Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 59
Wednesday 22 July 2026

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1. MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly met at 10.00 am. The Speaker, the Honourable Robyn Lambley, took the Chair, read the prayer and delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

2. EDUCATION STANDARDS AND REGISTRATION BOARD BILL 2026 (SERIAL 69)

Mrs Hersey (Minister for Education and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish the Northern Territory Education Standards and Registration Board and for related purposes, and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 757).

Mrs Hersey moved that the Bill be now read a first time and delivered an explanatory speech.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Hersey moved that the Bill be referred to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee for report by 20 August 2026.

Question put and passed.

3. YOUTH JUSTICE AND CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 66)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Youth Justice and Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 66).

Mr Maley (Minister for Corrections) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Paech, Mr Mackay, Mr Maley (in reply).

Exclusion from Chamber: The Speaker ordered Ms Uibo to leave the Chamber for one hour pursuant to Standing Order 49.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 20 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

Mr Maley moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 11.55 am and 2.00 pm.

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4. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed participants from OCPE's Foundations of Public Sector Governance program accompanied by their educator present in the gallery.

5. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2026 (Serial 70).

2. Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Liquor Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 71).

6. PETITION

Petition Number 24: Ms Uibo presented, by leave, Petition Number 24 from 137 petitioners, not conforming with Standing Orders, praying for immediate action to improve the housing quality for the residents of Mulggan Town Camp near Mataranka (Paper 761).

Petition read.

Ms Uibo moved that Petition Number 24 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

7. QUESTIONS

2.02 Ms Uibo to Mrs Hersey
2.05 Mr Patel to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.09 Mr Paech to Mrs Hersey
2.11 Dr Rahman to Mr Maley
2.15 Ms Uibo to Mrs Hersey
2.19 Mr Mackay to Mr Yan
2.23 Mr Smelt to Mrs Hersey
2.25 Mrs Zio to Ms Cahill
2.29 J Davis to Mrs Finocchiaro, redirected to Mr Burgoyne
2.33 Mr Howe to Ms Boothby
2.37 Mr Guyula to Mr Edgington
2.41 Mr Kerle to Mr Burgoyne
2.44 Mr Smelt to Mrs Hersey
2.48 Mrs Carlson to Mrs Hersey
2.52 Mr Paech to Ms Boothby, redirected to Ms Cahill
2.56 Mr O'Gallagher to Mr Charls

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

8. MOTION: 5.3% PRICE HIKE

Ms Uibo, pursuant to notice, moved:

That the Legislative Assembly:

Calls on the Finocchiaro CLP Government to reverse its 5.3% hike to power, water and sewerage charges and give Territorians cost of living relief.

Mr Yan moved that the motion be amended by:

Omitting all words after 'That the Legislative Assembly' and inserting:

1. Commends the Finocchiaro CLP Government for:
   - delivering practical cost-of-living relief through subsidised power and water, household concessions, family vouchers and support for seniors; and
   - reducing the everyday costs of education, training, sport and recreation.
2. Condemns the former Labor government for putting the Territory on a trajectory of $15 billion in debt, leaving future generations to pay the price.

Mr Smelt, Dr Rahman, Mr Brown, Mr Charls, Mr Paech.

Visitor: On behalf of all members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the Hon Konstantine Vatskalis, former Lord Mayor of Darwin and Member for Casuarina, present in the gallery.

Mr Kerle, J Davis, Mr O'Gallagher.

Paper tabled: Mr O'Gallagher, by leave, tabled: Data sourced from ABS data reported by NT DTF (Paper 762).

Mr Howe, Mr Mackay.

Mr Mackay moved that the question be put.

Question, that the question be put, put and passed.

Question, that the amendment be agreed to, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 17

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan
Mrs Zio			

Noes 5

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Paech	Mr Smelt
Mr Young			

Amendment agreed to.

Question, that the motion as amended be agreed to, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 17

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan
Mrs Zio			

Noes 5

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Paech	Mr Smelt
Mr Young			

Motion, as amended, passed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mrs Carlson, J Davis, Dr Rahman, Mr Paech, Ms Cahill, Ms Boothby, Mr Smelt, Mr Burgoyne, Mrs Zio, Mr Patel, Mrs Hersey, Mr Kerle.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 8.38 pm until Thursday 23 July 2026 at 10.00 am.

DEEMED PAPERS

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

Financial Management Act 1995

Authorisation of Issue of Increased Funds Available from the Commonwealth, *Financial Management Act 1995*, dated 25 June 2026 (Paper 759)

Subordinate Legislation

Subordinate Legislation No. 15 of 2026, Animal Protection Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 758)

Subordinate Legislation, Education and Care Services National Further Amendment Regulations 2026, under the Education and Care Services National Law (Paper 760)

ATTENDANCE

All members attended the meeting.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly