



Matters of public importance—your Assembly @ work

Non-sitting and Sitting weeks—20 May-7 June 2019

Issue 6/2019

Government Business

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

Bills introduced

[ACT Teacher Quality Institute Amendment Bill 2019](#) (presented 6 June)

Summary: This bill will amend the *ACT Teacher Quality Institute Act 2010* and the *ACT Teacher Quality Institute Regulation 2010*. The amendments will ensure the quality of the ACT's teacher workforce and build a workforce that meets the needs of ACT school children into the future. The amendments include, requiring pre-service teachers to apply for approval with the ACT Teacher Quality Institute to undertake professional experience in a school in the ACT during pre-service teacher education, authorising the Institute to provide pre-service teacher information to principals and universities and authorising the Institute to collect data about the current workforce profile of teachers to inform teacher workforce planning.

[Appropriation \(Office of the Legislative Assembly\) Bill 2019-2020](#) (presented 4 June)

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 2019.

[Appropriation Bill 2019-2020](#) (presented 4 June)

Summary: This bill will appropriate money for the purposes of the Territory for the financial year beginning on 1 July 2019.

[Litter Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](#) (presented 6 June)

Summary: This bill will amend a number of Territory laws to provide a strong, contemporary and best-practice legislative framework for preventing, deterring and responding to littering and illegal dumping in the ACT. The amendments include, amending the definition of litter to expressly include dockless bikes, introducing an offence that captures construction material not being appropriately contained onsite which results in those items becoming litter, and introducing a strict liability offence for aggravated littering of specific items listed by regulation, such as syringes and cigarettes.

[Road Transport Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](#) (presented 6 June)

Summary: This bill will make a number of amendments to Territory laws to improve road safety and improve the administration and efficiency of the Territory's road transport legislation. The amendments include introducing automatic disqualification periods for drivers who repeatedly drive while suspended when the original reason for the suspension was non-payment of an infringement notice penalty, non-compliance with an infringement notice management plan, fine default or exceeding the applicable demerit point threshold, and extending the offences of using an unregistered motor vehicle or uninsured motor vehicle to a responsible person who permits or allows a person to use an unregistered or uninsured motor vehicle.

[Sentencing \(Drug and Alcohol Treatment Orders\) Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](#) (presented 6 June)

Summary: This bill will amend a number of Territory laws to establish processes for issuing a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Order (DATO) as an alternative sentence to imprisonment. The amendments include, providing legislative authority for the ACT Drug and Alcohol Court to operate in the Supreme Court, creating eligibility criteria in relation to offences and offenders, and creating a new sentence of a stand-alone DATO.

Bills debated

[Appropriation Bill 2019-2020](#)

[Appropriation \(Office of the Legislative Assembly\) Bill 2019-2020](#)

Proceedings: Debate resumed on the bill on 6 June, with the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the ACT Greens giving their responses. Both bills together were referred to the Select Committee on Estimates 2019-2020 for inquiry and report.

[Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction \(Renewable Electricity Target\) Amendment Bill 2019](#)

Summary: This bill will amend the *Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010* to enable an ongoing 100 percent renewable electricity target post-2020. The bill also allows the Minister to provide a clear summary of progress against the renewable energy targets in the Minister's annual report.

Proceedings: Debate will resume on 6 June with tri-partisan support and the bill was agreed to in principle.

The bill was agreed to by the Assembly.

[Integrity Commission Amendment Bill 2019](#)

Summary: This bill will amend the *Integrity Commission Act 2018* to amend the commencement of the Act to provide split commencement dates in order to facilitate the commencement of the enabling provisions, while delaying the commencement of powers to receive complaints until the Integrity Commissioner is ready to receive them.

Proceedings: Debate resumed on 6 June with tri-partisan support and the bill was agreed to in principle. The Speaker then moved an amendment to the bill that provides for an additional period of time before the commencement of the remaining provisions. The amendment was supported by the Assembly.

The amended bill was agreed to by the Assembly.

[Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](#)

Summary: This bill will make minor amendments to a number of Territory laws within the Justice and Community Safety portfolio to improve the operation of each amended law.

Proceedings: Debate resumed on 4 June with the ACT Greens indicating support for the bill, and the Opposition indicating they would support the bill in principle, however would oppose the sections related to the Freedom of information Act during the detail stage. The bill was agreed to in principle. During detail stage the Opposition opposed part of the bill, however, following a vote of the Assembly, the bill was agreed to as a whole.

The bill was agreed to by the Assembly.

[Senior Practitioner Amendment Bill 2019](#)

Summary: This bill will amend the *Senior Practitioner Act 2018* to address issues identified in the implementation of the Act and demonstrates the Government's commitment to a nationally consistent approach to restrictive practice policy.

Proceedings: Debate resumed on 4 June with tri-partisan support for the legislation and the bill was agreed to in principle. The Government then moved an amendment to the bill which was supported by the Assembly.

The amended bill was agreed to by the Assembly.

[Water Resources Amendment Bill 2019](#)

Summary: This bill will amend the *Water Resources Act 2007*. The bill will provide identification of the framework of the ACT's water resource plan which shows how water planning and management takes place in the ACT, and will specify the amount of water available for surface water and groundwater from water management areas up to the sustainable diversion limit.

Proceedings: Debate resumed on 4 June with tri-partisan support the bill was agreed to in principle.

The bill was agreed to by the Assembly.

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

Ministerial statements

The Minister for Police and Emergency Services made a ministerial statement in relation to the **end of bushfire season** on 4 June. The Minister highlighted the conditions, resources, facilities and equipment, planning, mitigation strategies, and the community engagement that assisted during the bushfire season. The Minister also thanked and acknowledged the work of all staff and volunteers that were involved in keeping the ACT community safe from the impact of bushfires.

The Minister for Corrections and Justice Health gave a ministerial statement in relation to the **Report of a review of a correctional service by the ACT Inspector of Correctional Services – The Care and Management of remandees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre 2018**. During the statement the Minister tabled the ACT Government response to the Report, which addressed each of the 39 findings, and noted the Government’s position on the findings and indicates actions and timeframes for completion of actions being undertaken.

The following ministerial statements were made on 6 June—

Ministerial delegation to the United Kingdom—April 2019 made by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

Safer Families—Annual statement 2019 made by the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

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

Implementation of a kerbside food organics and garden organics collection service was the subject of a motion moved by Ms Le Couteur MLA on 5 June. The motion noted that up to 37 percent of ACT residential rubbish bin contents are food waste, which ends up in landfill and that it is estimated that a composting site and a food organics and garden organics collection service in the ACT could see over 40 000 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill each year. The motion called on the Government to begin implementation of a kerbside food organics and garden organics collection service as part of the existing ACT Government garden organics bin roll-out program by August 2020 with a roll out to all households by the end of 2023. During debate the Government moved an amendment that called on the Government to begin planning for a food organics and garden organics collection service to commence with the Territory’s kerbside collection contract, which is to be renewed in 2023. The Opposition indicated that they would not object to the motion as they fundamentally agreed with the concept of waste minimisation, however did not believe that more regulation and legislation was the best way to go.

The amended motion was passed by the Assembly.

A motion relating to the **planning for health infrastructure in the ACT** was moved by Mrs Dunne MLA on 5 June. The motion noted that a Strategic Assets Management Plan for health infrastructure completed in February 2018 identified that critical assets are nearing the end of their useful life and that a report from September 2018 identified that approximately 61 percent of the buildings at Calvary are reaching the end of their useful life. The motion called on the Minister for Health and Wellbeing to report to the Assembly by the first sitting day in August 2019 on any strategic asset management plans underway or recently undertaken, planning for the renewal of ageing health infrastructure and planning for the new

north side hospital. During debate the Government moved an amendment that noted the ACT Health and Canberra Health Services are making strong progress on Territory-wide planning for building and maintaining health infrastructure and called on the Government to provide an update on the Territory-wide planning for health infrastructure by the last sitting day in 2019. The ACT Greens indicated their support for the amendment.

Following a vote of the Assembly, the amended motion was passed.

Gungahlin Community Facilities was the subject of a motion moved on 5 June by Mr Pettersson MLA. The motion noted Gungahlin's strong population growth of 50 percent in the past five years, making it the second-fastest growing region in Australia. The motion called on the Government to commence community consultation as soon as possible for community facilities in and around Casey. The Opposition and the ACT Greens indicated their support for the motion.

The motion was passed by the Assembly.

Other motions debated on 5 June related to:

Secure employment—Ms Cody MLA

Increasing financial pressures on Canberrans—Mr Coe MLA

Safe disposal and recycling of solar panels and batteries—Ms Lawder 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

A motion was moved on 4 June by Ms Joy Burch MLA to reaffirm the resolution of 14 May 2019 which approved the appointment of the Honourable Dennis Cowdroy OAM QC as the **ACT Integrity Commissioner** and proposed that a vote confirming a 2/3 majority be conducted.

Following a vote of the Assembly, the motion was agreed to by the Assembly.

A motion was moved by the Speaker on 6 June in relation to it being 40 years since the sovereign democratic Republic of Kiribati was declared and its independence constitution promulgated on 12 July 1979. The motion expressed its congratulations and friendship to the people of Kiribati, the Kiribati Parliament, the *Maneabeni Maungatabu*, the Speaker the Hon Tebuai Uai and the President of Kiribati, the Hon Taneti Maamau, on the most significant milestone.

The motion was agreed to by the Assembly.

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:

- Budget Speech (Budget Paper 1) *(presented by the Treasurer on 4 June)*
- Budget in Brief (Budget Paper 2) *(presented by the Treasurer on 4 June)*
- Budget Outlook (Budget Paper 3) *(presented by the Treasurer on 4 June)*
- Budget Statements—
 - A—ACT Executive | ACT Integrity Commission | Auditor-General | Electoral Commissioner | Office of the Legislative Assembly
 - B—Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate together with associated agencies
 - C—ACT Health Directorate | Canberra Health Services | ACT Hospital Network
 - D—Justice and Community Safety Directorate | Legal Aid Commission (ACT) | Public Trustee and Guardian for the ACT
 - E—Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | City Renewal Authority | Suburban Land Agency
 - F—Education Directorate
 - G—Community Services Directorate | Housing ACT
 - H—Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | Transport Canberra Operations | ACT Public Cemeteries Authority. *(presented by the Treasurer on 4 June)*
- Statements of Intent 2019-20—
 - ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority, dated 23 and 28 May 2019
 - ACT Long Service Leave Authority *(presented by the Treasurer on 4 June)*
- Petition which does not conform with the standing orders—Kingston—Section 24— Mature tree canopy—Mr Rattenbury (56 signatures) *(presented by Mr Rattenbury MLA)*
- Statement of Corporate Intent—Icon Water Limited—Business Strategy 2019-20 to 2022-23 *(presented by the Manager of Government Business)*
- ACT Place Names Committee & Guidelines Review, dated June 2019, pursuant to the resolution of the Assembly of 28 November 2018 *(presented by the Manager of Government Business)*
- ACT Human Rights Commission—Commission Initiated Review of Allegations regarding Bimberi Youth Justice Centre Report—Government response *(presented by the Manager of Government Business)*
- ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee—Annual Report 2018 *(presented by the Manager of Government Business)*

Petitions

The following petitions and e-petition were lodged on 4 June—

- Phillip Easty Street—Proposed N10 and N12 developments—lodged by Ms Le Couteur MLA.
- Cross border proposal—Proposed buffer zones—lodged by Ms Le Couteur MLA.
- ACT Transport Network—lodged by Miss C Burch MLA.

The following e-petition and petition were lodged on 6 June—

- Hydrotherapy services in south Canberra—lodged by Mrs Jones MLA.

A copy of the petitions and responses can be found on the Assembly [Hansard](#) site.

Committee Activities

Committee reports presented

Administration and Procedure—Standing Committee

[Report 12—Protocols for visits by Members to Government schools](#) (presented 6 June)

Fuel Pricing—Select Committee

[Interim Report on Inquiry into ACT Fuel Pricing](#) (presented 4 June)

Health, Ageing and Community Services—Select Committee

[Report 7—Inquiry into Drugs of Dependence \(Personal Cannabis Use\) Amendment Bill 2018](#) (presented 6 June)

Scrutiny Committee

[Scrutiny Report 31](#) (presented 4 June)

This report contained the committee's comments on eight bills, 16 pieces of subordinate legislation, four government responses and proposed amendments to two bills.

Committee statements

Justice and Community Safety (Legislative Scrutiny Role)—Standing Committee

The chair of the Committee made a statement on 4 June informing the Assembly that proposed amendments to bills would need to be received by the Committee at least 14 days prior to the Tuesday of the sitting week in which the amendments are proposed to be moved.

Public Accounts—Standing Committee

The chair of the Committee made a statement on 6 June in relation to the Committee's decision to agree to note, and not inquire into the following Auditor-General's reports:

1/2018—Acceptance of Stormwater Assets.

2/2018—ACT Government strategic and accountability indicators.

4/2018—2016-17 Financial Audits—Computer Information Systems.

6/2018—Physical Security.

9/2018—ACT Health's management of allegations of misconduct and complaints about inappropriate workplace behaviour.

10/2018—2017-18 Financial Audits—Overview.

11/2018—Financial Audits—Financial Results and Audit Findings.

1/2019—Total Facilities Management Procurement.

2/2019—Recognition and implementation of obligations under the Human Rights Act 2004.

3/2019—Access Canberra Business Planning and Monitoring.

4/2019—2017-18 Financial Audits—Computer Information Systems.

Committee referrals

Environment and Transport and City Services—Standing Committee

On 4 June, petition No 16-19 was referred to the Committee which requested that the Assembly reject any cross-border proposal in relation to the Parkwood area of NSW until further research on effective buffer zones is undertaken.

On 4 June, Miss Candice Burch MLA moved that petition No 17-19 and the out-of-order petitions relating to the reconsideration of recent changes and further consideration of improving the dedicated school transport network be referred to the Committee. The motion was agreed to by the Assembly.

Health, Ageing and Community Services—Standing Committee

On 6 June, petitions Nos 10-19 and 18-19 were referred to the Committee which requested the Assembly to call on the ACT Government to keep the hydrotherapy pool at The Canberra Hospital open and maintained until a new dedicated hydrotherapy pool is built on the south side of Canberra.

Planning and Urban Renewal—Standing Committee

On 4 June, petitions Nos 15-19 and 25-18 were referred to the Committee which requested the Assembly to call on the ACT Government to, in relation to the Phillip Precinct, limit the height of the N12 site construction, revert the N10 site to a RZ4 zoning and preserve the existing open green space of Arabanoo Park.

Responses to committee reports

Planning and Urban Renewal—Standing Committee

Report 7—Draft Variation to the Territory Plan No 350: Changes to definition of ‘single dwelling block’—[Government response](#) (presented by the Manager of Government Business on 6 June)

Committee membership

Education, Employment and Youth Affairs—Standing Committee

Discharged - Ms Lee MLA

Appointed - Mr Parton MLA

Integrity Commission—Standing Committee

Discharged – Ms Lee MLA

Appointed – Mr Wall MLA

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, 30 July 2019.

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