



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee

Associated Minutes of Proceedings

Inquiry into the Water Amendment Bill 2019

May 2019



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

Economic Policy Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 26

12.00 pm, Thursday 14 February 2019
Ormiston Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers, Member for Brennan (Chair)
Mr Lawrence Costa, Member for Arafura
Ms Kate Worden, Member for Sanderson
Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly
Mr Yingiya Guyula, Member for Nhulunbuy

Secretariat: Jennifer Buckley, Committee Secretary
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. WELCOME

2. SALLY GEARIN – PRESENTATION OF LEGAL ADVICE ON LIQUOR AMENDMENT BILL

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Worden moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 25 of 5 February 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr Costa moved and Mr Guyula seconded that:

1. The Committee authorises publication of submissions received.
2. The Committee authorises publication of the response from Minister Fyles to written question on the Medical Services Amendment Bill 2018.

Question put and passed.

5. MEDICAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Ms Worden moved and Mr Costa seconded:

That a Chair's draft report be prepared for the Inquiry into the Medical Services Amendment Bill 2018, with no recommendations required.

Question put and passed.

6. LIQUOR AMENDMENT BILL 2018

Mr Costa moved and Mr Guyula seconded:

1. That the Committee write to the Attorney-General requesting a written response to questions on the Liquor Amendment Bill 2018, by 21 February 2019.
2. That if further clarification is required after receiving the Attorney-General's response, the Committee hold a public briefing with the Department on the Liquor Amendment Bill 2018, on the 25 February 2019.

Question put and passed.

7. PETROLEUM LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Ms Worden moved and Mr Costa seconded:

1. That the Committee write to the Minister for Primary Industry and Resources requesting a written response to questions on the Petroleum Legislation Amendment Bill 2018, by 21 February 2019.
2. That if further clarification is required after receiving the Minister's response, the Committee hold a public briefing with the Department on the Petroleum Legislation Amendment Bill 2018, on the 25 February 2019.

Question put and passed.

8. BILLS REFERRED IN THE FEBRUARY ASSEMBLY

Ms Worden moved and Mr Higgins seconded:

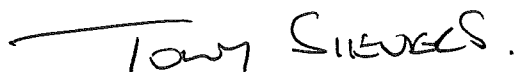
1. That the Committee call for submissions on its inquiries into Bills referred during the February sittings to be received by Monday 11 March 2019.
2. That the Committee write to Minister Manison and Minister Lawler requesting a contact officer for the Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2019 and the Water Amendment Bill 2019.

Question put and passed.

9. NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

Meeting closed at 12.30



Mr Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 29

10.00 am, Friday, 22 March 2019
Teleconference

Present: Mr Tony Sievers MLA
Mr Lawrence Costa MLA
Ms Kate Worden MLA

Apologies: Mr Yingiya Guyula MLA
Mr Gary Higgins MLA

Secretariat: Jennifer Buckley

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Costa moved and Ms Worden seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 28 of 8 March 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr Costa moved and Ms Worden seconded that:

The Committee does not authorise publication of the submission to the Water Amendment Bill 2019, received from Katherine Marchment.

Question put and passed.

3. MOTOR ACCIDENTS (COMPENSATION) BILL 2019

Ms Worden moved and Mr Costa seconded that:

1. The Committee authorises the publication of submissions received.
2. That the Committee write to the Treasurer requesting a written response to questions from the Committee.

Question put and passed.

4. WATER AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Ms Worden moved and M Costa seconded that:

The Committee write to the Department requesting that representatives be assigned to appear before the Committee at a public briefing to be held on Wednesday 3 April 2019.

Question put and passed.

5. BILLS REFERRED IN MARCH SITTINGS

Ms Worden moved and Mr Costa seconded that:

1. The Committee call for submissions to its inquiries into Bills referred to the Committee during the March sittings, to be received by 17 April 2019.
2. The Committee write to the responsible Ministers requesting contact officers in relation to the Bills.

Question put and passed.

6. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 3 April 2019 - public briefing on Water Amendment Bill 2019 and deliberative meeting.

Meeting closed at 10.10 am



Mr Tony Sievers MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 30

9.00 am, Wednesday 3 April 2019
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers MLA
Ms Kate Worden MLA
Ms Lia Finocchiaro MLA

Apologies: Mr Yingiya Guyula MLA
Mr Lawrence Costa MLA

Secretariat: Jennifer Buckley
Eloise Noske

1. PUBLIC BRIEFING

The Committee heard from the following witnesses from the Department of Environment and Natural resources:

- Ms Joanne Townsend, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Chris Shaw, Executive Director, Onshore Gas Reform

The public briefing concluded at 9.55 am.

DELIBERATIVE MEETING

2. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed Mrs Lia Finocchiaro to the Committee and thanked Mr Higgins for his contribution to the Committee over the last 18 months.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Worden moved and Mr Sievers seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 29 of 21 March 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted.

5. MOTOR ACCIDENTS (COMPENSATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the responses to written questions regarding the Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2019 received from the Department of Treasury and Finance on 28 March 2019.

Question put and passed.

The Committee requested that further clarification be sought from the Minister regarding the following:

- The rationale for using pension age as the main factor for limiting the amount of time a person can receive loss of earning capacity (LOEC) benefits (e.g. was this informed by average length of time on LOEC benefits, the aggregated average benefits paid out for LOEC, driver risk by age)
- How entitlements to loss of earning benefits vary by the following age groups – 45, 64, 67, 75 and 80.

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee write to Minister requesting further clarification regarding provisions in the Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2019.

Question put and passed.

6. WATER AMENDMENT BILL 2019

The Committee requested that further information be obtained regarding the process for finalising the Code of Practice.

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

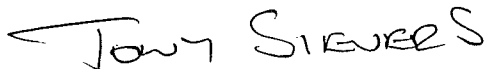
The Committee write to the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources requesting a response to written questions on the Water Amendment Bill 2019.

Question put and passed.

7. NEXT MEETING

11.30 am, Wednesday 17 April 2019,

Meeting closed at 10.20 am



Mr Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 31

11.30 am, Wednesday, 17 April 2019
Litchfield Room

Present: Mr Tony Sievers MLA
Ms Kate Worden MLA
Ms Lia Finocchiaro MLA
Mr Lawrence Costa MLA
Mr Yingiya Guyula MLA

Secretariat: Jennifer Buckley
Russell Keith

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Worden moved and Mr Sievers seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 30 of 3 April 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms Worden moved and Mr Costa seconded that:

The Committee authorises publication of the submission received.

Question put and passed.

3. MOTOR ACCIDENTS (COMPENSATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Ms Worden noted that there appeared to be an error in the answer provided by the Department to question 1b of the Responses to Written Questions, with Table 1 stating that a person aged 64 would only receive LOEC benefits until pension age. The Committee agreed that the Department's second set of Responses to Written Questions should not be published until this apparent error has been clarified with the Department and corrected if necessary.

Ms Worden moved and Mr Guyula seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report for the Inquiry into the Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2019.

Question put and passed.

4. WATER AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Ms Worden noted that Minister Lawler's letter did not provide clear agreement for the Committee to publish the Department's written responses to questions on the Committee's webpage. The Committee agreed that publication of the responses would not be authorised until Mr Sievers had followed this up with the Minister.

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report for the Inquiry into the Water Amendment Bill 2019, subject to no objection being received from Mrs Finocchiaro or Mr Costa, via email by 12.00 pm Thursday 18 April 2019.

Question put and passed.

Mr Guyula stated that he would submit a dissenting report and would provide this report to the Committee on a date agreed with the Committee Secretary but before the report is due to be tabled in the Assembly on 7 May 2019.

5. BILLS REFERRED IN MARCH SITTINGS

The secretary provided a brief review of the three submissions on the Care and Protection of Children Amendment Bill 2019 received to date.

6. NEXT MEETING

9.00 am 30 April 2019

Meeting closed at 11.57

Mr Tony Sievers, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 32

10.30 am, Tuesday, 30 April 2019
Litchfield Room

Present:	Mr Tony Sievers MLA Ms Kate Worden MLA Ms Lia Finocchiaro MLA Mr Yingiya Guyula MLA
Apologies:	Mr Lawrence Costa MLA
Secretariat:	Jennifer Buckley

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 31 of 17 April 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Neither Mrs Finocchiaro nor Mr Costa forwarded an email raising objections to the resolution adopting the report on the Water Amendment Bill 2019 and this report is now adopted. Mr Guyula submitted a dissenting report on the Water Amendment Bill 2019.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

1. The Committee authorises the publication of written responses on the Water Amendment Bill 2019 from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources received 12 April 2019.
2. The Committee authorises the publication of written responses on the Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Bill from the Department of Treasury and Finance received 8 April 2019.

Question put and passed.

4. CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Ms Worden moved and Mr Guyula seconded that:

The Committee authorises publication of submissions received.

Question put and passed.

5. WATER LEGISLATION MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS BILL 2019

Ms Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee authorises publication of submissions received.

Question put and passed.

6. INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Worden seconded that:

The Committee authorises publication of the submission received from the Electoral Commissioner subject to his agreement.

Question put and passed.

7. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 9 May 2019 at either 12.45 or 1.00 pm (to be confirmed) and Thursday 16 May 2019 at 12.45 pm.

Meeting closed at 10.44 am

Mr Tony Sievers MLA
Chair