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

**Minutes of Proceedings**

**Meeting Number 68**
**Wednesday 21 October 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. MOTION: LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Pursuant to Standing Order 224, Mr Paech moved that a leave of absence for today be granted to Mr Young to attend a funeral.

Question put and passed.

**3. VISITORS**

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Dripstone Secondary College present in the gallery.

**4. ENVIRONMENT AND WATER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 81)**

Mr Burgoyne (Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Environment Protection Act 2019*, the *Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Act 2011*, the *Heritage Act 2011*, the *Marine Pollution Act 1999*, the *Petroleum Act 1984*, the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*, the *Water Act 1992* and various subordinate legislation, and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 859).

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

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

**5. ASSOCIATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 72)**

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Associations Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 72).

Ms Cahill (Minister for Trade, Business and Asian Relations) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Ms Uibo, Ms Boothby, Mrs Carlson, Mr Charls, Mr O'Gallagher, Mr Howe, Mr Patel, Ms Cahill (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 45 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

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

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

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**Suspension of Meeting**: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12.05 pm and 2.00 pm.

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## 6. NOTICE

The following notice was given:

1. Mr Edgington (Minister for Health) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Private Hospitals Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 82).

## 7. QUESTIONS

2.00 Ms Uibo to Mr Maley
2.01 Mr O'Gallagher to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.05 Mr Smelt to Mr Burgoyne
2.09 Dr Rahman to Mr Maley
2.13 Mr Paech to Ms Cahill
2.14 Mr Mackay to Mr Yan
2.17 Mr Paech to Ms Cahill
2.22 Mr Patel to Ms Boothby
2.26 Ms Uibo to Mr Yan
2.30 Mr Kerle to Mr Burgoyne
2.34 J Davis to Ms Cahill
2.38 Mrs Zio to Mrs Hersey
2.42 Mr Smelt to Mr Edgington
2.46 Mr Howe to Ms Cahill
2.50 Mr McGrath to Mr Edgington
2.54 Mr McGrath to Mr Edgington – Supplementary
2.54 Mrs Carlson to Mr Edgington

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

Ms Cahill (Minister for Children and Families) gave a supplementary answer to a question asked on a previous day during Question Time from J Davis.

## 8. MOTION: REMOTE HOUSING PROGRAM

Ms Uibo, pursuant to notice, moved that:

This Assembly calls on the CLP Government to:

- Accelerate the 2,700-home remote housing program, improve repairs and maintenance, and invest in homelands and government employee housing in remote communities.

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Mr Edgington moved that the motion be amended by:

Omitting all words after 'That this Assembly' and inserting:

a. Recognises the CLP Governments delivery of houses under the remote housing program of up to 2,700 homes; with more homes under construction;
b. Calls on the Federal Labor Government to work with the NT Government to deliver the remote housing program, recognising that land servicing costs, and the provision of electricity and water are fundamentally required for housing supply;
c. Acknowledges the CLP Government's commitment to investing in the Homeland program beyond June 2027; and
d. Urges the Federal Government to confirm its funding for the Homelands program beyond 30 June 2027, to provide certainty to residents and service providers.

**Papers tabled**: Mr Edgington tabled the following:

1. Photo, the Hon Linda Burney MP, Minister for Indigenous Australians, speaking on the 10-year Partnership Agreement for Remote Housing in the Northern Territory, 20 June 2024 (Paper 860).
2. Photo, Signing of the 10-year Partnership Agreement for Remote Housing in the Northern Territory, 20 June 2024 (Paper 861).

Mr Brown, Mr Yan.

Mr Yan 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 15**

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

**Noes 6**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr Brown | J Davis | Mr McGrath | Mr Paech |
| Mr Smelt | Ms Uibo | | |

Motion passed.

J Davis.

Mr Edgington moved that the question be put.

Question, that the question be put, put and the Assembly divided:

**Ayes 15**

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

**Noes 6**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr Brown | J Davis | Mr McGrath | Mr Paech |
| Mr Smelt | Ms Uibo | | |

Motion passed.

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

**Ayes 15**

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

**Noes 5**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mr Brown | Mr McGrath | Mr Paech | Mr Smelt |
| Ms Uibo | | | |

Motion, as amended, passed.

## 9. MOTION: ADDITIONAL CHILD PROTECTION FUNDING

Mr Paech, pursuant to notice, moved that:

This Assembly calls on the CLP Government to:

- Provide additional child protection funding in the mid-year budget, consult frontline experts and adequately resource implementation of the Webb-Shanahan review recommendations without overburdening caseworkers.

Ms Cahill moved that the motion be amended by:

Omitting all words after 'That this Assembly' and inserting:

a. notes the Independent Review into the Conduct of the Department of Children and Families was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday 20 October 2026;
b. acknowledges the Government has accepted all 45 recommendations of the Independent Review;
c. notes implementation is already under way, including an immediate audit of every current Safety Plan across the Territory;
d. recognises the Review's findings on the need to better align departmental resources and functions with frontline child protection services, reduce duplication and administrative burden, and supports the recommended targeted review of the Department's organisational structure to achieve these objectives; and
e. notes that the Minister for Children and Families will report to the Assembly on progress in implementing the Review's recommendations.

J Davis, Mrs Zio, Ms Uibo.

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 passed.

Question, that the motion as amended be agreed to, put and passed.

## 10. PAPER TABLED

The Deputy Speaker tabled the following paper: Quarterly Members' Fuel Transaction Report, Quarter 3, from July to September 2026

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ms Cahill, Ms Uibo, Mrs Finocchiaro.

**Paper tabled**: Mrs Finocchiaro tabled: Photos, Dr Albert Foreman OAM (Paper 863).

J Davis, Mr Edgington, Mr Patel, Mrs Carlson,

As a mark of respect for the death of Dr Albert Foreman OAM, members stood in silence for one minute.

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**Suspension of Meeting**: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 7.48 pm and 7.53 pm.

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Mr Charls.

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**Speaker's Statement**: The Speaker advised of a security briefing available to members tomorrow morning.

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Mr Paech, Dr Rahman, Mr McGrath, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Smelt.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 8.35 pm until Thursday 22 October 2026 at 10.00 am.

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

**Subordinate Legislation**
Subordinate Legislation No. 24 of 2026, Youth Justice Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 856)
Subordinate Legislation No. 25 of 2026, Motor Accidents (Compensation) Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 857)
Subordinate Legislation No. 26 of 2026, Essential Goods and Services Regulations 2026 (Paper 858)

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**ATTENDANCE**
All members attended the meeting, except Mr Young on leave.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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