

continue as Speaker of the House. That is an extraordinary mark of respect, and that is the respect she commanded across political lines on both sides of the House. She served in that role until 2005.

Those who knew Loraine knew her to be forthright, principled and socially conservative, yet always courteous and respectful in her dealings with others. I have had many discussions with Loraine over the years at the Sunday markets. She was giving me advice—although I think it was more of an instruction—on how we should be doing things. I always treasured those discussions with Loraine; she was a cracker.

She was often underestimated by her opponents—to their own loss—but she possessed a quiet determination and an ability to prevail when it mattered most. Above all, Loraine was a proud Territorian who loved Alice Springs and made it her home for more than 60 years. Her commitment to Central Australia and to the people she served never wavered, and that was clear from the talks we had at the Sunday markets. She was always passionate about the development of Central Australia—what we could be doing, where we should be going and the opportunities that existed for us.

On behalf of this Assembly, I extend our deepest condolences to Michelle, the family and all those who mourn her passing. Loraine's legacy will endure in the institutions she helped to shape, the barriers she broke down and the many lives that she touched through her education, leadership and service to the Territory.

May Loraine rest in peace.

Motion agreed to.

Members stood for one minute's silence as a sign of respect.

Madam SPEAKER: Our dear, Loraine Braham. May she rest in peace.

I thank honourable members for their contributions to this motion. The Assembly will suspend for morning tea with family and friends.

The Assembly suspended.

APPROPRIATION (2026–2027) BILL
Serial 63
TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL
Serial 64

Continued from 6 May 2026.

Mr CHARLS (People, Sport and Culture): Madam Speaker, I continue my speech from yesterday.

We are investing more than \$135m in the 2026–27 budget to support disability services and programs in the Northern Territory. About one in eight Territorians, approximately 31,800 people, live with disability. More than half (51.4%) of NDIS participants in the Northern Territory are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, compared with 7.9% nationally.

The Northern Territory Government funds about one-third of NDIS costs in the Northern Territory, a contribution of about \$125m each year, and is committed to making the NDIS work well for Territorians with disability. This includes supporting NDIS participants to access their plan and ensuring more choice of providers.

Our government is committed to improving the lives of all Territorians living with disability. The 10-year Northern Territory Disability Strategy sets out how we will meet our vision for an inclusive Territory where people with disability are valued, respected and can contribute to community no matter where they live. The strategy guides our approach to the development and delivery of services, policies and programs for people with disability. We look forward to releasing the second action plan 2025–29 under the strategy this year, signifying our government's ongoing commitment to better support and improve the lives of Territorians with disability.

Work continues with other Northern Territory Government agencies and our state, territory and Australian Government colleagues to progress a large and complex reform agenda. This includes responding to recommendations from the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, the review of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the implementation of foundational supports in the Northern Territory.