



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2020–2021–2022

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 70

**WEDNESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2022**

- 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 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That leave of absence be granted to Ms Orr for today’s sitting due to illness.

Question—put and passed.

**3 PETITIONS AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSE—PETITIONS AND RESPONSE NOTED**

**Petitions**

The Clerk announced that the following Members had lodged petitions for presentation:

Mrs Kikkert, from 536 residents, requesting that the Assembly call on the ACT Government to immediately improve the parking at Kippax Fair (Pet 039-22).

Pursuant to standing order 99A, this petition stands referred to the relevant Standing Committee.

Ms Clay, from 268 residents, requesting that the Assembly call on the ACT Government to expand the Margaret Timpson Park in the Belconnen Town Centre (e-Pet 028-22).

**Ministerial response**

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

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services), dated 29 November 2022—Response to petition No 005-22, lodged by Ms Vassarotti on 20 September 2022, concerning the mowing and improvement of the off-leash dog area in Watson.

---

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**4 WORKING CONDITIONS OF CASUAL AND CONTRACT WORKERS IN THE A.C.T.—ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OF 3 MAY 2022—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety) made a ministerial statement concerning the working conditions of casual and contract workers in the ACT in response to the resolution of the Assembly of 3 May 2022 and presented the following paper:

Working conditions of casual and contract workers in the ACT—Assembly resolution of 3 May 2022—Government response—Ministerial statement, 30 November 2022.

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

Question—put and passed.

**5 VAPING PRODUCTS—EDUCATION AND REGULATION—ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OF 3 AUGUST 2021—UPDATE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) made a ministerial statement concerning an update on the actions being taken in response to the resolution of the Assembly of 3 August 2021 on vaping products regulation and education and presented the following paper:

Vaping products—Education and Regulation—Assembly resolution of 3 August 2021—Update—Ministerial statement, 30 November 2022.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**6 BIMBERI HEADLINE INDICATORS REPORT—NOVEMBER 2022—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Davidson (Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services) made a ministerial statement concerning the tenth Bimberi Headline Indicators Report and presented the following papers:

Bimberi Headline Indicators Report—November 2022—  
Report.

Ministerial statement, Wednesday, 30 November 2022.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**7 DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

Ms Cheyne (Minister for Human Rights), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Discrimination Act 1991*, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Ms Cheyne presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

**8 CORRECTIONS AND SENTENCING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Corrections), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about corrections management and sentencing, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Mr Gentleman presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

**9 RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022**

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about residential tenancies, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Mr Rattenbury presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

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

## 10 CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION AMENDMENT BILL 2022

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*

Clauses 1 to 7, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

*Proposed new clause—*

Ms Lee (Leader of the Opposition) moved her amendment No 1 (see [Schedule 1](#)), which would insert a new clause 7A in the Bill.

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

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7

Mr Cain  
Ms Castley  
Mr Cocks  
Ms Lawder  
Ms Lee  
Mr Milligan  
Mr Parton

NOES, 14

Mr Barr	Dr Paterson
Ms Berry	Mr Pettersson
Mr Braddock	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Burch	Mr Steel
Ms Cheyne	Ms Stephen-Smith
Ms Clay	Ms Vassarotti
Ms Davidson	
Mr Gentleman	

And so it was negatived.

Clause 8 agreed to.

*Proposed new clause—*

Ms Lee moved her amendment No 2 (see [Schedule 1](#)), which would insert a new clause 8A in the Bill.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7

Mr Cain  
Ms Castley  
Mr Cocks  
Ms Lawder  
Ms Lee  
Mr Milligan  
Mr Parton

NOES, 14

Mr Barr	Dr Paterson
Ms Berry	Mr Pettersson
Mr Braddock	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Burch	Mr Steel
Ms Cheyne	Ms Stephen-Smith
Ms Clay	Ms Vassarotti
Ms Davidson	
Mr Gentleman	

And so it was negatived.

Clause 9 agreed to.

*Proposed new clause—*

Ms Lee moved her amendment No 3 (see [Schedule 1](#)), which would insert a new clause 9A in the Bill.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7

Mr Cain  
Ms Castley  
Mr Cocks  
Ms Lawder  
Ms Lee  
Mr Milligan  
Mr Parton

NOES, 14

Mr Barr	Dr Paterson
Ms Berry	Mr Pettersson
Mr Braddock	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Burch	Mr Steel
Ms Cheyne	Ms Stephen-Smith
Ms Clay	Ms Vassarotti
Ms Davidson	
Mr Gentleman	

And so it was negatived.

Clause 10—

Ms Lee moved her amendment No 4 (see [Schedule 1](#)).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause 10 agreed to.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

---

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

## 11 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

## 12 DIRECT BUS ROUTES—SOUTH CANBERRA TO CIVIC—PROPOSED CONTINUANCE

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

- (1) notes:
  - (a) the Government ignored its own 2016 travel survey which indicated that the majority of Canberrans wanted direct buses to the city by redirecting most of those services to terminate at the tramline;
  - (b) prior to the commencement of Stage 1 of the tram, it was possible to get on a direct bus from every suburb in Gungahlin to Civic, except for the suburbs that weren't actually populated at that stage;
  - (c) on the commencement of tram services, Gungahlin lost the:
    - (i) 200 Red Rapid bus;
    - (ii) 202 Express bus from Gungahlin to the city;
    - (iii) 251, 252, 254, 255 and 259 Xpresso routes from Gungahlin suburbs to the city;
    - (iv) 56 service from Palmerston;
    - (v) 57 service from Franklin; and
    - (vi) 58 service from Harrison; and
  - (d) that services from the inner north and Belconnen that went to the city were redirected to the Dickson interchange, namely the 30 and 31 services from Kaleen and Giralang and the 39 service from Watson was changed so drastically that it ceased being a viable option for commuters;
- (2) further recognises:
  - (a) once the Stage 1 tram was opened, the travel time to Civic from many suburbs that once had direct buses routes increased;
  - (b) since Light Rail Stage 1 services commenced, the percentage of Canberrans as a proportion of the growing population, that use public transport has not increased, even before COVID hit; and
  - (c) there are currently many southside suburbs that have direct routes to Civic; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to guarantee that:
  - (a) direct bus routes from suburbs south of Lake Burley Griffin to Civic will be protected, will be maintained and not cancelled when the Woden tram commences, and that commuters will not be forced onto the tram; and
  - (b) the public transport travel time from any suburb south of Lake Burley Griffin to Civic will not increase compared to the time it takes today, and doing this by keeping the direct bus routes as is, once the tram to Woden commences.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7	NOES, 14	
Ms Castley	Mr Barr	Dr Paterson
Mr Cocks	Ms Berry	Mr Pettersson
Mr Hanson	Mr Braddock	Mr Rattenbury
Mrs Kikkert	Ms Burch	Mr Steel
Ms Lawder	Ms Cheyne	Ms Stephen-Smith
Mr Milligan	Ms Clay	Ms Vassarotti
Mr Parton	Ms Davidson	
	Mr Gentleman	

And so it was negatived.

### 13 SAFE SWIMMING INFRASTRUCTURE

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

- (1) notes:
  - (a) in Australia, one in three drowning deaths occur in rivers and creeks;
  - (b) drowning deaths have increased 15 percent from 2021 to 2022 and have increased 24 percent over the past 10 years; and
  - (c) the summer months of December and January are peak months for drowning deaths in Australia;
- (2) further notes:
  - (a) migrants are at a far higher risk of drowning when compared to the general population;
  - (b) following the drowning death of beloved local Afghan man Najeeb Rafee in 2019, community groups like the Refugee and Migrant Swimming Project have been calling for the ACT Government to improve safety measures at inland waterways; and
  - (c) the Royal Life Saving Society is currently producing a report on safety equipment across Canberra's river-based swimming spots; and
- (3) calls on the Government to:
  - (a) within six months of the date of the Royal Life Saving Society report, publish a plan to address risks arising from identified safety equipment shortages at ACT inland swimming spots, including emergency phones where there is no reception;
  - (b) review signage and safety information at popular inland swimming spots to ensure it is accessible and clear;
  - (c) provide greater public education about swim safety that is accessible in a variety of languages; and

- (d) report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day of November 2023 on progress.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

#### **14 ADJOURNMENT**

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 4.53 pm, adjourned until tomorrow at 10 am.

---

---

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

\*on leave

---

---

**Tom Duncan**  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



## SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS

### Schedule 1

#### CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION AMENDMENT BILL 2022

Amendments circulated by the Leader of the Opposition

---

1

**Proposed new clause 7A**

**Page 4, line 25—**

*insert*

**7A Section 15 (1) (b)**

*substitute*

- (b) the effectiveness of government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions during the year, including the cost of the actions measured per tonne of greenhouse gas emissions reduced during the year; and

---

2

**Proposed new clause 8A**

**Page 5, line 9—**

*insert*

**8A Functions of council  
New section 17 (1) (c)**

*insert*

- (c) actions taken in the ACT to address climate change.

---

3

**Proposed new clause 9A**

**Page 6, line 2—**

*insert*

**9A New section 20 (3A)**

*insert*

- (3A) The appointment must be made in consultation with the relevant Assembly committee.

---

4

**Clause 10**

**Proposed new section 20 (5), new definition of *relevant Assembly committee***

**Page 6, line 13—**

*insert*

*relevant Assembly committee* means a standing committee of the Legislative Assembly nominated, in writing, by the Speaker for subsection (3A).

---