**Northern Territory of Australia**
**Legislative Assembly**

**Minutes of Proceedings**

**Meeting Number 54**
**Tuesday 12 May 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. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker reported to the Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 181, the changes to committee membership from 8 May 2026.

- House Committee: the Member for Arafura replaced the Member for Daly.
- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee: the Member for Gwoja replaced the Member for Daly.
- Legislative Scrutiny Committee: the Member for Daly replaced the Member for Gwoja.
- Public Accounts Committee: the Member for Nightcliff replaced the Member for Arafura.
- Estimates Committee: Pursuant to paragraph 2 of the resolution of the Legislative Assembly dated 6 May 2026, the members for Drysdale, Fannie Bay, Karama, Johnston and Nightcliff were appointed to the Estimates Committee.

## 3. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Ramingining as part of their week at the Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre present in the gallery.

## 4. APPROPRIATION (2026-2027) BILL 2026 (SERIAL 63) AND TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 64)

Order of the day read for the resumption of the cognate debate on the question that the Bills be now read a second time.

Mr Paech, Mr Mackay, Mrs Zio, Mr Brown, Mr Smelt, Dr Rahman.

Debate interrupted.

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**Suspension of Meeting**: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00 pm.

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## 5. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Maley (Minister for Corrections) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Youth Justice and Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 66).

2. Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Attorney-General Legislation Amendment (Boards, Committees and Statutory Offices) Bill 2026 (Serial 65).

3. Ms Cahill (Minister for Trade, Business & Asian Relations) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Consumer Affairs and Essential Goods and Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 68).

4. Ms Cahill (Minister for Child Protection) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Care and Protection of Children Legislation Amendment (Every Child Matters) Bill 2026 (Serial 67).

## 6. QUESTIONS

2.01 Ms Uibo to Mr Edgington
2.06 Mr Howe to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.10 Ms Uibo to Mr Edgington
2.14 Mr O'Gallagher to Mr Maley
2.18 Ms Uibo to Mr Maley, redirected to Mr Edgington
2.23 Mr Mackay to Ms Boothby
2.26 Mr Paech to Ms Cahill
2.29 Mr Patel to Mr Yan
2.33 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.35 Mr Kerle to Mr Burgoyne
2.39 Mr Guyula to Ms Boothby
2.41 Dr Rahman to Ms Cahill
2.45 J Davis to Ms Boothby
2.49 J Davis to Ms Boothby – Supplementary
2.50 Mrs Zio to Mr Charls
2.53 Mr Paech to Ms Cahill
2.55 Mrs Carlson to Mr Edgington
2.58 Mr Young to Mrs Hersey
3.03 Mr Patel to Mrs Hersey

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

## 7. APPROPRIATION (2026-2027) BILL 2026 (SERIAL 63) AND TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 64)

Order of the day read for the resumption of the cognate debate on the question that the Bills be now read a second time.

Dr Rahman (continuation of remarks), Mr Howe, Mrs Lambley, Mr Yan (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

Pursuant to the resolution of the Assembly on 6 May 2026, the Bills were referred to the Estimates Committee.

**8. RACING AND WAGERING AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 59)**

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Racing and Wagering Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 59).

Ms Boothby (Minister for Racing) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Yan, Mr Smelt, Mrs Zio, J Davis, Ms Boothby (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 3 stand as printed.

Clause 4.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 4(2)**

*insert*

***conflict of interest***, in relation to a member of the Commission, see section 28.

***register of declared conflicts***, see section 28B

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 4 stands as printed.

Clauses 5 to 8 stand as printed.

Clause 9.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 9(2), line 28**

*omit*

The Commission

*insert*

Subject to subsection (2A), the Commission

Amendment not agreed to.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**After clause 9(2)**

*insert*

(3) After section 17(2)

*insert*

(2A) The Commission may not delegate a power or function in relation to the determination of applications or issuing of licences under Part 4.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 9 stands as printed.

Clause 10.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**After clause 10(1)**

*insert*

(1A) After section 19(1)

*insert*

(1A) No more than 2 of the persons appointed to the Commission may have the knowledge or experience specified in subsection (1)(a)(i).

(1B) For subsection (1)(a)(ii), the Minister must ensure that at least 3 of the members of the Commission have demonstrable knowledge, experience or expertise in at least one of the following areas:

(a) public health;

(b) gambling harm;

(c) consumer protection;

(d) social services;

(e) financial compliance.

(1C) At least one person appointed to the Commission must have the knowledge, expertise or experience mentioned in subsection (1B)(b).

Amendment not agreed to.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 10(3)**

*omit, insert*

(3) Section 19(3)(a)

*omit*

2 years

*insert*

5 years

(3A) Section 19(3)(a)(i), after "club"

*insert*

, a licensee or any other business that is involved in wagering.

Amendment not agreed to.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**After clause 10(4)**

*insert*

(5) After section 19(4)

*insert*

(4A) The Minister must not appoint a person to the Commission if that person holds an appointment under another Act and it is reasonably likely that there would be a conflict of interest between the person's duties under that Act and their duties as a member of the Commission.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 10 stands as printed.

Clause 11

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 11, proposed section 19A(a), line 23**

*omit*

licensee; and

*insert*

licensee or any other licensed wagering provider in Australia; and

Amendment not agreed to.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 11, proposed section 19A(b), after "licensee", line 25**

*insert*

or any other licensed wagering provider in Australia

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 11 stands as printed.

Clauses 12 to 14 stand as printed.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**After clause 14**

*insert*

**14A Section 28 replaced**

Section 28

*repeal, insert*

**28 Conflict of interest**

(1) A member of the Commission has a ***conflict of interest*** in a question arising for decision by the Commission if the member, or an associate of the member, has any of the following interests in how the question is decided:

(a) a direct interest;

(b) an indirect financial interest;

(c) an indirect interest by close association;

(d) an indirect interest due to conflicting duties.

(2) Despite subsection (1), each of the following is not a conflict of interest:

(a) an interest that the member or an associate shares in common with the general public or a substantial section of the public;

(b) an interest so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence a decision.

(3) In this section:

***direct interest*** means an interest that occurs when a member is likely to be directly affected if the matter is decided in a particular way.

*Example for definition* ***direct interest***

*A company controlled by the member is tendering for a contract that is being discussed by the Commission.*

***indirect financial interest*** means an interest that occurs when a member is likely to receive a benefit or incur a loss because another person has an interest.

*Example for definition* ***indirect financial interest***

*The member has shares in, or is employed by a company that is tendering for a contract that is being discussed by the Commission.*

***indirect interest by close association*** means an interest that occurs when an associate of a member has a direct or indirect interest, or a resident of the member's household has a direct interest.

*Example for definition* ***indirect interest by close association***

*1 The member's sibling is suing the Commission and the Commission is considering whether to settle the matter.*

*2 A resident of the member's household is tendering for a contract that is being discussed by the Commission.*

***indirect interest due to conflicting duties*** means an interest that occurs when a member is a director, partner, agent, trustee, manager, office holder or employee of a person or entity, including a non-profit body or associate, that has a direct interest.

*Example for definition* ***indirect interest due to conflicting duties***

*1 The member is a director of a non-profit body or association that is seeking a sponsorship or donation being discussed by the Commission.*

*2 The member is an employee of a non-profit body or association that is tendering for a contract that is being discussed by the Commission.*

**28A Disclosure of interest**

(1) As soon as practicable after a member becomes aware of a conflict of interest in a matter that has arisen or is about to arise before the Commission, the member must disclose the interest that gives rise to the conflict (the ***relevant interest***):

(a) at a meeting of the Commission; and

(b) in writing to the Minister.

(2) A member must not:

(a) be present at a meeting of the Commission while a matter in which the member has a conflict of interest is under consideration; or

(b) participate in any decision in relation to the matter; or

(c) engage in behaviour that may influence the Commission's consideration of or decision in relation to the matter.

(3) The Minister may approve the following on any conditions the Minister considers appropriate:

(a) a member's participation in the consideration of the matter in which the member has a conflict of interest;

(b) a member's participation in the decision that relates to the matter in which the member has a conflict of interest.

(4) A member of the Commission commits an offence if the member:

(a) intentionally engages in conduct; and

(b) the conduct results in a failure to disclose an interest and the member is reckless in relation to the result.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

(5) A member of the Commission commits an offence if the member:

(a) intentionally engages in conduct; and

(b) the conduct results in a contravention of subsection (2) or a condition of an approval in subsection (3) and the member is reckless in relation to the result.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

**28B Register of declared conflicts**

(1) The Minister must keep a register (the ***register of declared conflicts***) setting out conflicts of interest disclosed by members under sections 19C and 28A.

(2) The register of declared conflicts must set out the following:

(a) the name of the member making the disclosure of the conflict of interest;

(b) the nature of the interest that gives rise to the conflict of interest;

(c) the nature of the question (if applicable) on which the conflict of interest arises;

(d) any other matter prescribed by regulation.

(3) The register must be published on the Commission's website.

**28C Member not to receive gifts or benefits**

(1) A member of the Commission must not accept a gift or benefit from a licensee or person who has applied for a licence in the course of performing, or in connection with, the member's functions as a member.

(2) A member of the Commission commits an offence if the member:

(a) intentionally engages in conduct; and

(b) the conduct results in a contravention of subsection (1) and the member is reckless in relation to the result.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months.

(3) In this section:

***benefit*** means a benefit of any kind, including a non-pecuniary benefit.

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

**Ayes 7**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr Brown | J Davis | Mr Guyula | Mr Paech |
| Mr Smelt | Ms Uibo | Mr Young | |

**Noes 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 | | | |

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 15 stands as printed.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**After clause 15**

*insert*

**15A Section 31 amended (Delegation)**

(1) Section 31(1)

*omit*

The Director

*insert*

Subject to subsection (1A), the Director

(2) After section 31(1)

*insert*

(1A) The Director may not delegate a power or function in relation to the determination of applications or issuing of racecourse licences under Part 3.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 16.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 16, proposed section 40(1), line 6**

*omit*

1 year

*insert*

5 years

Amendment not agreed to.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 16, proposed section 40(2), line 12**

*omit*

6 months

*insert*

5 years

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 16 stands as printed.

Clauses 17 to 25 stand as printed.

Clause 26.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 26(3), proposed section 221(3)(a), line 11**

*omit*

60 days

*insert*

6 years

Amendment not agreed to.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 26(3), proposed section 221(3)(b), line 14**

*omit*

, up to 2 years after the matter occurred,

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 26 stands as printed.

Clauses 27 to 33 stand as printed.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**After clause 33**

*insert*

**33A Section 240 amended (Grounds of review)**

(1) Section 240(e)

*omit*

justice.

*insert*

justice;

(2) After section 240(e)

*insert*

(f) a member of the Commission contravened section 28A in relation to the decision, action or direction of the Commission.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 34 stands as printed.

Clause 35.

J Davis moved the following amendment:

**Clause 35, after proposed section 317**

*insert*

**317A Application of amendments to section 19**

The amendments to section 19 made by section 10 of the amending Act do not apply in respect of a member of the Commission who held office immediately before the commencement of section 10 of the amending Act in relation to that term of office.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 35 stands as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

Ms Boothby moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

**9. LIQUOR LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FAST TRACK APPROVALS) BILL 2026 (SERIAL 62)**

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Liquor Legislation Amendment (Fast Track Approvals) Bill 2026 (Serial 62).

Ms Boothby (Minister for Tourism and Hospitality) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

J Davis, Mr Smelt, Mr Kerle, Ms Boothby (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 12 stand as printed.

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**Visitor**: On behalf of all members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed Councillor Edward Joseph present in the gallery.

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Clause 13.

On the question, that clause 13 stands as printed, the Assembly divided:

**Ayes 17**

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|---|---|---|---|
| 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 7**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr Brown | J Davis | Mr Guyula | Mr Paech |
| Mr Smelt | Ms Uibo | Mr Young | |

Question agreed to.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

Ms Boothby moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

## 10. PAPERS TABLED

Mr Maley (Deputy Chief Minister) tabled: Subordinate Legislation No. 10 of 2026, Fisheries Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 701) and, by leave, made a short statement.

## 11. MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: LACK OF ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY FOR CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

The Speaker advised the Assembly that Mr Smelt had proposed a Matter of Public Importance in the following terms:

> Lack of roads and infrastructure delivery for Central Australia.

Having received the necessary support, discussion ensued.

Mr Smelt, Mr Yan, Mr Paech, Mr Edgington, Mr Burgoyne, Mr O'Gallagher, Mr Brown.

Discussion concluded.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mr Mackay, J Davis, Mr O'Gallagher, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Paech, Mrs Hersey, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Smelt, Mr Charls, Ms Uibo, Mr Edgington, Mr Kerle.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 10.31 pm until Wednesday 13 May 2026 at 10.00 am.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All members attended the meeting.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly