



# Matters of public importance—your Assembly @ work

Sitting week—20 to 24 August 2018

Issue 9/2018

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## Government Business

*Includes business items presented to the Assembly by the Executive including bills, motions, and papers*

### ***Bills introduced***

[Crimes \(Restorative Justice\) Amendment Bill 2018](#) *(presented 23 August)*

*Summary:* This bill will amend the *Crimes (Restorative Justice) Act 2004* to improve access to restorative justice in the ACT which will provide a greater capacity for victims of crime to navigate the criminal justice system.

[Red Tape Reduction Legislation Amendment Bill 2018](#) *(presented 23 August)*

*Summary:* This bill will make amendments to a number of Territory laws to address outdated requirements and reduce red tape by addressing duplication and providing greater clarity for ACT businesses, individuals and community organisations in achieving regulatory outcomes. The amendments further streamline reporting for charities registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, provide a more efficient process for industry in the lodgment of plans, maps and other documents and allow alternative documents of identification for use in licenced venues, the casino and venues selling tobacco.

### ***Bills debated***

[Appropriation Bill 2018-2019](#)

*Summary:* This bill will appropriate money for the purposes of the Territory for the financial year beginning on 1 July 2018.

*Proceedings:* Debate on this bill resumed on 21 August and continued on 23 August 2018. The bill was passed without amendment following a vote of the Assembly.

### [Appropriation \(Office of the Legislative Assembly\) Bill 2018-2019](#)

*Summary:* This bill will appropriate money for expenditure in relation to the Office of the Legislative Assembly and officers of the Assembly for the financial year beginning on 1 July 2018.

*Proceedings:* Debate on this bill resumed on 21 August and continued on 23 August 2018. The bill was passed by the Assembly without amendment.

### [Veterinary Practice Bill 2018](#)

*Summary:* This bill will repeal the *Veterinary Surgeons Act 2015* and the *Veterinary Surgeons Regulations 2015* and will improve the efficiency and productivity of the veterinary profession in the ACT by bringing it into harmonisation with NSW legislation and incorporate deemed registration under the national recognition of veterinary registration. The bill will also ensure that the veterinary practice board has the necessary provisions to identify and address malpractice in the sector.

*Proceedings:* Debate on this bill resumed on 23 August with both the Opposition and ACT Greens indicating support for the passage of the proposed legislation. The bill was agreed to in principle. During the detail stage amendments were moved by both the Government and Opposition with all proposed amendments being agreed to.

The amended bill was then passed by the Assembly.

A full record of the debates can be accessed at [Hansard](#).

### **Ministerial statements**

A ministerial statement made on 21 August by the Minister for Health and Wellbeing provided the Assembly with an update on the **ACT Health transition and Australian Council on Healthcare Standards Accreditation** (ACHS). During the statement the minister presented a paper in response to a resolution of the Assembly of 9 May in relation to the report of the ACHS National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards Survey. Mrs Dunne MLA also made a statement in relation to the matter.

The minister made a further statement on 21 August providing a Government response to the report entitled **Leading Data Reform: The Way Forward – Outcomes of the ACT Health System-Wide Data Review**. During the statement the minister tabled the report, dated August 2018, the Government's response to that report and a paper entitled *Implementation Plan Phase One, to December 2018 – System-Wide Data Review*. Ms Dunne MLA also made a statement on the issue. Later in the day the Minister also tabled a paper entitled *Leading Data Reform: The Way Forward – Outcomes of the ACT Health System-Wide Data Review*, dated 6 April 2018.

The early commencement of the **2018-19 bushfire season** was the subject of a ministerial statement made by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 21 August. During the statement the minister advised that, following consultation and reviewing the current conditions, the Commissioner of the Emergency Services Agency had declared the bushfire season will commence early on 1 September 2018.

The Minister for Workplace Safety and Industrial Relations made a ministerial statement on 21 August providing the Assembly with an annual statement on **workplace safety performance**. The minister

stated that in the private sector, workers' compensation data indicates that the number of lost time injuries experienced in 2017-18 reduced by around 17 percent compared to the previous year.

On 23 August the Minister for Transport and City Services made a ministerial statement providing the Government's responses to resolutions of the Assembly of 11 April and 9 May 2018 relating to **bus services punctuality** and **evening and weekend services**. The minister, during her statement, outlined what investment had been made into bus services over the last two years.

The Attorney-General made a ministerial statement on 23 August in relation to **gaming machine authorisations and reducing gambling harm**. During the statement the minister presented a paper entitled *ACT Club Industry Diversification Support Analysis—Findings and Recommendations*.

Mr Parton MLA also made a statement in relation to the matter.

The full text of the statements made by Ministers and Members can be accessed from the [Assembly Hansard](#) site.

## Private Members' Business

*Includes items presented to the Assembly by all non-Executive Members, including bills and motions*

### *Motions debated*

On 22 August, Ms Orr MLA moved a motion relating to the **reduction of single use plastic** in the Territory. The motion included noting that recyclable plastic often ends up in the general waste stream and options for the recycling of single use soft plastics are limited. The motion also called on the Government to provide an update to the Assembly on the status of the latest review into the ACT's plastic bag ban by the last sitting week of 2018. During debate amendments were moved by Mr Rattenbury MLA which included noting that initiatives in successive Parliamentary Agreements between the Greens and the ACT Labor Party have resulted in action to reduce waste. The Government amendments were agreed to.

The amended motion was then passed by the Assembly.

The **maintenance of local shops** was the subject of a motion moved by Ms Lee MLA on 22 August. The motion noted that suburban shops play an essential role in the local community and also noted a large number of shopping areas are poorly lit, run down, the target of graffiti vandals and lacking basic and regular maintenance. The motion included calling on the Government to establish and publish a schedule of regular maintenance of local shops and report on the budget allocation for such maintenance by 31 October 2018. During debate an amendment was moved by the Government that included noting that the Government has a regular maintenance program for local shops and also included calling on the Government to publish the details of regular maintenance of local shops online. The Government amendment was passed by the Assembly.

The amended motion was then agreed to.

Other motions debated on 22 August related to:

- CFMMEU affiliations—Mr Wall MLA
- Restrictions on p-plate drivers—Miss C Burch MLA
- Budget policies—Mr Pettersson MLA
- ACT Ambulance Service data—Mr Coe MLA

The full debate on the above motions can be accessed from the Assembly [Hansard](#) site.

## Assembly Business

*Includes any business relating to the establishment or membership of a committee or the proposed referral of a matter to a committee. It also includes business which proposes to amend, disallow, disapprove or declare void any instruments which are made under specific Acts agreed to by the Assembly. Assembly business also includes any notice or order of the day which deals with the administration of the Assembly or how the Assembly conducts its proceedings*

### *Motions debated*

On 23 August the Government moved a motion proposing the **2019 sitting pattern** for the Assembly. The proposed sitting pattern included the programming of a sitting on 10 May 2019 to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of self-government for the Territory.

The motion was agreed to by the Assembly.

A motion seeking the Assembly to order the tabling of **Icon Water contracts with ActewAGL**, by the Government, was moved on 23 August.

The motion was passed by the Assembly following debate.

The full terms of the above motions can be found in the [Minutes of Proceedings](#).

## Papers Presented

The following are papers of interest that were presented during the sitting week:

- 2017-18 Capital Works Program—Progress Report to 30 June 2018 (*presented 23 August by Treasurer*)
- Alexander Maconochie Centre—Review of the Opioid Replacement Treatment Program—Report of the Health Services Commissioner—Government response (*presented 23 August by Minister for Mental Health*)
- Findings of Death of Steven Freeman—Government response to Coroner's Report (*presented 23 August by Minister for Corrections*)

## Out-of-Order Petitions

The following out-of-order petition was presented on 21 August—

- ACTION bus route 7 along Elouera, Fawkner, Torrens and Ipima Streets—Proposed changes—presented by Miss C Burch MLA.

## Committee Activities

### *Committee report presented*

#### **Administration and Procedure—Standing Committee**

Report 7—The Conduct of Miss C Burch MLA (*presented 23 August 2018*)

### *Committee statement*

#### **Environment and Transport and City Services—Standing Committee**

The chair of the committee made a statement on 23 August relating to the committee's inquiry into the nature in our city. The chair informed the Assembly that the committee had resolved to extend the reporting date for the inquiry to the end of July 2019.

### *Committee membership*

#### **Education, Employment and Youth Affairs—Standing Committee**

Mr Steel MLA discharged and Ms Cheyne MLA appointed in his place.

#### **Health, Ageing and Community Services—Standing Committee**

Mr Steel MLA discharged.

#### **Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee**

Mr Steel MLA discharged and Mr Petterson MLA appointed in his place.

## Education Activities

Information on our various program offerings are available on the Assembly's website.

## Members of the Legislative Assembly for the ACT

### *Electorate of Brindabella*

Ms Joy Burch (Australian Labor Party)

Mr Mick Gentleman (Australian Labor Party)

Ms Nicole Lawder (Canberra Liberals)

Mr Mark Parton (Canberra Liberals)

Mr Andrew Wall (Canberra Liberals)

### *Electorate of Ginninderra*

Ms Yvette Berry (Australian Labor Party)

Ms Tara Cheyne (Australian Labor Party)

Mrs Vicki Dunne (Canberra Liberals)

Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert (Canberra Liberals)

Mr Gordon Ramsay (Australian Labor Party)

***Electorate of Kurrajong***

Mr Andrew Barr (Australian Labor Party)

Miss Candice Burch (Canberra Liberals)

Ms Elizabeth Lee (Canberra Liberals)

Mr Shane Rattenbury (ACT Greens)

Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith (Australian Labor Party)

***Electorate of Murrumbidgee***

Ms Bec Cody (Australian Labor Party)

Mr Jeremy Hanson CSC (Canberra Liberals)

Mrs Giulia Jones (Canberra Liberals)

Ms Caroline Le Couteur (ACT Greens)

Mr Chris Steel (Australian Labor Party)

***Electorate of Yerrabi***

Mr Alistair Coe (Canberra Liberals)

Ms Meegan Fitzharris (Australian Labor Party)

Mr James Milligan (Canberra Liberals)

Ms Suzanne Orr (Australian Labor Party)

Mr Michael Pettersson (Australian Labor Party)

**Next Sitting**

**Tuesday, 18 September 2018.**

***This document is produced by the Office of the Legislative Assembly for information.***