



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PRIVILEGES 2022

MR JEREMY HANSON CSC MLA (CHAIR), MS JO CLAY MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR),
MR MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA

Ms Joy Burch MLA
Speaker
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

**Inquiry — Possible contempt of the Assembly – Imposition of prohibition notice by
WorkSafe ACT**

Dear Madam Speaker Jay

On 15 August 2022, the Assembly established a Select Committee on Privileges 2022 to examine potential parliamentary privilege issues relating to the imposition of a prohibition notice on the Assembly and its committees on 12 August 2022. In particular, the Committee is to examine:

“Whether there has been a breach of privilege relating to the actions of the Work Health and Safety Commissioner and any other person, and whether they have improperly interfered with the free exercise of the authority of the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-23 or breached any other privileges of the Assembly.”

Section 24 of the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988* (Cwth) provides the Assembly with the same privileges and immunities as the House of Representatives. Under standing order 277(a) of the Assembly, a breach of those privileges may be regarded as a contempt. In determining whether the action amounts to a contempt of the Assembly, the Committee will consider whether interference has occurred, and if so, whether that interference was improper.

To assist in its deliberations, the Committee invites you to provide, by 1 September 2022, any information, including documents, which is pertinent to the privilege issues under consideration.

The full details of the terms of reference can be viewed on the Committee’s website at www.parliament.act.gov.au.

Gonczarek, Melinda

From: Speaker
Sent: Thursday, 18 August 2022 4:02 PM
To: Kiermaier, Max; Hanson, Jeremy
Subject: Letter Madam Speaker
Attachments: Letter to Privileges Committee 18 August 2022.pdf

Dear Committee Chair and Secretary,

Please find attached correspondence regarding your earlier letter.

Joy Burch MLA
Speaker



Speaker

Mr Jeremy Hanson MLA
Chair, Select Committee on Privileges
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO BOX 1020
Canberra ACT 2601

By email: LACommitteePrivileges2022@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Hanson

Thank you for your letter of 18 August 2022 regarding the Select Committee (the Committee) on Privileges 2022 and a matter of possible contempt of the Assembly by the imposition of a Prohibition Notice by WorkSafe ACT.

I wish to seek an extension of time to respond to the Committee's request for information, including documents, which may be pertinent to the privilege's issues under consideration.

From Friday 19 August 2022, I will be out of the country attending a CPA conference and will not be returning until 01 September 2022. As such, I request the Committee grant me until 02 September 2022, to collate and provide the information you have requested.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joy Burch".

Joy Burch MLA
Speaker
18 August 2022