



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2020–2021–2022–2023

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 72

TUESDAY, 7 FEBRUARY 2023

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- 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 **PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 12—INQUIRY INTO PLANNING BILL 2022—REPORT NOTED**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to order, presented the following report:

Planning, Transport and City Services—Standing Committee—Report 12—*Inquiry into Planning Bill 2022*, dated 20 December 2022, including additional comments, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**3 JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 11—INQUIRY INTO THE JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (NO 2)—REPORT NOTED**

Mr Cain (Chair), pursuant to order, presented the following report:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee—Report 11—*Inquiry into the Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2)*, dated 22 December 2022, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Question—put and passed.

**4 JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 12—INQUIRY INTO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILLS 2022—REPORT NOTED**

Mr Cain (Chair), pursuant to order, presented the following report:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee—Report 12—*Inquiry into the Freedom of Information Amendment Bills 2022*, dated 2 February 2023, including a dissenting report (Mr Cain), together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Question—put and passed.

**5 PETITIONS AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES—PETITIONS AND RESPONSES NOTED**

**Petitions**

The Clerk announced that the following Members had lodged petitions for presentation:

Mr Davis, from 776 residents, requesting that the Assembly call on the ACT Government to allocate sufficient funding to construct a new, modern, world-class skatepark in Tuggeranong to modernise the 25-year-old facility (e-Pet 034-22).

Pursuant to standing order 99A, this petition stands referred to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services.

Ms Clay, from 551 and 63 residents respectively, requesting that the Assembly call on the ACT Government to invest in building a freestanding birth centre in the North side of Canberra (e-Pet 042-22 and Pet 001-23).

Pursuant to standing order 99A, these petitions stand referred to the Standing Committee on Health and Wellbeing.

**Ministerial responses**

The Clerk announced that the following responses to petitions had been lodged:

Mr Barr (Chief Minister), dated 8 December 2022—Response to e-petition No 006-22, lodged by Mr Parton on 20 September 2022, concerning the reduction of housing costs for first home buyers.

Mr Barr (Chief Minister), dated 9 December 2022—Response to e-petition No 012-22, lodged by Ms Clay on 2 August 2022, concerning a waste incinerator on the ACT border.

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), dated 18 December 2022—Response to e-petition No 023-22, lodged by Mr Hanson on 11 October 2022, concerning a review process for ACT judicial appointments.

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), dated 18 December 2022—Response to e-petition No 024-22, lodged by Mr Hanson on 11 October 2022, concerning a review of sentencing judgements and decisions by the ACT judiciary.

Mr Rattenbury (Attorney-General), dated 18 December 2022—Response to e-petition No 025-22, lodged by Mr Hanson on 11 October 2022, concerning sentencing guidelines for reckless motor vehicle crimes.

Mr Steel (Special Minister of State), dated 13 December 2022—Response to e-petition No 030-22, lodged by Ms Lawder on 18 October 2022, concerning car park changes at Stromlo Forest Park.

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning and Land Management), dated 12 January 2023—Response to e-petition No 033-22, lodged by Mr Cain on 12 October 2022, concerning a memorial bench at Shepherds Lookout.

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The Speaker proposed—That the petitions and responses so lodged be noted.

Debate ensued.

*Paper:* Ms Clay, by leave, presented the following paper:

Petition which does not conform with the standing orders—Family birth centre for the ACT—Ms Clay (2685 signatures).

Debate continued.

*Paper:* Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning and Land Management) presented the following paper:

Memorial bench at Shepherds Lookout—Installation—Copy of letter from the Minister for Planning and Land Management to Mr Peter Cain MLA, dated 20 December 2022.

Question—put and passed.

## **6 PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Barr (Chief Minister) made a ministerial statement outlining the ACT Government's priorities for 2023 and presented the following paper:

Priorities for the year ahead—Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Mr Barr moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**7 DHULWA SECURE MENTAL HEALTH UNIT—INQUIRY INTO THE LEGISLATIVE, WORKPLACE GOVERNANCE AND CLINICAL FRAMEWORKS—FINAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Davidson (Minister for Mental Health) made a ministerial statement concerning the Government's response to the final report of the inquiry into the legislative, workplace governance and clinical frameworks of Dhulwa Secure Mental Health Unit and presented the following papers:

Inquiry into the Legislative, Workplace Governance and Clinical Frameworks of Dhulwa Secure Mental Health Unit—Final Report—Government Response—

Government response, dated February 2023.

Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Ms Davidson moved—That the Assembly take note of the ministerial statement.

Question—put and passed.

**8 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 2003 BUSHFIRES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Police and Emergency Services) made a ministerial statement concerning the 20th anniversary of the 2003 Canberra bushfires and presented the following paper:

20th Anniversary of the 2003 Bushfires—Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Mr Gentleman moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**9 PARAMEDICS—SHORTAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS—ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OF 1 DECEMBER 2022—UPDATE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Police and Emergency Services) made a ministerial statement concerning an update of the Government's response to the resolution of the Assembly of 1 December 2022 on the shortages of paramedics and their working conditions and presented the following paper:

Paramedic—Shortages and Working Conditions—Assembly Resolution of 1 December 2022—Update—Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Mr Gentleman moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

**10 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

## **11 EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS REVIEW—QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE—ANSWER—EXPLANATION**

Ms Lee, pursuant to standing order 118A, asked Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) for an explanation concerning the answer to a question taken on notice on 23 November 2022 regarding the costs of reviewing emergency departments models.

Ms Stephen-Smith gave an explanation.

## **12 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Acting Speaker—Instrument of appointment—Mr Pettersson, dated 9 December 2022.

Auditor-General Act, pursuant to subsection 17(5)—Auditor-General's Reports—

No 9/2022—ACT Emergency Services Agency cleaning services arrangements, dated 14 December 2022.

No 10/2022—2021-22 Financial Audits—Financial Results and Audit Findings, dated 16 December 2022.

Bills referred to Committees, pursuant to resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended—Correspondence—

Bill—Inquiry—

Corrections and Sentencing Legislation Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety, dated 7 December 2022.

Bills—Not inquired into—

Discrimination Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety, dated 7 December 2022.

Gaming Machine (Club Refuge) Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety, dated 7 December 2022.

Professional Engineers Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Acting Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services, dated 12 December 2022.

Residential Tenancies Legislation Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety, dated 7 December 2022.

Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2022—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chair, Standing Committee on Public Accounts, dated 8 December 2022.

Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act—

Pursuant to subsection 12(5)—ACT Greenhouse Gas Inventory for 2021-22, dated 18 November 2022.

Pursuant to subsection 19(4)—ACT Climate Change Council Annual Report 2021-22, dated 25 July 2022, together with a statement by the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction.

Standing order 191—Amendments to:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People Commissioner Bill 2022, dated 8 and 9 December 2022.

Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, dated 8 and 9 December 2022.

Workplace Legislation Amendment Bill 2022, dated 8 and 9 December 2022.

### 13 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) presented the following papers:

Auditor-General Act, pursuant to subsection 21(1)—Auditor-General's Report No 5/2022—Procurement and contracting activities for the Acton Waterfront Project—Government response, dated February 2023.

COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, pursuant to subsection 3(3)—COVID-19 Measures—Report No 17—Reporting period 1 October to 31 December 2022, dated February 2023.

Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity—Standing Committee—Report 5—Inquiry into Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Natural Gas Transition) Amendment Bill 2022—Government Response, dated February 2023.

Health and Community Wellbeing—Standing Committee—Report 7—Inquiry into the West Belconnen supercell thunderstorm—Government response, dated 6 February 2023.

Public transport workforce and timetables—Assembly Resolution of 4 May 2022—Government response, dated February 2023.

#### **Subordinate legislation (including explanatory statements unless otherwise stated)**

Legislation Act, pursuant to section 64—

Adoption Act—Adoption (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-257 (LR, 8 December 2022).

Building and Construction Industry Training Levy Act and Financial Management Act—Building and Construction Industry Training Levy (Governing Board) Appointment 2009 (No. 5)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-265 (LR, 22 December 2022).

Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act—Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measurement Method) Determination 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-258 (LR, 8 December 2022).

Court Procedures Act—Court Procedures Amendment Rules 2022 (No 3)—Subordinate Law SL2022-19 (LR, 19 December 2022).

Heritage Act—

Heritage (Council Member) Revocation 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-259 (LR, 7 December 2022).

Heritage (Council Member) Revocation 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-260 (LR, 7 December 2022).

Heritage (Council Member) Revocation 2022 (No 3)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-261 (LR, 7 December 2022).

Heritage (Council Member) Revocation 2022 (No 4)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-262 (LR, 7 December 2022).

Motor Accident Injuries Act—Motor Accident Injuries (Premiums and Administration) Amendment Regulation 2022 (No 1)—Subordinate Law SL2022-18 (LR, 8 December 2022).

Official Visitor Act—Official Visitor (Corrections Management) Appointment 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-256 (LR, 5 December 2022).

Public Health Act—Public Health (COVID-19 Management) Declaration Extension 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-267 (LR, 22 December 2022).

Public Place Names Act—Public Place Names (Denman Prospect) Determination 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-254 (LR, 1 December 2022).

Road Transport (General) Act—Road Transport (General) Exclusion of Road Transport Legislation (Summernats) Declaration 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022 264 (LR, 19 December 2022).

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act—Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-252 (LR, 24 November 2022).

Taxation Administration Act—Taxation Administration (Amounts Payable—Ambulance Levy) Determination 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-263 (LR, 12 December 2022).

Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act—

Waste Management and Resource Recovery (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 2)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-255 (LR, 1 December 2022).

Waste Management and Resource Recovery (Processing Refund Protocol) Determination 2022—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-266 (LR, 22 December 2022).

Workers Compensation Act—Workers Compensation (Fees) Revocation 2022 (No 1)—Disallowable Instrument DI2022-253 (LR, 24 November 2022).

#### **14 PUBLIC TRANSPORT WORKFORCE AND TIMETABLES—ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION OF 4 MAY 2022—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Public transport workforce and timetables—Assembly Resolution of 4 May 2022—Government response.

Debate adjourned (Mr Braddock) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

#### **15 MATERNITY SERVICES AND BIRTHING CENTRES**

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

(1) notes:

- (a) Maternal Health Matters describes respectful maternity care as focusing on the factors that support human health and wellbeing: care that does no harm and is culturally sensitive, unbiased, valued by the woman or birthing person and their community;

- (b) respecting the woman or birthing person's choice is central to maternity care as care must be culturally safe and appropriate;
- (c) a "continuity of care" model ensures that a woman or birthing person knows their maternity care provider(s) and receives care from the same provider, or small group of providers, throughout pregnancy, labour, birth and the postpartum period;
- (d) "midwife-led continuity of care" is defined as care where "the midwife is the lead professional in the planning, organisation and delivery of care given to a woman or birthing person from initial booking to the postnatal period";
- (e) the 2016 Cochrane Review of studies comparing midwife-led continuity models of care with other models of care, demonstrated that midwifery-led continuity of care for low and high-risk pregnancies was better for maternal outcomes, including fewer interventions or instrumental births, less likelihood of experiencing pre-term birth, lower risk of stillbirth and higher likelihood of having a spontaneous vaginal birth. Midwife-led continuity of care is appropriate for all pregnancy risk levels, is cost effective and improves satisfaction for both women and birthing people and health professionals;
- (f) midwife-led continuity of care improves workforce wellbeing and is a sustainable way forward for the midwifery workforce. Quantitative research comparing the emotional and professional wellbeing of midwives providing continuity of care and those not providing continuity of care found Australian midwives providing continuity of midwifery care reported lower levels of burnout, depression and anxiety and higher levels of professional identity and autonomy. Midwives working in care models providing fragmented care are at greater risk of psychological distress. Work environments where midwives are supported and facilitated to work to their full scope of practice provides the best outcomes for women and birthing people and midwives;
- (g) ninety percent of newly graduated midwives want to work in a continuity of care model and anecdotal evidence suggests they are leaving midwifery when they are unable to, further exacerbating the midwife shortage. A 2022 integrative literature review acknowledged that midwives graduate with the skills to undertake midwifery group practice and continuity of care models, and should be supported to work in these models to retain them in the profession;
- (h) midwife-led continuity of care and Birthing on Country models of care are important for Indigenous women. Birthing on Country is a metaphor for the best start in life for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies and their families, and is a continuation of thousands of years of knowledge and practice, which provides holistic maternal, child and family health care that embeds cultural integrity and safety during pregnancy, labour, birth and postnatal care;

- (i) Birthing on Country models co-designed by stakeholders have been shown to drastically improve outcomes for women and babies, and a 2021 paper published in *The Lancet* recommends that the widespread scale-up of Birthing on Country models should be prioritised;
  - (j) *Maternity in Focus: The ACT Public Maternity System Plan 2022-2032* recognises that continuity of care is valuable for all women and birthing people but is particularly important for those experiencing vulnerability, those living with a disability, or from a culturally and linguistically diverse background. Having a known care provider supports these women and pregnant people to build trust and comfort within the public health system, providing connection to supports and advocating for individual needs;
  - (k) despite institutional attention to the importance of culturally appropriate care, culturally and linguistically diverse women and birthing people in Australia are less likely to access continuity of care, have poorer pregnancy outcomes and lower satisfaction with pregnancy care than women from the general population; and
  - (l) vulnerable women and pregnant people, including detainees, need additional support to prepare for parenthood in order to reduce poorer childhood developmental outcomes and intergenerational trauma;
- (2) further notes:
- (a) the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare *Maternity models of care in Australia, 2022* data reported that the ACT provides whole duration of maternity period continuity in 38.1 percent of pregnancies, the third highest in the country and above the national average of 31 percent;
  - (b) the ACT Government has committed to increasing midwife-led continuity of care to 50 percent by 2028;
  - (c) the *Maternity in Focus: First Action Plan 2022-2025* outlines 21 goals with 58 actions including specific actions to:
    - (i) expand midwifery-led continuity of care particularly to improve access, increase equity and improve outcomes;
    - (ii) work with consumers and community-controlled organisations to co-design a Birthing on Country model of care;
    - (iii) build capacity and confidence in women, pregnant persons, and families to meet the challenges of pregnancy and parenting to make informed decisions and to advocate for their individual needs through relationships built on mutual trust; and
    - (iv) identify opportunities to increase optimal care and wrap-around supports;
  - (d) birth centre birthing requires the support of midwife-led continuity of care. Demand for places in the current continuity of midwifery care models far exceed the availability of places with approximately 30-40 women unable to access this preferred model of care each month and in November 2022 there were approximately 350 women and pregnant people on the waitlist ranging from six to 36 weeks pregnant;

- (e) Canberra women and midwives have been calling for a freestanding midwife-led family birth centre located separately to a hospital for over 30 years. In the 1980s, ACT for Birth lobbied for a freestanding birth facility;
  - (f) there is an acknowledged international shortage of midwives, and recruitment and retention of midwives in the ACT to improve maternity services is essential;
  - (g) the ACT Government has continued to invest in the midwifery and broader maternity workforce through a dedicated workforce planning resource, building safe work environments through the *Towards a Safer Culture* for nurses and midwives program, co-designed health and wellbeing initiatives and a system-wide culture improvement program to support recruitment and retention of midwives in the ACT;
  - (h) COVID and the ongoing use of birth centre rooms at the Centenary Hospital being used as isolation rooms has shown that there is a great need to have well women and pregnant people able to birth away from hospitals;
  - (i) while Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service provides some antenatal and postnatal services, there are no Birthing on Country models of care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and pregnant people that offer midwife-led, culturally safe continuity of care with all hours of availability;
  - (j) the petition tabled this week calling for a freestanding birth centre gathered over 600 signatures; and
  - (k) the Change.org petition run in 2018 calling for a freestanding birth centre in Canberra gathered over 2,680 signatures;
- (3) calls on the Government to:
- (a) review the 50 percent access to midwife-led continuity of care by 2028 target during implementation and update the Maternity in Focus Plan to include a target of 75 percent of women and pregnant people to have access to midwife-led continuity of care by 2032;
  - (b) establish the maternity reference group as outlined in Maternity in Focus to include practicing front line midwives and midwifery academics, to provide oversight of reform implementation, identify future collaboration opportunities and communicate about the Maternity in Focus plan to the broader community;
  - (c) in the context of northside hospital and health services planning, collaborate with the maternity reference group and the University of Canberra to conduct early design and feasibility before August 2024 to establish a co-designed midwife-led freestanding birth centre, located alongside or fully separate to the new northside hospital;

- (d) collaborate with the maternity reference group and the University of Canberra to investigate the feasibility of a northside women's health and early childhood hub that encompasses the care continuum for the mother-baby family unit from pre-conception care, with midwife-led continuity of care, gynaecology services, maternal and child health services, multidisciplinary early intervention advice and support services (eg, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and nutrition), education classes, social work and support workers, and early childhood care and education. The early childhood hub would also be a site for Canberra Institute of Technology and University of Canberra students learning and research focused on holistic maternity care and early childhood;
  - (e) collaborate with the maternity reference group, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elders, and Indigenous midwives and academics to develop and implement an ACT specific, culturally appropriate and culturally safe Birthing on Country midwife-led continuity model of care; and
  - (f) further note that Ms Clay welcomes the opportunity to remain involved in considerations by the Government which relate to the tabled freestanding birth centre petition, and other calls in this motion; and
- (4) also calls on the ACT Government to improve existing maternity services by:
- (a) continuing to implement all actions in the *Maternity in Focus: First Action Plan 2022-2025*;
  - (b) as set out in the *Maternity in Focus: First Action Plan 2022-2025*, expanding access to the Public Home Birth program by fully implementing all agreed recommendations and progress agreed-in-principle recommendations from the May 2019 home birth trial review;
  - (c) optimising use of the current birth centres in the ACT and finalise review of the eligibility criteria for the birth centre at the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children to allow more women and pregnant people to access the midwifery-led continuity of care program;
  - (d) as set out in the *Maternity in Focus: First Action Plan 2022-2025*, implementing the system-level changes required to support endorsed privately practicing midwives to provide continuity of care within our public maternity system;
  - (e) including in the ACT maternity data dashboard set out in the *Maternity in Focus: First Action Plan 2022-2025*, data on birth outcomes and caesarean rates of all models of care to enable informed choice on maternal care options;
  - (f) as part of continuity of care, investigating options to increase care with a known midwife to six weeks postnatal care alongside an ongoing consumer reported outcomes survey post birth at 12 months postpartum to review the experiences of services to identify gaps;
  - (g) as set out in the *Maternity in Focus: The Public Maternity System Plan*, embedding the Respectful Maternity Care Charter into health services and review training for all health professionals who may work with maternity consumers as part of their orientation, and as an annual competency;

- (h) building on existing successful public maternity, childhood and parenting programs in the ACT that provide strong support to vulnerable women and pregnant people, and families such as those delivered through the Canberra Health Services Maternal and Child Health service and Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service;
- (i) as part of this expansion, supporting more vulnerable groups to access these resources by increasing outreach to culturally and linguistically diverse communities for perinatal education;
- (j) offering Circle of Security classes to people who are parents/parents to be who are detained at the Alexander Maconochie Centre; and
- (k) providing an update to the Assembly on progress of all items in this motion by the first sittings in November 2023.

Ms Castley moved the following amendment: Omit all text after (2)(k), substitute:

“(3) refer the feasibility of a co-designed midwife-led freestanding birth centre to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing, for an inquiry and report to be tabled by the final sitting week of 2023.”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 8

Mr Cain  
Ms Castley  
Mr Cocks  
Mr Hanson  
Ms Lawder  
Ms Lee  
Mr Milligan  
Mr Parton

NOES, 15

Ms Berry  
Mr Braddock  
Ms Burch  
Ms Cheyne  
Ms Clay  
Ms Davidson  
Mr Davis  
Mr Gentleman  
Ms Orr  
Dr Paterson  
Mr Pettersson  
Mr Rattenbury  
Mr Steel  
Ms Stephen-Smith  
Ms Vassarotti

And so it was negatived.

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

## 16 TRAM—STAGE 2

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

- (1) notes that:
  - (a) to date, the Labor-Greens Government has refused or failed to disclose to Canberrans the total cost or delivery date for Stage 2 of the tram;
  - (b) conservative estimates indicate that Stage 2 of the tram will cost Canberrans over \$3 billion with a delivery date likely to be after 2034;
  - (c) more cost effective and sustainable public transport options, such as electric buses, have been delivered in other cities in Australia and globally since Stage 1 of the tram was completed;

- (d) the Labor-Greens Government has failed in the delivery of essential government services in health, education, policing, housing and city maintenance, and diverted funds from these services to the tram project;
- (e) the ACT Auditor-General's Report No 8 of 2021 found that the business case for Stage 2A of the tram was seriously flawed, and should be reviewed and updated;
- (f) the Labor-Greens Government has refused, and cannot or will not guarantee, that the same methodological flaws are not present in the business case for Stage 2B; and
- (g) the National Capital Authority believes the necessary approvals for Stage 2B will not be granted for many years; and

(2) calls on the Labor-Greens Government to not proceed with Stage 2B of the tram.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Assembly voted—

AYES, 8

Mr Cain  
Ms Castley  
Mr Hanson  
Mrs Kikkert  
Ms Lawder  
Ms Lee  
Mr Milligan  
Mr Parton

NOES, 15

Ms Berry  
Mr Braddock  
Ms Burch  
Ms Cheyne  
Ms Clay  
Ms Davidson  
Mr Davis  
Mr Gentleman  
Ms Orr  
Dr Paterson  
Mr Pettersson  
Mr Rattenbury  
Mr Steel  
Ms Stephen-Smith  
Ms Vassarotti

And so it was negatived.

#### **17 CALVARY PUBLIC HOSPITAL BRUCE—IMPACTS OF THEATRE FIRE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) made a ministerial statement concerning the impacts of the 6 December 2022 Calvary Public Hospital Bruce Theatre fire and presented the following paper:

Impacts of Calvary Public Hospital Bruce Theatre fire—Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Ms Stephen-Smith moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

#### **18 TRANSPORT CANBERRA WORKFORCE AND BUS NETWORK TIMETABLE UPDATE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services) made a ministerial statement to provide an update on Transport Canberra bus services and the work it is doing in 2023 with its workforce to support services to the Canberra community and presented the following paper:

Transport Canberra workforce and bus network timetable update—Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Mr Steel moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

**19 ZERO EMISSION TRANSITION PLAN FOR TRANSPORT CANBERRA UPDATE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Steel (Minister for Transport and City Services) made a ministerial statement to update the Assembly on the procurement and delivery of electric buses, the impact on the replacement of old buses and the actions undertaken to manage the impacts of this in the interim, and presented the following paper:

Zero emission transition plan for Transport Canberra update—Ministerial statement, 7 February 2023.

Mr Steel moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

**20 JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE (LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY ROLE)—SCRUTINY REPORT 25—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Mr Cain (Chair) presented the following report:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee (Legislative Scrutiny Role)—Scrutiny Report 25, dated 31 January 2023, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and, by leave, made a statement in relation to the report.

**21 ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 6—INQUIRY INTO LONG SERVICE LEAVE (PORTABLE SCHEMES) AMENDMENT BILL 2022—REPORT NOTED**

Ms Castley (Chair) presented the following report:

Economy and Gender and Economic Equality—Standing Committee—Report 6—*Inquiry into Long Service Leave (Portable Schemes) Amendment Bill 2022*, dated 23 January 2023, including a dissenting report (Ms Castley), together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Question—put and passed.

**22 JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 10—INQUIRY INTO THE SEXUAL ASSAULT REFORM LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022—REPORT NOTED**

Mr Cain (Chair) presented the following report:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee—Report 10—*Inquiry into the Sexual Assault Reform Legislation Amendment Bill 2022*, dated 7 December 2022, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Question—put and passed.

**23 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY—STANDING COMMITTEE—  
CONSIDERATION OF STATUTORY APPOINTMENTS—STATEMENT BY CHAIR—PAPER**

Dr Paterson (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A and Continuing Resolution 5A, made a statement concerning consideration of statutory appointments by the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity.

*Paper:* Dr Paterson, pursuant to Continuing Resolution 5A, presented the following paper:

Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity—Standing Committee—Schedule of Statutory Appointments—10th Assembly—Period 1 July to 31 December 2022.

**24 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—  
CONSIDERATION OF STATUTORY APPOINTMENTS—STATEMENT BY CHAIR—PAPER**

Ms Clay (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A and Continuing Resolution 5A, made a statement concerning consideration of statutory appointments by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services.

*Paper:* Ms Clay, pursuant to Continuing Resolution 5A, presented the following paper:

Planning, Transport and City Services—Standing Committee—Schedule of Statutory Appointments—10th Assembly—Period 1 July to 31 December 2022.

**25 PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS 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 inquire further into the Professional Engineers Bill 2022.

**26 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.38 pm, adjourned until tomorrow at 10 am.

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

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**Tom Duncan**  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly