NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 43
Wednesday 30 March 2022

1. **MEETING**
The Assembly met at 10.00. The Speaker, the Honourable Ngaree Ah Kit, presided.

2. **PRAYERS**

3. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
Mr Guyula delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

4. **VISITORS**
The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 4, 5 and 6 students from Moil Primary School, accompanied by their teachers.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

5. **MINISTERIAL REPORT: WORKING TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY NOTED**
Ms Moss (Minister for Women) delivered a report regarding Working Towards Gender Equality in the Northern Territory.

Ms Moss moved that the Assembly take note of the report.

Ms Boothby, Mrs Lambley, Ms Uibo, Mrs Worden, Ms Purick.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 4, 5 and 6 students from Moil Primary School, accompanied by their teachers.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

Mr Paech, Mr Edgington, Mrs Manison, Mr Turner, Mr Kirby.

Question put and passed.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12.02 and 14.00.

6. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Gunner (Minister for Major Projects and Territory Economic Reconstruction) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Solar Project (Australia-Asia Power Link) (Special Provisions) Bill 2022 (Serial 47)
2. Ms Lawler (Minister for Environment) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Weeds Management Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (Serial 46)
3. Ms Uibo (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Personal Injuries (Liabilities and Damages) Amendment Bill 2022 (Serial 48)
4. Ms Fyles (Minister for Health) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Surrogacy Bill 2022 (Serial 50)
5. Ms Fyles (Minister for Alcohol Policy) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Associations and Liquor Amendment Bill 2022 (Serial 49)
6. Ms Boothby will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly: Recognises the harmful effect that crime and anti-social behaviour are having on Territory business, particularly small business, and condemns the Gunner Labor Government for its failure to take action to protect Territorians and their livelihoods despite the Government's own crime statistics showing crime is increasing to unacceptable levels.
7. Mr Edgington will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly: Holds the Gunner Labor Government to account for its failure to deliver critical infrastructure projects in a timely manner across the Territory, particularly in rural and remote areas.
8. Mrs Hersey will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly: Recognise the failure of the Gunner Labor Government to focus gamba grass control programs to adequately address the proliferation of gamba on Crown land and the associated risk to the environment, property, livestock and Territorians.

7. QUESTIONS

14.03 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mr Gunner

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

14.18 Mr Monaghan to Mr Gunner

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Eli Melky, Deputy Mayor of Alice Springs and Tony Sievers, former Member for Brennan.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

14.21 Mr Maley to Mr Gunner
14.25 Mr Monaghan to Mrs Manison
14.29 Mr Burgoyne to Mr Gunner
14.30 Mr Bowden to Ms Lawler
14.35 Mrs Hersey to Mr Gunner

14.39 Mr Bowden to Mr Paech
14.42 Mrs Lambley to Mr Paech
14.49 Mr Edgington to Mr Gunner
14.53 Mr Costa to Ms Fyles
14.56 Mr Yan to Mr Gunner

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

8. SENTENCING AMENDMENT BILL 2022 (SERIAL 39)

Mr Edgington (on behalf of Mrs Finocchiaro, Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sentencing Act 1995* to provide for mandatory sentencing of offenders for assaults to police or workers.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Edgington moved that the Bill be read a second time and delivered a second reading speech.

Mrs Manison moved that the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

9. MOTION: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Mr Yan, pursuant to notice, moved:

> That this Assembly condemns the Gunner Government for its lack of transparency, accountability and failure to plan over the past two years to ensure that the Northern Territory was prepared for community transmission of COVID-19, across key areas of the community including PPE and testing kits, health education, police resourcing, food supply and small business.

Paper Tabled: Mr Edgington, by leave, tabled an Explanatory Statement to the Sentencing Amendment Bill 2022 (Paper 522).

Ms Fyles moved the following amendment:

> To remove all the words after 'that' and replace with:
>
> This Assembly recognises the Gunner Government's successful management of COVID-19 over the past two years, keeping Territorians safe until they were vaccinated through swift, informed decision making. Further, to recognise the significant and unique support packages rolled out across the Territory to keep local businesses going throughout the pandemic.

Mr Maley (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to Standing Order 45 moved that the Member for Nightcliff no longer be heard.

Question put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 9	**Noes 15**
Ms Boothby	Ms Ah Kit
Mr Burgoyne	Mr Bowden
Mr Edgington	Mr Costa
Mrs Finocchiaro	Ms Fyles
Mrs Hersey	Mr Gunner

Mrs Lambley	Mr Kirby
Mr Maley	Ms Lawler
Ms Purick	Mrs Manison
Mr Yan	Mr Monaghan
	Ms Moss
	Mr Paech
	Mr Turner
	Ms Uibo
	Mrs Worden
	Mr Young

Motion not agreed to.

Ms Fyles, Ms Boothby, Mr Monaghan, Mr Guyula, Mr Bowden, Mrs Hersey, Mrs Manison, Mr Edgington.

Debate suspended.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Hersey, Ms Moss.

Papers Tabled: Ms Moss tabled Northern Territory Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025 (Paper 523) and Extract of Daily Hansard, dated Wednesday 16 February 2022 (Paper 524).

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Bowden, Ms Boothby, Mr Turner, Ms Uibo, Mr Paech, Mr Monaghan, Ms Ah Kit.

The Assembly adjourned at 20.20 until 31 March 2022 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPERS

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

Annual Reports 2020–2021
Museum and Art Gallery Northern Territory (Paper 520)
Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board (Paper 521)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting.

MARIANNE CONATY
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly