



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2016–2017

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 10

THURSDAY, 23 MARCH 2017

1 The Assembly met at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Ms Burch) 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 INCIDENT AT WESTMINSTER PARLIAMENT OVERNIGHT—STATEMENT OF CONDOLENCE BY SPEAKER

The Speaker made a statement concerning an incident that occurred overnight in London at Westminster Parliament.

3 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—PRESENTATION OF BILL

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the presentation of the Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 forthwith.

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

4 REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2017

Mr Barr (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about revenue.

Papers: Mr Barr presented the following papers:

Explanatory statement to the Bill.

Human Rights Act, pursuant to section 37—Compatibility statement, dated 22 March 2017.

Title read by Clerk.

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



Debate adjourned (Mr Coe—Leader of the Opposition) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 EXTENDED THROUGH CARE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED

Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Corrections) made a ministerial statement concerning the Extended Throughcare Program and presented the following paper:

Extended Throughcare—Ministerial statement, 23 March 2017.

Mr Rattenbury moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

6 NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME—IMPLEMENTATION REPORT AND ROLE OF THE A.C.T. GOVERNMENT—SIX MONTHLY REPORT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Disability, Children and Youth) made a ministerial statement regarding the six monthly report on the Implementation Report and Role of the ACT Government under the National Disability Insurance Scheme and presented the following paper:

National Disability Insurance Scheme—Role of the ACT Government—Six monthly report—December 2016—Ministerial statement, 23 March 2016.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

7 PLANNING, BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2017

Mr Gentleman (Minister for the Environment and Heritage), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about planning, building and the environment, and for other purposes.

Papers: Mr Gentleman presented the following papers:

Explanatory statement to the Bill.

Human Rights Act, pursuant to section 37—Compatibility statement, dated 22 March 2017.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

8 LIQUOR AMENDMENT BILL 2017

Mr Ramsay (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Liquor Act 2010* and the *Liquor Regulation 2010*, and for other purposes.

Papers: Mr Ramsay presented the following papers:

Explanatory statement to the Bill.

Human Rights Act, pursuant to section 37—Compatibility statement, dated 22 March 2017.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

9 DISCHARGE OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Order of the day No 1, Assembly business, relating to a proposed reference to the Standing Committee on Health, Ageing and Community Services, having been called on—

Mr Steel, pursuant to standing order 152, moved—That this order of the day be discharged from the *Notice Paper*.

Question—put and passed.

10 EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—PRECEDENCE

Ordered—That Executive Members' business be called on forthwith.

11 COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES

Mr Rattenbury, by leave, having amended his notice, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the important role that community legal centres have within our justice system, by providing crucial advice and representation to vulnerable members of our community;
 - (b) that community legal centres are facing a funding cliff on 1 July 2017, with a cut of 30 percent of funding from the Federal Government, and that this cut will drastically impact on the crucial legal services provided to vulnerable and disadvantaged people provided by community legal centres;
 - (c) that community legal centres have already been severely impacted by cuts to funding from the Federal Government, including the complete loss of funding to Environmental Defenders Offices, and such cuts will only lead to an increased burden on our legal system, leading to increased costs;
 - (d) the Productivity Commission recommended in its 2014 *Access to Justice Arrangements* report that funding to community legal centres be increased by \$200 million each year from both Federal and State and Territory Governments; and
 - (e) that all levels of Government have a role in providing adequate resources to community legal centres, recognising the valuable services they provide to our community and the efficient and effective operation of our legal system; and

- (2) calls on the:
- (a) Federal Government to reverse planned cuts to community legal centres to come into effect on 1 July 2017 and provide adequate funding to community legal centres; and
 - (b) Speaker to write to the Federal Attorney-General communicating this motion.

Mr Hanson moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “efficient and effective operation of our legal system; and”, substitute:

- “(f) the Federal Government is providing an extra \$45 million for frontline legal assistance services as part of its \$200 million investment to reduce violence against women and children. \$16.5 million is provided to community legal centres for new services, which exceeds the savings measures forecast to commence on 1 July 2017 for existing services; and
- (g) total Commonwealth funding to community legal centres in the Australian Capital Territory has increased by 101 percent under the current Federal Government from \$782 639 in 2012-13 to \$1 421 817 in 2016-17; and

- (2) calls on:
- (a) the Federal Government to reverse planned cuts to community legal centres to come into effect on 1 July 2017 and provide adequate funding to community legal centres; and
 - (b) the Speaker to write to the Federal Attorney-General communicating this motion.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 9		NOES, 12	
Mr Coe	Ms Lee	Ms Berry	Ms Orr
Mrs Dunne	Mr Milligan	Ms Burch	Mr Pettersson
Mr Hanson	Mr Wall	Ms Cheyne	Mr Ramsay
Mrs Jones		Ms Cody	Mr Rattenbury
Mrs Kikkert		Mr Gentleman	Mr Steel
Ms Lawder		Ms Le Couteur	Ms Stephen-Smith

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

12 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) informed the Assembly of the absence of Minister Fitzharris and advised the Assembly that questions without notice normally directed to Ms Fitzharris could be directed to Mr Barr.

13 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

14 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That leave of absence be granted to Ms Fitzharris for this sitting due to her attendance at a ministerial council meeting.

Question—put and passed.

15 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER

Mr Wall moved—That leave of absence be granted to Mr Doszpot for this sitting due to family reasons.

Question—put and passed.

16 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ACT—A.C.T. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE—RETROSPECTIVE REVIEW—PROGRESS IN THE A.C.T. BETWEEN 2004 AND 2013—PAPER AND STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Disability, Children and Youth) presented the following paper:

Children and Young People Act, pursuant to subsection 727U(5)—ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee—Retrospective Review—Progress in the ACT between 2004 and 2013—Report, dated 28 January 2017—

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

17 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—DISCUSSION—WODEN TOWN CENTRE—RENEWAL

The Assembly was informed that Ms Cheyne, Ms Cody, Mrs Dunne, Mrs Kikkert, Ms Le Couteur, Ms Lee, Ms Orr, Mr Parton, Mr Pettersson, Mr Steel and Mr Wall had proposed that matters of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 79, the Speaker had determined that the matter proposed by Ms Cheyne be submitted to the Assembly, namely, “The importance of renewal in the Woden Town Centre”.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

18 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 5.20 pm, adjourned until Tuesday, 28 March 2017 at 10 am.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE: All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Mr Doszpot* and Ms Fitzharris*.

*on leave

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly