



Wednesday, 24 June 2020

11.00 am

**ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Acknowledge Traditional People

Prayers

Petitions

Notice of Question

Notice of Motion

Answers to Questions

Tabling of Papers

Leader to seek leave to move a Motion without Notice relating to Special Interest Matters

Special Interest Matters

**Order of the Day No. 1, Notices of Motion Nos. 3 & 4, Order of the Day No. 14, Notices of Motion Nos. 9, 10 & 11, Order of the Day No. 15**

**Order of the Day**

**1** Building and Construction (Regulatory Reform Amendments) Bill 2020 (No.21) Second reading

Member for McIntyre to seek leave to move a Motion without Notice concerning Select Committee Inquiry into Taswater

**Notices of Motion**

**3** Ms *Rattray* to move — That the Tasmanian Irrigation Annual Report 2018-2019 be considered and noted.

**4** Mr *Dean* to move — That the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management Annual Report 2018-2019 be considered and noted.

**Order of the Day**

**14** Adjourned Debate (Ms Forrest) on the Question proposed on 17 March 2020 -

(1) That the Legislative Council notes:

- (a) Australia (with the exception of Western Australia), has an approach to poker machine policy and regulation that is significantly different to virtually all similar countries globally, resulting in Australia having:
  - (i) a disproportionately high number of poker machines per capita;

- (ii) a typical style of poker machine that is regarded as ‘high intensity’; and
  - (iii) a comparatively high level of harm due to the use of poker machines.
- (b) Poker machines typically in use in Australia are designed and programmed to include features that increase the likelihood of addiction, with evidence suggesting that normal use of Australian poker machines is likely to cause addiction in one in six users, these features relate to:
  - (i) spin speed;
  - (ii) bet limits;
  - (iii) maximum jackpot;
  - (iv) near misses;
  - (v) losses disguised as wins; and
  - (vi) return to player.
- (c) It is possible to modify the design and programming features of poker machines to decrease the likelihood of addiction, and such modifications would have little impact on the recreational use of poker machines by Tasmanians.
- (d) The impact of harm caused by poker machine use on Tasmanian health and mental health services, family support services, welfare services, criminal justice system, domestic violence services, housing and homelessness services, productivity and level of unemployment, is not currently measured and monitored by the Tasmanian Government so as to effectively inform policy development and regulation relating to poker machines.
- (e) Data available on poker machine use indicates:
  - (i) at least 23,000 Tasmanians are in at-risk groups (low, moderate and problem gambling);
  - (ii) one in three Tasmanians personally know someone with a serious problem with gambling on poker machines;
  - (iii) 79 per cent of Tasmanian Gamblers Help clients have poker machines as their primary form of gambling; and
  - (iv) 40 – 60 per cent of the money taken by poker machines comes from people addicted to the machines or are classified as at-risk.
- (f) The Social and Economic Impact Study (SEIS) 2017 notes limitations to the collection of accurate and reliable data in Tasmania on:
  - (i) the use of poker machines, including accurate frequency and expenditure; and
  - (ii) employment figures related to poker machines in hotels and clubs.
- (g) To date, the Tasmanian Government has not released and made available for public scrutiny and discussion, modelling on the social and economic impact of the proposed new poker machine licensing arrangements to be introduced in Tasmania in 2023.
- (2) The Legislative Council calls on the Tasmanian Government to undertake and publicly release modelling on the social and economic impact of the proposed new poker machine licensing arrangements to be introduced in Tasmania in 2023.

## Notices of Motion

**9** Ms *Forrest* to move — That the Legislative Council supports the establishment of a comprehensive inquiry conducted by suitably qualified and independent experts into the contributing factors which led to the recent Covid-19 outbreak in North West Tasmania.

**10** Ms *Forrest* to move — With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Tasmania, the Legislative Council acknowledges:—

- (1) The significant economic impact on the State;

- (2) The need for a non-partisan, inclusive approach to economic recovery in the State;
- (3) The opportunity to re-think how the State budget and economy is managed and prioritised in the future; and
- (4) The need to initiate a review of fiscal sustainability, to prioritise future spending and establish a funding plan to manage the State's finances into the future.

**11** Ms *Forrest* to move —With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on Tasmania, the Legislative Council acknowledges:—

- (1) The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the people of Tasmania with many losing their jobs and curtailed the personal freedoms of all;
- (2) The Government's response has reduced the spread and impact of the virus;
- (3) The death of 13 Tasmanians and offers our sincere condolences to the families and friends of these Tasmanians; and
- (4) Recognises changes in response to the pandemic in the following areas:—
  - (a) opportunities to work from home;
  - (b) flexible work hours and places;
  - (c) free childcare;
  - (d) greater focus on housing those who are homeless;
  - (e) developing different ways to identify and respond to domestic abuse and violence;
  - (f) greater use of tele-health services; and
  - (g) community support and connection with vulnerable and elderly members of the community.

### **Order of the Day**

**15** Report of the Legislative Council Government Administration Committee 'A' Short Inquiry Process Report on Services and Supports Available to Tasmanians not Eligible for the NDIS. Consideration and noting. (Ms *Forrest*)

Question Time 2.30 pm

Orders of the Day and Notices of Motion continued

Adjournment

**D T PEARCE**  
**Clerk of the Council**