NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Number 11
Tuesday 23 February 2021

1. MEETING

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

2. PRAYERS

Mr Bowden read the prayer.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ms Lawler delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

4. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker made a statement regarding International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day on 15 October.

Paper Tabled: Ms Ah Kit (Speaker) tabled: Letter to the Speaker, from the Minister for Health regarding International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Australia Remembrance Day on 15 October 2021 (Paper 189).

5. VISITORS

The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 4 to 6 students from Ludmilla Primary School accompanied by their teacher Mr Nathan Batten.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

6. MOTION: REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

Mr Burgoyne (Opposition Whip), pursuant to Standing Order 229, moved:

That the Assembly refers the following matter to the Committee of Privileges for inquiry and report to the Legislative Assembly by no later than 6 May 2021:

1. The actions of an employee of the Office of the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, when he approached the Member for Braitling outside of Parliament House on or about 9.20 pm on Thursday 18 February 2021 and said to the Member for Braitling words to the effect of: "You're that fucking Josh Burgoyne You better watch your language" "watch what you say"
2. The use by the employee of threatening, abusive and harassing words directed to the Member for Braitling in knowledge of, and connection to, the participation by the Member for Braitling in the Legislative Assembly on 18 February 2021
3. Whether the actions of the employee were intended or likely to amount to an improper interference with the free exercise by the Assembly, or with the free

performance by a Member, of the Member's duties as a Member As prohibited by section 5 of the *Legislative Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act 1992.*

4. Whether a breach of privilege and/or a contempt of the Legislative Assembly has occurred.

5. Propose to the Assembly any appropriate penalty relevant to the findings and recommendations of the Committee.

Ms Fyles, by leave, moved that debate be adjourned until a later stage of this day's Meeting.

Question put and passed.

7. MINISTERIAL REPORT: COVID-19

Ms Fyles (Minister for Health) delivered a report regarding COVID-19.

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

Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Paech, Ms Moss, Mrs Manison.

Visitors: The Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Year 3 to 5 students from Ludmilla Primary School accompanied by their teacher Ms Kirsten King.

On behalf of all Members the Speaker welcomed the visitors.

Mr Kirby, Mrs Lambley, Mr Guyula, Mr Monaghan, Ms Lawler, Mr Bowden.

Report noted.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12.00 and 14.00.

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8. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mrs Finocchiaro (Leader of the Opposition) will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly call on the Chief Minister to adopt and take all necessary steps to implement a policy that all Members of the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary Staff are required to undergo periodic random drug testing as a condition of their employment.

2. Ms Boothby (Member for Brennan) will move on the next General Business Day that this Assembly call on the Gunner Labor Government to immediately take action to address anti-social behaviour and crime throughout the Territory to address the serious concerns of business owners, customers, residents and visitors.

9. PETITION

Ms Purick presented Petition Number 2 from 151 petitioners not conforming with Standing Orders praying that the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly amend the *Tobacco Act 2002* to make it illegal for people under the age of 18 to be in possession of tobacco products (Paper 190).

Petition read.

10. MOTION: REFERRAL OF PETITION TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AGREED TO

Ms Purick, by leave, moved that Petition Number 2 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

11. QUESTIONS

14.01 Mrs Finocchiaro to Mr Gunner
14.02 Mr Monaghan to Mr Gunner
14.06 Mr Maley to Mr Gunner
14.08 Mr Monaghan to Mrs Manison
14.12 Mr Yan to Mrs Manison
14.14 Mr Bowden to Ms Fyles
14.17 Mr Edgington to Mr Gunner

Withdrawal from Chamber: The Speaker ordered Mr Maley to withdraw from the Assembly for one hour pursuant to Standing Order 49.

14.21 Mr Costa to Ms Lawler
14.24 Mr Sloan to Mr Gunner
14.25 Mr Monaghan to Ms Moss
14.31 Mrs Lambley to Mr Gunner
14.34 Ms Boothby to Mr Gunner
14.37 Mr Costa to Ms Uibo
14.41 Mrs Hersey to Mr Gunner
14.41 Mr Bowden to Mr Kirby
14.45 Mr Burgoyne to Ms Fyles
14.49 Mr Monaghan to Mr Kirby
14.53 Mr Yan to Mr Gunner
14.56 Mr Costa to Mr Paech

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

12. MOTION: REFERRAL TO PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE

Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly refers the following matter to the Committee of Privileges for inquiry and report to the Legislative Assembly by no later than 6 May 2021:

1. The actions of an employee of the Office of the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, when he approached the Member for Braitling outside of Parliament House on or about 9 20pm on Thursday 18 February 2021 and said to the Member for Braitling words to the effect of: "You're that fucking Josh Burgoyne You better watch your language" "watch what you say"

2. The use by the employee of threatening, abusive and harassing words directed to the Member for Braitling in knowledge of, and connection to, the participation by the Member for Braitling in the Legislative Assembly on 18 February 2021
3. Whether the actions of the employee were intended or likely to amount to an improper interference with the free exercise by the Assembly, or with the free performance by a Member, of the Member's duties as a Member As prohibited by section 5 of the *Legislative Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act 1992.*
4. Whether a breach of privilege and/or a contempt of the Legislative Assembly has occurred.
5. Propose to the Assembly any appropriate penalty relevant to the findings and recommendations of the Committee.

Ms Fyles, by leave, continued her remarks.

Ms Uibo, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mrs Lambley, Mr Burgoyne.

Question put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 11	**Noes 12**
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 Sloan	Mr Paech
Mr Yan	Ms Uibo
	Mrs Worden

Motion not agreed to.

13. MOTION: COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AGREED TO

Ms Fyles (Leader of Government Business), by leave, moved:

That:

1. The Member for Blain be discharged from the Committee of Privileges and the Member for Gwoja be appointed in his place.
2. The Member for Blain be discharged from the House Committee and the Member for Fong Lim be appointed in his place.
3. The Member for Blain be discharged from the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee and the Member for Arafura be appointed in his place.
4. The Members be discharged from the Public Accounts Committee and, notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 177 (2), the Committee be composed of five members, being 3 Government and 2 Non-Government Members to be nominated in writing to the Speaker by the relevant Whip or Non-Party aligned Member.

Mrs Lambley, Mrs Finocchiaro.

Mrs Finocchiaro moved to omit all words after 'the Committee be composed of' and insert the following:

six Members, being 3 Government, 2 Opposition and 1 Independent to be nominated in writing to the Speaker by the relevant Whip or Non-Party aligned Member.

Ms Fyles.

Ms Fyles moved that the question now be put.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 13	**Noes 11**
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 Sloan
Mr Paech	Mr Yan
Ms Uibo	
Mrs Worden	

Motion agreed to.

On the question that the amendment moved by Mrs Finocchiaro be agreed to.

The Assembly divided:

Ayes 11	**Noes 13**
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 Sloan	Ms Moss
Mr Yan	Mr Paech
	Ms Uibo
	Mrs Worden

Amendment not agreed to.

On the question that the motion moved by Ms Fyles be agreed to.

Question put and passed.

14. MEDICINES, POISONS AND THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT BILL 2021 (SERIAL 12): BILL AGREED TO

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

Mr Yan, Mrs Manison, Ms Lawler, Mr Paech.

Visitors: The Deputy Speaker advised Honourable Members of the presence in the gallery of Mr Danial Rochford and Mr Patrick Bedford from Tourism Central Australia.

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

Mrs Worden, Ms Uibo, Mr Bowden, Ms Fyles.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

15. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mr Maley, Mr Paech, Mrs Hersey, Mr Sloan, Mr Edgington.

The Assembly adjourned at 19.39 until Wednesday 24 February 2021 at 10.00.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended the meeting.

MICHAEL TATHAM
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly