



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2004–2005–2006

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 78

WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2006

1 The Assembly met at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mr Berry) 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 EMERGENCIES AMENDMENT BILL 2006

Mr Pratt, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Emergencies Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Corbell—Minister for Police and Emergency Services) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 LAND TAX SYSTEM

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

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the acute shortage of rental accommodation in Canberra;
 - (b) the concurrently high levels of rent that Canberra tenants currently pay for rental accommodation;
 - (c) the relatively high levels of land tax that ACT property owners are subject to when compared with land tax rates in other Australian States and Territories; and
 - (d) the impact that high levels of land tax have on housing affordability in the ACT; and

- (2) calls on the Government to initiate an urgent and open review of the land tax system in the ACT in order to create a simpler and more equitable land tax regime.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7		NOES, 8	
Mrs Dunne	Mr Seselja	Mr Barr	Mr Gentleman
Dr Foskey	Mr Smyth	Mr Berry	Mr Hargreaves
Mr Mulcahy	Mr Stefaniak	Mr Corbell	Ms MacDonald
Mr Pratt		Ms Gallagher	Ms Porter

And so it was negatived.

4 TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION

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

- (1) notes:
- (a) the importance to the ACT community of investing in health education to meet the increasing demand for medical professionals; and
 - (b) the need for a sustainable health workforce; and
- (2) recognises the Stanhope Labor Government's continued commitment to investing in tertiary health education.

Mr Smyth, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

- (1) subparagraph 1(a), omit “medical”, substitute “health”; and
- (2) add new paragraph (3):
- “(3) recognises the Howard Liberal Government's contribution through:
- (a) increased health funding;
 - (b) funding medical training places at the ANU Medical School; and
 - (c) funding additional nursing places at the University of Canberra.”.

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.

5 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

6 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER

Mrs Dunne moved—That leave of absence be given to Mrs Burke for 18 and 19 October 2006.

Question—put and passed.

7 TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Ms MacDonald, and on the amendments moved by Mr Smyth (*see entry 4*)—

Debate resumed.

Ordered—That the question be divided.

Amendment No. (1) agreed to

Question—That amendment No. (2) be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 6		NOES, 9	
Mrs Dunne	Mr Stefaniak	Mr Barr	Mr Hargreaves
Mr Mulcahy		Mr Corbell	Ms MacDonald
Mr Pratt		Dr Foskey	Ms Porter
Mr Seselja		Ms Gallagher	Mr Stanhope
Mr Smyth		Mr Gentleman	

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the importance to the ACT community of investing in health education to meet the increasing demand for health professionals; and
 - (b) the need for a sustainable health workforce; and
- (2) recognises the Stanhope Labor Government’s continued commitment to investing in tertiary health education.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

8 TOWARDS 2020 PROPOSAL—COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Dr Foskey, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly calls on the ACT Government to conduct and then release a full cost/benefit analysis of the *Towards 2020* proposal before closing, amalgamating or reorganising any ACT government schools.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7		NOES, 8	
Mrs Dunne	Mr Seselja	Mr Barr	Mr Gentleman
Dr Foskey	Mr Smyth	Mr Berry	Mr Hargreaves
Mr Mulcahy	Mr Stefaniak	Mr Corbell	Ms MacDonald
Mr Pratt		Ms Gallagher	Ms Porter

And so it was negatived.

9 EDUCATION AMENDMENT BILL 2006 (NO. 3)

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.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 6		NOES, 7	
Mrs Dunne	Mr Seselja	Mr Barr	Mr Hargreaves
Dr Foskey	Mr Smyth	Mr Berry	Ms MacDonald
Mr Mulcahy		Mr Corbell	Ms Porter
Mr Pratt		Ms Gallagher	

And so it was negatived.

10 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Barr (Minister for Education and Training) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.19 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE: All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Mrs Burke*.

*on leave

Tom Duncan
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly