

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Day No. 7

FIRST SESSION

TWELFTH ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 27 November 2012

1. **MEETING:**
The Assembly met at 10am. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick, took the Chair.
2. **PRAYERS.**
3. **LEAVE OF ABSENCE – MEMBER FOR BRENNAN – MOTION AGREED TO:**
The Leader of Government Business (Mr Elferink), by leave, moved – That the Member for Brennan (Mr Chandler) have leave of absence for today due to ill health. Question – put and passed.
4. **MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR No. 2:**
The Speaker advised Members of receipt of the following Message from Her Honour the Administrator:

Message No. 2 - Assent to Proposed Laws

I, SALLY THOMAS AM, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, advise the Legislative Assembly of, pursuant to section 7 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government Act) 1978* of the Commonwealth, the assent to the following proposed law:

8 November 2012

Tourism NT Act 2012 (**Act No 22 of 2012**)

Dated 21 November 2012.

SALLY THOMAS

Administrator

(Paper 138)

5. **QUESTIONS:**

10.02am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.03am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.06am	Mr Styles to Mr Mills.
10.09am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.12am	Ms Lee to Mrs Lambley.
10.16am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.20am	Mr Kurrupuwu to Mrs Lambley.
10.24am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.28am	Ms Finocchiaro to Mrs Lambley.
10.32am	Mr Wood to Mr Mills.
10.35am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.37am	Mr Wood to Mrs Lambley.
10.38am	Mrs Price to Mrs Lambley.
10.42am	Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.

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10.43am Mr Higgins to Mr Giles.
10.47am Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.
10.47am Mr Higgins to Mr Mills.
10.51am Ms Lawrie to Mr Mills.

Suspension of Standing Orders: The Member for Karama (Ms Lawrie) moved – That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Assembly censuring the Chief Minister and his Government for lying to Territorians by promising to cut the cost of living and then increasing PowerWater bills by \$2000 per family and \$7800 per small business from January 1 next year.

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Elferink) informed the Assembly that the government accepted the motion as a censure motion, pursuant to Standing Order 95.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Members of the presence in the public galleries of Ms Marion Scrymgour former Member for Arafura and the Mayor of Litchfield Council, Mr Allan McKay.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker extended a warm welcome to the visitors.

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Elferink) asked that further questions be placed on the Written Question Paper.

6. **CENSURE OF GOVERNMENT – INCREASING POWERWATER BILLS – MOTION:** The Member for Karama (Ms Lawrie) moved – That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Assembly censuring the Chief Minister and his Government for lying to Territorians by promising to cut the cost of living and then increasing PowerWater bills by \$2000 per family and \$7800 per small business from January 1 next year.
Debate ensued.
Extension of time - denied: The Leader of the Opposition (Ms Lawrie) was denied leave to an extension of time.
Debate continued.
Debate suspended.
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Suspension of sittings: The sittings of the Assembly was suspended between 12 Noon and 2pm.

7. NOTICES:

The following notices were given –

Mr Mills: To move - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Planning Amendment Bill 2012 (Serial 6) passing through all stages on Wednesday 28 November 2012.

Mr Elferink: To present the Victims of Crime Assistance Amendment Bill 2012 (Serial 10).

Mr Conlan: To move - That the Assembly, pursuant to section 19(2) of the *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act*, disallow the -

- Joint Management Plan, Mary River National Park, January 2012 (Paper 1774) deemed to have been tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 23 October 2012; and

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- Plan of Management, Litchfield National Park, December 2011 (Paper 37) deemed to have been tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2012.

Ms Lawrie: To move – That this Assembly oppose the Territory Government's planned PowerWater tariff increases.

8. PETITIONS:

The Member for Braitling (Mr Giles) presented Petition No. 3 from 106 petitioners requesting that Charles Eaton Drive be made safer for cyclists and pedestrians (Paper 139).

Petition read.

9. CENSURE OF GOVERNMENT – INCREASING POWERWATER BILLS – MOTION NEGATED:

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the motion moved by the Member for Karama (Ms Lawrie) – That the Assembly censure the Chief Minister and his Government for lying to Territorians by promising to cut the cost of living and then increasing PowerWater bills by \$2000 per family and \$7800 per small business from January 1 next year.

Debate resumed.

Extension of time: The Member for Nhulunbuy (Ms Walker) moved – That the Member for Barkly (Mr McCarthy) be granted an extension of time, pursuant to Standing Order 77.

Question - put.

The Assembly divided (the Speaker, Hon. Kezia Purick, in the Chair) -

AYES, 9

NOES, 15

Ms Fyles
Mr Gunner
Mr Henderson
Ms Lawrie
Mr McCarthy
Mr Vatskalis
Mr Vowles
Ms Walker
Mr Wood

Ms Anderson
Mr Conlan
Mr Elferink
Ms Finocchiaro
Mr Giles
Mr Higgins
Mr Kurrupuwu
Mrs Lambley
Ms Lee
Mr Mills
Mrs Price
Ms Purick
Mr Styles
Mr Tollner
Mr Westra van Holthe

Motion negated accordingly.

Extension of time denied accordingly.

Debate resumed on the main question.

Extension of time: On the motion of the Member for Katherine (Mr Westra van Holthe) the Member for Nelson (Mr Wood) was granted an extension of time, pursuant to Standing Order 77.

Debate continued.

Question – put and negated.

10. NORTHERN TERRITORY ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY BILL 2012 (Serial 7):

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question – That the Bill be now read a second time –

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for consideration of the Bill.

In Committee

(The Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees (Mr Higgins) in the Chair)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Debate ensued.

Bill as a whole agreed to, without amendment.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Assembly resumed; the Speaker took the Chair; and the Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees (Mr Higgins) reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill, without amendment.

Bill reported, report adopted.

On the motion of the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment (Mr Mills) the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

11. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, PRIVACY PROTECTION AND PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY, ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012 – REPORT NOTED:

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question – That the Assembly take note of the Report –

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

12. AUDITOR-GENERAL'S OCTOBER 2012 REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – REPORT NOTED:

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of debate on the question – That the Assembly take note of the Report –

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

13. NEW HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SERVICES FRAMEWORK – MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – STATEMENT NOTED:

The Minister for Health (Mr Tollner) made a statement relating to a new service framework for health and hospital services in the Northern Territory.

Mr Tollner moved – That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate ensued.

Question – put and passed.

14. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE – NORTHERN TERRITORY COST OF LIVING:

The Speaker advised the Assembly that the Member for Karama (Ms Lawrie) had proposed the following definite Matter of Public Importance for discussion this day:

The CLP's deliberate, mean and unnecessary increases to the Cost of Living in the Northern Territory.

The proposed discussion having been received the necessary support – The Member for Karama (Ms Lawrie) thereupon addressed the Assembly.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

The Leader of Government Business (Mr Elferink) moved - That the Assembly do now adjourn.

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Debate ensued.

Question - put and passed.

And the Assembly adjourned at 10.30pm, until Wednesday 28 November 2012 at 10am.

PAPERS:

The following Papers were deemed to have been presented on 27 November 2012 –

Annual Reports

Darwin Port Corporation Australia's Northern Gateway of Choice, 2011/2012
(Paper 141)

Darwin Waterfront Corporation, 2011/2012 (Paper 142)

Northern Territory Grants Commission, 2011/2012 (Paper 140)

ATTENDANCE:

All Members attended the sittings except Mr Chandler, on leave.