



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2020–2021–2022–2023–2024

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 130

THURSDAY, 29 AUGUST 2024

- 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 DEATH OF MR BILL WOOD AM

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) moved—That this Assembly expresses its deep regret at the death of Mr Bill Wood AM, former Member of the Legislative Assembly from 1989 to 2004 and Minister of a diverse range of portfolios, and tenders its profound sympathy to his family, friends and colleagues in their bereavement.

Ms Lee (Leader of the Opposition), Mr Rattenbury (Leader of the ACT Greens) and Ms Cheyne (Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy) addressed the Assembly in support of the motion and all Members present having stood, in silence—

Question—passed.

Suspension of sitting: The Speaker, at 10.34 am, suspended the sitting and announced that the Chair would be resumed at the ringing of the bells.

Resumption of sitting: The bells having been rung, the Speaker resumed the Chair at 10.45 am.

**3 DRUGS OF DEPENDENCE (PERSONAL CANNABIS USE) AMENDMENT ACT 2019—
REVIEW—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Davidson (Minister for Population Health) presented the following papers:

Review of the operation of the *Drugs of Dependence (Personal Cannabis Use) Amendment Act 2019*, dated August 2024.

Appendix A: Detailed analysis of secondary data—Appendix to the Review of the operation of the *Drugs of Dependence (Personal Cannabis Use) Amendment Act 2019*, dated August 2024.

Review of the *Drugs of Dependence (Personal Cannabis Use) Amendment Act 2019*—Ministerial statement, 29 August 2024.

Ms Davidson moved—That the Assembly take note of the ministerial statement.

Question—put and passed.

**4 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—PETITIONS
002-24 AND 016-24—RICHARDSON SHOPS—IMPROVEMENT—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services had resolved to not conduct further inquiry into e-petition 002-24 and petition 016-24, concerning improvement to the state of the Richardson Shops.

**5 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—PETITION
021-24—FLOREY SHOPS—CAR PARKING IMPROVEMENT—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services had resolved to not conduct further inquiry into e-petition 021-24, concerning improvement to car parking at Florey Shops.

6 APPROPRIATION BILL 2024-2025

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

Schedule 1—Appropriations—Proposed expenditure—

Part 1.1—ACT Local Hospital Network, Part 1.2—ACT Health Directorate and Part 1.3—Canberra Health Services, by leave, taken together and agreed to, after debate.

Part 1.4—Education Directorate—debated and agreed to.

Part 1.5—Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate—

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 QUESTION ON NOTICE NO 2096—ANSWER—EXPLANATION

Dr Paterson, pursuant to standing order 118A, asked Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Gaming) for an explanation concerning the answer to question on notice No 2096.

Mr Rattenbury gave an explanation.

9 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, presented the following papers:

ACT Volunteering Strategy—

2024-2034, undated.

Action Plan 2024-2027, undated.

Australian Crime Commission (ACT) Act, pursuant to subsection 51(5)—Board of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission—Chair annual reports—2022-23, dated 16 May 2024.

Belconnen to Civic Bus Corridor—Upgrades—Assembly resolution of 1 November 2023—Government response, dated August 2024.

Casey retail precinct—Traffic and transport issues—Assembly resolution of 24 October 2023—Government response—Casey retail precinct—Traffic and transport study, dated June 2024, together with a statement, dated August 2024.

Chief Psychiatrist Report on the ANU incident—Government response, together with a statement.

Civil Law (Sale of Residential Property) Act, pursuant to subsection 19F(2)—Final Report—Review of laws protecting off-the-plan home buyers from unfair contract cancellations—Feedback from public consultation on the statutory review of Part 2A of the *Civil Law (Sale of Residential Property) Act 2003*, dated August 2024.

Commercial agent licensing scheme—Proposed establishment—Assembly resolution of 21 March 2024—Government response—Report to the Legislative Assembly—Regulation of Commercial Agents, undated.

Financial Management Act, pursuant to section 99(4)—Suburban Land Agency—West Belconnen Joint Venture Agreement Participant Substitution—Statement.

Government Procurement Act—

Pursuant to subsection 31(4)—

Direction, letter to the Chair, Government Procurement Board from the Special Minister of State, dated 28 August 2024.

ACT Government Procurement Board—

Strategic Direction—2024-25.

Terms of Reference, dated August 2024.

Pursuant to subsection 42(1)—Government Procurement Rules 2024—Disallowable instrument, dated 28 August 2024.

Human rights incompliant companies—Divestments—Assembly resolution of 7 February 2024—Government response, dated August 2024.

Inclusive access to swimming facilities—Assembly resolution of 12 October 2022—Government response—Update, dated August 2024.

India and Singapore Trade Mission February 2024—Statement, dated August 2024.

Knife-related crime legislative reforms—Jack’s Law—Assembly resolution of 16 May 2024—Government response, dated August 2024

Family Violence Act, pursuant to section 156—Operation and Effectiveness of the Family Violence Act—Update to the Assembly, dated August 2024.

Planning Act, pursuant to subsection 268(2)—Statement of Leases Granted—
1 January to 31 March 2024—Addendum.

1 April to 30 June 2024.

Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability Final Report—ACT Government response, dated July 2024.

Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program 2024—Statement.

10 ELECTION COMMITMENTS—PROGRESS

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

- (1) notes during an ABC Radio interview in April 2024, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the Labor Party “don’t make promises we can’t deliver”;
- (2) further notes:
 - (a) that currently the Labor Party will fail to deliver their 2020 election commitments, which includes but is not limited to:
 - (i) build additional walk-in health centres;
 - (ii) complete construction of a new southside hydrotherapy pool;
 - (iii) build a northside elective surgery centre;
 - (iv) upgrade endoscopy rooms at Canberra Hospital;
 - (v) build a palliative care ward in the Canberra Hospital;
 - (vi) complete construction for a new primary school at Strathnairn;
 - (vii) complete construction of a Gungahlin tennis centre;
 - (viii) Stromlo District playing fields; and
 - (ix) complete upgrades to Gorman House;
 - (b) that currently the Labor Party will fail to deliver their 2016 election commitments, which includes but is not limited to:
 - (i) duplication of Athllon Drive; and
 - (ii) a new Tuggeranong ice rink; and

- (c) according to the 2023 Parliamentary and Governing Agreement Progress Update, around two in five commitments have not been delivered by the Labor-Greens Government; and
- (3) calls on the Deputy Chief Minister to:
 - (a) apologise for saying that the Labor Party “don’t make promises we can’t deliver”; and
 - (b) correct the record by listing every single election commitment that the Labor Party has failed to deliver since 2012.

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) moved the following amendment: Omit all text after paragraph (1), substitute:

“(2) further notes:

- (a) that the ACT Labor and ACT Greens Government has made significant progress in delivering the Parliamentary and Governing Agreement (PAGA) including:
 - (i) important progress on climate change action, such as:
 - (A) commissioning the Big Canberra Battery;
 - (B) establishing a Sustainable Household Scheme;
 - (C) supporting homes and businesses to transition to 100 percent renewable electricity;
 - (D) enacting minimum energy efficiency standards regulations for rental properties;
 - (E) implementing a \$50 million program for energy efficient social, public and low-income housing; and
 - (F) development of Molonglo Town Centre as all-electric;
 - (ii) more and better housing options for all Canberrans, such as:
 - (A) improving and simplifying the ACT’s planning system to deliver more housing in greenfield and existing suburbs;
 - (B) completing Common Ground Dickson;
 - (C) expansion of the early morning centre services; and
 - (D) increasing emergency accommodation capacity and expanding specialist homelessness services;
 - (iii) key enabling projects for Light Rail Stage 2A to Commonwealth Park are underway and design and planning have progressed for Light Rail Stage 2B from Commonwealth Park to Woden;
 - (iv) reducing harm from gaming while supporting sustainable clubs by:
 - (A) reducing the number of electronic gaming licenses to 3,500 by July 2025;

- (B) conducting a review into water costs for high-intensity club users;
 - (C) establishing a Building Energy Efficiency Upgrade; and
 - (D) supporting clubs to become heat and smoke refuges;
 - (v) delivering three-year old preschool to more than 2,700 children across 142 services in the ACT;
 - (vi) completing the Fostering Neighbourhood Democracy pilot in two suburbs;
 - (vii) key legislative reforms including:
 - (A) establishing industrial manslaughter as an offence;
 - (B) raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility;
 - (C) expanding the portable Long Service Scheme;
 - (D) protecting tradespeople from silica dust;
 - (E) ending No Cause evictions;
 - (F) introducing a right to a healthy environment; and
 - (G) creating entertainment precincts;
 - (viii) executive reforms including creating a dedicated coroner in the ACT and establishing the Office of Water; and
 - (ix) administrative reforms including increasing access to government information;
- (3) further notes that alongside these delivered joint commitments, the Government has the following commitments underway:
- (i) maintaining and expanding the free health services provided by our Walk-In Centre network;
 - (ii) opening the new Critical Services Building Hospital at Canberra Hospital;
 - (iii) opening and expanding 17 schools across the city's growth areas; and
 - (iv) renewing and growing our public housing dwellings; and
- (4) calls on the ACT Chief Minister and Leader of the ACT Greens to release the final PAGA report outlining its record against commitments, prior to the 2024 caretaker period."

Debate continued.

Paper: Ms Berry (Minister for Sport and Recreation) presented the following paper: New District Playing Fields for Throsby—Media release by Yvette Berry MLA, dated August 2024.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 15		NOES, 8
Andrew Barr	Laura Nuttall	Peter Cain
Yvette Berry	Suzanne Orr	Ed Cocks
Andrew Braddock	Marisa Paterson	Jeremy Hanson
Joy Burch	Michael Pettersson	Elizabeth Kikkert
Tara Cheyne	Shane Rattenbury	Nicole Lawder
Jo Clay	Chris Steel	Elizabeth Lee
Emma Davidson	Rebecca Vassarotti	James Milligan
Mick Gentleman		Mark Parton

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes during an ABC Radio interview in April 2024, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the Labor Party “don’t make promises we can’t deliver”;
- (2) further notes:
 - (a) that the ACT Labor and ACT Greens Government has made significant progress in delivering the Parliamentary and Governing Agreement (PAGA) including:
 - (i) important progress on climate change action, such as:
 - (A) commissioning the Big Canberra Battery;
 - (B) establishing a Sustainable Household Scheme;
 - (C) supporting homes and businesses to transition to 100 percent renewable electricity;
 - (D) enacting minimum energy efficiency standards regulations for rental properties;
 - (E) implementing a \$50 million program for energy efficient social, public and low-income housing; and
 - (F) development of Molonglo Town Centre as all-electric;
 - (ii) more and better housing options for all Canberrans, such as:
 - (A) improving and simplifying the ACT’s planning system to deliver more housing in greenfield and existing suburbs;
 - (B) completing Common Ground Dickson;
 - (C) expansion of the early morning centre services; and
 - (D) increasing emergency accommodation capacity and expanding specialist homelessness services;

- (iii) key enabling projects for Light Rail Stage 2A to Commonwealth Park are underway and design and planning have progressed for Light Rail Stage 2B from Commonwealth Park to Woden;
 - (iv) reducing harm from gaming while supporting sustainable clubs by:
 - (A) reducing the number of electronic gaming licenses to 3,500 by July 2025;
 - (B) conducting a review into water costs for high-intensity club users;
 - (C) establishing a Building Energy Efficiency Upgrade; and
 - (D) supporting clubs to become heat and smoke refuges;
 - (v) delivering three-year old preschool to more than 2,700 children across 142 services in the ACT;
 - (vi) completing the Fostering Neighbourhood Democracy pilot in two suburbs;
 - (vii) key legislative reforms including:
 - (A) establishing industrial manslaughter as an offence;
 - (B) raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility;
 - (C) expanding the portable Long Service Scheme;
 - (D) protecting tradespeople from silica dust;
 - (E) ending No Cause evictions;
 - (F) introducing a right to a healthy environment; and
 - (G) creating entertainment precincts;
 - (viii) executive reforms including creating a dedicated coroner in the ACT and establishing the Office of Water; and
 - (ix) administrative reforms including increasing access to government information;
- (3) further notes that alongside these delivered joint commitments, the Government has the following commitments underway:
- (i) maintaining and expanding the free health services provided by our Walk-In Centre network;
 - (ii) opening the new Critical Services Building Hospital at Canberra Hospital;
 - (iii) opening and expanding 17 schools across the city's growth areas; and
 - (iv) renewing and growing our public housing dwellings; and
- (4) calls on the ACT Chief Minister and Leader of the ACT Greens to release the final PAGA report outlining its record against commitments, prior to the 2024 caretaker period."—

be agreed to—put and passed.

11 DISABILITY INCLUSION BILL 2024

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.

Paper: Ms Orr, by leave, presented the following paper:

Disability Inclusion Pledge—Support for a Disability Inclusion Act for the ACT, prepared by Suzanne Orr, Labor Member for Yerrabi.

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

Detail Stage

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole—

On the motion of Ms Orr, by leave, her amendments Nos 1 to 18 (see [Schedule 1](#)) were made together.

Paper: Ms Orr presented a supplementary explanatory statement to her amendments.

Bill, as a whole, as amended, agreed to.

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

12 PAPERS PRESENTED ON 29 AUGUST 2024—PAPERS NOTED

The Speaker, pursuant to standing order 211A, proposed—That the papers presented under standing order 211 during the presentation of papers in the routine of business today be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

13 APPROPRIATION BILL 2024-2025

The Assembly, according to order, resumed further consideration at the detail stage—

Detail Stage

Schedule 1—Appropriations—Proposed expenditure—

Consideration resumed on Part 1.5—Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate—

Debate continued.

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

14 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Mr Cain, by leave, was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.32 pm, adjourned until Tuesday, 3 September 2024 at 10 am.

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

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS

Schedule 1

DISABILITY INCLUSION BILL 2024

Amendments circulated by Ms Orr

1

Proposed new clause 7A

Page 5, line 1—

insert

7A Meaning of *disability inclusion strategy*

In this Act:

disability inclusion strategy, for the Territory, means a strategy for—

- (a) disability inclusion in the ACT community; and
- (b) the implementation of the disability inclusion principles in the ACT.

2

Clause 9 heading

Page 6, line 7—

omit the heading, substitute

9 Disability inclusion strategies for the Territory

3

Clause 9 (1)

Page 6, line 9—

omit everything after

the Minister,

substitute

make a disability inclusion strategy for the Territory in relation to the priority inclusion area.

4

Clause 10 heading

Page 7, line 9—

omit the heading, substitute

10

Disability inclusion strategies made in consultation with people with disability etc

5

Proposed new clause 10 (2) (ba)

Page 7, line 26—

insert

(ba) life experiences, including the experiences of veterans; and

6

Proposed new clause 10A

Page 8, line 18—

insert

10A

Certain existing strategies may be adopted as first disability inclusion strategy

- (1) The responsible Minister for the priority inclusion area mentioned in an item in table 10A, column 2 may adopt the strategy mentioned in the item, column 3 as the first disability inclusion strategy for that priority inclusion area.
- (2) If a responsible Minister adopts a strategy mentioned in an item in table 10A, column 3 as a disability inclusion strategy—
 - (a) the adopted strategy is taken to meet the requirements under section 9 (2); and
 - (b) the requirements under section 10 do not apply to the adopted strategy; and
 - (c) the disability inclusion strategy is taken to expire at the end of the year mentioned in the item, column 4.

Table 10A

column 1 item	column 2 priority inclusion area	column 3 strategy	column 4 expiry
1	community attitudes	ACT Disability Strategy 2024-2033	2033
2	education and learning	ACT Government Inclusive Education: A Disability Inclusion Strategy for ACT Public Schools 2024-2034	2034
3	health and wellbeing	ACT Government Disability Health Strategy 2024-2033	2033
4	personal and community support	ACT Disability Strategy 2024-2033	2033

column 1 item	column 2 priority inclusion area	column 3 strategy	column 4 expiry
5	safety, rights and justice	ACT Government Disability Justice Strategy 2019-2029—A Strategy to Address Unequal Access to Justice in the ACT	2029

(3) This section expires on 1 December 2035.

7

Clause 13 (1)

Page 10, line 12—

after

ableism

insert

within, and across the business of, the entity

8

Clause 13 (5) (b)

Page 11, line 11—

omit

3 years

substitute

5 years

9

Clause 14 (1) (a) (iii)

Page 12, line 7—

omit

10

Proposed new clause 14 (2) (ba)

Page 12, line 19—

insert

(ba) life experiences, including the experiences of veterans; and

11

Clause 14 (4)

Page 13, line 9—

omit

strategy for a priority inclusion area

substitute

plan for the public sector entity

12**Proposed new clause 19 (3) (ca)****Page 16, line 13—***insert*

(ca) represents a disabled peoples organisation; or

13**Proposed new clause 19 (8) (ba)****Page 17, line 1—***insert*

(ba) life experiences, including the experiences of veterans; and

14**Clause 19 (9)****Page 17, line 6—***omit*

2 years

substitute

3 years

15**Clause 20 (a)****Page 17, line 21—***omit clause 20 (a), substitute*

(a) for misconduct; or

16**Schedule 1, proposed new section 1.2 (3A)****Page 21, line 24—***insert*

(3A) Universal design is the best practice method of designing environments without barriers to accessibility.

17**Dictionary, definition of *disability inclusion strategy*****Page 24, line 14—***omit the definition, substitute**disability inclusion strategy*—see section 7A.

18

Dictionary, proposed new definition of *universal design*

Page 25, line 5—

insert

universal design means the design of an environment that can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of the nature of their attributes, including their age, size, ability or disability.
