



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2020–2021

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 14

WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY 2021

---

- 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 Ngunaawalbun 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 PETITION—MINISTERIAL RESPONSE—RESPONSE NOTED

#### Ministerial response

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

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning and Land Management), dated 11 May 2021—Response to petitions Nos 1-21 and 4-21, lodged by Ms Orr on 9 and 10 February 2021, concerning an update from the developer of Giralang shops on any progress on delivering the shops.

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

Question—put and passed.

**3 A.C.T ECONOMIC RECOVERY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Barr (Treasurer) made a ministerial statement concerning the recovery of the ACT economy and presented the following paper:

ACT economic recovery—Driving the successful recovery, one year on—Ministerial statement, 12 May 2021.

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

Question—put and passed.

**4 NURSES AND MIDWIVES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) made a ministerial statement concerning nurses and midwives and presented the following paper:

Nurses and midwives—Ministerial statement, 12 May 2021.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**5 A.C.T TRANSPORT RECOVERY PLAN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services) made a ministerial statement concerning a recovery plan for ACT transport and presented the following papers:

ACT transport recovery plan.

Ministerial statement, 12 May 2021.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**6 BETTER REGULATION TASKFORCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Cheyne (Minister for Business and Better Regulation) made a ministerial statement concerning the Better Regulation Taskforce and presented the following paper:

Better Regulation Taskforce—Ministerial statement, 12 May 2021.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**7 CIVIL LAW (WRONGS) AMENDMENT BILL 2021**

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Civil Law (Wrongs) Act 2002*, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Mr Rattenbury presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Rattenbury 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.

## **8 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

## **9 PRESENTATION OF PAPER**

Ms Burch (Speaker) presented the following paper:

Justice and Community Safety— Standing Committee—Bills referred but not inquired into—Courts and Other Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2021—Correspondence to Speaker, dated 28 April 2021.

## **10 PRESENTATION OF PAPER**

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

ACT Children and Young People's Commitment 2015-2025—Progress update on the implementation, dated May 2021.

## **11 EDUCATION—TRANS AND GENDER DIVERSE STUDENTS**

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

- (1) acknowledges that the ACT Government:
  - (a) is committed to ensuring that our education system is welcoming, affirming and inclusive of all children; and
  - (b) has already worked to protect trans and gender diverse students through programs such as the Safe and Supportive Schools Policy;
- (2) notes that school-aged children of our friends and neighbours in the Canberra region, as well as wider NSW, are not being afforded the same care and respect, because:
  - (a) One Nation's proposed Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill prohibits supporting trans and gender diverse students in the NSW education system as it prohibits recognising their existence;
  - (b) the proposed bill would put teachers at risk of losing their accreditation for acknowledging that trans and gender diverse people exist;
  - (c) the bill would further marginalise children who would have no access to information about who they are and what they are experiencing; and
  - (d) the bill undermines the important role that our education system plays in enabling a child's development of knowledge, understanding, and empathy towards people from different backgrounds and life experiences; and

- (3) calls on the:
- (a) ACT Government to continue its work supporting trans and gender diverse students within our education system;
  - (b) ACT Assembly to write to the chair of NSW Parliamentary Portfolio Committee No 3 – Education, Mark Latham MLC, consistent with the terms of this motion;
  - (c) ACT Minister for Education and Youth Affairs to write to her counterpart in the NSW Government expressing our concern about the effect of the bill debate on trans and diverse children in the ACT and urge the NSW Government to vote down the bill; and
  - (d) ACT Assembly to condemn those that support transphobia.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

## 12 YERRABI POND—PARKING

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

- (1) notes the Government drew up plans eight years ago for more parking to support Yerrabi Pond foreshore businesses but no extra parking has been provided;
- (2) further notes:
  - (a) Gungahlin is Canberra’s fastest growing region and Yerrabi Pond is the only major community recreation area;
  - (b) Yerrabi Pond has been neglected by the Government with insufficient and inadequate community services and facilities. In some areas it is an eyesore and unsafe particularly at night;
  - (c) a petition with more than 1 000 signatures was lodged in April 2021 detailing the poor state of Yerrabi Pond and the urgent need for better parking, toilets and lighting as well as improved community facilities such as barbecues;
  - (d) there is a particular need for more parking for customer access to support struggling businesses on the foreshore;
  - (e) in 2013, the ACT Government did planning work for extra parking at Yerrabi Pond with up to 28 new spots in the grassed median area of Nellie Hamilton Drive. This was in response to limited parking for patrons of Curves fitness centre and other businesses;
  - (f) the Government also did community consultation and acknowledged it was a priority issue;
  - (g) eight years later, local businesses and the community are still waiting and have little confidence in the Government to heed their calls for more parking and amenities;

- (h) business owners have been forced to relocate or shut due to lack of parking; and
  - (i) the Gungahlin Community Council listed extra parking at Nellie Hamilton Drive as a priority issue in its 2013-14 budget submission; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) immediately explain why extra parking along Nellie Hamilton Drive planned in 2013 has not happened; and
  - (b) provide a timeline for when and how it will occur by no later than the last sitting day in August 2021.

Debate ensued.

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services) moved the following amendment: Omit (2)(a) to (i) and (3)(a) to (b) and substitute:

“(2) further notes:

- (a) Gungahlin is Canberra’s fastest growing region and Yerrabi Pond is a key community recreation area;
  - (b) the Gungahlin community greatly values Yerrabi Pond and is eager to see increased community facilities there, including those addressing amenity and safety;
  - (c) a petition with more than 1 000 signatures was lodged in April 2021 detailing the need for better parking, toilets and lighting as well as improved community facilities such as barbecues;
  - (d) there is a particular need for more parking for customer access to support local businesses on the foreshore;
  - (e) in 2013, the ACT Government undertook planning work for extra parking at Yerrabi Pond with up to 28 new spots in the grassed median area of Nellie Hamilton Drive;
  - (f) the Government also undertook community consultation and acknowledged it was a priority issue;
  - (g) eight years later, local businesses and the community are waiting for the parking issue to be addressed;
  - (h) parking remains a challenge for business owners, some of whom have chosen to relocate; and
  - (i) the Gungahlin Community Council listed extra parking at Nellie Hamilton Drive as a priority issue in its 2013-14 budget submission; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) continue consulting with the Gungahlin community on improvements to Yerrabi Pond including parking and improvements, with design and construction to follow; and
  - (b) continue to invest in Yerrabi Pond, based on priorities identified through community consultation.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 15		NOES, 9	
Mr Barr	Ms Orr	Mr Cain	Mr Parton
Mr Braddock	Dr Paterson	Ms Castley	
Ms Burch	Mr Pettersson	Mr Hanson	
Ms Cheyne	Mr Rattenbury	Mrs Jones	
Ms Clay	Mr Steel	Mrs Kikkert	
Ms Davidson	Ms Stephen-Smith	Ms Lawder	
Mr Davis	Ms Vassarotti	Ms Lee	
Mr Gentleman		Mr Milligan	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes the Government drew up plans eight years ago for more parking to support Yerrabi Pond foreshore businesses but no extra parking has been provided;
- (2) further notes:
  - (a) Gungahlin is Canberra’s fastest growing region and Yerrabi Pond is a key community recreation area;
  - (b) the Gungahlin community greatly values Yerrabi Pond and is eager to see increased community facilities there, including those addressing amenity and safety;
  - (c) a petition with more than 1 000 signatures was lodged in April 2021 detailing the need for better parking, toilets and lighting as well as improved community facilities such as barbecues;
  - (d) there is a particular need for more parking for customer access to support local businesses on the foreshore;
  - (e) in 2013, the ACT Government undertook planning work for extra parking at Yerrabi Pond with up to 28 new spots in the grassed median area of Nellie Hamilton Drive;
  - (f) the Government also undertook community consultation and acknowledged it was a priority issue;
  - (g) eight years later, local businesses and the community are waiting for the parking issue to be addressed;
  - (h) parking remains a challenge for business owners, some of whom have chosen to relocate; and
  - (i) the Gungahlin Community Council listed extra parking at Nellie Hamilton Drive as a priority issue in its 2013-14 budget submission; and

- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) continue consulting with the Gungahlin community on improvements to Yerrabi Pond including parking and improvements, with design and construction to follow; and
  - (b) continue to invest in Yerrabi Pond, based on priorities identified through community consultation.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

### **13 REVENUE LEGISLATION 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.

### **14 ADJOURNMENT**

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

Debate ensued.

---

*Suspension of standing orders—Extension of debate:* Mr Gentleman moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the adjournment debate continuing for a further 15 minutes.

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

---

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 5:25 pm, adjourned until tomorrow at 10 am.

---



---

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

---

**Tom Duncan**  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly