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NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

of the

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

No. 106

Tuesday 9 February 2016

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**1. MEETING**

The Assembly met at 10.15am. The Speaker, the Honourable Kezia Purick took the Chair.

**2. PRAYERS**

**3. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT**

The Speaker made a statement welcoming the 2016 sitting year.

**4. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR**

The Speaker advised Members of receipt of the following Message from His Honour the Administrator (Paper 1638):

**Message No. 30 – Assent to Proposed Laws**

I, JOHN HARDY OAM, 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 laws:

**8 December 2015**

Agents Licensing Amendment Act 2015 (**Act No 27 of 2015**)

Education Act 2015 (**Act No 28 of 2015**)

Information Amendment Act (No. 2) 2015 (**Act No 29 of 2015**)

Legislative Assembly Members' Superannuation Contributions Amendment Act 2015 (**Act No 30 of 2015**)

Misuse of Drugs Amendment Act 2015 (**Act No 31 of 2015**)

Superannuation Legislation Amendment Act 2015 (**Act No 32 of 2015**)

**10 December 2015**

Bail Amendment Act (No. 2) 2015 (**Act No 33 of 2015**)

North East Gas Interconnector Pipeline (Special Provisions) Act 2015 (**Act No 34 of 2015**)

**17 December 2015**

Traffic Act and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2015 (**Act No 35 of 2015**)

Dated 5 February 2016

JOHN HARDY OAM

Administrator

**5. PAPER TABLED - REPORT ON THE PORTS MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS: SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION NO. 13 OF 2015 - MOTION AGREED TO**

Mr Barrett (Member for Blain) made a statement and laid on the Table – Report on the Ports Management Regulations: Subordinate Legislation No. 13 of 2015 (Paper 1639) and Associated Minutes of Proceedings (Paper 1640).

Mr Barrett moved – That the Assembly take note of the report.

Question – put and passed.

**6. WITHDRAWAL OF BILL – LEAVE GRANTED**

Ms Manison (Member for Wanguri), by leave, withdrew General Business Order of the Day No. 2, Public Information Amendment Bill 2015 (Serial 140) standing in her name on the Notice Paper.

**7. JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (VULNERABLE WITNESSES) BILL 2015 (SERIAL 146)**

Resumption of debate on the question - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

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**Visitors**

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 6 students from Durack Primary School, accompanied by their teacher, Julia Walsh and Year 6 students from Bakewell Primary School, accompanied by their teacher, Peter Usher.

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

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Debate continued.

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**Visitors**

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of 22 students from Namarluk Primary School, accompanied by their Principal, Lorraine Hodgson.

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

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Debate continued

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**Visitors**

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of a two Year 9 classes from Dripstone Middle School, accompanied by their teachers Irini Pikoulos and Marita Fitzpatrick.

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

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Debate continued.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr Westra van Holthe (Member for Katherine), Mr Styles (Member for Sanderson) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Debate suspended.

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**Suspension of sittings:** The sitting of the Assembly was suspended between 11.53am and 2.00pm.

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**8. NOTICES**

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Giles (Chief Minister) will present on the next sitting day a bill entitled – Inquiries Amendment Bill 2016 (Serial 151).
2. Mr Tollner (Minister for Lands and Planning) will present on the next sitting day a bill entitled – Building Amendment (Occupancy Certification) Bill 2016 (Serial 152).
3. Ms Manison (Member for Wanguri) will present on the next General Business day a bill entitled – Public Information Amendment Bill 2016 (Serial 156).
4. Ms Moss (Member for Casuarina) will move on the next General Business day – That this parliament notes the abject failure of the CLP to provide for the housing needs of remote Territorians and supports the Labor plan for increasing remote housing in the Territory. Further, this House calls on the Territory government to act on implementing Labor’s plans as soon as possible.
5. Mr Wood (Member for Nelson) will present on the next General Business day a bill entitled Electoral Amendment Bill 2016 (Serial 155).
6. Mr Wood (Member for Nelson) will move on the next General Business day - That so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would allow a motion to be moved after the second reading speech on the Electoral Amendment Bill 2016 (Serial 155) to:
  - a) refer the Bill to a particular committee, and, if necessary, establish that committee, to consider whether the Bill should be passed or amended for report to the Assembly by a particular date, and
  - b) make the resumption of the second reading debate to be an order of the day for the day following the tabling of the Committee’s report or the date the report is due, whichever occurs first, and
  - c) allow me to speak again to the second reading for up to 20 minutes when the debate on the second reading resumes.
7. Mr Barrett (Member for Blain) will move, on behalf of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee performing the functions of the Subordinate Legislation and Publications Committee, on 19 April 2016 - That the Legislative Assembly disallows Regulation 10 of the Ports Management Regulations No. 13 of 2015.

**9. PETITIONS**

Ms Purick (Member for Goyder), presented Petition No. 59 from 1376 petitioners, conforming with Standing Orders, relating to medical termination of pregnancy (Paper 1653).

Petition read.

**10. RESPONSES TO PETITIONS**

The Clerk, pursuant to Standing Order 123, laid upon the Table Response to Petition Numbers 54, 55 and 57 (Paper 1654).

**11. QUESTIONS**

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| 2.04 | Mr Gunner to Chief Minister                                   |
| 2.08 | Mrs Finocchiaro to Chief Minister                             |
| 2.12 | Mr Gunner to Chief Minister                                   |
| 2.16 | Mr Barrett to Treasurer                                       |
| 2.19 | Ms Lawrie to Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services |
| 2.23 | Mr Kurrupuwu to Chief Minister                                |
| 2.27 | Ms Manison to Minister for Business                           |

- 2.31 Mr Conlan to Minister for Local Government and Community Services
- 2.34 Mr McCarthy to Minister for Business
- 2.38 Mr Barrett to Minister for Education
- 2.42 Mr Wood to Minister for Racing, Gaming and Licensing
- 2.46 Mrs Finocchiaro to Minister for Essential Services
- 2.49 Ms Walker to Treasurer

**Paper Tabled:** Ms Walker (Member for Nhulunbuy) laid upon the Table – Department of the Chief Minister, Communications Research, Draft Report, August 2015 (Paper 1652).

- 2.55 Mr Conlan to Minister for Sport and Recreation

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

**12. JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (VULNERABLE WITNESSES) BILL 2015 (SERIAL 146) – BILL AGREED TO**

Resumption of debate on the question - That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Mr McCarthy (Member for Barkly), Mr Elferink (Member for Port Darwin) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question - put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On the motion of Mr Elferink (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice), by leave, the Bill was read a third time and was passed to be a proposed law.

**13. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT - A NEW DIRECTION FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING – MOTION TO NOTE**

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

Debate resumed.

**Extension of Time:** On the motion of Ms Fyles (Member for Nightcliff), Mr McCarthy (Member for Barkly) was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

On the motion of Mr Elferink (Member for Port Darwin) debate was adjourned.

**14. PAPERS**

The Deputy Speaker tabled the following Papers –

1. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Wanguri, Ms Nicole Manison to travel to Alice Springs in her capacity as Shadow Minister for Education to visit schools to learn more about their operations and the programs they are delivering on 22-23rd October 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 1 December 2015 (Paper 1655)
2. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Wanguri, Ms Nicole Manison to travel to Alice Springs in her capacity as the Shadow Minister for Education and Government Accountability to attend the "Putting Gender on the

- Agenda” on 27th October 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 1 December 2015 (Paper 1656)
3. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Barkly, Mr Gerry McCarthy to travel to the Greater Darwin Region to attend a number of meetings and conferences in the week between parliamentary sittings November and December 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 15 December 2015 (Paper 1657)
  4. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Karama, Ms Delia Lawrie to travel to Sydney to attend the Royal Kathina ceremony 29 October to 2 November 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 21 January 2016 (Paper 1658)
  5. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Johnston, Mr Ken Vowles to travel to Alice Springs on 4-7<sup>th</sup> September 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 1 December 2015 (Paper 1659)
  6. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Casuarina, Ms Lauren Moss to travel to Alice Springs to attend meetings with stakeholders and visit programs in the areas of youth, housing, children and families, mental health and multicultural affairs on 22-23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 21 January 2016 (Paper 1660)
  7. Remuneration Tribunal Determination, Travel Report, Member for Arafura, Mr Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu to travel to Darwin to attend a local branch meeting on 14-15<sup>th</sup> October 2015, pursuant to clause 6.11, dated 15 January 2016 (Paper 1661)

#### 15. REPORTS

1. Public Accounts Committee Report – Public Private Partnership Arrangements for the Darwin Correctional Precinct – **Consideration Adjourned**
2. Public Accounts Committee Report – Inquiry into Structural Separation of the Power and Water Corporation – **Consideration Adjourned**
3. Committee on the Northern Territory’s Energy Future Report – Key Challenges and Opportunities: Issues Paper – **Consideration Adjourned**
4. Public Accounts Committee Report – Management of Information and Communications Projects by Government Agencies – **Report Noted**
5. Public Accounts Committee Report – Annual Report 2013/2014 – **Report Noted**
6. Government Owned Corporations Scrutiny Committee Report – **Report Noted**
7. Committee on Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – The Preventable Disability – **Consideration Adjourned**
8. Auditor-General for the Northern Territory – Report to the Legislative Assembly, August 2015 – **Consideration Adjourned**

#### 16. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE – DROP IN BUSINESS CONFIDENCE ACROSS THE TERRITORY

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Mr Gunner (Member for Fannie Bay) had proposed a definite Matter of Public Importance – drop in business confidence across the Territory, especially the significant slump in support for Territory Government policies because of the failure of the Territory Government to address issues of concern to small and medium business.

Having received the necessary support - Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

#### 17. ADJOURNMENT

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

The Assembly adjourned at 7.45pm until Wednesday 10 February 2016 at 10.00am.

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#### PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been Tabled on 9 February 2016 -

**Subordinate Legislation 2015:**

- No. 30 of 2015, Education Regulations (Paper 1641)
- No. 31 of 2015, Domestic and Family Violence Amendment Regulations 2015 (Paper 1642)
- No. 32 of 2015, Bail Amendment Regulations 2015 (Paper 1643)
- No. 33 of 2015, Surveillance Devices Amendment Regulations 2015 (Paper 1644)
- No. 34 of 2015, Termination of Units Plans and Unit Title Schemes Amendment 2015 (Paper 1645)
- No. 35 of 2015, Land Title Amendment Regulations 2015 (Paper 1646)
- No. 36 of 2015, Registration Amendment Regulations 2015 (Paper 1647)
- No. 37 of 2015, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory Amendment Regulations 2015 (Paper 1648)
- No. 38 of 2015, Planning Amendment (Forestry) Regulations 2015 (Paper 1649)
- No. 39 of 2015, Supreme Court Amendment Rules 2015 (Paper 1650)

**Subordinate Legislation 2016:**

- No. 1 of 2016, Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Amendment Regulations 2016 (Paper 1651)

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended the sittings.

MICHAEL TATHAM

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly