyth, by leave, withdrew his amendments and, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

- (1) Omit subparagraph (1)(f) and insert after “notes”:
 - “(aa) the national significance of celebrating the foundation of the centenary of Australia’s capital city;”.
- (2) Insert new subparagraphs (1)(g), (h) and (i):
 - “(g) the \$6 million commitment from the Federal Government for programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;
 - (h) the Federal Government’s commitment of \$20 million in capital funding for the Arboretum; and
 - (i) the \$24 million commitment from the ACT Government since 2006-2007 for programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;”.

- (3) Insert new subparagraphs (2)(c), (d) and (e):
- “(c) the Federal Government to continue to at least match on a dollar-for-dollar basis the funds committed by the ACT Government to programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;
 - (d) the Federal Government to ensure adequate funding to the National Capital Authority to enable this agency to contribute effectively to the Centenary celebrations in 2013; and
 - (e) all Members of the Federal Parliament to provide support for actions the Federal Government undertakes to achieve (2)(c) and (d);”.
- (4) In paragraph (3), omit the word “all”.
- (5) Add new paragraph (4):
- “(4) calls on the Speaker to write to the leaders of all political parties and to all independents in the Federal Parliament advising them of the terms of this motion.”.

Debate continued.

Amendments agreed to.

Question—that the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
- (a) the national significance of celebrating the foundation of the centenary of Australia’s capital city;
 - (b) that the 2013 Canberra Centenary provides an excellent opportunity to boost the ACT economy through increased interstate and international visitors;
 - (c) that the ACT Government has released a brochure giving a sneak peak of the 2013 Canberra Centenary program;
 - (d) that the program includes a number of opportunities for tourists to experience historic, cultural, sports and entertainment events and exhibitions throughout the 2013 calendar year;
 - (e) that tourism opportunities are best realised through collaborative efforts of the ACT Government, business and tourism industry;
 - (f) that the ACT Government has recently set up a taskforce to coordinate the ACT’s efforts to secure international flights to Canberra Airport and the group will comprise of Government, Canberra Airport, business and tourism industry representatives;
 - (g) the \$6 million commitment from the Federal Government for programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;
 - (h) the Federal Government’s commitment of \$20 million in capital funding for the Arboretum; and
 - (i) the \$24 million commitment from the ACT Government since 2006-2007 for programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;

- (2) calls on:
 - (a) the ACT Government to work with the business and tourism industries to leverage opportunities to bring interstate and international visitors to the ACT during the Centenary year;
 - (b) the ACT Government to work with the Canberra Airport, local business and tourism industries to secure international flights to Canberra Airport;
 - (c) the Federal Government to continue to at least match on a dollar-for-dollar basis the funds committed by the ACT Government to programs planned for the Centenary celebrations in 2013;
 - (d) the Federal Government to ensure adequate funding to the National Capital Authority to enable this agency to contribute effectively to the Centenary celebrations in 2013; and
 - (e) all Members of the Federal Parliament to provide support for actions the Federal Government undertakes to achieve (2)(c) and (d);
- (3) supports budget measures that enhance and promote our tourism opportunities for the 2013 Canberra Centenary; and
- (4) calls on the Speaker to write to the leaders of all political parties and to all independents in the Federal Parliament advising them of the terms of this motion.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

13 HOLDER—PROPOSED CHILDCARE CENTRE

Mrs Dunne, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes the Government has:
 - (a) identified land on Dixon Drive in Holder for development of a childcare centre catering for up to 125 children;
 - (b) allocated \$7.5 million for development of the centre;
 - (c) budgeted \$463 000 per year for depreciation and recurrent expenditure from 2013-2014;
 - (d) foregone the revenue opportunity for the potential sale of the land;
 - (e) made a development application; and
 - (f) on 23 February 2012, called for public comment on the proposed centre; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
 - (a) reconsider the decision to develop the facility for retention as an asset of the Government;
 - (b) examine the feasibility of releasing the land for development as a childcare centre either by a private developer, a not-for-profit community-based organisation or through a community-commercial collaboration arrangement; and
 - (c) report to the Assembly by 1 May 2012.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 4

Mr Doszpot
Mrs Dunne
Mr Seselja
Mr Smyth

NOES, 9

Mr Barr
Dr Bourke
Ms Bresnan
Ms Burch
Ms Gallagher
Ms Hunter
Ms Le Couteur
Ms Porter
Mr Rattenbury

And so it was negatived.

14 2001-02 SUPPLEMENTARY CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM—PAPER AND STATEMENT BY MINISTER—STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Ms Burch (Minister for Community Services) presented the following paper:

2001-02 Supplementary Capital Works Program—

and, by leave, made a statement in relation to the paper.

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

15 SUICIDE REDUCTION TARGET

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

(1) notes:

- (a) that suicide is the leading cause of death for men under the age of 44 and women under the age of 34 in Australia;
- (b) the number of suicides is likely to be under reported;
- (c) suicide is a mostly preventable cause of death;
- (d) it is important to break down stigma associated with suicide in the community, without sensationalising or normalising it; and
- (e) recommendations from the Senate Community Affairs References Committee report *The Hidden Toll: Suicide in Australia* of June 2010 included that:
 - (i) the Commonwealth Government as part of a national strategy with State, Territory and local governments for suicide prevention set an aspirational target for the reduction of suicide by the year 2020; and
 - (ii) national figures on suicide should be released to the Australian public, at a minimum, biannually, in an effort to raise community awareness about suicide, and should be provided together with information about available services and support; and

(2) calls on the Minister for Health to:

- (a) set a target for the reduction of suicide in the ACT by the year 2020; and
- (b) make a statement to the Assembly biannually until the end of 2020 on the ACT figures on suicide, progress against the target, and information about available services and support.

Ms Bresnan, by leave, moved the following amendment to her motion: Omit subparagraphs (2)(a) and (b), substitute:

- “(a) consult the Ministerial Advisory Council on Mental Health and other relevant stakeholders about what ACT suicide reduction target is appropriate for 2020 and outline that target to the ACT Legislative Assembly by the end of 2012; and
- (b) make a statement to the Assembly biannually until the end of 2020 on the ACT figures on suicide progress against the target, and information about available services and support.”.

Debate ensued.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr Hanson, by leave, moved the following amendment to the motion, as amended: Insert new subparagraph (1)(f):

- “(f) the important role that mental health workers and local community groups play in suicide prevention in the ACT; and”.

Amendment agreed to.

Debate continued.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) that suicide is the leading cause of death for men under the age of 44 and women under the age of 34 in Australia;
 - (b) the number of suicides is likely to be under reported;
 - (c) suicide is a mostly preventable cause of death;
 - (d) it is important to break down stigma associated with suicide in the community, without sensationalising or normalising it;
 - (e) recommendations from the Senate Community Affairs References Committee report *The Hidden Toll: Suicide in Australia* of June 2010 included that:
 - (i) the Commonwealth Government as part of a national strategy with State, Territory and local governments for suicide prevention set an aspirational target for the reduction of suicide by the year 2020; and
 - (ii) national figures on suicide should be released to the Australian public, at a minimum, biannually, in an effort to raise community awareness about suicide, and should be provided together with information about available services and support; and
 - (f) the important role that mental health workers and local community groups play in suicide prevention in the ACT; and
- (2) calls on the Minister for Health to:

- (a) consult the Ministerial Advisory Council on Mental Health and other relevant stakeholders about what ACT suicide reduction target is appropriate for 2020 and outline that target to the ACT Legislative Assembly by the end of 2012; and
- (b) make a statement to the Assembly biannually until the end of 2020 on the ACT figures on suicide progress against the target, and information about available services and support.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

16 ADJOURNMENT NEGATIVED

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

Ms Gallagher (Chief Minister) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

17 INTERACTIVE ENTERTAINMENT SECTOR

Mr Seselja (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the importance of the education sector to Canberra’s economy;
 - (b) the opportunities in the interactive entertainment sector as a result of innovative use new technologies;
 - (c) that Canberra’s Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) is a world-class interactive media school well suited to take advantage of new industry opportunities;
 - (d) that the interactive media sector is growing, and the continued success of organisations like the AIE will have positive multiplier effects on our local economy; and
 - (e) that without a critical mass of talent in the ACT, this sector will not be able to grow and benefit from new trends in this sector; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) provide continued support to the AIE’s Canberra-based operations; and
 - (b) support local organisations by developing an industry strategy for the interactive entertainment sector.

Dr Bourke (Minister for Education and Training), by leave, moved the following amendments together:

- (1) Insert new subparagraphs (1)(f) and (g):
 - “(f) that the Government is developing a business development strategy that covers all business sectors in the ACT; and
 - (g) the business development strategy will include a strategy for the ACT to transition to a clean and sustainable economy;”.

(2) Omit subparagraph (2)(b).

Debate continued.

Mr Seselja moved the following amendment to Dr Bourke's proposed amendments: Omit subparagraph (g), substitute:

“(g) the business development strategy will include a strategy for the interactive entertainment sector;”.

Debate continued.

Amendment to amendments negatived.

Amendments agreed to.

Debate continued.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the importance of the education sector to Canberra's economy;
 - (b) the opportunities in the interactive entertainment sector as a result of innovative use new technologies;
 - (c) that Canberra's Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) is a world-class interactive media school well suited to take advantage of new industry opportunities;
 - (d) that the interactive media sector is growing, and the continued success of organisations like the AIE will have positive multiplier effects on our local economy;
 - (e) that without a critical mass of talent in the ACT, this sector will not be able to grow and benefit from new trends in this sector;
 - (f) that the Government is developing a business development strategy that covers all business sectors in the ACT; and
 - (g) the business development strategy will include a strategy for the ACT to transition to a clean and sustainable economy; and
- (2) calls on the Government to provide continued support to the AIE's Canberra-based operations.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

17 ADJOURNMENT

Dr Bourke (Minister for Education and Training) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.48 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

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

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly