NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 56
Wednesday 31 August 2022

1. MEETING
The Assembly met at 10.00. The Speaker, the Honourable Mark Monaghan presided.

2. PRAYERS
Mr Bowden read the prayer.

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

4. VISITORS
On behalf of all Members, the Speaker welcomed Year 5 students and teachers from Nightcliff Primary School present in the gallery.

5. MOTION: LEAVE OF ABSENCE
Mr Paech moved that a leave of absence for this week be granted to Ms Fyles for government business reasons.

Question put and passed.

6. MOTION: APPOINTMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE ON SUPPORTING TERRITORY POLICE
Mrs Finocchiaro, pursuant to notice, moved that this Assembly:

> Appoints a Select Parliamentary Committee to hold a full public inquiry into the crisis in our police force following the NT Police Association's Member Survey results showing that 80% of police have no confidence in the Commissioner, 93% believe resources are lacking, 79% rate morale as low or very low and 88% oppose the Government's pay freeze.
>
> The Committee must call the Police Commissioner and Police Executive as witnesses requiring them to explain why they should retain their positions with regard to the following:
>
> 1. The widening trust divide between command and frontline police;
> 2. Police recruiting and resourcing;
> 3. Low morale and wellbeing;
> 4. Wage rates and attrition;
> 5. The role of police in addressing the increasing crime crisis; and

6. Any other subjects reasonably determined by the Committee to be necessary for the improvement of police morale, job satisfaction, public safety and police welfare

The committee is to be composed of three (3) members of the Government, two (2) members of the Opposition and one (1) Independent member to be nominated in writing to the Government Whip.

The committee is to report to the Legislative Assembly within 30 days, with specific recommendations to address the crisis.

Mrs Worden.

Visitors: On behalf of all Members, the Speaker welcomed Year 5 students and teachers from Nightcliff Primary School present in the gallery.

Ms Purick, Mr Turner, Mr Edgington.

Mr Bowden moved that the question be put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 13	**Noes 7**
Ms Ah Kit	Ms Boothby
Mr Bowden	Mr Burgoyne
Mr Costa	Mr Edgington
Mr Kirby	Mrs Finocchiaro
Ms Lawler	Mrs Hersey
Mrs Manison	Mr Maley
Ms Moss	Mr Yan
Mr Paech	
Mr Potter	
Mr Turner	
Ms Uibo	
Mrs Worden	
Mr Young	

Pairs: Ms Fyles and Ms Purick

Motion agreed to.

On the question that the motion be agreed to.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 7	**Noes 13**
Ms Boothby	Ms Ah Kit
Mr Burgoyne	Mr Bowden
Mr Edgington	Mr Costa
Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Kirby
Mrs Hersey	Ms Lawler
Mr Maley	Mrs Manison
Mr Yan	Ms Moss
	Mr Paech
	Mr Potter
	Mr Turner
	Ms Uibo

Mrs Worden
Mr Young

Pairs: Ms Fyles and Ms Purick

Motion not agreed to.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 11.58 and 14.00.

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7. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Paech (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Criminal Code Amendment (Property Offences) Bill 2022 (Serial 60)
2. Mr Paech (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice) will present on the next Meeting Day a Bill titled Justice and Licensing Further Amendment Bill 2022 (Serial 61)

8. PETITION

Mr Yan, by leave, presented Petition Number 18, not conforming with Standing Orders, from 588 petitioners to provide suitable disability toilets and change facilities (Paper 606).

Petition read.

9. MOTION: PETITION REFERRED TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Mr Yan moved that Petition Number 18 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

10. QUESTIONS

14.02 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mrs Worden
14.06 Mr Potter to Mrs Manison
14.09 Mr Maley to Ms Ah Kit
14.12 Mr Young to Ms Uibo
14.15 Mr Yan to Mrs Manison
14.19 Mr Costa to Ms Lawler
14.22 Ms Boothby to Mrs Manison
14.27 Mr Bowden to Ms Ah Kit

Papers tabled: Ms Ah Kit tabled: Northern Territory Disability Strategy 2022–2032 (Paper 607) and Northern Territory Disability Strategy Action Plan 2022–2025 (Paper 608)

14.30 Mr Potter to Mrs Worden
14.34 Mrs Hersey to Ms Uibo
14.38 Mr Young to Mr Paech
14.41 Mr Edgington to Mrs Worden
14.45 Mr Bowden to Mr Kirby
14.49 Mr Burgoyne to Mrs Worden
14.53 Mr Costa to Ms Moss
14.56 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mrs Worden
15.01 Mr Potter to Ms Lawler

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

11. FUEL PRICE DISCLOSURE BILL 2022 (SERIAL 58)

Mrs Finocchiaro (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act for the disclosure of information about retail fuel prices.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Finocchiaro moved that the Bill be read a second time, delivered a second reading speech and tabled an Explanatory Statement (Paper 609).

Mr Paech moved that the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

12. MOTION: EDUCATION IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES

Mr Guyula, pursuant to motion, moved:

> That failings in remote education are acknowledged by the Legislative Assembly as a current crisis that requires significant redesign through genuine consultation with local communities, and that the Legislative Assembly urges the Government to ensure that:
>
> - All remote communities are properly consulted through a process that contracts community development workers to facilitate lengthy discussions over many days with local teachers, elders, leaders and community members in local languages.
> - This process gives authority to communities so they can self-determine and propose education strategies, policies and programs that will benefit their children.
> - This process acknowledges diversity across our communities and that different strategies are needed in different communities.

By leave, Mr Guyula gave a contribution in Yolngu Matha.

Mrs Hersey.

Ms Lawler moved the following amendment:

> To remove all the words after 'that' and replace with:
>
> The complexities of Northern Territory education is acknowledged by the Legislative Assembly.
>
> During the development of the 10 year Education Engagement Strategy 2022–2031 there was extensive consultation undertaken with local communities.
>
> - All remote communities will continue to be consulted and engaged on how the Strategy is localised and implemented in their community and their region, including ongoing conversations with local teachers, elders, leaders and community members in local languages.
> - The Community-Led Schools program gives authority to communities so they can self-determine and propose education strategies, policies and programs that will benefit their children.

- This process acknowledges diversity across our communities and that different strategies are needed in different communities.

Mr Edgington, Mrs Manison, Mr Yan, Ms Uibo, Mr Potter, Ms Moss, Mr Young, Mr Paech.

Debate suspended.

13. VISITORS

On behalf of all Members, the Speaker welcomed the family of Tomy Jacob: his wife, Elsy, and his children Basil, Besna and Besta; and the Darwin Malayalee Association, present in the gallery.

14. PAPER TABLED

The Speaker tabled: 2021 Division of Daly Report, Northern Territory Electoral Commission (Paper 610).

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Paech (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly adjourn.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Manison, Mrs Finocchiaro, Ms Ah Kit, Mr Maley, Ms Moss, Mr Bowden.

The Assembly adjourned at 19.31 until Thursday 1 September 2022 at 10.00.

DEEMED PAPER

Pursuant to Standing Order 239 the following paper was deemed tabled:

Police (Special Investigative and Other Powers) Act 2015
Annual Report for Authorities for Assumed Identities (Form 32) (Paper 604)

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting, except Ms Fyles and Mrs Lambley on leave.

Ms Uibo attended via videoconference.



MATHEW BATES
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly