Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 63
Thursday 27 August 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. STATEMENT ON THE FLOODING IN NEPAL AND TIBET

Mrs Finocchiaro (Chief Minister) made a short statement on the devastating flooding in Nepal and Tibet, and expressed condolences to those affected.

3. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker advised she had given permission for photographers to be in the Chamber to take photos after the conclusion of the debate on the Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill.

4. RIGHTS OF THE TERMINALLY ILL BILL 2026 (SERIAL 70)

Order of the day read for the Consideration in Detail of the Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2026 (Serial 70).

The Assembly considered the Bill in detail.

Clauses 1 to 4 stand as printed.

Clause 5.

Ms Boothby moved:

That Clause 5 be postponed until after Clause 13.

Question put and passed.

Clause 5 postponed.

Clauses 6 to 13 stand as printed.

Postponed Clause 5.

Ms Boothby moved the following amendment:

Clause 5, definition *residential aged care facility*

omit

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Act 2018 (Cth)

insert

Aged Care Act 2024 (Cth)

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 5 stands as amended.

Clause 14.

Mr Howe moved the following amendment:

Clause 14(2)

omit

all words after 'dying,'

insert

must:

(a) inform the person that an official voluntary assisted dying care navigator service may be able to assist the person; and

(b) give the person the telephone number and email address prescribed by regulation for contacting an official voluntary assisted dying care navigator service.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 14 stands as printed.

Clause 15.

Dr Rahman moved the following amendment:

Clause 15, heading

omit

refuse to provide

insert

not refuse to provide prescribed

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

Ayes 8			
Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr O'Gallagher	Dr Rahman
Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio

Noes 14			
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 Patel	Mr Yan		

Amendment not agreed to.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

Clause 15

omit, insert

15 Relevant entity must provide information about voluntary assisted dying and allow request and assessment process

(1) A relevant entity that operates a facility must do the following:

(a) within a reasonable period after a resident of the facility requests to be provided with information about voluntary assisted dying – provide the

resident with the information about voluntary assisted dying that is prescribed by regulation;

(b) allow a resident to undertake the request and assessment process at the facility.

(2) A relevant entity must not unfairly discriminate against a resident at a facility operated by the entity because the resident requests information about voluntary assisted dying or decides to undertake, or asks questions about undertaking, the request and assessment process.

(3) To avoid doubt, subsection (1)(a) does not prevent a relevant entity from providing information about voluntary assisted dying to a resident that is in addition to the information prescribed for that subsection.

(4) In this section:

relevant entity means a body corporate that provides a relevant service.

Consideration in Detail interrupted.

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

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5. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Darwin High School present in the gallery.

6. SPEAKER'S STATEMENT

The Speaker reported to the Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order 181, that the Member for Araluen has been appointed to the following committees on 27 August 2026:

- Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee;
- Privileges Committee; and
- Standing Committee on the ICAC.

7. NOTICE

The following notice was given:

Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day a motion:

Calling on the Assembly to:

- recognise the importance of ensuring the Northern Territory is prepared and adequately resourced for emergencies during the current El Niño weather event and the heightened risk of extreme conditions; and
- ensure appropriate preparedness and response measures are in place, particularly given the upcoming and likely severe bushfire season, exacerbated by the proliferation of buffel and gamba grass; and
- ensure appropriate support for pastoralists and landholders in preparing for upcoming severe weather events, as well as alert, evacuation and emergency shelter arrangements are in place for remote and regional communities.

8. QUESTIONS

2.01 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.05 Mr O'Gallagher to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.09 Mr Paech to Mr Yan
2.13 Mr Howe to Mrs Finocchiaro

2.17 Mr Smelt to Ms Boothby
2.21 Mrs Carlson to Mr Maley
2.24 Mr Brown to Mr Maley
2.28 Mr Brown to Mr Maley – Supplementary, redirected to Mr Burgoyne
2.29 Mr Mackay to Mr Yan
2.33 J Davis to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.38 Dr Rahman to Ms Boothby
2.42 Mr Young to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.46 Mr Patel to Mr Charls
2.50 Ms Uibo to Mr Edgington
2.54 Mrs Zio to Mr Charls
2.58 Mr Kerle to Mr Edgington

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

9. RIGHTS OF THE TERMINALLY ILL BILL 2026 (SERIAL 70)

Order of the day read for the resumption of Consideration in Detail of the Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2026 (Serial 70).

Consideration of Clause 15 and the amendment moved by Ms Uibo continued.

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

Ayes 7			
Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr O'Gallagher	Dr Rahman
Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	
Noes 15			
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 Patel	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio	

Amendment not agreed to.

Mr Howe moved the following amendment:

Clause 15

omit, insert

15 Relevant entity may refuse to participate in voluntary assisted dying

(1) This section applies in relation to a relevant entity if the entity has a policy:

(a) not to permit a facility operated by the entity to be used for the purposes of, or incidental to, the voluntary assisted dying process; and

(b) not to permit information about the voluntary assisted dying process to be provided at the facility.

(2) The relevant entity has the right to refuse to authorise or permit:

(a) the carrying out at the facility of any part of the voluntary assisted dying process; and

(b) the provision at the facility of information about voluntary assisted dying, other than information required to be provided under this section.

(3) The relevant entity may include in the terms and conditions of acceptance of a resident into the facility an acknowledgement by the resident that the resident:

(a) has been informed of, and understands, the relevant entity's policy; and

(b) understands and accepts that any part of the voluntary assisted dying process will not be authorised or permitted at the facility and the resident may need to be transferred to another facility or place to access the voluntary assisted dying process.

(4) The relevant entity must publish its policy regarding the voluntary assisted dying process in a manner reasonably likely to bring the policy to the attention of prospective residents and other persons who may seek to receive a relevant service at the facility.

(5) The relevant entity must, as soon as practicable after this section commences, provide each resident of the facility a copy of its policy regarding the voluntary assisted dying process.

(6) Subsection (7) applies in relation to a resident of a facility operated by the relevant entity if:

(a) the resident, or the resident's agent, asks the relevant entity for information about voluntary assisted dying; or

(b) the resident, or the resident's agent, advises a person employed or engaged by the relevant entity at the facility that the resident wishes to access the voluntary assisted dying process.

(7) The relevant entity must ensure that:

(a) the resident is advised of the relevant entity's policy and its refusal to authorise or permit any part of the voluntary assisted dying process to be carried out at the facility; and

(b) the resident is informed that an official voluntary assisted dying care navigator service may be able to assist the resident and is given the telephone number and email address prescribed by regulation for contacting the service; and

(c) if the resident wishes to access the voluntary assisted dying process – arrangements are available for the resident to be transferred to another facility or place at which the relevant part of the voluntary assisted dying process may be carried out; and

(d) reasonable steps are taken, if requested by the resident, to facilitate the transfer referred to in paragraph (c) and, if required, the resident's return to the facility.

(8) In this section:

relevant entity means a body corporate or unincorporated body that provides a relevant service at a facility.

voluntary assisted dying process includes the following:

(a) making a first request or formal request;

(b) undergoing a first assessment or consulting assessment;

(c) making an administration decision;

(d) administering or self-administering an approved substance.

Amendment not agreed to.

On the question that Clause 15 stands as printed, the Assembly divided:

Ayes 14

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 Patel	Mr Yan		

Noes 8

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr O'Gallagher	Dr Rahman
Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio

Question agreed to.

Clause 15 stands as printed.

Clause 16.

Tabled paper: Dr Rahman, by leave, tabled: Research on Prohibition on Raising VAD and Time Limits Until Death, Dr Tanzil Rahman, Member for Fong Lim (Paper 807).

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 5.07 pm and 5.13 pm.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

Clause 16

omit, insert

16 Requirements for health care workers when initiating discussion about voluntary assisted dying

(1) A medical practitioner may initiate discussion about voluntary assisted dying with a person only if, at the same time, the practitioner also informs the person about:

(a) the treatment options available to the person; and

(b) the palliative care services available to the person.

(2) A health care worker, other than a medical practitioner, may initiate discussion about voluntary assisted dying with a person only if, in doing so, the worker advises the person that a medical practitioner is the most appropriate person with whom to discuss voluntary assisted dying and any treatments available to that person.

(3) Nothing in this section prevents a health care worker from providing information about voluntary assisted dying to a person at the person's request.

(4) A contravention of this section by a health care worker who is a health practitioner is to be regarded as unprofessional conduct within the meaning and for the purposes of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law.

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

Ayes 8

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr O'Gallagher	Dr Rahman
Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio

Noes 15

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay
Mr Maley	Mr Patel	Mr Yan	

Amendment not agreed to.

Dr Rahman, by leave, moved amendments 6 to 9 together.

Clause 16, heading

omit

not to

insert

may

Clause 16(1)

omit

must not

insert

may

After clause 16(1)

insert

(1A) Despite subsection (1), the health care worker must not do a thing mentioned in subsection (1) unless the worker believes on reasonable grounds that the person meets the eligibility criteria.

(1B) Despite subsection (1), the health care worker must not do a thing mentioned in subsection (1) unless the worker, at the same time, informs the person about:

(a) the treatment options available to the person and the likely outcomes of that treatment; and

(b) the palliative care and treatment options available to the person and the likely outcomes of that care and treatment.

(1C) The health care worker may only do a thing mentioned in subsection (1) in accordance with the requirements, if any, prescribed by regulation.

Clause 16(3)

omit

subsection (1)

insert

this section

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

Ayes 8			
Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr O'Gallagher	Dr Rahman
Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio

Noes 15			
Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay
Mr Maley	Mr Patel	Mr Yan	

Amendments not agreed to.

On the question that Clause 16 stands as printed, the Assembly divided:

Ayes 14			
Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr Patel	Mr Yan		

Noes 9			
Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Kerle	Mr O'Gallagher
Dr Rahman	Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young
Mrs Zio			

Question agreed to.

Clause 16 stands as printed.

Clauses 17 and 18 stand as printed.

Clause 19.

Dr Rahman moved the following amendment:

Clause 19(1)(d)(i)

omit

advanced,

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

Ayes 7			
Mr Brown	J Davis	Dr Rahman	Mr Smelt
Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio	

Noes 16			
Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay
Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Mr Yan

Amendment not agreed to.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

Clause 19(1)(d)(ii)

omit

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

Ayes 8

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Kerle	Dr Rahman
Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio

Noes 15

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Mr Yan	

Amendment not agreed to.

Dr Rahman moved the following amendment:

Clause 19(1)(d)(ii)

omit, insert

(ii) advanced, in that:

(A) as a result of the disease, illness or condition, the person's functioning and quality of life:

(I) have declined or are declining; and

(II) are not expected to improve; and

(B) any treatments for the disease, illness or condition that are reasonably available and acceptable to the person have lost any beneficial impact; and

(C) the person is approaching the end of the person's life; and

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

Ayes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Dr Rahman	Mr Smelt
Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio	

Noes 16

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay
Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Mr Yan

Amendment not agreed to.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 7.39 pm and 7.47 pm.

Mr O'Gallagher moved the following amendment:

Clause 19(1)(d)(ii)

omit

12 months

insert

2 years

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

Ayes 9

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Kerle	Mr O'Gallagher
Dr Rahman	Mr Smelt	Ms Uibo	Mr Young
Mrs Zio			

Noes 14

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley
Mr Patel	Mr Yan		

Amendment not agreed to.

Mr Howe moved the following amendment:

Clause 19(4), definition *suffering*, paragraph (c)

omit

Amendment not agreed to.

On the question that Clause 19 stands as printed, the Assembly divided:

Ayes 16

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mrs Hersey
Mr Howe	Mr Kerle	Mrs Lambley	Mr Mackay
Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher	Mr Patel	Mr Yan

Noes 7

Mr Brown	J Davis	Dr Rahman	Mr Smelt
Ms Uibo	Mr Young	Mrs Zio	

Question agreed to.

Clause 19 stands as printed.

Clauses 20 to 83 stand as printed.

Clause 84.

Mr O'Gallagher moved the following amendment:

Clause 84(2)

omit, insert

(2) In the notice, the medical practitioner must specify that the person accessed voluntary assisted dying under this Act and the death was caused by the administration of an approved substance.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 84 stands as printed.

Clauses 85 to 107 stand as printed.

Clause 108.

Ms Uibo moved the following amendment:

After clause 108(1)(d)

insert

(da) to record and keep the following information about the provision of palliative care services in the Northern Territory:

(i) the information prescribed by regulation;

(ii) any information the Review Board considers appropriate.

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

Ayes 6

Mr Brown	J Davis	Dr Rahman	Mr Smelt
Ms Uibo	Mr Young		

Noes 16

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	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause 108 stands as printed.

Clauses 109 to 166 stand as printed.

Remainder of the Bill stands as printed.

Dr Rahman moved that:

The Assembly reconsider Clause 1 of the Bill.

Question put and negatived.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Ms Boothby moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 9.24 pm until Tuesday 13 October 2026 at 10.00 am.

DEEMED PAPERS

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

Coroners Act 1993

Report to the Legislative Assembly, In the matter of Coroner's Findings and Recommendations regarding the death of Kumanjayi Johnson, pursuant to *Coroners Act 1993*, section 46B (Paper 801)

Liquor Act 2019

Annual Report 2025-2026, Northern Territory Police, Number of Suspensions imposed by the Commissioner of Police and a Police Officer, Section 260, *Liquor Act 2019* (Paper 798)

Other

Constitution, Power and Water Corporation (Paper 799)

***Professional Standards Act 1994* (Vic)**

Australian Property Institute Valuers Limited Professional Standards Scheme, *Professional Standards Act 2003* (Vic) (Paper 800)

Subordinate Legislation

Subordinate Legislation No. 17 of 2026, Registration Amendment (Electronic Conveyancing Fees) Regulations 2026 (Paper 802)

Subordinate Legislation No. 18 of 2026, Penalty Units Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 803)

Subordinate Legislation No. 19 of 2026, Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 804)

Subordinate Legislation No. 20 of 2026, Planning Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 805)

Subordinate Legislation No. 22 of 2026, Petroleum Legislation Amendment Regulations 2026 (Paper 806)

ATTENDANCE

All members attended the meeting.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly