

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 53

Tuesday 25 March 2014

1. MEETING

The Assembly met at 10am. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick took the Chair.

2. PRAYERS

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker advised Members of receipt of the following Message from Her Honour the Administrator (Paper 776):

Message No 14 – Assent to Proposed Laws

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

6 March 2014

Criminal Code Amendment (Child Abuse Material) Act 2014 **(Act No 1 of 2014)**

20 March 2014

Care and Protection of Children Amendment (Charter of Rights) Act 2014

(Act No 2 of 2014)

Criminal Code Amendment (Expert Psychiatric or Medical Evidence) Act 2014

(Act No 3 of 2014)

Criminal Code Amendment (Hit and Run) Act 2014 **(Act No 4 of 2014)**

Mental Health and Related Services Amendment Act 2014 **(Act No 5 of 2014)**

Museums and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Act 2014 **(Act No 6 of 2014)**

Misuse of Drugs Amendment Act 2014 **(Act No 7 of 2014)**

Planning Amendment (Concurrent Applications) Act 2014 **(Act No 8 of 2014)**

SALLY THOMAS AC

Administrator

4. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of two Year 5/6 classes from Karama Primary School.

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

5. QUESTIONS

10.01 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister

10.06 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister (supplementary question)

10.07 Ms Anderson to Chief Minister

10.10 Mr Wood to Treasurer

10.13 Ms Lawrie to Chief Minister

10.18 Ms Lee to Minister for Health

10.21 Mr Vowles to Chief Minister

Paper Tabled: Mr Vowles (Member for Johnston) by leave, laid upon the Table – Email, from Hon. Mr Matt Conlan MLA, to all CLP Members, regarding apology to Ms Alison Anderson, Member for Namatjira and email to Hon. Mr Matt Conlan MLA, from Mr Gary Higgins, Member for Daly re: FOI and use of iPhones and Apple ID with attached email separate from the NTG network and should be used for such emails, dated 19 February 2014 (Paper 777).

10.26 Mr Kurrupuwu to Chief Minister

- 10.30 Ms Manison to Chief Minister (referred to Treasurer)
- 10.34 Mr Higgins to Chief Minister
- 10.37 Mr McCarthy to Chief Minister (referred to Treasurer)
- 10.41 Mr Wood to Minister for Education
- 10.45 Ms Anderson to Minister for Central Australia
- 10.48 Mr Gunner to Chief Minister (referred to Minister for Business)
- 10.52 Mr Higgins to Minister for Corporate and Information Services
- 10.56 Mr Vowles to Chief Minister

Paper Tabled: Mr Vowles (Member for Johnston) by leave, laid upon the Table – Towards a Darwin Regional Land Use Plan 2014, Northern Territory Planning Commission (Paper 778).

- 10.57 Mr Higgins to Treasurer

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

6. MEDICINES, POISONS AND THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT BILL 2014 (SERIAL 66)
Resumption of debate on the question - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of a Year 3/4 class and a Year 5/6 class from St Andrew's Lutheran Primary School.

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

Debate resumed.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of two Year 5/6 classes from Woodroffe Primary School.

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

Debate resumed.

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On the motion of Mrs Lambley (Minister for Health) by leave, the Bill was read a third time and was passed to be a proposed law.

7. REORDER OF BUSINESS – MOTION AGREED TO

Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) moved – That Order of the Day Number 2 be postponed until after consideration of Ministerial Statements.

Question – put and passed.

Suspension of sittings: The sitting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00pm.

8. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Higgins (Member for Daly) to move on the next General Business Day - That this House expresses its support for the investigation into the feasibility of a gas pipeline which connects the Northern Territory with the Australian eastern seaboard.
2. Mr Tollner (Minister for Local Government and Regions) to present a bill entitled – Local Government Amendment Bill 2014 (Serial 73).
3. Mr Tollner (Minister for Local Government and Regions) to present a bill entitled – Darwin Rates Amendment Bill 2014 (Serial 72).
4. Mr Elferink (Leader of Government Business) to move that -
 1. A Select Committee on Action to Prevent Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder be appointed.
 2. The Committee shall inquire into and report on:
 - a. The prevalence in the Northern Territory of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD);
 - b. The nature of the injuries and effects of FASD on its sufferers; and
 - c. Actions the Government can take to protect unborn children from FASD.
 3. The Committee's membership shall comprise three Government Members, two Opposition Members and one Independent Member.
 4. The Committee may elect a Deputy Chair of the Committee, who may act as the Chair when the Chair is absent from a meeting or there is no Chair of the Committee.
 5. A quorum of the Committee shall be three members of the Committee.
 6. The committee is to report in the October sittings.
 7. The provisions of this resolution, insofar as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.
5. Mr Wood (Member for Nelson) will move on the next General Business Day that – That Local Government Councils in the Northern Territory be given the choice of appointing a person to run their own elections.

9. PETITIONS

Ms Manison (Member for Wanguri), presented Petition No. 35 from 1220 petitioners, conforming with Standing Orders praying that a new Henbury School be built incorporating state-of-the-art facilities. (Paper 779).

Petition read.

10. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – REPLACEMENT OF THE ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – MOTION TO NOTE AGREED TO

Mr Tollner (Minister for Corporate and Information Services) made a statement updating the Assembly on the Asset Management System.

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

Debate ensued.

Extension of Time: On the motion of Mr Giles (Chief Minister), Mr Styles (Member for Sanderson) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Paper Tabled: Mr Tollner, laid upon the Table – Billboard copy of NT News, Tuesday 25 March 2014, “Junk” Scheme Scrapped \$70m of your cash Wasted (Paper 780).

Debate continued.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of a Scout Group from Humpty Doo.

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

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

11. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT – PLANNING - MOTION TO NOTE AGREED TO

Resumption of debate on the question - That the Assembly take note of the Statement.

Debate resumed.

Question – put and passed.

12. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE – IMPACT OF POWERWATER CORPORATION LEGISLATION

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Ms Lawrie (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed a definite Matter of Public Importance – The failure of the Government for its inability to govern in the interests of Territorians. Despite staking its reputation on splitting the PowerWater Corporation, the Government is now so divided and paralysed with infighting that it cannot proceed with the legislation. The Government is attempting to hide the full impact of the legislation and their privatisation agenda from the voters of Blain by delaying the Bills until after the Blain by-election.

Having received the necessary support - Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

And the Assembly adjourned at 6.51pm until Wednesday 26 March 2014 at 10.00am.

PAPERS

No papers were deemed to have been Tabled on 25 March 2014.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the sittings, except Ms Finocchiaro on leave.

MICHAEL TATHAM

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly