



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2021 - 2022

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 32

WEDNESDAY, 9 MARCH 2022

- 1 The House met at Ten o'clock a.m.
- 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE. - The Speaker made a statement acknowledging the traditional people of the land.
- 3 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION. - The Speaker read Prayers.
- 4 QUESTIONS SEEKING INFORMATION. - In accordance with Standing Order No. 43, Questions without notice were asked.
- 5 PAPERS. - The Minister for Finance laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:-
 - (1) Taxation Administration Act 1997: Taxation Administration Regulations 2021 (Statutory Rules 2021, No. 97).
 - (2) Land Tax Act 2000: Land Tax Regulations 2021 (Statutory Rules 2021, No. 96).
- 6 PAPERS. - The Attorney-General laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-

Motor Vehicle Traders Act 2011: Motor Vehicle Traders Regulations 2022 (Statutory Rules 2022, No. 4).
- 7 QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the following Resolution from the House of Assembly:-

“That the following Address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen through Her Excellency the Governor:-

TO HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY, THE QUEEN:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, the Members of the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly of the Parliament of Tasmania, in union with Your Majesty's subjects throughout Tasmania, desire to express to Your Majesty our heartfelt congratulations at this time of celebration of the Platinum Jubilee of your accession to the Throne.

We recognise with thankfulness Your unfailing devotion to the duties of Your exalted Office, particularly as Head of the Commonwealth of Nations, and we regard with gratitude Your Majesty's sustained and self-denying efforts to secure the welfare of Your people."

does agree to the Resolution and has filled up the blank with the words 'Legislative Council and the'.

Legislative Council, 8 March 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, President.

8 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT. – Ms *Butler*, in accordance with Standing Orders, moved - That the House take note of the following matter:

Getting the Basics Right.

And the Question being proposed;

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

9 BILL NO. 3. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill, intituled –

“A Bill for an Act to amend the Archives Act 1983 and the Right to Information Act 2009”.

Legislative Council, 9 March 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, President

10 BILL NO. 60. of 2021. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill, intituled –

“A Bill for an Act to amend the Justices Act 1959 and other justice-related legislation”.

Legislative Council, 9 March 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, President

11 PREMIER'S ADDRESS. - The Order of the Day being read for the resumption of the adjourned debate on the Question proposed on Tuesday, 1 March 2022 - That the Premier's Address be noted.

And the Question being again proposed;

The House resumed the said adjourned debate.

12 SUSPENSION OF SITTING. - At One o'clock the Speaker left the Chair.
At half-past Two o'clock the Speaker resumed the Chair.

13 PREMIER'S ADDRESS. – And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

14 HOUSING POLICY. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

(1) Agrees that Tasmania has experienced significant economic growth, and population growth, due to increasing demand for the Tasmanian way of life.

- (2) Acknowledges that the only way to meet growth in demand is to increase the supply of housing and land, which supports our strong economy and provides more jobs and opportunities for Tasmanians.
- (3) Notes:—
 - (a) the Tasmanian Liberal Government's recently announced housing package is the biggest housing investment in our State for decades, at more than \$1.5 billion; and
 - (b) that the Liberal Government's bold, comprehensive plan will deliver 10,000 new social and affordable homes by 2032.
- (5) Welcomes the Government's plan to increase first home ownership through the Housing Market Entry program, by doubling the State's equity contribution and reducing the deposit required, opening the door to home ownership to more Tasmanians.
- (6) Recognises that reductions in property costs, such as land tax, put downward pressure on rental price increases.
- (7) Acknowledges that other supports, such as first home owner duty concessions and grants, put more money back into the pockets of first home buyers.
- (8) Notes that incentives such as ancillary dwelling grants and help to increase the supply of land and rental homes. (Mr *Tucker*)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing was addressing the Chair.

15 SELECT COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT DEALINGS WITH TASMANIA BASKETBALL PTY LTD. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Appoints a Select Committee, with power to send for persons, papers and records, to inquire into and report upon the Tasmania Government's dealings with Tasmania Basketball Pty Ltd and any other associated entities from 27 August 2020 onwards, including but not limited to:—
 - (a) whether the relationship between the former Minister for Sport and Recreation, the Hon. *Jane Howlett* MLC and Tasmania Basketball Pty Ltd's Chief Executive Officer, Mr Simon Brookhouse, constituted a conflict of interest under the Ministerial Code of Conduct;
 - (b) the involvement of the Premier, Hon. *Peter Gutwein* MP and his Office in managing Ms *Howlett's* alleged conflict of interest and her departure from the Ministry;
 - (c) Ms *Howlett's* involvement in decisions relating to Tasmanian Government support for Tasmania Basketball Pty Ltd; and
 - (d) any other matters incidental thereto.
- (2) Members to serve on the Committee be:—
 - (a) three from the Government, nominated by the Leader of the House, including the Chairperson
 - (b) the Deputy Leader of the Opposition;
 - (c) the Leader of the Greens; and
 - (d) the Mover.
- (3) The Committee report by 3 May next. (Ms *White*)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 10

NOES 11

Dr Broad

Mrs Alexander

Ms Dow

Ms Archer

Ms Finlay

Mr Barnett

Ms Haddad

Mr Ellis

Mr O'Byrne

Mr Ferguson

Ms O'Byrne

Mr Gutwein

Ms O'Connor

Mr Jaensch

Ms White

Ms Ogilvie

Dr Woodruff

Mrs Petrusma

Ms Butler (Teller)

Mr Rockliff

Mr Tucker (Teller)

PAIRS

Mr Winter

Mr Street

So it passed in the Negative.

16 MASK MANDATES. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Notes that on the 4 March, 2022, the Premier Hon. *Peter Gutwein* MP, announced a phase out of the mandatory mask-wearing public health order.
- (2) Acknowledges:—
 - (a) this decision is likely to increase community transmission of Covid-19 and expose vulnerable Tasmanians to higher risk; and
 - (b) Covid-19 protections, and their removal, are a significant matter of public interest.
- (3) Calls on the Gutwein Government to table the unredacted advice provided by Public Health that underpinned the Premier's decision to remove mask protections. (*Dr Woodruff*)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 10

Dr Broad

Ms Dow

Ms Finlay

Ms Haddad

Mr O'Byrne

Ms O'Byrne

Ms O'Connor

Ms White

Dr Woodruff

Ms Butler (Teller)

NOES 11

Ms Archer

Mr Barnett

Mr Ellis

Mr Ferguson

Mr Gutwein

Mr Jaensch

Ms Ogilvie

Mrs Petrusma

Mr Rockliff

Mr Street

Mrs Alexander (Teller)

PAIRS

Mr Winter

Mr Tucker

So it passed in the Negative.

17 ADJOURNMENT. - The time being Six o'clock, the Speaker proposed - That the House do now adjourn and called for issues to be raised;

18 PAPERS. – *Ms O'Connor, by leave*, laid upon the Table of the House a paper in relation to the forests of North East Tasmania.

The House adjourned at fifty-four minutes past Six o'clock.

SHANE DONNELLY, *Clerk of the House*.

MEMBERS. - All present during the day except *Ms Johnston* and *Mr Winter*.