Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 7
Tuesday 26 November 2024

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1. MEETING

The Assembly met at 10.00. The Speaker, the Honourable Robyn Lambley, presided.

2. PRAYERS

The Speaker read the prayer.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Speaker delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker advised members of the following Message from His Honour Professor the Honourable Hugh Heggie AO PSM, Administrator of the Northern Territory (Paper 117).

Message Number 1

Assent to Proposed Laws

I, HUGH HEGGIE AO PSM, the Administrator of the Northern Territory of Australia, advise the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to section 7 of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, of the assent to the following proposed laws:

29 October 2024
Bail Legislation Amendment Act 2024 (Act No. 16 of 2024)
Police Administration Amendment Act 2024 (Act No. 17 of 2024)
Criminal Code Amendment Act 2024 (Act No. 18 of 2024)

1 November 2024
Liquor Legislation Further Amendment Act 2024 (Act No. 19 of 2024)
Sentencing Amendment Act 2024 (Act No.20 of 2024)

Dated 12 November 2024.

5. SPEAKER'S STATEMENTS

The Speaker made a statement regarding the Chief Minister's appointment of Russell Keith as Chief Executive Officer of the Department of the Legislative Assembly and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

The Speaker made a statement regarding the resignation of Penny Hart, former Clerk Assistant Chamber and Serjeant at Arms.

The Speaker made a statement advising that the Public Accounts Committee received an inquiry referral from the Treasurer regarding the Howard Springs Accommodation Centre Costs Associated with Flood Evacuation in March and April 2023.

6. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed Electorate Officers, participating in the Electorate Officer Forum, present in the gallery.

7. MOTION: COMMEMORATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mrs Finocchiaro (Chief Minister), by leave, moved:

That this Assembly:

(a) notes that 20 November 2024 marked the 50th anniversary of the sitting of the First Legislative Assembly establishing a fully representative Legislature in the Northern Territory,

(b) acknowledges the significant achievements of the members of the First Assembly, particularly for the role they played in:

I. the reconstruction of Darwin after Cyclone Tracy,

II. paving the way for responsible self-government; and

III. establishing a sound foundation for building a strong Territory; and

(c) celebrates 50 years of the Territory's laws being made by elected Territorians.

Mr Paech, Mr Yan, J Davis, Dr Rahman, Mrs Hersey, Ms Boothby, Mrs Finocchiaro (in reply).

Question put and passed.

8. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and their teachers from Dundee Beach School present in the gallery.

9. MINISTERIAL REPORT: DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Ms Cahill (Minister for Prevention of Domestic Violence) delivered a report regarding Domestic and Family Violence in the Northern Territory.

Ms Cahill moved that the Assembly note the report.

Mr Paech, Ms Uibo.

Debate suspended.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12.00 and 14.00.

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10. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Burgoyne (Minister for Corporate and Digital Development) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Fines and Penalties (Recovery) Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 (Serial 9).

2. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly:

   - Formally acknowledge the unacceptable rates of domestic, family, and sexual violence within the Northern Territory and;
   - Endorse the formation of a bipartisan delegation to Canberra, comprising members of the CLP Government, the Labor Opposition and the crossbench, standing alongside victim survivors, DFSV experts and frontline workers. The purpose of this delegation will be to advocate for significant federal investment in initiatives aimed at combating domestic, family and sexual violence, underscoring our collective commitment to addressing this critical issue.

3. J Davis will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly:

   1. Recognises that all members of this Assembly have firmly committed to addressing family and domestic and sexual violence (FDSV) as a priority.
   2. Acknowledges that domestic, family and sexual violence is our true crime and safety crisis, and that this crisis disproportionately impacts Aboriginal women in the Northern Territory.
   3. Recognises the findings of the "Coronial Inquests into the deaths of Kumarn Rabuntja, Kumanjayi Haywood, Miss Yunupingu and Ngeygo Ragurrk', which highlight urgent reforms needed to protect Aboriginal women and children from domestic, family and sexual violence, and ensure victims are seen and heard;
   4. Commits to fully resourcing and implementing all recommendations of the Coroner arising from these Inquests as a matter of urgency;
   5. Further commits to working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and frontline services to ensure effective implementation of these reforms.

   This Assembly stands united in addressing the domestic, family and sexual violence crime and safety crisis, and ensuring all women and children are safe, protected, and supported.

Paper Tabled: J Davis, by leave, tabled: Recommendations from Inquests into the deaths of Miss Yiinupiyu, Ngeygo Ragurrk, Kumarn Rubuntja and Kumanjayi Haywood 2024 (Paper 121).

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11. QUESTIONS

14.02 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro, redirected to Ms Cahill
14.05 Mr O'Gallagher to Mrs Finocchiaro
14:10 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
14.14 Mrs Carlson to Mrs Finocchiaro
14.18 Mr Paech to Ms Cahill
14:22 Dr Rahman to Mr Maley
14:26 Ms Uibo to Ms Cahill
14:30 Mr Patel to Mr Yan
14.33 Mx McNamara to Mrs Finocchiaro

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14.36 Mrs Zio to Mr Edgington
14.40 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
14.44 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro – Supplementary
14:45 Mr Kerle to Mrs Hersey
14.48 J Davis to Mr Maley
14.53 Mr Howe to Mr Maley
14.56 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
15.01 Mr Mackay to Mr Burgoyne

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

12. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed Mrs Davis, present in the gallery.

13. MINISTERIAL REPORT: DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Resumption of debate on a report regarding the Domestic and Family Violence in the Northern Territory.

Debate resumed.

Ms Uibo, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mx McNamara, J Davis, Mr Brown, Mr Young.

Question put and passed.

14. FIRST HOME OWNER GRANT AMENDMENT BILL 2024 (SERIAL 6)

Resumption of debate on the question that the Bill be read a second time.

Ms Uibo, Ms Boothby, Mx McNamara, Dr Rahman, J Davis, Mrs Zio, Mrs Hersey, Mr Edgington, Mr Mackay, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Yan (in reply).

Question put and passed

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clause 1 considered.

Clause 1 stands as printed.

Remainder of the Bill taken together.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Yan (Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

15. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: INVESTING IN NORTHERN TERRITORY ROAD SAFTEY

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Ms Uibo (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed a Matter of Public Importance in the following terms:

> Fifty-seven people have lost their lives on Territory roads in 2024, which is set to become one of our worst road fatality years on record. It is critical that the Government continues to invest in road safety initiatives and infrastructure to keep Territorians safer on our roads.

Having received the necessary support, discussion ensued.

Mrs Finocchiaro, J Davis, Mr Mackay, Mr Yan, Mr Young, Mr Paech.

Discussion concluded.

16. MOTION: AMEND SESSIONAL ORDERS ADOPTED ON 15 OCTOBER 2024

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business), by leave, moved that:

the Sessional Orders adopted on 15 October 2024 be amended by:

a) deleting from Sessional Order 1 "3. Ministerial Reports" wherever occurring and renumbering the items accordingly,

b) deleting from Sessional Order 5(1) "On each Assembly meeting day after Prayers" and inserting instead "During Government Business when there is no question before the Assembly",

c) inserting at the end of Sessional 5(6) If the debate is adjourned or interrupted, the remaining time becomes an orders of the day for a later hour or a future day,

d) deleting the words in Sessional Order 5(8) and replace with "Notified topics for ministerial reports will be listed on the Notice Paper until they have been delivered by the Minister", and

e) deleting from Sessional Order 13.3(1) the words between "Explanatory Statement" and "unless".

Ms Uibo, J Davis, Ms Boothby, Mr Paech.

Mr Paech moved the following amendment:

To amend the motion to delete part (e).

Mr Edgington moved that the question be put.

Question put and passed.

On the question that the amendment be agreed to.

The Assembly Divided:

Ayes 6	**Noes 16**
Mr Brown	Ms Boothby
J Davis	Mr Burgoyne
Mx McNamara	Ms Cahill
Mr Paech	Mrs Carlson
Ms Uibo	Mr Edgington
Mr Young	Mrs Finocchiaro
	Mrs Hersey
	Mr Howe
	Mr Kerle
	Mr Mackay
	Mr Maley
	Mr O'Gallagher
	Mr Patel
	Dr Rahman
	Mr Yan
	Mrs Zio

Amendment not agreed to.

On the question that the motion be agreed to.

The Assembly Divided:

Ayes 16	**Noes 6**
Ms Boothby	Mr Brown

Mr Burgoyne	J Davis
Ms Cahill	Mx McNamara
Mrs Carlson	Mr Paech
Mr Edgington	Ms Uibo
Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Young
Mrs Hersey	
Mr Howe	
Mr Kerle	
Mr Mackay	
Mr Maley	
Mr O'Gallagher	
Mr Patel	
Dr Rahman	
Mr Yan	
Mrs Zio	

Motion agreed to.

17. PAPERS TABLED

The Speaker tabled the following papers:

1. Authorisation to Administer Oaths and Affirmations (Paper 122).
2. Auditor-General's November 2024 Report to the Legislative Assembly (Paper 123).
3. Matters Referred to the Auditor-General Pursuant to Section 6 of the *Public Information Act 2010* (Paper 124).
4. Independent Commissioner Against Corruption General Report, Section 48, *Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2017* (Paper 125).

18. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Maley, Mx McNamara, Mr O'Gallagher.

Paper Tabled: Mr O'Gallagher, by leave, tabled: Paper, Questions to the Lord Mayor, dated 25 June 2024 (Paper 126).

Ms Cahill, Mr Yan, Mrs Zio, Mr Paech, Mrs Hersey, Mr Young, Dr Rahman, Ms Uibo, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Kerle, Mr Edgington, Mr Patel, Mr Charls, Mr Howe.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 21.40 until Wednesday 27 November 2024 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPERS

Pursuant to Standing Order 239 the following papers were deemed tabled:

Annual Report 2022-2023

Annual Report 2022–2023, Board of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (Paper 118)

Annual Report 2023-202

Annual Report 2023–2024, Northern Territory Police, Terrorism (Emergency Powers) Act 2003 (Paper 119)
Annual Report 2023–2024, Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (Paper 120)

ATTENDANCE
All Members attended the meeting, except Mr Guyula.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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