



PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

REPORT OF DEBATES

Tuesday 14 May 2024

REVISED EDITION

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Tuesday 14 May 2024

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT

The House met at 11 a.m. pursuant to the proclamation of Her Excellency the Governor.

The Clerk read the proclamation:

Proclamation by Her Excellency, the Honourable Barbara Baker, Companion of the Order of Australia, Governor in and over the state of Tasmania and its dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS by the *Constitution Act* 1934 it is provided that the Governor shall call the parliament together for the dispatch of business after every general election of the members of the Assembly within 90 days after the dissolution of the Assembly,

AND WHEREAS the Assembly was dissolved on 14 February 2024 and a general election of members of the Assembly was held on 23 March 2024,

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that I call Parliament together for the despatch of business as soon as practicable.

NOW THEREFORE, I, the Honourable Barbara Baker, Companion of the Order of Australia, Governor in and over the State of Tasmania and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, exercising the power and authority vested in me, do hereby fix 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday 14 May 2024, in the Houses of Parliament situated in the City of Hobart in Tasmania, as the time and place that the said Parliament shall assemble for the despatch of business; and the members of the said Parliament are hereby required to give their attendance at the same time and place supported.

GIVEN under my hand at Hobart in Tasmania on 19 April 2024,

B. BAKER, Governor.

By Her Excellency's Command,
J.P. ROCKLIFF, Premier.

MESSAGE TO ATTEND THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSIONERS

The Usher of the Black Rod was admitted and delivered a message from the Commissioners requesting the attendance of members in the Legislative Council Chamber. Members accordingly proceeded to that Chamber and, having heard the Commission read, returned to the House of Assembly.

RETURN TO WRIT

The Clerk laid on the Table writs for the election of the following members of the House of Assembly.

Eric Abetz (Franklin)	Roger Jaensch (Braddon)
Tabatha Badger (Lyons)	Andrew Jenner (Lyons)
Guy Barnett (Lyons)	Kristie Johnston (Clark)
Vica Bayley (Clark)	David O'Byrne (Franklin)
Simon Behrakis (Clark)	Michelle O'Byrne (Bass)
Miriam Bewick (Braddon)	Madeleine Ogilvie (Clark)
Shane Broad (Braddon)	Rebekah Pentland (Bass)
Meg Brown (Franklin)	Jacqueline Petrusma (Franklin)
Helen Burnet (Clark)	Jeremy Rockliff (Braddon)
Jenna Butler (Lyons)	Cecily Rosol (Bass)
Anita Dow (Braddon)	Mark Shelton (Lyons)
Felix Ellis (Braddon)	Nicholas Street (Franklin)
Robert Fairs (Bass)	Rebecca White (Lyons)
Michael Ferguson (Bass)	Josh Willie (Clark)
Janie Finlay (Bass)	Dean Winter (Franklin)
Craig Garland (Braddon)	Simon Wood (Bass)
Eloise Haddad (Clark)	Rosalie Woodruff (Franklin)
Jane Howlett (Lyons)	

MEMBERS SWORN

The following members took and subscribed the Oath and codes of ethical conduct and race ethics:

Eric Abetz (Franklin)	Jane Howlett (Lyons)
Guy Barnett (Lyons)	Andrew Jenner (Lyons)
Simon Behrakis (Clark)	Madeleine Ogilvie (Clark)
Jen Butler (Lyons)	Rebekah Pentland (Bass)
Felix Ellis (Braddon)	Jacqueline Petrusma (Franklin)
Michael Ferguson (Bass)	Mark Shelton (Lyons)
Janie Finlay (Bass)	Dean Winter (Franklin)
Craig Garland (Braddon)	Simon Wood (Bass)

MEMBERS AFFIRMED

The following members took and subscribed the Affirmation of Allegiance and codes of ethical conduct and race ethics:

Tabatha Badger (Lyons)	Roger Jaensch (Braddon)
Vica Bayley (Clark)	Kristie Johnston (Clark)
Miriam Beswick (Braddon)	David O'Byrne (Franklin)
Shane Broad (Braddon)	Michelle O'Byrne (Bass)
Meg Brown (Franklin)	Jeremy Rockliff (Braddon)

Helen Burnet (Clark)
Anita Dow (Braddon)
Robert Fairs (Bass)
Eloise Haddad (Clark)

Cecily Rosol (Bass)
Rebecca White (Lyons)
Josh Willie (Clark)
Rosalie Woodruff (Franklin)

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

Michelle O'Byrne - Member for Bass

[11.32 a.m.]

Mr WINTER (Franklin - Leader of the Opposition) - I move -

That Ms Michelle O'Byrne do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

Ms DOW (Braddon - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) - It will be my great pleasure to second that motion.

The CLERK - Does the honourable member consent to the nomination?

Ms O'BYRNE (Bass) - I consent to the nomination.

The CLERK - Are there any other nominations? There being no other nominations, I declare the honourable Ms O'Byrne elected as Speaker.

Members - Hear, hear.

Madam SPEAKER - I humbly acknowledge the great honour the House has been pleased to confer upon me by choosing me to be its Speaker, an office which I will endeavour at all times to deal with dignity and impartiality.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE

Madam SPEAKER - We acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of the land on which we gather today and acknowledge elders past and present.

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, I have the pleasure to be the first to congratulate you on your appointment. Her Excellency the Governor would be pleased to receive you at Government House at 1.30 p.m.

I move -

That a Deputation, consisting of the mover and the seconder, and such other members who see fit to go, do wait upon Her Excellency, the Governor, to notify Her Excellency of the election of the Speaker.

Motion agreed to.

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, I move -

That the sitting of the House does now adjourn until 3.00 p.m. this day.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned from 11.35 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER

Madam SPEAKER - Honourable members, I have to report that, accompanied by a deputation of members, I have waited upon Her Excellency the Governor and informed Her Excellency that, pursuant to the powers conferred by section 24 of the *Constitution Act*, the House of Assembly has this day proceeded to the election of Speaker and has done me the honour to elect me to that high office.

In compliance with the other provisions of the same section, I have presented myself to Her Excellency as the Speaker, and I have, in the name and on behalf of the House of Assembly, laid claim to their undoubted rights and privileges and prayed that the most favourable construction might be put on all their proceedings; whereupon Her Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:

To the Honourable Speaker and members of the House of Assembly:

I congratulate members of the House of Assembly on their choice of Speaker. I readily assure you, Madam Speaker, of my confirmation of all the constitutional rights and privileges of the House of Assembly, the proceedings of which will always receive my most favourable consideration.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

Attendance of Members in the Legislative Council Chamber

The Usher of the Black Rod was admitted and delivered a message from Her Excellency the Governor requesting the attendance of members in the Legislative Council Chamber. Members accordingly proceeded to that Chamber and having heard Her Excellency's speech, returned to the House of Assembly.

Sitting suspended from 3.03 p.m. to 3.33 p.m.

Madam SPEAKER - Honourable members, I will resume the Chair at the ringing of the division bells.

Sitting suspended from 3.33 p.m. to 4.33 p.m.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

Mr ROCKLIFF (Braddon - Premier) - Madam Speaker, I have the honour to inform the House that because of the election held on 23 March 2024, the following events took place in relation to the appointment of the government.

On 11 April 2024, Her Excellency the Governor received me to invite me to be commissioned to form government. Immediately prior to that invitation, I formally resigned my commission as Premier and with that, the following resignations of ministers of the Crown:

The honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP as Premier, Minister for State Development, Trade and the Antarctic, Minister for Tourism and Hospitality, and Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing.

The honourable Michael Ferguson MP as Deputy Premier, Treasurer, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, and Minister for Planning.

The honourable Guy Barnett MP as Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, Minister for Health, and Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

The honourable Nick Duigan MLC as Minister for Energy and Renewables, Minister for Parks, Minister for Heritage, and Minister for Small Business.

The honourable Felix Ellis MP as Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth, Minister for Resources, Minister for Racing, and Leader of the House.

The honourable Roger Jaensch MP as Minister for Education, Children and Youth, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

The honourable Madeleine Ogilvie MP as Minister for Advanced Manufacturing and Defence Industries, Minister for Science and Technology, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Workplace Safety and Consumer Affairs, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The honourable Jo Palmer MLC as Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Minister for Community Services and Development, Minister for Disability Services, and Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence.

The honourable Nic Street MP as Minister for Housing and Construction, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Sport and Recreation, and Minister for Stadia and Events.

I then accepted the invitation to form government, and Her Excellency the Governor made the following appointments of ministers of the Crown:

The honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP as Premier; Minister for Tourism and Hospitality, and Minister for Trade and Major Investment.

The honourable Michael Ferguson MP as Deputy Premier, Treasurer, and Minister for Infrastructure.

The honourable Guy Barnett MP as Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing, and Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

The honourable Felix Ellis MP as Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, Minister for Housing and Planning, and Minister for Skills and Training.

The honourable Eric Abetz MP as Minister for Business, Industry and Resources, Minister for Transport, and Leader of the House.

The honourable Jo Palmer MLC as Minister for Education, and Minister for Disability Services.

The honourable Roger Jaensch MP as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Children and Youth, Minister for Community Services, and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

The honourable Nick Duigan MLC as Minister for Energy and Renewables, and Minister for Parks and Environment.

The honourable Jane Howlett MP as Minister for Primary Industries and Water, and Minister for Racing.

The honourable Madeleine Ogilvie MP as Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs, Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation, Minister for the Arts, and Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence.

The honourable Nic Street MP as Minister for Finance, Minister for Sports and Events, and Minister for Local Government

Jacque Petrusma is to be the government's nominee for Chair of Committees and Deputy Speaker, and to the role of parliamentary secretary to the Premier. Simon Wood will be the government whip and parliamentary secretary for Mental Health and Wellbeing. Simon Behrakis will serve as parliamentary secretary for Housing and Planning.

I am also pleased to inform the House that Leonie Hiscutt will continue as Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.

Madam Speaker, I was honoured by the Governor's formal invitation to me as holder of the commission to form a government and, as Premier of Tasmania, to proceed to form government.

With your indulgence, Madam Speaker, I look across this Chamber with a great deal of pride, the House restored to 35 members for the first time in over a quarter of a century. There are members with a range of backgrounds, from all walks of life, who will bring unique and

valuable perspective to debate, discussion and ideas in this place. I assure all members of the House and the people of Tasmania that for the term of the Fifty-first Parliament my ministry will collaborate and consult with the new parliament for the benefits of all Tasmanians. If we fall short of that, I am sure we will be reminded on many occasions.

Madam Speaker, we all need to be firmly focused on working together to achieve outcomes on the issues that matter for all Tasmanians, while delivering that certainty.

OPPOSITION APPOINTMENTS

[4.39 p.m.]

Mr WINTER (Franklin - Leader of the Opposition) - Madam Speaker, first, congratulations to you on your new role. We expect you to be fiercely fair - especially to us - and we are looking forward to you overseeing this House.

I would like to announce the following shadow appointments:

I have the honour to inform the House that I have been elected by my party as the Leader of the Opposition, as well as taking responsibility for trade and major investment; tourism and hospitality; and jobs, workplace relations and safety.

Anita Dow MP has been re-elected as Deputy Leader of the Labor Party, with responsibility for infrastructure; TAFE, skills and training; industry and regional development; local government; and small business.

Dr Shane Broad MP will be Leader of Opposition Business, and will have shadow responsibility for housing; planning; building and construction; consumer affairs; and resources.

Josh Willie MP will be shadow treasurer, and will be shadow minister for cost of living, and Aboriginal affairs.

Janie Finlay MP will be shadow minister for energy and renewables; parks, environment and climate change; primary industries and water; and science and technology.

Ella Haddad MP will be shadow minister for health, mental health and wellbeing; community services; multicultural affairs; disability services; and equality.

Rebecca White MP will be shadow attorney-general with responsibility as the shadow minister for justice; and integrity.

Jen Butler MP will be shadow minister for police, fire and emergency management; corrections and rehabilitation; veterans' affairs; and women.

Sarah Lovell MLC will continue as Leader of Opposition Business in the Legislative Council, with responsibility for education; and children and youth.

Luke Edmunds MLC will be shadow minister for finance; racing; and sport and events.

Meg Brown MP will be Opposition Whip and shadow minister for transport; prevention of family and sexual violence; heritage; and the arts.

TASMANIAN GREENS APPOINTMENTS

[4.41p.m.]

Dr WOODRUFF (Franklin - Leader of the Greens) - Madam Speaker, I am proud to have been elected as Leader of the Tasmanian Greens - the Greens Opposition. I look forward to what you will provide for us with your fair and efficient judgments and care of this Chamber. I am sure we can look forward to a very fair and impartial speaker in you, Madam Speaker.

It has been more than 25 years since the House was shrunk to get rid of the Greens. We had one member then. I am very proud to return with the largest Greens party room in the history of Tasmania: five members in the House and one in the Legislative Council.

I have responsibilities as the spokesperson Aboriginal affairs; commission of inquiry response; climate change and forests; LGBTIQA+; and marine environment.

Vica Bayley MP is Deputy Leader of the Greens, Greens Whip, Leader of Greens Business, and is spokesperson for treasury and finance; energy; environment and biodiversity; education; housing and consumer protection; sport and events; veterans' affairs; and the arts.

Cecily Rosol MP is Party Room Chair and is spokesperson for health, mental health and wellbeing; children and young people; corrections and rehabilitation; community services; heritage; trade and economic development; disability services; and women.

Tabatha Badger MP is spokesperson for primary industries; police, fire and emergency management; parks and public land; skills and training; tourism and hospitality; the prevention of family violence; small business; mining; science and information technology.

Helen Burnet MP is spokesperson for preventative health and community wellbeing; local government; planning; infrastructure; transport; water; workplace relations and safety; multicultural affairs; and waste.

Cassy O'Connor MLC is responsible for attorney-general; justice; animal welfare; and democracy and integrity.

CHAIR OF COMMITTEES - APPOINTMENT

Member for Franklin - Mrs Petrusma

[4.42 p.m.]

Mr FERGUSON (Bass - Deputy Premier) - Madam Speaker, I move -

That the member for Franklin, Jacqueline Anne Petrusma, be Chair of Committees of the House.

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, I second the motion.

Madam SPEAKER - Does the honourable member consent to such nomination?

Mrs PETRUSMA (Franklin) - I consent.

Motion agreed to.

ACTS ENUMERATION AMENDMENT BILL 2024 (pro forma) (No. 1)

First Reading

Bill presented by Mr Rockliff and read the first time.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

[4.45 p.m.]

Madam SPEAKER - Honourable members, I have to report that the House this day has been to the Legislative Council Chamber, where Her Excellency the Governor was pleased to make a speech to both Houses of Parliament, a copy of which I have obtained for greater accuracy.

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, I move -

That the speech be entered into the Journals of the House.

Motion agreed to.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Mr President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council, Madam Speaker and members of the House of Assembly, as the 29th Governor of this State, I welcome you to the first Session of the Fifty-first Parliament of Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Liberal government has been returned for a fourth consecutive term - the first time in our state's history. As Premier of Tasmania, the Honourable Jeremy Rockliff will deliver the government's 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future for the people of Tasmania -

to keep the State's economy strong, create more jobs, and make Tasmania the best place to live, work and raise a family. My government has a plan to build on the successes of the past 10 years, to deliver the certainty and stability that Tasmanians deserve, while taking action on the issues affecting Tasmanians now, particularly cost of living, health and housing.

Importantly, the government's plan aims to ensure that young Tasmanians have a future in Tasmania, no longer needing to move away to learn a trade or get a job, instead flourishing here in their local community.

The Premier has committed the new government's decisions and actions to be taken in the best interests of the State and to be a government that listens to all Tasmanians. Tasmanians are fortunate to live in a democracy where they are free to speak, free to believe, and free to vote - without fear. Democratic countries agree to differ, that's the beauty of democracy. This is the parliament for which Tasmanians have democratically voted. This parliament will be different to previous years. This parliament will require a collaborative and consultative approach, though there will be times where views differ.

My government recognises the goodwill of those who have, in good faith, provided the certainty and stability for Tasmanians to have a workable parliament in this term. A stable government is the best thing for Tasmania, and past experience proves this. A stable government provides confidence for Tasmanian businesses. A stable government provides certainty for the economy. My government believes it is incumbent on all members of parliament to provide the stability and certainty Tasmanians deserve and need. Today is the first sitting of our newly commissioned government. However, the important work that was underway will continue.

My government is committed to keeping Tasmania's children safe and has ensured the vital work to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry continues. Tasmania is now a growing state with a story to tell – growing in diversity, industry, innovation, attraction, and creativity. Our reputation as a global gateway for innovation and commerce is building but to secure Tasmania as a globally unique place to live, work and visit, we need the facilities and infrastructure to deliver the services our people need.

My government has a strong record of economic management. However, with national economic headwinds growing, it is more important than ever to have a strong plan for economic development and job creation. My government has created more than 50,000 jobs and has a plan for 20,000 more over the next five years. Unemployment has fallen to record lows of just 4 per cent. Tasmania's tourism sector has been breaking records in employment and visitor spending. Our exports are at record highs. This has allowed our government to invest in the priorities Tasmanians care about, like health, housing and cost of living.

My government will act on the issues now facing Tasmanians. We shall start by easing people's hip-pocket pressures, right now, with energy bills, half price bus fares, and healthy lunches in schools. Tasmania's energy prices are already the lowest in the nation, but more needs to be done. We shall deliver a new supercharged Renewable Energy Dividend: 254,000 Tasmanian households will receive \$250 off their energy bill for the winter period. A further 35,000 small businesses will also receive \$300.

From 1 June, our government will halve the cost of bus fares and Derwent ferries, across all operators and fare types, and will deliver thousands of dollars daily in immediate relief to

Tasmanians. Our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future will also provide cost of living relief for Tasmanian families through our highly successful Healthy School Lunch program. This initiative is having positive impacts on student attendance, behaviour and health. More children are likely to attend, concentrate and enjoy school when they have a healthy lunch. Healthy School Lunches provide affordable, healthy lunches, with a voluntary gold-coin contribution per lunch for those who can afford it, saving families up to \$950 each year, per child.

Over the past decade Tasmania has undergone an unprecedented period of population growth, increasing from 513,000 in 2014 to 573,000 today. In response, our government has committed to delivering 10,000 more social and affordable homes by 2032. Despite this, owning a first home lies beyond reach for many Tasmanians, and rental prices are still too high. In addition, my government will help to advance the great Australian dream of homeownership through a new \$35 million Homes Faster! Package to deliver hundreds more houses, apartments and units over the next two years.

This package will stamp out stamp duty so that Tasmanians buying their own home will not pay any stamp duty for a home valued up to \$750,000. This offers savings of up to \$28,935. It will also add a \$10,000 per unit incentive for developers with up to 50 units, to get more new infill medium or high-density units built close to identified key development areas, along with short-term interest-free loans up to \$1 million for medium density units and apartments to assist with early headworks charges. The government's successful MyHome Program will be enhanced to provide home ownership opportunities to even more Tasmanians.

For many Tasmanians, it is hard to secure a rental property in the current market. The 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future will unlock more affordable rentals for Tasmanians through three new initiatives that will directly and immediately help. The Private Rental Incentive Scheme will be boosted with an additional 200 rentals. The Scheme is an innovative program providing stable and affordable housing. It incentivises landlords to make their properties available at 25 per cent to 30 per cent below median rates for two years, bringing properties into the market that otherwise would not be available to people on lower incomes.

One hundred per cent land tax exemptions for property owners will also be offered to those who either build-for-rent or switch a short stay home to rent. In the last four years, my government has delivered 3000 more homes for Tasmanians. Homes Tasmania was established to build opportunities for Tasmanians by working with industry, the private sector and the social housing and homelessness sector to get more homes built more quickly than ever before for those in need. This term, a target of at least 2000 'social-housing-only' homes by 30 June 2027 has been set and work is underway to achieve that.

Giving children the best possible start in life and learning, and improving access to early education, regardless of where you live or family circumstances, is a focus of this government. Child and family learning centres are providing more opportunities for our young ones and improving educational outcomes. They offer early learning and educational services in the one place to support families with young children. My government will support four new supersized Child and Family Learning Centres - in Huonville, Smithton, Longford and Scottsdale. These Centres will house free access to psychologists, speech pathologists and social workers, ensuring children are meeting their early educational objectives and are well placed to start Kindergarten.

To access quality early childhood education and care, the workforce needs to grow. Over the next four years, an Early Years Workforce Fund will be established to grow and upskill our workforce. The Fund will include scholarships and incentives designed to attract and retain early childhood workers, speech pathologists and psychologists. Upgrades to schools will also continue so that students can access world-class infrastructure, building on the \$8.9 billion investment into education and skills. Since 2014, 73 school upgrades have been undertaken across our State, including three new schools at Brighton, Legana and Sorell. More schools need major upgrades, and over the next six years, 16 more schools will be upgraded as part of our School Building Blitz.

An important part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future is to lift literacy outcomes for all students. Ninety-five per cent of all children will learn to read, write and spell if evidence based structured literacy is implemented in all schools, which includes phonics. Under this government, structured literacy will be extended to all Kinder to Year 3 students in government primary schools by 2026 and the Year 1 Phonics Check for all Year 1 students. Our children are our future, and it is imperative to get these basics right at each and every school, for each and every child.

Our health is the most important thing we have. Every day, \$8.3 million is invested into health services. Since 2014, 298 hospital beds have been opened, and an extra 2500 health professionals employed, including 1390 nurses. But there is more to do. My government has begun implementing the most comprehensive package of improvements to our health system in a generation. Whether it's a check-up at the GP, calling for an ambulance, or accessing the hospital facilities you need, the 2030 Strong Plan addresses the needs of all Tasmanians. When it comes to health, timely access to GPs is for most people, the most important. Unfortunately, currently there are simply not enough GPs to meet demand. So, my government is stepping up to the plate and taking action, right now.

Under the new GP Guarantee, when you need a GP, you'll be able to see a GP. A GP NOW Rapid Response Team is being established with a dedicated team of 10 GPs to be deployed to places of GP shortage while longer-term options are investigated. Where a GP practice closes on short notice, the GP NOW Rapid Response Team will be deployed so the community has continued GP access. Up to 40 new regional and rural GPs may be attracted to Tasmania, with offers to pay off their HECS debt up to \$100,000. To help ensure our hard-working medical professionals, and Tasmanians who need treatment in a hospital have the best possible facilities, Tasmania's four major public hospitals will be upgraded. At the Royal Hobart Hospital, \$187 million in capital works will be undertaken over the next six years, including a new diagnostic breast clinic, a new neurology and stroke ward, and a new rapid assessment medical unit.

At the Launceston General Hospital, the size of the Emergency Department will nearly double and a new mental health precinct will be built, along with a new multi-story carpark. A new Northern Heart Centre will be delivered, strengthening the role of the LGH as a specialist cardiology service for the North and North-West, with recognised best practice cardiac care, and aiming to attract and retain specialist health professionals. At the North West Regional Hospital in Burnie a new Medical Inpatient building will be constructed, with a new medical ward, critical clinical diagnostics, dialysis and a lung function lab. Additional car parking which has been long sought after will be organised. At the Mersey Community Hospital, a new sub-acute building for medical oncology services and an inpatient unit for geriatric evaluation and management will be built.

Ramping is a serious problem. Under my government it will end, so Tasmanians who need emergency hospital care will get the specialist care they need, when they need it. Last month, a new protocol for patients arriving by ambulance to be transferred to the care of Emergency Department staff within 60 minutes commenced. The protocol is seeing positive results with the overwhelming target of 80 per cent being reached regularly. In time, this 60-minute window will reduce to just 30 minutes which is around the average time it takes an ambulance crew to safely transfer their patient to the care of the hospital, freeing up paramedics to deal with other Tasmanians who need their care.

Paramedics and hospitals will need additional resources to implement this policy effectively and the state's largest ever recruitment blitz has already commenced, with advertising for hundreds of new doctors, nurses, paramedics and allied health professionals underway. An additional 78 full-time paramedics will be recruited in line with immediate demand pressures, including 27 full-time community paramedics for rural and regional communities. To accommodate these extra paramedics, new ambulance stations will be built at Legana, Snug, Cygnet and King Island. Recruitment will also include more nurses and midwives, albeit in a competitive national market for the same workforce. To support recruitment, an incentive package will deliver hundreds of nurses into the Tasmanian Health System, offering relocation allowances of up to \$15,000 and \$10,000 scholarships for new Tasmanian graduate nurses.

Health care and childcare professionals are not the only workers Tasmania needs more of and it's important that we encourage young Tasmanians to pursue a career, right here at home. My government will partner with industry to address their skills and training requirements so that the economy can continue to grow and create jobs. In 2014, the government embarked on the single biggest education reform in a generation - bringing Year 11 and 12 to every high school in the State, to ensure more young people remain engaged in learning for longer and to create a job-ready generation of young Tasmanians. Turbo charging Vocational Education and Training is the next step to deliver the workforce of the future.

Twenty per cent of senior secondary school students currently study VET in our schools but the goal is to increase this to 50 per cent by 2030. With the Tasmanian economy growing and demand for skilled labour at sky-high levels, \$2.5 million will be invested to provide more vocational learning in all secondary schools for Year 9 and 10 students. My government will partner with peak industry bodies, to design and implement vocational learning that prepares students for apprenticeships and careers in high demand industries, including early education and care services, tourism and hospitality, health and community services, agriculture, and manufacturing.

Youth Build will be expanded to all secondary schools, delivering vocational learning to 3000 students over the next four years. It offers students with in-classroom and practical learning in construction and architecture, leading to careers in engineering, plumbing, carpentry, electricians, painting and plastering, just to name a few. It will also create the next generation of young Tasmanians ready to help build our trades workforce of the future, getting more students into apprenticeships and jobs, helping to deliver the strong pipeline of work generated by our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future.

As a result of this government's vision to build game-changing infrastructure in Tasmania, there is a \$27 billion infrastructure pipeline over the next decade. This means that Tasmania will require 40,000 workers by 2033 to help build the infrastructure Tasmanians

need. To achieve this, a second wave of the highly successful High Vis Army will be deployed with plumbers and sparkies now included. The High Vis Army adds to the commitment to build a new Earthworks Training - Dig, Drive, Go site at Quercus Park and a new north-west industry training facility with a focus on renewable energy skills. Together, these investments will enhance our existing construction sector, and attract even more younger workers to deliver our Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future.

There is no doubt that our most significant economic, environmental, social and community game-changer lies in our globally leading renewable energy strategy. Tasmanians are proud of their Hydro. It's placed us at the forefront of renewable energy development in Australia. Hydro will once again be a Tasmanian powerhouse that drives our economic growth into the future. In recent years, Hydro has drifted from its foundational principles. Hydro will return to these foundational principles with a new Ministerial Charter and directive that Tasmanian prices and Tasmanian jobs must come first. This will ensure that the Hydro returns to its place as a key economic powerhouse for Tasmania, and once again works to ensure that Tasmanians pay the lowest possible prices for the electricity it generates. New generation will be driven through the Hydro Tasmania First directive.

But, to bring new generation online for Tasmania's future energy needs, more wind and solar farms need to be built. Refocusing Hydro Tasmania will help increase new on-island generation for Tasmania's future, supporting wind and solar farm developments, in addition to increasing its hydro generation capacity. Hydro will be directed to partner with energy generators to build and deliver energy products to market that benefit Tasmania. They will play a key role in increasing our on-island generation. This will ensure our energy needs are met into the future and provide ongoing energy security for Tasmania.

My government will continue to take action on the things that matter to Tasmanians, such as:

- Tackling cost of living;
- Supporting more Tasmanians into their own homes;
- Ensuring Tasmanians get the healthcare system they deserve;
- Keeping our economy strong, creating jobs, and improving education; and
- Making Tasmania the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Tasmania has come a long way and written a story of strength and resilience. But there is more work to do. Now is the time to keep Tasmania moving forward, to maintain the momentum, and raise our sights even higher. To grow our population further, to build more confidence, to support new and innovative industries, and to attract more investment. My government will bring Tasmanians along this journey with them by standing up for them, every day. We shall work hard to build a better Tasmania through innovation and hard work. We shall keep our economy strong so it can deliver the infrastructure and services Tasmanians need and deserve. We shall get things done, facing the challenges ahead in housing, health, cost of living and economic growth. And we shall deliver the stability and certainty that Tasmanians need and deserve.

Tasmania does best when our economy is strong, confidence is high, and opportunities are endless. This is what the 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future is all about. And it will deliver a better Tasmania.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY

[4.46 p.m.]

Mr BEHRAKIS (Clark) - Madam Speaker, I have the honour to move that the following Address be presented to Her Excellency the Governor in reply to Her Excellency's speech.

To Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker, Companion of the Order of Australia, Governor in and over the state of Tasmania and its dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, his Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the members of the House of Assembly of Tasmania, in parliament assembled, desire to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to both Houses of Parliament.

We desire to record our continued loyalty to the throne and person of His Majesty, King Charles III, and at the same time, to assure Your Excellency that the measures which will be laid before us during the session will receive our careful consideration.

Madam Speaker, I join my parliamentary colleagues today in congratulating you on your election as Speaker. I congratulate all members newly elected and returned on being elected to represent their electorates. In particular, I acknowledge the service and steady hand of the former Speaker, Mr Shelton, over his last term of parliament.

Members - Hear, hear.

Mr BEHRAKIS - Thank you to the people of Clark for giving me the tremendous privilege of representing this great electorate. As someone who has been a member of parliament for just a few short months, I can openly admit I was a little bit nervous at the thought of going to an election so early. It was humbling to receive such support from the people of Tasmania voting me in as the first elected Liberal candidate in Clark.

Clark, where I grew up and the home of our state's capital, is a special place. A tightly packed electorate, it has been a pleasure visiting the suburbs of Clark and engaging with the diverse people who call it home. I would like to congratulate Jeremy Rockliff on his re-election as Premier and the rest of the Liberal team for their hard work, ensuring we were re-elected for a historic fourth term.

I am happy to welcome returning members Rob Fairs, Jane Howlett and Jacque Petrusma to the House of Assembly, as well as my friend and former employer, Eric Abetz.

Welcome also to the JLN team, Craig Garland and former local government colleague, Helen Burnet, as well as other newly elected members.

I acknowledge Dean Young, who was unfortunately unsuccessful in his re-election. Dean is a close friend of mine, and he was a tireless worker for the people of Franklin, the Liberal team and Tasmania.

Under the leadership of our Premier, our team ran with a commitment to deliver our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future, to keep Tasmania's economy strong, to build jobs and make Tasmania the best place to live, work and raise a family.

I also pay my respects to those from all parties and independents who nominated as candidates and were unsuccessful. It is a great risk to run as a member of parliament, to put yourself on the line and at the mercy of voters. Our democratic process is all the better for those who put their names forward in the contest of ideas.

Successful elections are never the result of one successful candidate, but the team around them and those who work tirelessly to support our campaigns. Our Liberal team in Clark was one of the hardest working and most collaborative I have ever been a part of. It is thanks to their hard work that minister Ogilvie and I can stand here today as members for Clark. Thank you to Marcus Vermey, Mohammed Aldergham, Catherine Searle, John Gourlay and Emma Atterbury. It was great campaigning alongside you all.

The team and campaign headquarters worked day and night to make all candidates look and sound good. A huge thanks to my own campaign team; my campaign manager, Marti Zucco, who put in countless hours keeping me organised so that I could focus on talking to constituents; my father, Bill, who has always worked full-time hours on the road every day, putting up signs; my good friend, Quentin, for all his hard work and gathering support; my staff member, Zach, who ensured all my administrative matters were taken care of; my mother and brothers for their support; and my darling partner, Lauren, for being there for me every night. The stress of elections turns us all into selfish partners during this time.

Lastly, a huge thank you to all the supporters who letterboxed, doorknocked and put up signs of support.

Since the election of the Liberal government in 2014 to now, this government has had a strong record of building our state's economy. There is no reason to rest on our laurels, especially in lively economic headwinds. In the last 10 years, we have seen the creation of close to 50,000 jobs, and we have a plan for 20,000 more over the next five years. Unemployment has fallen to record lows of just 4 per cent. Exports are at record highs. This has allowed us to continue to invest in the services Tasmanians need: health, housing and cost of living.

Madam Speaker, this parliament will be different from what we have seen, not just because of its increased size. This parliament will need to be one of collaboration and relationships. We all sit here with different creeds, beliefs and views, and there will be robust debate. However, we must recognise that while there will be differences of opinion, everybody who puts up their hand to serve as representatives in this place do so out of a genuine passion for Tasmania, and for the community. That is something we can work on together.

We can and must debate these issues of the day in good faith and with a commitment to provide the stability for our state that Tasmanians expect and need to thrive. We intend to get

right to work, to act on the issues facing Tasmanians and deliver on our commitments and our strong plan. We will be easing people's cost-of-living pressures with energy relief, half price bus fares and lunches at schools.

As a parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Housing and Planning, housing is an issue I have long been passionate about. Population growth has made a growing demand for housing. We are responding to this with our commitment to deliver 10,000 more social and affordable homes by 2032. We are investing in a new \$35 million Homes Faster package to help Tasmanians into home ownership by delivering hundreds more houses, apartments and units over the next two years.

We will stamp out stamp duty so that Tasmanians buying their own home will not pay any stamp duty for a home valued up to \$750,000. We will also add a \$10,000 per unit incentive for developers up to 50 units to get more infill, medium- and high-density units built close to identified key development areas along with short-term interest-free loans up to \$1 million for medium density units and apartments to assist with early headworks charges.

This government's hugely successful My Home program will be enhanced to provide more home ownership opportunities to even more Tasmanians. We are expanding our private rental incentive scheme, adding an additional 200 rentals which provide stable and affordable housing to those who need it. The 100 per cent land tax exemption for property owners will also be offered to those who either build for rent or switch a short-stay home to a rental. We have delivered 3000 homes for Tasmanians in the last four years. We remain focused on building and facilitating the development of the homes Tasmanians need.

Under our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future, we will continue to invest in our health system, ensuring Tasmanians have access to GPs, ambulance services or hospital facilities when they need them. We are investing \$187 million in capital works at the Royal Hobart Hospital to introduce a new diagnostic breast clinic, a new neurology and stroke ward, and a new rapid assessment medical unit.

We know ramping is a serious problem, and we are committed to ensuring that Tasmanians who need emergency care will get the care they need, when they need it. A new protocol for patients arriving by ambulance to be transferred to the care of emergency department staff within 60 minutes commenced last month. This will eventually be reduced to just 30 minutes.

Among our many other commitments to health services is our commitment to improve support for Tasmanians with ADHD. This is something close to my heart, and I will speak further about this at a later date. We are establishing a new GP specialist service for children with ADHD and will make regulatory changes to allow GPs with special interests in the area to prescribe appropriate medications.

We are committed to a multifaceted approach to ensuring Tasmanians are safe from increased youth crime, while also ensuring the safety and protection of our children. We are investing in organisations like JCP Youth to divert and prevent young people from crime and ensure they are supported and able to contribute positively to society. We will also provide \$2.3 million to support innovative local initiatives and partnerships that target the root causes of youth offending in local communities and engage young people in education, training, employment, sport and the arts. This will be alongside formal diversion and restorative justice

approaches. This is in addition to our implementation of a new strike force to address youth crime as it happens, as well as a new 'post and boast' laws to reduce copycat behaviour.

I said in my inaugural speech that I ran for parliament because I remember prior to 2014, when so many of my peers felt the need to flee our state after graduation in search of opportunity that was not available here. We are ensuring that Tasmanians have the opportunities to pursue a rewarding career and life here at home. We are turbo-charging our vocational education and training and growing our skilled workforce. Partnering with industry, we will ensure that we train students for jobs that are in high demand, such as early education and care services, tourism and hospitality, health and community services, agriculture and manufacturing.

We are going to need 40,000 workers by 2033 to build the infrastructure Tasmanians need, and we are growing that workforce today. That is what our focus is as a government and that is my focus as a member of parliament and representative for Clark: building the housing and infrastructure we need, growing our economy, investing in the services Tasmanians deserve and supporting our most vulnerable.

The Rockliff Liberal government will continue to act on the things that matter to Tasmanians, such as tackling the cost of living, supporting more Tasmanians into their own homes, ensuring Tasmanians get the healthcare system they deserve, keeping our economy strong, creating jobs, improving education and making Tasmania the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

As I said earlier, this will be a different parliament from before: a larger parliament, one with a wider range of views. It is also one that will be defined by the relationships that are fostered and the collaborative approach that will be needed to deliver for the people we represent. I am eager to get to work as a member of the 51st Parliament, as part of the Liberal team and in collaboration with yourself and every member of this place for the betterment of our great state.

Members - Hear, hear.

[4.56 p.m.]

Mr WOOD (Bass) - Madam Speaker, I rise to second the motion.

The Tasmanian Liberal government has been returned for a record fourth term, a proud milestone in our state's history. Our government will build on the success of the past 10 years and deliver the certainty and stability that Tasmania needs. We will act on the issues affecting Tasmanians, such as health, housing and cost of living.

I have reflected on what it means to be elected by your community to represent and serve Tasmanians. Standing for election as a member of parliament is not a decision to be taken lightly. It is not unlike welcoming your first-born child into the world. You can do all the research, listen to all the advice of those who have done it before you, but nothing really prepares you for the actual experience.

To our new members of parliament, welcome. There will be times when your role is not easy, but it is always a privilege to represent your constituency. Your colleagues will support you.

I am honoured to have been re-elected as a member for Bass. I would like to acknowledge the new members for Bass: Rob Fairs and Cecily Rosol. Congratulations.

The electorate of Bass, which follows the western shore of our beautiful Tamar River on one boundary and tracks through to the north-east tip of Flinders Island on the other, is some of the most scenic and productive land in our state. It is a key region for our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future.

We know that stable government provides confidence and certainty for the economy. It is incumbent on all of us to provide stability in this place. Our government has a strong plan to deliver on the issues that matter to Tasmanians. These include housing, the cost of living, health care, jobs, education and maintaining our strong economy. The 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future includes supercharging the renewable energy dividend, accessing more affordable rentals, stamping out stamp duty for first home buyers and halving bus fares for all Tasmanians.

Access to health care across the state is a key part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future. Our government invests \$8.3 million into health every day. In the past 10 years, we have opened 298 beds and employed 2500 more health workers, including nearly 1500 nurses. We know there is more to do, and more is being done through our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future.

For example, we are developing a new northern heart centre in Bass, almost doubling the size of the Launceston General Hospital (LGH) emergency department and building a new mental health precinct. The LGH helipad is well underway, and a new multistorey car park is coming too.

In the south, \$187 million in capital works will be undertaken over the next six years at the Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH), including a new diagnostic breast clinic, new neurology and stroke wards and a new rapid assessment medical unit.

In Braddon, the North West Regional Hospital will have a new medical inpatient building with a new ward and provision of clinical diagnostics, dialysis and lung function laboratories and additional car parking. The Mersey Community Hospital will see a new, subacute building for medical oncology services. Additionally, we are building an inpatient unit for geriatric evaluation and management.

We know that one of the biggest challenges for Tasmania is being able to access timely and affordable general practitioner (GP) services. As part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future, our government will step up where the federal Labor government is letting us down. GPs are the front line of health care, treating Tasmanians every day, from colds and flu to chronic illness. They are the ones we rely on for the long haul. Unfortunately, we are seeing an increase in the closure of GP practices, leaving Tasmanians without the health care they need.

We will immediately begin the recruitment of 10 GPs for a new GP Now Rapid Response Unit, ready to be deployed into local communities when and where needed. The GP Now Rapid Response Unit will be state funded, and state employed. GP Now will be deployed to local communities where and when they are needed, and quickly. In a situation where a GP practice

closes down at short notice, our GP Now team will be ready to fill the gap to ensure locals can still see a doctor.

We are extending the current trial of a new mobile bulk-billed GP clinic by two years, delivering up to 4500 additional appointments a year. The program, delivered by the Moreton Group, will provide walk-in bulk-billed GP services in four-hour clinics, five days a week. It will operate on a rotating roster to visit Neighbourhood Houses across Tasmania, supporting those who may not be in a financial position to visit a GP. It is these kinds of innovative measures that will help reduce hospital emergency department presentations and ambulance callouts.

Our government is ending ramping. By ending ramping, we can get ambulances off the ramp and paramedics back to work on the road sooner. New protocols have been implemented to support this policy, and we are already seeing positive results. To help implement the policy, we have committed \$53 million to a newly expanded emergency department at the Launceston General Hospital. To support this, we have commenced Tasmania's biggest ever recruitment campaign, employing more paramedics, doctors, nurses and allied health professionals. Under this two-year recruitment blitz, we will recruit 78 new paramedics to meet increased demand, to be stationed in areas such as the West Tamar region, as well as 27 full-time community paramedics who will work in rural and regional areas. To accommodate the extra paramedics, new ambulance stations will be built at Legana, Snug, Cygnet and King Island.

Last year, I visited the new Beaconsfield ambulance station, a state-of-the-art facility that supports professional and volunteer paramedics and the community. I am thrilled that there will be a new station for Bass in Legana and look forward to being a part of the government that delivers further health infrastructure in our region.

As part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future, we will build on the success of the Police, Ambulance, and Clinician Early Response (PACER) program, a co-response service involving mental health clinicians, paramedics and Tasmania Police. The PACER program assisted 1568 Tasmanians in 2022-23, with 75 per cent being able to remain in the community rather than being transferred to hospital. In 2025 our government will pilot the service in the north of the state in a two-year trial.

Our focus is on giving children the best possible start in life and learning and improving access to early education, regardless of where you live or your family circumstances. Our government will invest \$32 million to build four new super-sized child and family centres offering a range of early childhood services and supports for families and children from ages zero to five. This includes one in Scottsdale. The Child and Family Learning Centres offer free access to psychologists, speech pathologists and social workers, providing wrap-around supports for pre-school children and their families. I have spent time at the George Town and East Tamar centres, and they are wonderful. They are warm, bright and sunny with passionate and dedicated staff who, it is easy to see, love their work.

We recognise that education is the most powerful driver for improving economic and social outcomes in Tasmania, including health, life expectancy, happiness and productivity. Supporting young Tasmanians is a key priority of the 2030 Strong Plan. I am proud that we are doubling our Healthy School Lunch Program initiatives. This is having the most positive impact on students' attendance and behaviour. It is easier to be there, concentrate and enjoy school when you have had a healthy lunch, and your tummy is not empty.

Since 2014, the Liberal government has provided record infrastructure funding to deliver 73 school upgrades across the state. In Bass, we are building the new \$34 million Legana Primary School, delivering a modern school for up to 350 students. We are also upgrading Exeter High School. These are two projects I have long championed as the local member. I drive past the Legana school site several times a week, and the way that school is coming along is fantastic. It is in conjunction with roadworks that will expand traffic capacity and relieve congestion. Brilliant. The school and carriageway are rapidly taking shape, and the adjacent sports oval is almost complete. Driving past the other day, it already had a tinge of green. It is going well. Our skilled Tasmanian workers deserve all our praise and support. Nowhere is this more on show than in this precinct.

We know there are more schools that need major upgrades. Our Liberal government will invest an additional \$188 million over six years for a school building blitz. This will see 16 Tasmanian schools upgraded, including two in my electorate: Mowbray Heights Primary School and South George Town Primary School. Two fantastic schools.

Our school building blitz is just one part of our \$27 billion infrastructure pipeline over the next decade to build the infrastructure for Tasmania's future. We need 40,000 additional workers by 2033 to help build the roads, bridges, dams, schools, hospitals, commercial and residential developments that Tasmanians need. To achieve this, we are deploying a second wave of the highly successful Hi-Vis Army. Together with industry, we are extending it to include plumbers and sparkies.

We will also build our future workforce by turbocharging Vocational Education and Training (VET) in our schools. A turbocharged YouthBuild will give year 9 and 10 students a head start in construction and architecture, leading to careers in surveying, engineering, structural design, building design, plumbing, carpentry, electricians, masonry, painting and plastering, tiling, cabinet making, joining, and heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) technicians. I have seen firsthand at Port Dalrymple School in George Town the plans to create a first-class VET program. The principal and team of teachers involved in the program are to be congratulated for their vision and enthusiasm.

As well as boosting the number of VET students in years 11 and 12, we are investing in more vocational learning for all secondary schools' year 9 and 10 students. We will partner with peak industry bodies to design and implement vocational learning that prepares year 9 and 10 students for apprenticeships and careers in high-demand industries, including early education and care services, tourism and hospitality, health and community services, agriculture and manufacturing.

An important part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future is to lock in Tasmania's position as the best place in the nation to live, work and raise a family. We are building a record number of new houses, with 3000 social and affordable homes delivered in the last four years. However, for many Tasmanians, their first home lies beyond their reach and rental prices are still too high. Work continues in our ambitious plan to deliver 10,000 more social and affordable homes by 2032. As part of this, we will deliver a social housing-only target of at least 2000 more social homes by 30 June 2027. This is the largest investment in social and affordable housing in Tasmania's history. It demonstrates our commitment to increasing supply and ensuring every Tasmanian has a roof over their head.

Last year I visited a number of new social and affordable housing developments in Bass, including new units being built for high-needs clients that can accommodate 24-hour carers as well. These are now complete and are terrific, with a high-end finish that complements their neighbouring properties.

Our government is committed to tackling all parts of the housing supply chain, including helping more Tasmanians buy their first home and putting downward pressure on the availability of rental properties for the private market. This includes:

- Abolishing stamp duty for first home buyers of properties up to \$750,000.
- Delivering a new \$35 million Homes Faster Partnership Incentive fund to stimulate supply.
- Cutting stamp duty in half when Tasmanians buy a new apartment or unit off the plan of up to \$750,000.
- Lifting the income limits by 25 per cent for co-owners to qualify for our My Home Scheme.
- Providing 100 per cent land tax incentive for property owners who build to rent or switch a short stay home to a long-term rental.

Tasmania has come a long way since 2014. We have gone from economic laggard to economic leader. We have written a story of strength and resilience. We must maintain this momentum and keep Tasmania moving forward while supporting all Tasmanians. Our Liberal government will continue to act on the things that matter to Tasmanians including tackling the cost of living, supporting more Tasmanians into their own homes, ensuring Tasmanians get the healthcare system they deserve, and keeping our economy strong, creating jobs and improving education.

Our government will keep Tasmania moving forward by working with our community to deliver innovation, attract investment and keeping our economy strong. Together, we can ensure Tasmania is the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Members - Hear, hear.

Debate adjourned.

MOTION

Attendance of Legislative Council Ministers at Question Time

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) (by leave) - Madam Speaker, I move -

That pursuant to the provisions of House of Assembly Standing Order 50, a Message be transmitted to the Legislative Council, requesting that the Legislative Council give leave to any Member of the Legislative Council who is a Minister of the Crown to attend the Assembly so as to respond specifically to Questions without Notice, seeking information of the kind covered by the Standing Orders of the Assembly.

Motion agreed to.

MOTION

Standing and Sessional Orders

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) (by leave) - Madam Speaker, I move -

The following Standing and Sessional Orders be adopted.

Standing Orders

The House adopts the following Standing Orders:

(1) In Standing Order 14, paragraph (1) the word "two" be deleted and the word "three" be inserted instead.

(2) Following Standing Order 18, the following Standing Order be inserted:-

18A Extension of Day's Sitting

(1) A Minister may, at any time, but not so as to interrupt another Member while speaking, move without leave and without notice - "That for this day's sitting, the House shall not stand adjourned at the time specified for adjournment under Standing Order 18, paragraph (a), and that the House continue to sit past that time."

(2) Such motion supersedes the Main Question, if any, before the Chair.

(3) The Question of the extension of the day's sitting may not be amended and debate thereon shall not be allowed for more than twenty minutes, and in speaking thereon, no Member may exceed five minutes.

(4) Upon the resolution of the Question of the extension of the day's sitting, Debate on the Main Question, if any, shall resume as if uninterrupted.

(3) In Standing Order 20 the word "Ten" be deleted and the word "Fourteen" be inserted instead.

(4) In Standing Order 40

(1) Paragraph (a) be deleted and the following paragraphs be inserted instead:

(a) Acknowledgement of Traditional People;

(aa) Prayers and Reflection;

- (5) In Standing Order 49, by inserting after, "laid upon the Table of the House", "within 15 sitting days".
- (6) In Standing Order 74 add the following words after the word "given"
", except in the case of notices given pursuant to statute."
- (7) In Standing Order 75 add the following new paragraph after paragraph (c):
 - (d) A Member giving notice of a Motion in exceptional circumstances where the Speaker is satisfied that the nature of the Motion requires more than 250 words.
- (8) Standing Order 93 be repealed.
- (9) In Standing Order 115:
 - (a) In paragraph (1)(ii) that the word "him" be deleted and the word "them" be inserted instead.
 - (b) In paragraph (1) (ii) that the words "he has" be deleted and the words "they have" be inserted instead.
- (10) In standing Order 120 by leaving out the words ", by reason of sickness or infirmity,".
- (11) In Standing Order 129, by adding the following new paragraph:-

"(2) A Member who has moved a substantive motion, or has moved an Order of the Day, may move the adjournment of the debate pursuant to paragraph (1), but such motion shall not be taken to be the 'reply' prescribed by Standing Order 128."
- (12) In Standing Order 149, paragraph (1) the word "Chairman" be deleted and the word "Chair" be inserted instead.
- (13) In Standing Order 326 the word "three" be deleted and the words "a majority of the Committee" be inserted instead.

Sessional Orders

For the remainder of this Session, unless otherwise ordered, the House adopts the following Sessional Orders:

- (1) In Standing Order 115:

(a) In paragraph (1) (a) that the word "thirty" be deleted and the word "twenty" be inserted instead.

(b) In Paragraph (1) that the word "forty" be deleted and the word "thirty" be inserted instead.

(c) In paragraph (2) that the word "seven" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(d) Inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (e) -

"(f) inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (2) -

(3) Paragraph (1) notwithstanding, a Member shall be entitled to speak for thirty minutes during their inaugural speech, and shall not exceed thirty minutes unless by leave of the House."

(2) In Standing 130, the word "seven" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(3) In Standing Order 152, paragraph (2), the word "seven" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(4) In Standing Order 182, paragraph (3), the word "seven" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(5) In Standing Order 192 that the word "two" be deleted wherever occurring and that the word "three" be inserted instead.

(6) In Standing Order 219, paragraph (2), the word "seven" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(7) In Standing Order 324 the word "three" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(8) In Standing Order 350 the word "seven" be deleted and the word "five" be inserted instead.

(9) In Standing Order 18, delete all words after "Unless otherwise ordered" and insert instead:

(a) The time for the ordinary meeting of the House shall be at Ten o'clock a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and the adjournment of the House shall be proposed at Seven Thirty o'clock p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays unless the House is considering Private Members Time which after the conclusion of, the adjournment shall be proposed, and at Five o'clock p.m. on Thursdays.

- (b) Whenever this House or a Committee of the whole House shall be sitting at the time specified for the adjournment to be proposed in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Standing Order, the business then before the House shall stand adjourned.
 - (c) A Motion for the adjournment of the House may be made at any other time, but not to interrupt any business then before the House, and may only be moved by a Minister.
 - (d) When the adjournment is proposed in accordance with paragraph (a) of this Standing Order or the adjournment is moved in accordance with paragraph (c) of this Standing Order, the Speaker shall then call for adjournment issues, when any Member may speak to any matter for seven minutes.
 - (e) After these issues have been debated for a maximum period of one hour, the Speaker shall put the Question "That the House do now adjourn". If the Question is resolved in the Affirmative, the House shall stand adjourned until the next sitting day. If the Question is resolved in the Negative, the House shall continue with the Order of Business in accordance with Standing Order 40.
 - (f) In the event that a Motion for adjournment has been proposed in accordance with paragraph (a), or moved in accordance with paragraph (c) and Negatived, and a subsequent Motion moved that the House do now adjourn, this Question shall be put without debate."
- (10) In Standing Order 40 the following words be inserted after "(b) Questions seeking information;"
- (ba) Constituency questions
- (11) In Standing Order 42, by leaving out all words after, "Unless otherwise ordered:-", and inserting instead the following words:-
- "(a) Private Members Business will have priority after the conclusion of the MPI on Wednesdays.
 - (b) Private Members Business which has been on the Notice Paper for the period required by the Standing Orders may be called on by a Member of the group which has been allocated time pursuant to the following weekly rotations:-

WEEK ONE

For 1 Hour	Independent Member for Franklin
For 1.5 Hours	Opposition Members

For 1.5 Hours	Greens Members
For 1 Hour	JLN Members
For 1 Hour	Government Members

WEEK TWO

For 1 Hour	Independent Member for Clark
For 1.5 Hours	Greens Members
For 1.5 Hours	Opposition Members
For 1 Hour	JLN Members
For 1 Hour	Government Members

WEEK THREE

For 1 Hour	Independent Member for Braddon
For 1.5 Hours	Opposition Members
For 1.5 Hours	Greens Members
For 1 Hour	JLN Members
For 1 Hour	Government Members

- (c) the Member calling on an item in Private Members' Business may, in doing so, state that at the conclusion of that time for the debate on that day, the matter be voted upon.
- (d) at the commencement of the time allocated for a group's Private Members' Business, the Whip or any other Member of that group, may indicate to the Speaker that its time be waived, in which case, the House shall immediately proceed with Government Business for that allocation of time.
- (e) In the event that the time allocated for private members business expires and the House is in Committee of the whole House on a Bill, or a Member has indicated that they wish to go into committee, the debate be adjourned until the conclusion of the allocated time for private members business that day.
- (f) At the conclusion of the allocated private member business time the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House for up to one and half hours.
- (g) For the purpose of bringing to a conclusion any proceedings which are to be brought to a conclusion in accordance with paragraph (f), the Chair shall, at the conclusion of one and a half hours, put forthwith any question already proposed from the Chair and any other Question requisite to dispose of the business before the Committee, including any Amendments, New Clauses and Schedules to a Bill that have been moved. No other Amendments, New Clauses or Schedules may be proposed.

- (h) Should there be more than one Bill subject to paragraph (e) on the same day the Bills will be considered in the order they were previously dealt with during the allocated private members business time that day."

(12) By leaving out Standing Order 46 and inserting instead:

46. Supplementary Questions

At the discretion of the Speaker, one supplementary Question may be asked immediately by the Member who asked the original question to elucidate an answer.

(13) In Standing Order 47, after "one hour" insert "and 30 minutes".

(14) Following Standing Order 48, the following Sessional Orders be inserted:-

48A Minimum number of Questions

Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 47, The Speaker shall ensure that a minimum of questions without notice to be asked shall be seven by the Opposition, four by Members of the Greens, two by Members of the JLN and one by each Independent Member, if such Member seeks the call.

48B Time Limits for Questions and Answers

- (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Standing Order 48, the Speaker shall ensure that:
 - (a) the time taken to ask a Question does not exceed one minute, and the time taken to answer a Question does not exceed three minutes.
 - (b) The time taken to ask a supplementary Question does not exceed 30 seconds, and the time taken to answer a Question does not exceed one minute.
- (2) If a Point of Order is taken during a Question or during an answer, the Speaker has discretion to order that the timing on the clock be paused.

48C Constituency Questions

- (1) At the conclusion of Questions without Notice, Members may ask questions to Ministers relating to constituency matters.

- (2) The total number of Constituency Questions each sitting day is eight, allocated as follows with the order being at the discretion of the Speaker:
- (a) Two Government Members;
 - (b) Two Opposition Members;
 - (c) One Green Member; and
 - (d) One JLN Members; and
 - (e) Two for any other Member.
- (3) The time limit for each constituency question is one minute.
- (4) Replies to constituency questions must be given in writing by the relevant Minister to the Clerk within 30 days. The Clerk must provide the response to the Member who asked the question and electronically publish the response.

(15) In Standing Order 76:

- (1) In paragraph (2), by leaving out the word "seven" and the inserting instead the word "five".
 - (2) after paragraph (3), by adding the following new paragraph:-
- "(4) Priority shall be given pursuant to the following rotation:

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week 1	Opposition	Greens	JLN Members
Week 2	Opposition	Greens	Independent Members
Week 3	Opposition	Greens	Opposition
Week 4	Opposition	Opposition	Government Members

(16) In Standing Order 155:

- (1) In heading the words "and sand-glass turned" be deleted.
- (2) Leave out the words "turn a five-minute sand-glass, to be kept on the Table for that purpose, and the doors shall not be closed until after the lapse of five minutes as indicated by such sand-glass" and insert instead the words "set the timer for seven minutes, and

the doors shall not be closed until after the lapse of seven minutes".

- (17) In Standing Order 156 delete the word "five" wherever occurring and insert instead "seven".
- (18) In Standing Order 165, after "otherwise corrected", insert ", or in the case of a Member being absent from a division by reason of the malfunction of the division bells or lifts,"
- (19) After Standing Order 183, insert the following:

183A - Cognate Bills

The procedure for two or more Bills to be dealt with as cognate Bills is as follows:

- (1) The Bills shall be initiated by a Member receiving the call and presenting them to the House by stating they are cognate Bills and then reading the short title of each Bill and handing to the Clerk of the House a fair copy of each.
 - (2) One motion may be moved and one Question put in regard to, respectively the second reading, referral to the Committee of the whole stage and the third reading of the Bills together.
 - (3) The Bills may be considered in the one Committee of the whole.
- (20) Leave out Standing Order 358 and insert instead:

358 Suspension of Standing Orders

Any Standing Orders or Orders of the House, except Standing Order No. 94, may be suspended on a Motion duly made on Notice or without Notice, provided that such Motion has the concurrence of a majority of the Members present.

- (21) Standing Order 359 be suspended.

I indicate that an amendment has been circulated which is now before members. Amendment 11 to the Sessional Orders subparagraph (f), where the word 'three' has been substituted with the words 'one and a half'.

Madam SPEAKER -Do you seek to speak to the motion now?

Mr ABETZ - There is no need, at this stage.

Madam SPEAKER - Before calling the Leader of the Opposition, I do want to make a statement about how we might manage today's debate before it commences on the motion. I note that it is the practice of the House that members are restricted from participating in

substantive debates before they have made their inaugural speech to the parliament. Given the importance of this discussion we are having on the motion to all members, and the large proportion of brand-new members, I am prepared to overlook this practice to enable all members to speak to the motion concerning Standing and Sessional Orders, if they wish.

I note that, in accordance with long standing practice, newly elected members of the House give their inaugural speech as part of the Address-in-Reply debate. That means that if a new member wishes to contribute to this debate, it will not count as their first speech, given there has been such a significant raft of changes.

Hopefully, this will be a quick and efficient debate, not that I have high expectations of you all.

[5.19 p.m.]

Dr BROAD (Braddon) - Madam Speaker, first of all, congratulations. We seek your guidance and I know that you will be free and fair in your judgments.

I want to recognise the spirit in which the negotiation of Standing Orders has occurred, especially the efforts of Nat Cameron and Ned Whitehouse, together with other members of parliament who are new to this. I believe we have tried to produce Sessional and Standing Orders that reflect the new paradigm. There have been several changes, several concessions, but we have some Standing and Sessional Orders before us that I believe will largely pass without much controversy. Much of that negotiation has happened behind the scenes in the spirit of cooperation.

However, we should keep in mind that it would be better if these things did not happen at the last minute, that they happened a week ago, rather than having to rush around and get things done at the last minute. However, the negotiations were done in the best interests of the House and in the spirit of cooperation.

There is the amendment that we will be supporting, which was flagged but not moved. Did you move the amendment?

Mr Abetz - It is part of the circulated document.

Dr BROAD - Okay. I will leave it at that now. There are a few things to reflect on in the changes to the Standing Orders that may be noteworthy. One is that we have more members in the House, speaking times for things like MPIs and for procedural motions will change. In the past, it would have been five members speaking for seven minutes, and now there will be seven members speaking for five minutes. That reflects the diversity in the House.

We used to get six of the nine MPIs on a two- or three-week rotation. We understand that the parliament has changed. However, we did not think that the original proposal was fair, and I think we have landed on a position which is fair to everybody.

We have also had some issues with private members' business. We have more independent members, we have a new party in the JLN, and there are more people to fit in on private members' day. The compromise that we have produced is the parliament sitting late on Wednesdays, to about 7.30 p.m. on most nights. That allows everybody to have a fair and

reasonable private members' time. We understand that this parliament is going to operate in a different way and that private members' time may take on more importance.

In saying that, the rotation has also changed. I believe that has also been negotiated in good faith. The number of questions has changed as well, which also reflects the diversity in the House.

We also have this new concept of constituent questions. It will be interesting to see how they play out, especially the first few times. The way that both the Question Time questions and constituent questions have played out has been a fair allocation. It works out that every member on the Floor of the House has one question allocated to them or to their party: I think it works out one to one. The only issue is that there are two questions on the jump, rather than the independents getting an extra constituent question as a right, because that would mean that they in effect have two questions each, which is not necessarily fair. There has been a compromise reached there, which is a good one. I will be interested to see how those constituent questions play out.

There are many changes here. There are also probably some marked changes, including moving away from the requirement for two thirds majority for the suspension of Standing Orders. It is going to be interesting to see how that one plays out too.

The new Leader of the Labor Party, Dean Winter, has been in the media talking about us being constructive and operating in good faith. However, the government needs to understand that in the past we have taken certain measures with the use of the Standing Orders because of the government's refusal to allow debate at times. That will undoubtedly change under this new parliament. The change to that Standing Order means that it is more likely we will have those debates. I look forward to these Standing Orders being put in place.

We also need to have a review mechanism - I am sure that these will be discussed in the Standing Orders Committee - to keep an eye on things. I think the Greens' compromise was that, instead of having the Standing Orders adjusted, a lot of the movement now is in the Sessional Orders. They can be allocated later, maybe in the next parliament, into Standing Orders. We need to see how it all works. That is a reasonable compromise.

I thank the Premier's office for their efforts. I also thank the Greens, JLN, the new members, the member for Clark, Kristie Johnston, and the member for Franklin, Mr O'Byrne. We have done this in a cooperative manner. It was done in a hurry, but I think we have landed in a good place. Let us see how these orders work.

[5.23 p.m.]

Mr BAYLEY (Clark) - Madam Speaker, as this is my first time on my feet in this parliament, I start by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land we meet upon and the Tasmanian Aboriginal community of today. I pay my respects to elders past and present. I listened closely to the words of Dewayne Everettsmith today, and I know we will all closely reflect on those words. They were potent words and there was a potent message there for all of us.

I also want to congratulate you, Madam Speaker, and all the members of the House for their election or re-election, particularly my colleagues in Clark: Josh Willie and my Greens colleague, Helen Burnet. It is great to finally have two Greens members in the seat of Clark,

and I am proud to be one of them. I wish us all well in this new parliament and this new spirit of collaboration and cooperation. Certainly, that is the approach we Greens will be taking into this, as evidenced by the process around the negotiations and conversations in relation to these Standing Orders and Sessional Orders. That is how it has been conducted. We echo the thanks to the Premier's office and the members we have been dealing with in relation to this, as well as the members of the crossbench and the Labor Party. It has been delivered in good faith.

It has delivered significant achievements for this parliament, achievements that some members of this parliament, many of whom are not sitting here, have been campaigning or working to achieve for many years.

Top of the list, which we welcome as part of this motion, is the abandonment of the so-called Dorothy Dixers and their replacement with constituent questions. It will be interesting to see how those constituent questions play out. It is very welcome to members on this side of the House that the Dorothy Dixers are no longer part of this place. We can now ensure that the parliament maximises and utilises its time for the scrutiny of government, not the propagation of the government's message.

What is positive in these Standing Orders and Sessional Orders is the timelines around bill maturation. Previously, to have bills tabled on a Tuesday and debated on a Thursday - when there needed to be significant briefings and other levels of conversation and negotiation - put significant pressure on members. It was pressure not only on members, but also on government staff to pull those briefings together, line them up and make them happen. The new timelines around bill maturation are very welcome and it will lead to more productive outcomes in this House. We can have those briefings, we can have them in a timely manner, we can come back with questions and there can be work done to get good outcomes and amendments when it comes to those bills.

It is welcome to see inaugural speeches stay at 30 minutes. Thirty minutes is appropriate. It is a special time for new members and their families. It is welcome that the Greens' proposition of 30 minutes being retained for inaugural speeches was adopted by government. Thank you to members of the government who did that.

As mentioned by the member for Braddon, there is the simple majority required for the suspension of Standing Orders. Over the years we have seen how that has been a challenge. The fact that it is now a simple majority for the suspension of Standing Orders is very welcome.

Provisions to ensure private members' bills can be properly debated and come to a vote in the same session is very important. With an expanded House and crossbench, with some members in this House only having their private members' time come up every three weeks or more, it is important if a member brings forward a bill for debate and they want to see it concluded, it happens in that same session. I acknowledge the negotiation of the extension and timeline, and the constructive suggestions that have led to a doubling of private members' time. It is an appropriate place to be. That is really welcome.

I also acknowledge that the government actually withdrew some original proposals; withdrew them completely or - as acknowledged by the member for Braddon - put them into the Sessional Orders as opposed to the Standing Orders, so that they can be considered by the Standing Orders Committee. That is very welcome. That will give those quite profound changes to the propositional changes to the Standing Orders due consideration in the Standing

Orders Committee. If they are working, if they are tested here as part of the Sessional Orders, they can be adopted in future times.

I acknowledge it is a bit of a rollercoaster for new members. We have had some deep conversations with some crossbench members about what we are talking about and how this works. Heads are swimming; there is no doubt. Some of the procedures in the Standing Orders are complex, complicated, and self-referencing. It is challenging for people to get their heads around it, but it has been done in a spirit of goodwill. That has been very welcome. Here is hoping the spirit of collaboration continues across the parliament, not just with Standing Orders, and is a signal of things to come. We will support the amendment as circulated by the Leader of Government Business. We would like to move an amendment as well, as has been circulated previously.

Madam Speaker, I move -

That the motion be amended by inserting the following clauses after clause 19 of the proposed Sessional Orders:

- () Standing Order 281 be suspended.
- () The following Sessional Order be inserted -

281A. When instructions to committee be moved.

Before the first sitting of the Committee, an Instruction may be proposed as a distinct Motion after the Order of the Day for the Committee has been read, or in an Order that the Bill be committed forthwith, and before any Question has been proposed thereupon, or as an Amendment to the Question, "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair".

Madam Speaker, that is complicated. This has been circulated to all members.

Madam SPEAKER - Just to clarify for new members, we are now going to be on the debate for the amendment.

Mr BAYLEY - Madam Speaker, to talk to the effect of this, under the current circumstances, ordinary amendments to a bill must be relevant to the subject matter of the bill. Standing Order 202 is clear on this: the scope of the bill is seen, and any amendments to the bill must be seen, to be relevant to the subject matter of the bill.

Under Standing Order 279, however, the House can issue an instruction to allow amendments that would otherwise be out of scope to be considered. There is already a mechanism in the Standing Orders that allows for amendments that are out of scope to be considered by the House. What we have found is the operation of that Standing Order - the actual triggering of that Standing Order - can be very difficult because Standing Order 281 currently requires the instruction to be moved after the second reading but before the House resolves into Committee.

The effect of this is that the member must be granted the call by the Speaker first in order to move this instruction, and it is an incredibly narrow window of opportunity. If the Speaker does not give the jump to the member who is seeking to move this instruction, then the call goes back to the minister and that opportunity is lost. Our proposed amendment would allow an instruction to be moved to the question, 'That the Speaker now leaves the Chair'; this is a place where it is currently expressly prohibited. It ensures that any member of the House would have the opportunity to move an instruction that the House would then be able to deliberate and vote upon. It obviously does not compel the House to do anything; it goes to a vote. To make it perfectly clear, the instruction to the Committee allows the House to consider amendments of a specified subject matter that would otherwise be unable to be moved.

The House would still have the opportunity to scrutinise, debate and vote upon any amendment moved as a result of this instruction. This Standing Order has been used in times gone by; probably not as much as members would like, because the Speaker has not given the jump to the member who wanted to use it. Our amendment seeks to amend this. It empowers members of the opposition and crossbench to give instruction to the Committee to expand the scope, or to put and have debated an issue that is not currently relevant to the scope of the bill.

I have moved that amendment, Madam Speaker, and I commend it to the House.

[5.34 p.m.]

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, may I clarify the changing of the words 'three' to 'one and a half'? That is part of the circulated document now?

Madam SPEAKER - The original motion that was circulated is the substantive motion. The only thing we are debating is the amendment moved by the deputy leader of the Greens.

Mr ABETZ - I just wanted to clarify for the member for Clark that the 'three' being converted to 'one and a half' is part of the substantive motion. There is only the one amendment before us, and the government is opposed to that amendment.

We believe that the scope of the legislation should be the matter which is under discussion and to have relevance, especially in this new parliament, where time will be of the essence. It is important we ensure the debate be confined as much as possible. There is still that element within the Standing Orders which allows for that to occur. It is a narrow opportunity, as the member for Clark said, but it is an opportunity that should not be too open. If it is, the character of which some of us are, it may or may not be abused and used to effect. Therefore, having a limit in relation to it, as is currently in the Standing Orders, is the appropriate way forward.

Madam Speaker, I thank the members for Braddon and Clark for their contributions in relation to this debate. Whilst I do not normally agree with staff members being named in the House, I think on this occasion it was very apt and proper for the member for Braddon to do so. I add my appreciation for the work of Ned and Nat - if I may call them that - for the work they have done in achieving the landing we have been able to achieve.

Madam Speaker, I hope the goodwill that has been exposed so far in this Chamber continues for the rest of this parliament for the next four years.

[5.36 p.m.]

Dr BROAD (Braddon) - Madam Speaker, we will be opposing this amendment. This is something I have never seen used; I have never seen the requirement for instruction to be given before a Committee. I think this is a bit of a situation where we are trying to use a sledgehammer to crack a walnut.

The provision is in the Standing Orders, but you are making it 100 per cent sure you get it every time, whereas in this parliament, there might be the opportunity to have a discussion with Madam Speaker, to make sure the time allowed between the moving and the stepping down from the Chair is enough that you can actually move that motion. In this instance, it is something I have never seen, and I am not aware of it ever being used. In that regard, we will not be supporting it. However, I think there might be an opportunity to have that discussed in the Standing Orders Committee as a pathway, rather than insert into a bunch of Standing Orders that have already changed significantly today.

We have to admit that the Standing Orders have changed significantly so, in this instance, we probably should strive for the good rather than the perfect. That is why we will not be supporting this. However, it exists in the Standing Orders. I suppose there are work-arounds rather than going for a perfect solution to all the problems that may or may not occur.

With the Standing Order changes, we have addressed things that have happened. For example, the use of the two-thirds majority to block any debates on censures or motions of no confidence has happened continually. That has ended today. The maturation of bills: bills have been tabled on a Tuesday and debated on Thursday. In the Standing Orders, unless it is an urgent bill, that has changed today. We have changed a whole bunch of things. In the last session of the last parliament we had Mr Ellis, the member for Braddon, adjourn the House and we did not even get Question Time that day. The Standing Orders give us protection in that.

We are now trying to perfect the Standing Orders for something that has never happened. For that reason, I believe we are better off to deal with this in the Standing Orders Committee rather than deal with it now.

Amendment negatived.

Madam SPEAKER - We return to the substantive motion. Mr Bayley, you are still on your feet for the substantive motion, if you wish to continue.

[5.39 p.m.]

Mr BAYLEY (Clark) - Madam Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to scrutinise our amendment in the Standing Orders Committee. I note that it is a provision that has been used by Labor relatively recently, in the Births, Deaths and Marriages debate. It is something we will continue to pursue.

I conclude by thanking everybody who has been involved in the negotiation and the conversations around these Standing Orders and Sessional Orders. We have mentioned the Premier's staff and that is appropriate. I also acknowledge staff in the Greens' office who have worked very hard and collaboratively to bring this to fruition, and conceived some of these amendments and positive changes when it comes to the Sessional Orders. Thank you to everybody involved and 'Hear, hear' to this being a signal of the spirit of this parliament going forward.

[5.40 p.m.]

Mr O'BYRNE (Franklin) - Madam Speaker, I congratulate you on your election and welcome the new members to the House. I will have more to say about that in the Governor's Address-in-Reply.

I will be brief in my comment on the motions, and the Standing Orders and Sessional Orders. I acknowledge the work and echo the sentiments of other members in the work of the Premier's office. It is not a habit to identify members of staff, but there is one member of staff who probably started the ball rolling. That was Tim Lovibond. I acknowledge the work of Tim, and Nat and Ned in the Premier's office, and the support that he has provided them in this work.

It is difficult, complex work, moving from a 25-seat House, where the predominant form of government is majority, to a 35-seat House where there is a large crossbench. There are challenges with question time, private members' time and matters of public importance. All those things have to be balanced, with equity across the Chamber crucially important. There have been many conversations across the Chamber for a number of weeks now. While I do not necessarily concur with the member for Braddon, there is nothing like a deadline to focus the attention. There has been a lot of work going on for a number of weeks on this. A number of ideas have been floated and some of them did not really pass muster or see the light of day, for very good reasons, on both sides.

I acknowledge the work of the government in acknowledging the context of this new House and the work before us. The ability to accommodate not only the major parties but also the crossbench, independents and the JLN to ensure that their voice is heard equitably is a good outcome. This has been a very good day for this parliament, and it sends a message to the people of Tasmania that there is, at least on day one, a focus on trying to get it right, trying to work together and trying to get outcomes. I acknowledge the motion.

Motion agreed to.

STATEMENT BY LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Committee Appointments - Deferred

[5.42 p.m.]

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, I can indicate to the House that we will not be proceeding with the appointment of committees at this stage. I think there is agreement around the House that we will consider that at a later time and hopefully land on some consensus.

Madam SPEAKER - I appreciate the House working towards consensus.

APPROPRIATION (FURTHER SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION FOR 2023-24) BILL 2024 (No. 3)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 1) 2024 (No. 4)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 2024 (No. 5)

First Reading

Mr FERGUSON (Bass - Treasurer) - Madam Speaker, I present the Appropriation (Further Supplementary Appropriation for 2023-24) Bill 2024, together with Supply Bill (No. 1) 2024 and Supply Bill (No. 2) 2024.

Bills read the first time.

ADJOURNMENT

[5.44 p.m.]

Madam SPEAKER - Before I call the member to move the Adjournment, I remind members that tomorrow when we come in, we will be operating under the new rules, which means that the Clerks have a ridiculously large amount of work to do before we return. I appreciate that many members have indicated that we will not be moving too many Adjournment speeches tonight so that that work can be undertaken. Also, I pride myself on knowing the rules. I would like to know the new rules before we start tomorrow.

Mr ABETZ (Franklin - Leader of the House) - Madam Speaker, I am going to try my luck and hopefully have all the motions I move today carried because, I dare say, it will not last for much longer.

The last motion I move today is -

That the House do now adjourn.

Madam SPEAKER - Under the new Standing Orders, I will now put the question: are there any Adjournment issues? There being none, the question is, as we now vote on this, that the House now adjourn.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.45 p.m.