



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**2004–2005–2006**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**No. 54**

**WEDNESDAY, 8 MARCH 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 PETITION**

The Clerk announced that the following Member had lodged a petition for presentation:

Mrs Dunne, from 597 residents, requesting that the Assembly instructs Urban Services to offer Teddybears childcare centre a five year lease, support the establishment of a viable long-term option for the continued operation of Teddybears childcare centre within the Curtin community and consider the relocation of the Emergency Services Authority to another, more appropriate site.

---

*Planning and Environment—Standing Committee—Proposed reference—Petition—Teddybears childcare centre, Curtin and relocation of Emergency Services Authority: Mrs Dunne, pursuant to standing order 99, moved—That the terms of this petition be referred to the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment for inquiry and report.*

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7

Mrs Burke	Mr Pratt
Mrs Dunne	Mr Smyth
Dr Foskey	Mr Stefaniak
Mr Mulcahy	

NOES, 8

Mr Berry	Ms MacDonald
Mr Corbell	Ms Porter
Mr Gentleman	Mr Quinlan
Mr Hargreaves	Mr Stanhope

And so it was negatived.

### 3 SKILLED MIGRANT WORKERS

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

- (1) acknowledges that the chronic skill shortages suffered by Australia have caused governments and employers to employ new tactics in filling skilled vacancies;
- (2) recognises:
  - (a) the Federal Government's continual starving of training funds and the creation of questionable apprenticeship schemes has done little to alleviate this skilled crisis; and
  - (b) that the employment of skilled migrant workers, one of the strategies engaged by employers in Canberra, can be beneficial to both employee and employer if the fundamental principles of worker and human rights are upheld;
- (3) congratulates the ACT Government for its Skilled and Business Migration Program and its other endeavours in attracting skilled workers to the region;
- (4) believes that the employment conditions of skilled migrant workers must undertake monitoring to ensure the rights, entitlements and safety of these workers and that such scrutiny should fall to the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs; and
- (5) calls on the Federal Government to immediately put in place greater mechanisms to ensure that the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs properly monitors the arrangements between employers and contracted skilled migrant workers.

Debate ensued.

*Papers:* Mrs Dunne, by leave, presented the following papers:

Vocational and technical education funding—1995-96 to 2005-06—

Fact sheet.

Graph.

Mrs Dunne, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

- (1) subparagraph (2)(a), omit the subparagraph, substitute:
  - “(a) the Federal Government's commitment to increase funding for skills training and apprenticeships; and”; and
- (2) paragraph (5), after “employers”, insert “, unions”.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 6		NOES, 9	
Mrs Burke	Mr Stefaniak	Mr Berry	Ms MacDonald
Mrs Dunne		Mr Corbell	Ms Porter
Mr Mulcahy		Dr Foskey	Mr Quinlan
Mr Pratt		Mr Gentleman	Mr Stanhope
Mr Smyth		Mr Hargreaves	

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

**4 ROAD TRANSPORT (ALCOHOL AND DRUGS) (RANDOM DRUG TESTING) AMENDMENT BILL 2005**

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.

Mr Mulcahy addressing the Assembly—

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 CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR IN CAMPBELL, ERINDALE AND AT THE CANBERRA SHOW—ORDER TO TABLE**

Mr Hargreaves, having added to an answer—

Mr Stanhope (Chief Minister), by leave, moved—That this Assembly directs Mr Pratt, Mrs Burke and Mr Stefaniak to table, by 5.00 p.m. today, all information in their possession relevant to the assertions and claims made by them in questions asked yesterday and today in relation to alleged criminal behaviour in Campbell, Erindale and at the Canberra Show.

Mr Smyth (Leader of the Opposition) moved the following amendment: after “directs”, insert “Mr Hargreaves,”.

Debate continued.

*Closure:* Mr Corbell (Manager of Government Business) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 8		NOES, 7	
Mr Berry	Ms MacDonald	Mrs Burke	Mr Pratt
Mr Corbell	Ms Porter	Mrs Dunne	Mr Smyth
Mr Gentleman	Mr Quinlan	Dr Foskey	Mr Stefaniak
Mr Hargreaves	Mr Stanhope	Mr Mulcahy	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That Mr Smyth’s amendment be agreed to—being accordingly put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 7

Mrs Burke  
Mrs Dunne  
Dr Foskey  
Mr Mulcahy

Mr Pratt  
Mr Smyth  
Mr Stefaniak

NOES, 8

Mr Berry  
Mr Corbell  
Mr Gentleman  
Mr Hargreaves

Ms MacDonald  
Ms Porter  
Mr Quinlan  
Mr Stanhope

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

**7 ROAD TRANSPORT (ALCOHOL AND DRUGS) (RANDOM DRUG TESTING) AMENDMENT BILL 2005**

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

Mrs Burke  
Mrs Dunne  
Mr Mulcahy  
Mr Pratt  
Mr Smyth

Mr Stefaniak

NOES, 9

Mr Berry  
Mr Corbell  
Dr Foskey  
Mr Gentleman  
Mr Hargreaves

Ms MacDonald  
Ms Porter  
Mr Quinlan  
Mr Stanhope

And so it was negatived.

**8 ABC—FUNDING**

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

- (1) recognises the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (ABC's) essential place in the media and broadcasting landscape of the ACT, and the nation;
- (2) notes that the ABC is currently under-funded; and
- (3) requests that the Chief Minister advise the Federal Government of the Legislative Assembly's support of the ABC triennial funding submission.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**9 CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR IN CAMPBELL, ERINDALE AND AT THE CANBERRA SHOW—ORDER TO TABLE—PAPER**

Mr Pratt sought leave to make a statement.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

*Suspension of standing orders moved—Statement by Member:* Mr Smyth (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Pratt from making a statement.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 6		NOES, 9	
Mrs Burke	Mr Stefaniak	Mr Berry	Ms MacDonald
Mrs Dunne		Mr Corbell	Ms Porter
Mr Mulcahy		Dr Foskey	Mr Quinlan
Mr Pratt		Mr Gentleman	Mr Stanhope
Mr Smyth		Mr Hargreaves	

And so it was negatived.

*Paper:* Mr Pratt, according to order, presented the following paper:

Criminal activity in Campbell—Record of meeting between Mr Pratt and residents, dated 27 February 2006.

## 10 **CHILDCARE IN THE A.C.T.**

Dr Foskey, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

- (1) recognises the importance of high quality and affordable childcare being widely available across the ACT;
- (2) acknowledges that childcare:
  - (a) can be delivered through a range of models that include private, cooperative and community providers, and that there is a role for all types of models in the ACT; and
  - (b) may be accessed through a variety of situations such as stand-alone, work-based and other community facilities, and that there is a role for all types of situations in the ACT; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
  - (a) provide the Assembly with information on the:
    - (i) level of demand for childcare;
    - (ii) existing number of childcare places;
    - (iii) distribution of existing places and demand for places across the ACT; and
    - (iv) number of TAFE and university qualified childcare workers in the ACT, including those not currently employed in childcare;
  - (b) develop a strategy to support the provision of high quality and affordable childcare by:
    - (i) looking for opportunities to work with private, cooperative and community childcare providers to ensure the level of supply for childcare is adequate and developed in areas with current shortages;
    - (ii) incorporating the use of schools and other community buildings for childcare where available;
    - (iii) ensuring an adequate supply of designated land and facilities, including direct sale to approved providers where appropriate; and

(iv) considering the development of a central childcare “waiting list” register to facilitate better information on childcare availability across the ACT; and

(c) report back to the Assembly in the sitting week in June 2006.

Dr Foskey addressing the Assembly—

Debate interrupted in accordance with standing order 34 and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

## 11 ADJOURNMENT

It being 6 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.29 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

---

---

**MEMBERS’ ATTENDANCE:** All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Mr Seselja\*.

\*on leave

---

---

**Tom Duncan**  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly