



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

2020–2021–2022

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 62

THURSDAY, 13 OCTOBER 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 JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—INQUIRY—FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022 AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022 [NO 2]—AMENDMENT TO REPORTING DATE**

Mr Cain (Chair), pursuant to notice, moved—That, notwithstanding the provisions of the resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended, that established general purpose standing committees, the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety shall present its report on the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 and Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 [No 2] by 1 December 2022.

Question—put and passed.

- 3 INTEGRITY COMMISSION 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

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole—

On the motion of Ms Burch (Speaker), by leave, her amendments Nos 1 to 2 (see [Schedule 1](#)) were made together.

Amendments agreed to.

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

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

4 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—TRANSPORT CANBERRA AND CITY SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 2022—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 not to conduct an inquiry into the Transport Canberra and City Services Amendment Bill 2022.

5 APPROPRIATION BILL 2022-2023

The Assembly, according to order, resumed 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.

Proposed expenditure agreed to.

Part 1.6—Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate—debated and agreed to.

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.

6 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) informed the Assembly of the absence of Minister Gentleman and advised the Assembly that questions without notice normally directed to the Minister for Planning and Land Management, the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, and the Minister for Corrections could be directed to Minister Steel, and those normally directed to the Minister for Industrial relations and Workplace Safety could be directed to Mr Barr.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

8 PRESENTATION OF PAPER

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act, pursuant to section 15—Annual Reports—2021-2022—

ACT Electoral Commission, dated 4 October 2022.

ACT Integrity Commission, dated September 2022.

ACT Ombudsman, dated 7 October 2022.

Inspector of the ACT Integrity Commission, dated 7 October 2022.

Office of the Legislative Assembly, dated October 2022.

Bills referred to Committees, pursuant to resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended—Bills—Not inquired into—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People Commissioner Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion, dated 12 October 2022.

Freedom of Information Act, pursuant to section 67—A report on the operation of the *Freedom of Information Act*—ACT Ombudsman—Annual Report 2021-2022.

9 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Ms Cheyne (Acting Manager for Government Business) presented the following papers:

Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act, pursuant to section 13—Annual Reports—2021-2022—

ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority, dated 21 September 2022.

ACT Gambling and Racing Commission, dated 23 September 2022.

ACT Health Directorate, dated 29 September 2022.

ACT Human Rights Commission, dated 6 October 2022.

ACT Inspector of Correctional Services, dated September 2022.

ACT Insurance Authority, dated 29 September 2022.

ACT Long Service Leave Authority, dated 21 September 2022.

ACT Policing Special Purposes, dated 7 September 2022.

ACT Policing, dated 19 September 2022, in accordance with the Policing Arrangement between the Commonwealth and Australian Capital Territory Governments.

ACT Public Service—State of the Service Report, dated 4 October 2022.

Canberra Health Services, dated 30 September 2022.

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (Volumes 1, 2.1 and 2.2), dated 4 October 2022.

City Renewal Authority, dated 29 September 2022.

Community Services Directorate, dated 27 September 2022.

Cultural Facilities Corporation, dated 29 September 2022.

Director of Public Prosecutions, dated 7 October 2022.

Education Directorate, dated 26 September 2022.

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, dated 30 September 2022.

Icon Water Limited, dated 16 September 2022.

Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission, dated 28 September 2022, including a corrigendum, dated 12 October 2022.

Justice and Community Safety Directorate, dated 29 September 2022.

Legal Aid Commission (ACT), dated 4 October 2022.

Major Projects Canberra, dated October 2022.

Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment, dated 9 September 2022.

Office of the Work Health and Safety Commissioner, dated 14 September 2022.

Public Trustee and Guardian, dated 1 July 2022.

Suburban Land Agency, dated 28 September 2022.

Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, dated 7 October 2022.

Auditor-General Act, pursuant to subsection 17(5)—Auditor-General's Report No 3/2022—ACT Taxi Subsidy Scheme—Government response, dated October 2022.

Children and young people lens of the ACT Wellbeing Framework—Statement—Minister for Families and Community Services, dated October 2022.

Civil Law (Wrongs) Act, pursuant to subsection 4.56(3), Schedule 4—Professional Standards Councils, Annual Report 2021-2022, dated September 2022.

Crimes (Assumed Identities) Act, pursuant to subsection 38 (4)—Assumed Identities Annual Report 2021-22—Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, dated 7 September 2022.

Public Accounts—Standing Committee—

Report 9—Inquiry into the Auditor-General's Report No. 7 of 2021: Procurement Exemptions and Value for Money—Government response, dated October 2022.

Report 10—Inquiry into the Auditor-General's Report No. 1 of 2021: Land Management Agreements—Government response, dated October 2022.

Official Visitor Act, pursuant to subsection 23DA(2)—Official Visitors Scheme—Annual report 2021-2022, undated.

Status of the Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19—Chief Health Officer Report—26 September 2022, dated 28 September 2022.

Subordinate legislation (including explanatory statements unless otherwise stated)

Legislation Act, pursuant to section 64—

Animal Diseases Act—Animal Diseases (Varroa Mite Import Restriction) Declaration 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-214 (LR, 8 September 2022).

Architects Act—

Architects (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-206 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Architects Board (Commercial Lawyer Member) Appointment 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-212 (LR, 7 September 2022).

Architects Board (Community Interest Member) Appointment 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-213 (LR, 7 September 2022).

Associations Incorporation Act—Associations Incorporation (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-204 (LR, 31 August 2022).

Electoral Act—Electoral (Electoral Commission Member) Appointment 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-211 (LR, 5 September 2022).

Electricity Safety Act—Electricity Safety (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-207 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Environment Protection Act—Environment Protection (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-208 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Firearms Act—Firearms (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-195 (LR, 5 September 2022).

Fisheries Act—

Fisheries (Fishing Closures) Declaration 2022, including a regulatory impact statement—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-222 (LR, 23 September 2022).

Fisheries (Recreational Fishing) Declaration 2022, including a regulatory impact statement—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-221 (LR, 23 September 2022).

Gas Safety Act—Gas Safety (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-209 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Government Procurement Act—

Government Procurement (Non-Public Employee Member) Appointment 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-196 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Government Procurement (Non-Public Employee Member) Appointment 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-197 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Land Titles Act—Land Titles (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-200 (LR, 31 August 2022).

Liquor Act—Liquor (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-201 (LR, 31 August 2022).

Motor Accident Injuries Act—Motor Accident Injuries (Internal Review) Guidelines 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-219 (LR, 15 September 2022).

Partnership Act—Partnership (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-203 (LR, 31 August 2022).

Plastic Reduction Act—

Plastic Reduction (Public Event) Declaration 2022 (No 3)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-198 (LR, 26 August 2022).

Plastic Reduction (Public Event) Declaration 2022 (No 4)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-223 (LR, 23 September 2022).

Public Place Names Act—Public Place Names (Whitlam) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-220 (LR, 15 September 2022).

Public Trustee and Guardian Act—Public Trustee and Guardian (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-199 (LR, 31 August 2022).

Security Industry Act—Security Industry (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-202 (LR, 31 August 2022).

Taxation Administration Act—Taxation Administration (Amounts Payable—Land Tax) Determination 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-218 (LR, 15 September 2022).

Terrorism (Extraordinary Temporary Powers) Act—

Terrorism (Extraordinary Temporary Powers) Public Interest Monitor Panel Appointment 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-215 (LR, 13 September 2022).

Terrorism (Extraordinary Temporary Powers) Public Interest Monitor Panel Appointment 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-216 (LR, 13 September 2022).

Terrorism (Extraordinary Temporary Powers) Public Interest Monitor Panel Appointment 2022 (No 3)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-217 (LR, 15 September 2022).

Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act—Tobacco and Other Smoking Products (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-205 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Water and Sewerage Act—Water and Sewerage (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-210 (LR, 29 August 2022).

Water Resources Act—Water Resources (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-194 (LR, 29 August 2022).

10 MENSTRUATION AND MENOPAUSE POLICY

Ms Orr, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) gender inequality, including reproductive health stigma and discrimination, has been impacting women and people who menstruate in Australia and around the world for centuries;
 - (b) reproductive health refers to menstruation, menopause, fertility care, pregnancy, post-partum health complications, miscarriage, and termination of pregnancy;
 - (c) a significant proportion of the workforce experience reproductive health matters yet our workplaces often do not have policies or conditions in place to enable people to manage their needs at work and at the same time complete their work commitments;
 - (d) with the introduction and potential passing of the Period Products and Facilities (Access) Bill 2022, the ACT has begun to address barriers which prevent the full participation due to menstruation of members of our community in daily activities;

- (e) increasingly workplaces are developing policies which provide a range of measures to support people and reduce the shame and stigma in workplaces associated with reproductive health matters;
 - (f) workplaces with these policies report increased employee satisfaction and a decrease in the workplace of menstruation shame and stigma;
 - (g) increasingly leave is being incorporated into the policies to support people to manage their period and period pain, menopause symptoms and pregnancy needs; and
 - (h) the initiatives of the Period Products and Facilities (Access) Bill 2022 would be complimented by the development of workplace policies and conditions that enable workers to manage their menstruation as well as all reproductive health matters and at the same time complete their work commitments; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) develop, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, a Menstruation and Menopause Policy for the ACT Public Service that enables employees to meet their work commitments and manage the impacts of menstruation and menopause in the workplace;
 - (b) develop, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, an education and awareness campaign to reduce the stigma of reproductive health matters in the workplace and support the Menstruation and Menopause Policy;
 - (c) prepare a report to the Legislative Assembly which advises how menstruation and menopause leave could be implemented within the ACT Public Service;
 - (d) consider ways existing provisions could be further enhanced to support other reproductive health needs such as fertility care, pregnancy, post-partum health complications, miscarriage, and termination of pregnancy; and
 - (e) provide the report in part (2)(c) to the Legislative Assembly by May 2023 together with a report on the progression of parts (2)(a) and (b) and the findings of considerations of part (2)(d).

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 PREVALENCE OF POVERTY—PROPOSED INDEPENDENT INQUIRY

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

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) the ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS) estimates that 38,000 Canberrans live in poverty, including 9,000 children;

- (b) in its submission to the ACT Budget 2022-23, ACTCOSS also reports:
 - (i) that the ACT has the highest rate of rental stress among lower income households in private rentals;
 - (ii) over 25,000 people living in low-income households experience food stress; and
 - (iii) households in the lowest income quintile spend over 55 percent of their income on housing, food and transport;
- (c) recent cost of living increases hit lower income Canberrans the hardest; and
- (d) 16-22 October 2022 is Anti-Poverty Week; and
- (2) calls on the ACT Government to:
 - (a) commission an independent inquiry into the prevalence of poverty in Canberra, with the following terms of reference:
 - (i) the rates and drivers of poverty;
 - (ii) the relationship between economic conditions (including fiscal policy, rising inflation and cost of living pressures) and poverty;
 - (iii) the impact of poverty on individuals in relation to:
 - (A) employment outcomes;
 - (B) housing security;
 - (C) health outcomes; and
 - (D) education outcomes;
 - (iv) the effects of poverty in different demographics and communities;
 - (v) the relationship between income support payments and poverty;
 - (vi) mechanisms to address and reduce poverty; and
 - (vii) any related matters; and
 - (b) table the report of the inquiry in the Assembly by the first sitting day of 2023.

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) moved the following amendment: Omit all text after “That this Assembly”, substitute:

- “(1) notes that:
- (a) 16-22 October 2022 is Anti-Poverty Week;
 - (b) poverty is an issue across Australia, requiring a collaborative approach across the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments;
 - (c) low-income levels and a lack of employment opportunities are major contributors to poverty;
 - (d) overall, Canberrans enjoy a high standard of living, with access to free quality health care and education, and well-planned and delivered infrastructure; and
 - (e) unemployment in the ACT is currently very low;

- (2) notes that the ACT Government is:
- (a) investing in the ACT's health system to ensure Canberrans have increased access to free high-quality public health care when and where they need it, including:
 - (i) the Canberra Hospital expansion;
 - (ii) planning for a new northside hospital; and
 - (iii) expanding the ACT's network of nurse-led walk-in health centres and community health centres;
 - (b) investing in good quality public education, including building new schools and upgrading existing schools; and supporting families experiencing disadvantage with their education expenses through the Future of Education Equity Fund;
 - (c) implementing policies to accelerate the delivery of additional affordable rental dwellings, including through the promotion of the Build-to-Rent scheme, the expansion of the Growing and Renewing Public Housing program, and supporting social and affordable housing developments – most recently Common Ground Dickson; and
 - (d) expanding the capacity of the ACT specialist homelessness sector with an additional \$18 million over four years to mid-2024, with Housing ACT working collaboratively with community sector partners to deliver housing and support for Canberrans experiencing or at risk of homelessness;
- (3) notes that the ACT Government is delivering a range of ongoing supports for households to help address cost-of-living pressures, including:
- (a) rates deferral schemes for eligible low-income households and property owners aged 65 years and older;
 - (b) \$475,000 over four years to support the establishment and maintenance of a Food Security Network to develop a fit-for-purpose database that is managed by a dedicated project coordinator in the community services sector, including funding for secretariat support and development of a communications strategy;
 - (c) the pensioner rates and Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL) rebate schemes, supporting 15,800 eligible households with a 50 percent rates rebate up to \$750 per year, and a \$98 FESL rebate per year;
 - (d) the Utilities Concession, supporting 31,200 eligible low-income households with an \$800 contribution toward their energy and water bills in 2022-23;
 - (e) conveyance duty concessions, with an up to 100 percent discount on conveyance duty payable, supporting 6,600 eligible households per year;
 - (f) the Utilities Hardship Fund, supporting vulnerable consumers with access to \$100 vouchers through an eligible energy retailer;

- (g) the Spectacles Subsidy Scheme, supporting eligible Canberrans with up to \$200 on spectacle purchases every two years, assisting in the purchase of 9,900 spectacles in 2022-23;
 - (h) the Taxi Subsidy Scheme, providing assistance for people with a disability or significant mobility restriction, to make an estimated 86,200 trips in 2022-23;
 - (i) motor vehicle registration concessions, providing up to an 100 percent discount on motor vehicle registration fees for 66,000 eligible registrations;
 - (j) driver licence concessions, providing an up to 100 percent discount on driver licence fees, supporting 7,900 eligible drivers in 2022-23;
 - (k) public transport concessions with reduced or free fares on Transport Canberra bus and light rail services, supporting an estimated 5.5 million trips in 2022-23;
 - (l) the Vulnerable Household Energy Support Scheme, with \$50 million over the next five years to deliver a range of measures to reduce energy hardship for low-income homeowners, and public, private and social housing renters;
 - (m) the Home Energy Support Program, with rebates of up to \$5,000 for eligible homeowners to install energy-efficient products and undertake sustainable upgrades; and
 - (n) the Low-Income Home Energy Program, supporting vulnerable and low-income households to improve the thermal comfort of their property and reduce energy costs;
- (4) further notes that the Commonwealth Government is implementing a range of important cost-of-living policies and indexation measures to support individuals and families including:
- (a) an increase to the Child Care Subsidy since 11 July 2022;
 - (b) for the first time in its 75-year history, a fall in the maximum cost of general scripts under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme from 1 January 2023; and
 - (c) the largest indexation increase to the pension in 12 years, and the largest indexation increase to welfare payments in more than three decades, from 20 September 2022; and
- (5) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) continue investing in measures to support low-income Canberra households to reduce their cost of living; and
 - (b) contribute to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee inquiry into the extent and nature of poverty in Australia.”.

Debate continued.

Paper: Ms Davidson (Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services) presented the following papers:

Poverty in the ACT—Data and reports—

ACT Cost of living report 2022—Tracking changes in the cost of living for low-income households in the Australian Capital Territory—ACT Council of Social Service Inc., May 2022.

Below the surface—The hidden women in the ACT in middle income households at risk of ending up in poverty—Emma Davidson, Women’s Centre for Health Matters Inc., dated June 2019.

Beyond crisis: working with Canberra’s professional firms and businesses to make safer choices easier for survivors of domestic violence—Women’s Centre for Health Matters Inc., dated July 2017.

Creating Opportunity or Entrenching Disadvantage? 5 Years on—ACT Labour Market Data Update— ACT Council of Social Service and Women’s Centre for Health Matters Inc., dated October 2019.

Hidden disadvantage among women in the ACT—Emma Davidson, Women’s Centre for Health Matters Inc., dated June 2018.

Hidden disadvantage in the ACT: report for ACT Anti-Poverty Week—National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling and the Institute for Governance and Policy Analysis University of Canberra, dated October 2017.

Housing affordability and the labour market in the ACT—Housing and homelessness policy consortium, undated.

Poverty and Covid-19 in the ACT—Factsheet—ACT Council of Social Service Inc., dated October 2021.

Proportion of adult women and adult men living in a sole parent family in low income households, by the ACT suburbs, 2016—Map.

Rental affordability snapshot 2022—Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT.

Shattered myths—20 years of ACT Council of Social Service work on poverty—ACT Council of Social Service Inc., dated November 2019.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 15		NOES, 8
Mr Barr	Ms Orr	Mr Cain
Ms Berry	Dr Paterson	Ms Castley
Mr Braddock	Mr Pettersson	Mr Cocks
Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury	Mr Hanson
Ms Cheyne	Mr Steel	Mrs Kikkert
Ms Clay	Ms Stephen-Smith	Ms Lee
Ms Davidson	Ms Vassarotti	Mr Milligan
Mr Davis		Mr Parton

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) 16-22 October 2022 is Anti-Poverty Week;
 - (b) poverty is an issue across Australia, requiring a collaborative approach across the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments;
 - (c) low-income levels and a lack of employment opportunities are major contributors to poverty;
 - (d) overall, Canberrans enjoy a high standard of living, with access to free quality health care and education, and well-planned and delivered infrastructure; and
 - (e) unemployment in the ACT is currently very low;
- (2) notes that the ACT Government is:
 - (a) investing in the ACT’s health system to ensure Canberrans have increased access to free high-quality public health care when and where they need it, including:
 - (i) the Canberra Hospital expansion;
 - (ii) planning for a new northside hospital; and
 - (iii) expanding the ACT’s network of nurse-led walk-in health centres and community health centres;
 - (b) investing in good quality public education, including building new schools and upgrading existing schools; and supporting families experiencing disadvantage with their education expenses through the Future of Education Equity Fund;
 - (c) implementing policies to accelerate the delivery of additional affordable rental dwellings, including through the promotion of the Build-to-Rent scheme, the expansion of the Growing and Renewing Public Housing program, and supporting social and affordable housing developments – most recently Common Ground Dickson; and
 - (d) expanding the capacity of the ACT specialist homelessness sector with an additional \$18 million over four years to mid-2024, with Housing ACT working collaboratively with community sector partners to deliver housing and support for Canberrans experiencing or at risk of homelessness;
- (3) notes that the ACT Government is delivering a range of ongoing supports for households to help address cost-of-living pressures, including:
 - (a) rates deferral schemes for eligible low-income households and property owners aged 65 years and older;
 - (b) \$475,000 over four years to support the establishment and maintenance of a Food Security Network to develop a fit-for-purpose database that is managed by a dedicated project coordinator in the community services sector, including funding for secretariat support and development of a communications strategy;

- (c) the pensioner rates and Fire and Emergency Services Levy (FESL) rebate schemes, supporting 15,800 eligible households with a 50 percent rates rebate up to \$750 per year, and a \$98 FESL rebate per year;
 - (d) the Utilities Concession, supporting 31,200 eligible low-income households with an \$800 contribution toward their energy and water bills in 2022-23;
 - (e) conveyance duty concessions, with an up to 100 percent discount on conveyance duty payable, supporting 6,600 eligible households per year;
 - (f) the Utilities Hardship Fund, supporting vulnerable consumers with access to \$100 vouchers through an eligible energy retailer;
 - (g) the Spectacles Subsidy Scheme, supporting eligible Canberrans with up to \$200 on spectacle purchases every two years, assisting in the purchase of 9,900 spectacles in 2022-23;
 - (h) the Taxi Subsidy Scheme, providing assistance for people with a disability or significant mobility restriction, to make an estimated 86,200 trips in 2022-23;
 - (i) motor vehicle registration concessions, providing up to an 100 percent discount on motor vehicle registration fees for 66,000 eligible registrations;
 - (j) driver licence concessions, providing an up to 100 percent discount on driver licence fees, supporting 7,900 eligible drivers in 2022-23;
 - (k) public transport concessions with reduced or free fares on Transport Canberra bus and light rail services, supporting an estimated 5.5 million trips in 2022-23;
 - (l) the Vulnerable Household Energy Support Scheme, with \$50 million over the next five years to deliver a range of measures to reduce energy hardship for low-income homeowners, and public, private and social housing renters;
 - (m) the Home Energy Support Program, with rebates of up to \$5,000 for eligible homeowners to install energy-efficient products and undertake sustainable upgrades; and
 - (n) the Low-Income Home Energy Program, supporting vulnerable and low-income households to improve the thermal comfort of their property and reduce energy costs;
- (4) further notes that the Commonwealth Government is implementing a range of important cost-of-living policies and indexation measures to support individuals and families including:
- (a) an increase to the Child Care Subsidy since 11 July 2022;
 - (b) for the first time in its 75-year history, a fall in the maximum cost of general scripts under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme from 1 January 2023; and
 - (c) the largest indexation increase to the pension in 12 years, and the largest indexation increase to welfare payments in more than three decades, from 20 September 2022; and

- (5) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) continue investing in measures to support low-income Canberra households to reduce their cost of living; and
 - (b) contribute to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee inquiry into the extent and nature of poverty in Australia.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

12 APPROPRIATION BILL 2022-2023

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

Detail Stage

Schedule 1—Appropriations—Proposed expenditure—

Consideration resumed on Part 1.7—Justice and Community Safety Directorate—

Ms Clay moved her amendment No 2 (see [Schedule 2](#)).

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 6

Mr Braddock
Ms Clay
Ms Davidson
Mr Davis
Mr Rattenbury
Ms Vassarotti

NOES, 18

Mr Barr	Ms Lee
Ms Berry	Mr Milligan
Ms Burch	Ms Orr
Mr Cain	Mr Parton
Ms Castley	Dr Paterson
Ms Cheyne	Mr Pettersson
Mr Cocks	Mr Steel
Mr Hanson	Ms Stephen-Smith
Mrs Kikkert	
Ms Lawder	

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

The proposed expenditure agreed to.

Part 1.8—Community Services Directorate—

Debate adjourned (Ms Cheyne—Minister for Business and Better Regulation) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

13 ADJOURNMENT

Ms Cheyne (Minister for Business and Better Regulation) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health), by leave, was granted an extension of time.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.45 pm, adjourned until Tuesday, 18 October 2022 at 10 am.

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

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

SCHEDULES OF AMENDMENTS

Schedule 1

INTEGRITY COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 2022

Amendments circulated by the Speaker

1

Clause 6

Proposed new section 85A

Page 3, line 6—

omit

created for or by, or received by

substitute

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2

Clause 6

Proposed new section 85A

Page 3, line 12—

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Schedule 2

APPROPRIATION BILL 2022-2023

Amendments circulated by Ms Clay

1
Clause 6 heading
Page 2, line 15—

omit the heading, substitute

6 Appropriations of \$7 181 239 000

2
Schedule 1, part 1.7
Page 5—

omit part 1.7, substitute

Part 1.7	417 438 000	43 169 000	226 352 000	686 959 000
Justice and Community Safety Directorate				

3
Schedule 1
Page 7—

omit

<i>Total appropriated to territory entities</i>	4 288 610 000	1 682 049 000	893 153 000	6 863 812 000
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substitute

<i>Total appropriated to territory entities</i>	4 288 610 000	1 682 049 000	891 564 000	6 862 223 000
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4
Schedule 1
Page 7—

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<i>Total appropriations</i>	4 288 610 000	1 932 049 000	893 153 000	7 182 828 000
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substitute

<i>Total appropriations</i>	4 288 610 000	1 932 049 000	891 564 000	7 181 239 000
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