NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 47
Thursday 12 May 2022

1. CLERK'S STATEMENT
The Clerk made a statement that pursuant to Standing Order 216 the Speaker was physically absent from the Meeting of the Assembly and that the Deputy Speaker would take the Chair.

2. MEETING
The Assembly met at 10.00. The Deputy Speaker, Mr Joel Bowden, presided.

3. PRAYERS

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
Mr Kirby delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

5. VISITORS
The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 11 students from Palmerston College accompanied by their teachers.

On behalf of all Members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitors.

6. MOTION: SELECT COMMITTEE ON CRIME IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY NOT AGREED TO
Mrs Finocchiaro, pursuant to notice, moved:

That this Assembly appoints a select parliamentary committee to inquire into the crime crisis in the Territory and the escalating crisis within the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services with the goal of developing specific strategies to decrease offending, recidivism and provide support to our brave Police officers.

Specifically, the select committee will look at:

1. Crime and the reasons for crime and youth crime in the Territory;
2. Recidivism and proven, evidence-based techniques to decrease offending;
3. Strategies to lower the rates of alcohol-related crime, including targeted strategies to help habitual abusers get the help they need;
4. An audit of current Northern Territory policies and spending to identify waste and programs that are not achieving results;
5. Police health and wellbeing, including evaluation of whether current programs to look after Police are fit-for-purpose and identify areas of need;
6. Identify staffing needs of Police in urban and remote areas and create a plan to fortify staffing numbers to decrease the number of unanswered calls;

7. Determine the reason for the high rates of police attrition and develop strategies to combat this persistent and growing problem;
8. Identify a plan to restore confidence of the community and officers in Police command and identify a path to a stronger police force;
9. Evaluate ways to increase efficiency, including re-opening the Darwin watch house and making more general duties officers available for patrols;
10. Any other matter relating to crime or police that the committee sees fit.

Mrs Manison.

Mrs Manison moved that the question be put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 15	**Noes 10**
Ms Ah Kit	Ms Boothby
Mr Bowden	Mr Burgoyne
Mr Costa	Mr Edgington
Ms Fyles	Mrs Finocchiaro
Mr Gunner	Mr Guyula
Mr Kirby	Mrs Hersey
Ms Lawler	Mrs Lambley
Mrs Manison	Mr Maley
Mr Monaghan	Ms Purick
Ms Moss	Mr Yan
Mr Paech	
Mr Turner	
Ms Uibo	
Mrs Worden	
Mr Young	

Motion agreed to.

On the question that the motion be agreed to.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 10	**Noes 15**
Ms Boothby	Ms Ah Kit
Mr Burgoyne	Mr Bowden
Mr Edgington	Mr Costa
Mrs Finocchiaro	Ms Fyles
Mr Guyula	Mr Gunner
Mrs Hersey	Mr Kirby
Mrs Lambley	Ms Lawler
Mr Maley	Mrs Manison
Ms Purick	Mr Monaghan
Mr Yan	Ms Moss
	Mr Paech
	Mr Turner
	Ms Uibo
	Mrs Worden
	Mr Young

Motion not agreed to.

7. BUILDING AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (SERIAL 53)

Ms Lawler (Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Building Act 1993*.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Lawler moved that the Bill be read a second time, delivered a second reading speech and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 548).

Mr Edgington moved that the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

8. SURROGACY BILL 2022 (SERIAL 50)

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

Mr Yan, Mr Paech, Ms Uibo.

Debate suspended.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 11.56 and 14.00.

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9. VISITORS

The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of students from Charles Darwin University International College.

On behalf of all Members, the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitors.

10. QUESTIONS

14.00 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mrs Manison
14.06 Mr Monaghan to Mrs Manison
14.09 Mr Maley to Mrs Manison
14.13 Mrs Hersey to Mrs Manison
14.19 Mr Young to Ms Fyles
14.22 Mr Monaghan to Ms Lawler

Paper Tabled: Ms Lawler (Minister for Renewables and Energy) tabled: Darwin-Katherine Electricity System Plan (Paper 549).

14.26 Ms Boothby to Mrs Manison
14.31 Mr Monaghan to Ms Moss
14.35 Mr Edgington to Mrs Manison
14.39 Mr Costa to Ms Uibo
14.42 Mrs Lambley to Ms Fyles

Motion: Censure Not Accepted by Government

Mr Yan moved:

To censure the Acting Chief Minister and Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services for failing to recognise the crime crisis that the Territory is undergoing and acknowledge the suffering of our hard-working police.

Pursuant to Standing Order 67, the Government did not accept the motion.

14.47 Mr Young to Mr Kirby
14.52 Mr Burgoyne to Mrs Manison
14.53 Mr Costa to Mr Paech

14.57 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mrs Mansion
14.59 Mr Monaghan to Mrs Worden

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

11. SURROGACY BILL 2022 (SERIAL 50): BILL AGREED TO

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

Ms Boothby, Ms Moss, Mrs Worden, Ms Fyles.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly resolved to consider the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 10 considered.

Clauses 1 to 10 stand as printed.

Clause 11 considered.

Clause 11 stands as printed.

Clause 12 considered.

Clause 12 stands as printed.

Clauses 13 to 15 considered.

Clauses 13 to 15 stand as printed.

Clause 16 considered.

Clause 16 stands as printed.

Clause 17 considered.

Clause 17 stands as printed.

Clause 18 considered.

Clause 18 stands as printed.

Clause 19 considered.

Clause 19 stands as printed.

Clauses 20 to 23 considered.

Clauses 20 to 23 stand as printed.

Clause 24 considered.

Clause 24 stands as printed.

Clause 25 considered.

Clause 25 stands as printed.

Clause 26 considered.

Clause 26 stands as printed.

Clause 27 considered.

Ms Fyles moved the following amendment:

Clause 27

omit

the applicant

insert

at least one intended parent

Question put and passed.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 27 as amended stands.

Clauses 28 to 31 considered.

Clauses 28 to 31 stand as printed.

Clause 32 considered.

Ms Fyles moved the following amendment:

Clause 32(3)(a)

omit

the applicant

insert

an applicant

Question put and passed.

Amendment agreed to.

Ms Fyles moved the following amendment:

Clause 32(4)(a)

omit

the applicant

insert

an applicant

Question put and passed.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 32 as amended stands.

Clauses 33 to 38 considered.

Clauses 33 to 38 stand as printed.

Clause 39 considered.

Clause 39 stands as printed.

Clause 40 considered.

Clause 40 stands as printed.

Remainder of the Bill taken together.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill as amended agreed to.

On the motion of Ms Fyles (Minister for Health), the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

12. BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (SERIAL 40): BILL AGREED TO

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

Mr Edgington, Ms Uibo.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly resolved to consider the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 7 considered.

Clauses 1 to 7 stand as printed.

Clause 8 considered.

Clause 8 stands as printed.

Clause 9 considered.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

Before "particulars required"

insert

the

Question put and passed.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 9 as amended stands.

Clause 10 considered.

Clause 10 stands as printed.

Clause 11 considered.

Clause 11 stands as printed.

Clause 12 considered.

Clause 12 stands as printed.

Clause 13 considered.

Clause 13 stands as printed.

Clause 14 considered.

Clause 14 stands as printed.

Clauses 15 to 21 considered.

Clauses 15 to 21 stand as printed.

Clause 22 considered.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

After clause 22

insert

22A Section 54 amended (Regulations)

Section 54(2)

omit

regulatory offences

insert

offences of strict or absolute liability

Question put and passed.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 22 as amended stands.

New clause 22A inserted.

Remainder of the Bill taken together.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill as amended agreed to.

On the motion of Ms Uibo (Attorney-General and Minster for Justice), the Bill was read a third time and passed to be a proposed law.

13. APPROPRIATION (2022-2023) BILL 2022 (SERIAL 51) AND REVENUE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT AND REPEAL BILL 2022 (SERIAL 52)

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

Ms Boothby, Mr Costa, Mr Yan, Mr Guyula.

Visitors: The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of the Howard Springs Scout Group with their leaders.

On behalf of all Members the Deputy Speaker welcomed the visitors.

Ms Fyles, Mr Edgington, Mrs Manison.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

Pursuant to the resolution of the Assembly on 10 May 2022, the Bills will be considered in detail at a later time.

14. PAPER TABLED

The Deputy Speaker tabled: Quarterly Fuel Transaction Reports, Quarter 1, January to March 2022 (Paper 550).

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Paech (Minister for Local Government) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Worden, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Paech, Mr Turner.

The Assembly adjourned at 20.26 until Tuesday 17 May 2022 at 10.00.

ATTENDANCE
All Members attended the meeting.



MARIANNE CONATY
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly