

2001–2002

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 18

WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY 2002

1 The Assembly met at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. A quorum of Members not being present, the Speaker (Mr Berry) ordered the bells to be rung. A quorum having been formed the Speaker 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 MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (MATERNAL HEALTH) AMENDMENT BILL 2002

Ms Gallagher, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Medical Practitioners Act 1930*.

Title read by Clerk.

Ms Gallagher moved – That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Corbell – Minister for Education, Youth and Family Services) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT – STANDING COMMITTEE – REPORT NO. 2 – SERVICE DELIVERY – 2002-03 BUDGET CONSULTATION PROCESS – PUBLICATION OF REPORT

Mrs Dunne (Chair), pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly authorise the publication of Report No. 2 of the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment entitled Service Delivery – 2002-03 Budget consultation process –

Question – put and passed.

4 INDUSTRIAL DEATHS

Ms Gallagher, pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly:

- (1) acknowledges that Australia has one of the highest rates of industrial deaths in the OECD; and

- (2) calls on the Minister for Industrial Relations to introduce industrial manslaughter legislation by the end of this sitting year.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.

5 INQUIRIES AMENDMENT BILL 2002

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

6 ADOPTION OF EARTH CHARTER

Ms Tucker, pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly:

- (1) endorses the Earth Charter; and
- (2) calls on the Government to adopt the Earth Charter as a framework of principles to help guide the work of its Office of Sustainability.

Debate ensued.

Mrs Dunne moved the following amendment: In paragraph (2) after “adopt” insert “relevant parts of”.

Debate continued.

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put and negatived.

Debate continued.

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

7 SOLAR HOT WATER REBATE SCHEME

Mrs Dunne, pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly condemns the A.C.T. Government for the introduction of its regressive Solar Hot Water Rebate Scheme and calls on the government to:

- (1) cease its discrimination against people who rent, particularly those who rent through A.C.T. Housing;
- (2) lead by example and demonstrate its commitment to the use of renewable energy and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by:
 - (a) immediately commencing the installation of solar hot water systems on all suitable, new developments constructed by or on behalf of A.C.T. Housing; and
 - (b) initiating a program whereby all replacement hot water systems on suitable A.C.T. Housing dwellings are solar systems.

Debate ensued.

Ms Tucker, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

- (1) Omit “condemns” and substitute “congratulates”.
- (2) Omit “regressive”.

Debate continued.

Question – That the amendment's be agreed to – put and passed

Debate continued.

Question – That the motion, as amended, viz: That this Assembly congratulates the A.C.T. Government for the introduction of its Solar Hot Water Rebate Scheme and calls on the government to:

- (1) cease its discrimination against people who rent, particularly those who rent through A.C.T. Housing;
- (2) lead by example and demonstrate its commitment to the use of renewable energy and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by:
 - (a) immediately commencing the installation of solar hot water systems on all suitable, new developments constructed by or on behalf of A.C.T. Housing; and
 - (b) initiating a program whereby all replacement hot water systems on suitable A.C.T. Housing dwellings are solar systems –

be agreed to – put and passed.

8 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

9 PAPERS

Mr Stanhope (Minister for Health) presented the following papers:

Compliance testing – Answer to question taken on notice asked by Ms Dundas, dated 14 May 2002.

Health – Emergency Services – Answer to question without notice asked by Mr Smyth, dated 14 May 2002.

10 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT – PAPER AND STATEMENT BY MINISTER – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Quinlan (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Financial Management Act, pursuant to section 26(3) – Consolidated Financial Management Report for the financial quarter and year to date ending 31 March 2002 – and by leave, made a statement in relation to the paper.

Mr Quinlan moved – That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

11 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE – DISCUSSION – MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES IN THE A.C.T.

The Assembly was informed that Mr Smyth had proposed that a matter of public importance be submitted to the Assembly for discussion, namely, “The need for the A.C.T. Government to provide a much wider and comprehensive range of mental health facilities in the A.C.T.”.

Discussion ensued.

The time for discussion having expired -
Discussion concluded.

12 GREENCHOICE POWER AND ATMOSPHERIC CARBON LEVELS

Ms Dundas, pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly:

- (1) recognising that the community is greatly concerned about global warming, and that electricity consumption is one of the major household contributions to atmospheric carbon levels;
- (2) recognising that current purchasers of GreenChoice power and those opting out of GreenChoice have difficulty quantifying the difference that their choice is making to atmospheric carbon levels;
- (3) calls on the Treasurer to request ActewAGL to include information on carbon emissions generated by each customer on all electricity bills, and to provide information on average customer carbon emissions.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.

13 CONSIDERATION OF PRIVATE MEMBERS BUSINESS

Mrs Cross, by leave, moved – That Private Members Business Notice No. 18 be called on forthwith –

Question – put and passed.

14 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

Notice No. 18 having been called on –

Adjournment negatived: It being 5 p.m. – The question was proposed – That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Mr Wood (Manager of Government Business) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate –

Question – put and negatived.

Mrs Cross, pursuant to notice, moved – That the Assembly:

- (1) recognises Wednesday 15 May 2002 as being the International Day of Families;
- (2) notes the integral role that families have in the A.C.T.; and
- (3) calls on the Government to show a strong commitment to families in its 2002-03 Budget.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed

15 DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002

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 adjourned (Mr Wood – Manager of Government Business) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

16 REVIEW OF FUTURE LAND USE FOR BURNT PLANTATION FORESTS

Ms Tucker, pursuant to notice, moved – That this Assembly calls on the Government to:

- (1) undertake a review of the future land use of the pine plantations burnt out in the Christmas bushfires, including, but not limited to, the use of some or all of the land for –
 - (a) plantations of native tree species;
 - (b) rehabilitation to its original native vegetation;
 - (c) other land uses not related to plantations;
 - (d) re-establishment of the pine plantation;
- (2) take account in the conduct of the review of –
 - (a) environmental, social and planning considerations in integrating the use of this land into the broader planning of Canberra;
 - (b) the economics and environmental impacts of plantation forestry in the A.C.T.;
 - (c) community views on the most desirable use of this land;
- (3) report to the Assembly on the outcome of the review by the end of the sitting week in September 2002; and
- (4) not proceed with any replanting of pine trees in these areas until the Assembly has considered the outcome of the review.

Debate ensued.

Ms Dundas, by leave, moved the following amendments:

- (1) Paragraph 1, omit “undertake a review of the future land use of the pine plantations burnt out in the Christmas bushfires, including, but not limited to, the use of some or all of the” and substitute “undertake a review of the current and future land requirements of the plantation timber industry in the A.C.T., including but not limited to use of current plantation”.
- (2) Paragraph 2, omit “this” substitute “plantation”.
- (3) Omit paragraph 4.

Debate continued.

Speaker’s ruling – Standing order 140: The Speaker ruled Ms Dundas’ amendment No. 1 out of order as it widened the scope of the original motion.

Question – That Ms Dundas’ amendments (2) and (3) be agreed to – put and negatived.

Question proposed – That the motion be agreed to.

Debate continued.

Question – That the motion be agreed to – put and negatived.

17 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Wood (Manager of Government Business) moved – That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Question – put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.35 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE: All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Mr Hargreaves (on leave).

M J McRAE
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly