Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 70
Tuesday 24 November 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. MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker advised members of the following message from His Honour the Honourable David Connolly, Administrator of the Northern Territory (Paper 952).

Message Number 20

Assent to Proposed Laws

I, DAVID CONNOLLY, 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:

5 November 2026
Traffic Legislation Amendment (Drink and Drug Driving and Hooning) Act 2026 (Act No. 24 of 2026)
Education Standards and Registration Board Act 2026 (Act No. 25 of 2026)
Liquor Amendment Act 2026 (Act No. 26 of 2026)
Motor Vehicles Legislation Amendment (Digital Licences) Act 2026 (Act No. 27 of 2026)

6 November 2026
Lands and Planning Legislation Amendment (Red Tape Reduction) Act 2026 (Act No. 28 of 2026)
National Electricity (Northern Territory) (National Uniform Legislation) Legislation Amendment Act 2026 (Act No. 29 of 2026)
Associations Legislation Amendment Act 2026 (Act No. 30 of 2026)
Marine Facilities (Access and Pricing) Act 2026 (Act No. 31 of 2026)
Environment Legislation Amendment (Safe Air) Act 2026 (Act No. 32 of 2026)

Dated 10 November 2026.

3. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker advised of the annual members' satisfaction survey.

4. VISITORS

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

5. PRIVATE HOSPITALS AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 82)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Private Hospitals Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 82).

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

Mr Paech.

Paper tabled: Mr Paech, by leave, tabled: Correspondence addressed to the Shadow Minister for Health regarding maternity services at Darwin Private Hospital, dated 8 October 2026, from Mr Damien Bruce, Calvary National Office (Paper 953).

Ms Cahill, Mrs Hersey, J Davis.

Visitors: On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from MacKillop Catholic College present in the gallery.

Ms Uibo.

Debate interrupted.

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

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6. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker advised the Assembly of the death of Mr Enzo Floreani, former Member for Flynn. The Speaker extended condolences to his family and friends on behalf of the Assembly.

As a mark of respect, members stood in silence.

7. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed young people and their support staff from the Helping People Achieve PEG Program present in the gallery.

8. 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 Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 84).
2. Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Sentencing and Sexual Offences (Evidence and Procedure) Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 85).
3. Ms Cahill (Minister for Trade, Business and Asian Relations) will present on the next meeting day a Bill titled Private Security Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 83).

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4. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day:

   That that Assembly calls on the CLP Government to:
   - Govern in the interests of all Territorians and to genuinely consult with communities on decisions that affect them.

5. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day:

   That the Assembly calls on the CLP Government to:
   - Increase the value of Back to School vouchers, sports vouchers, Learn to Swim vouchers and Seniors Recognition Scheme payments in the next Territory Budget to help Territorians meet the rising cost of living.

9. PETITION

Petition Number 33: J Davis presented Petition Number 33 from 1,143 petitioners praying for the immediate withdrawal of the Environment and Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2026 (Paper 955).

Petition read.

J Davis moved that Petition Number 33 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

10. QUESTIONS

2.07 Mr Howe to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.11 Mr Smelt to Mr Charls
2.13 Dr Rahman to Mr Maley
2.17 Mr Brown to Mr Charls, redirected to Mr Edgington
2.20 Mr Mackay to Mrs Hersey
2.24 Mr Paech to Mr Charls
2.28 Mr Paech to Mr Charls – Supplementary
2.30 Mr Kerle to Mr Yan
2.34 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.35 Mr Patel to Ms Boothby
2.39 J Davis to Mr Burgoyne
2.42 Mrs Zio to Mr Charls
2.46 Mr McGrath to Mr Charls
2.48 Mrs Carlson to Ms Cahill
2.53 Mr Paech to Mr Charls
2.57 Mr O'Gallagher to Mr Edgington

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

11. PRIVATE HOSPITALS AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 82)

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

Mr Mackay, Mr Patel, Mr Young, Mr Smelt, Mr Kerle, Mr McGrath, Mr Howe, Mr Brown, Mr Edgington (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 16 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

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Bill agreed to.

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

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

12. WEAPONS CONTROL LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (LEGALISING CONTROLLED OC SPRAY) BILL 2026 (SERIAL 80)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Weapons Control Legislation Amendment (Legalising Controlled OC Spray) Bill 2026 (Serial 80).

Mrs Finocchiaro (Minister for Police) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper tabled: Mrs Finocchiaro tabled: Report, Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) Spray Trial, Community Reference Group (Paper 956).

Ms Uibo, Mrs Carlson, Mr Young, Mr Howe, Mr Paech, Mr Mackay, J Davis, Mr Kerle, Mrs Finocchiaro (in reply).

Question put and passed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 125, J Davis requested that her dissent be recorded.

Bill read a second time.

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 6 stand as printed.

Clause 7.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

Clause 7, proposed section 18N, definition eligibility declaration, page 4, line 15

omit

18NO(2)(c)(i), 18PD(2)(b) or (3)(a)(ii) or 18PH(3)(c)(i).

insert

18NO(2)(c), 18PD(2)(b) or 18PH(3)(c).

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

Ayes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr McGrath	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 7 stands as stands as printed.

Clauses 8 to 18 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Bill agreed to.

Ms Uibo moved that the Bill be recommitted.

Question, that the Bill be recommitted, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr McGrath	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			

Motion negatived.

Mrs Finocchiaro moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

13. PAPERS TABLED

The Speaker advised that the Government Response to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee Report, Inquiry into the Education Standards and Registration Board Bill 2026, dated 5 November 2026, from the Hon Jo Hersey MLA (Paper 951) was deemed tabled on 11 November 2026.

The Speaker tabled the following papers:

1. General Report, Office of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption, Section 48 of the *Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2017* (Paper 957).
2. Annual Report 2025-26, Northern Territory Electoral Commission, *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993* (Paper 958).
3. Schedule of Government Responses to Committee Reports, November 2026 (Paper 959).

14. PAPERS TABLED: REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Mrs Carlson (Chair of the Legislative Scrutiny Committee) tabled Annual Report 2025-26, Legislative Scrutiny Committee (Paper 960) and Associated Minutes of Proceedings (Paper 961) and made a statement.

Mrs Carlson moved that the report be noted.

Question put and passed.

15. RESPONSE TO PETITION

The Clerk, pursuant to Standing Order 123, tabled a response to Petition Number 32, requesting the repeal of amendments introduced by the Termination of Pregnancy Law Reform (Paper 962).

16. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Paech, Mr O'Gallagher, Mr Maley, Mr Charls, Mr Yan, Mr Brown, Dr Rahman, Ms Cahill, Mr Burgoyne, Ms Boothby, Mrs Hersey, Mrs Lambley, Mrs Carlson, Mr Howe, Ms Uibo, Mr Smelt, Mr Patel, Mr Kerle.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 10.22 pm until Wednesday 25 November 2026 at 10.00 am.

DEEMED PAPER
Pursuant to Standing Order 239 the following paper were deemed tabled:

Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993
Annual Report 2025-26, Auditor-General's Office, *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993* (Paper 954)

ATTENDANCE
All members attended the meeting.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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