LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2025 – 2026

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

UNCORRECTED PROOF

No. 61

WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2026

1 COUNCIL MEETS.— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE.— The President said:

"We meet today on Tasmanian Aboriginal land. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people and elders, past and present. We recognise them as the first inhabitants and the continuing custodians of this land."

3 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION.— The President read Prayers.

4 PAPERS.— The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table the following Papers:—

(1) *Poisons Act 1971*: Statutory Rules 2026, No. 76, Poisons Amendment (Miscellaneous) Regulations 2026.

(2) *Poisons Act 1971*: Statutory Rules 2026, No. 81, Poisons (Midwifery Substances) Order 2026.

5 BILL NO. 34.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*, *Land Acquisition Act 1993*, *Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995*, *National Parks and Reserves Management Regulations 2019*, *Survey Co-ordination Act 1944*, *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* and *Threatened Species Protection Regulations 2026*, and to repeal, rescind and revoke certain spent legislation', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

6 BILL NO. 35.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Administration and Probate Act 1935*, the *Building and Construction Industry Security of Payment Act 2009*, the *Electoral Act 2004*, the *Health Complaints Act 1995*, the *Long Service Leave Act 1976*, the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020* and the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* and to repeal, rescind and revoke certain spent legislation', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

7 BILL NO. 36.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to repeal the Commonwealth and *State Statistical Agreement Act 1924*, the *Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Subsidy) Act 1980* and the *Public Sector Superannuation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2009*', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

8 BILL NO. 37.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Food Act 2003* and to repeal, rescind and revoke certain spent legislation', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

9 BILL NO. 38.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Archives Act 1983*, the *Child Protection (International Measures) Act 2003*, and the *Libraries Act 1984*', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

10 BILL NO. 39.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Cultural and Creative Industries Act 2017*, the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the *Local Government (Highways) Act 1982*, the *Taxi and Hire Vehicle Industries Act 2008* and the *Training and Workforce Development Act 2013* and to repeal, rescind and revoke certain spent legislation', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

11 BILL NO. 40.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Public Works Committee Act 1914* and to repeal and revoke certain spent legislation', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 24 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Ms *Rattray*)

12 BILL NO. 55 OF 2025.— The Order of the Day was read for the consideration of the Tasmanian Community Fund Amendment Bill 2025 as amended in Committee of the Whole Council.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now taken into consideration. (Ms *Rattray*)

The Council, accordingly, proceeded to take the same into consideration.

The Amendments were read the First time.

The said Amendments, being read the Second time, were agreed to.

A Motion was made (Ms *Rattray*), and the Question was proposed, That the Bill be now read the Third time.

And the Question being put,

Council divided.

AYES 11	NOES 3
Ms *Armitage*	Mr *Gaffney*
Mr *Duigan*	Ms *O'Connor*
Mr *Edmunds*	Ms *Webb (Teller)*
Ms *Forrest*	
Ms *Glade-Wright*	
Mr *Hiscutt*	
Ms *Lovell (Teller)*	
Ms *Palmer*	
Ms *Rattray*	
Ms *Thomas*	
Mr *Vincent*	

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

The Bill was read the Third time and passed.

13 BILL NO. 55 OF 2025.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendments, to a Bill intituled —

'An Act to amend the *Tasmanian Community Fund Act 2005*', now returns the same to the House of Assembly, and requests its concurrence therein.

Legislative Council, 25 November 2026 C.M. FARRELL, *President*

14 BILL NO. 45.— The Order of the Day was read for the consideration of the Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill 2026 as amended in Committee of the Whole Council.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now taken into consideration. (Ms *O'Connor*)

The Council, accordingly, proceeded to take the same into consideration.

The Amendments were read the First time.

The said Amendments, being read the Second time, were agreed to.

Ordered, That the Bill as amended in the Committee, be now read the Third time. (Ms *O'Connor*)

The Bill was read the Third time and passed.

15 BILL NO. 45.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendments, to a Bill intituled —

'An Act to prohibit practices that are directed to changing or suppressing a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, and for related purposes', now returns the same to the House of Assembly, and requests its concurrence therein.

Legislative Council, 25 November 2026 C.M. FARRELL, *President*

16 SITTING SUSPENDED.— *Resolved*, That the Sitting of the Council be suspended until the ringing of the Division bells. (Ms *Rattray*)

The Sitting was suspended at 11.20 o'clock a.m. and resumed at 11.48 o'clock a.m.

17 RESIGNATION OF SENATOR THE HONOURABLE JONATHON DUNIAM: A LETTER FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.— The President said:—

"Honourable Members, I have received a letter form Her Excellency the Governor which reads as follows:

25 November 2026

The Honourable Craig Farrell MLC
President of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear President

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the President of the Senate notifying me that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 21 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution, a vacancy has occurred on 25 November 2026 in the representation of the State of Tasmania as a result of the resignation of Senator the Honourable Jonathon Duniam.

I have also written to the Premier and the Speaker of the House of Assembly to advise them of the vacancy.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Wells
Governor"

Letter from Parliament House, Canberra read as follows:—

"Her Excellency the Honourable Caroline Wells
Governor of Tasmania
Government House
HOBART TAS 7000

Your Excellency,

Pursuant to section 21 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution, I notify Your Excellency there is a vacancy in the representation of the State of Tasmania through the resignation of Senator the Honourable Jonathon Duniam on Wednesday 25 November 2026.

Yours sincerely

Senator Sue Lines
President of the Senate

25 November 2026"

18 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered,* That Ms *Rattray* have leave to move a Motions without Notice.

19 JOINT SITTING: SENATE VACANCY.— *Ordered*, That so much of Standing Order 329 be suspended to allow for a Joint Sitting of the Houses to be arranged sooner than 7 days after receipt of the Governor's Message. (Ms *Rattray*)

Ordered, That on Thursday 26 November 2026 at 9.30 o'clock a.m. the Legislative Council meet the House of Assembly in the House of Assembly Chamber for the purpose of sitting and voting together to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Honourable Jonathon Duniam. (Ms *Rattray*)

Ordered, That the Joint Sitting Rules as distributed to Members in the House be adopted as the Rules for the Joint Sitting of both Houses. (Ms *Rattray*)

Ordered, That a Message be transmitted to the House of Assembly requesting its concurrence therein and that such Message contain the proposed Rules for the Joint Sitting of both Houses. (Ms *Rattray*)

20 JOINT SITTING: SENATE VACANCY.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the following Resolution and requests its concurrence therein:—

Resolved, That on Thursday 26 November 2026 at 9.30 o'clock in the forenoon the Legislative Council meet the House of Assembly in the House of Assembly Chamber for the purpose of sitting and voting together to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Honourable Jonathon Duniam; and further that and further, the Legislative Council proposes the following Rules for the Joint Sitting:—

1. PARLIAMENTARY USAGE TO BE FOLLOWED IN DEBATE –

   That on any Debate arising, the same shall be conducted according to the Standing Rules and Orders of the House of Assembly. On all points of order, and on all questions arising during the proceedings for choosing a person to fill the vacant place in the Senate, the ruling of the Presiding Officer shall be absolute and final.

2. RULES OF PROCEDURE –

   (1) The Presiding Officer shall call for nominations of persons to fill the seat rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Hon Jonathon Duniam. Each nomination shall be in writing, signed by the proposer, who shall certify on the form of nomination that the person so nominated is willing to hold the seat if chosen and is not disqualified from so doing. The proposer shall also certify that the nominee is a member of the Liberal Party. Nominations shall be handed to the Clerk of the Joint Sitting (hereinafter referred to as the Clerk), who upon being satisfied that they are in order, shall proceed with the preparation of the ballot paper. In the event that one or more nominees are certified to be members of the appropriate Party, those nominees only shall be taken to have been validly proposed to fill the vacancy, and no names other than theirs shall be included on the ballot paper as candidates for the vacant seat.

(2) If only one person be nominated for the vacant seat, the Presiding Officer shall propose the Question "That (name of proposed person) be chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Hon Jonathon Duniam" and, should such Question be passed in the affirmative, shall so declare.

(3) If more than one person be nominated for the vacant seat, a ballot shall be taken in the manner hereinafter provided to determine which of such persons shall be chosen to hold the vacant place. Each of such persons so duly nominated is hereinafter referred to as 'a candidate'.

(4) The Presiding Officer shall announce the names of the candidates who have been nominated, and shall then direct that a ballot be proceeded with, after which no other person shall be nominated; and the Clerk shall turn a two-minute sand-glass, to be kept on the table for that purpose, and the division bells of the House of Assembly shall be rung, and the doors shall not be closed till after the lapse of two minutes, as indicated by the said sand-glass. The doors shall be locked as soon after the lapse of two minutes as the Presiding Officer shall think proper to direct, and, unless otherwise ordered, shall remain locked until it shall have been declared in the manner provided in Rule 2 that a candidate has been chosen to hold the vacant place: provided that the Clerk and two Scrutineers may retire from the Chamber in order to prepare the ballot papers, and subsequently, to count the votes.

(5) The Presiding Officer shall appoint a Member of each House to be a Scrutineer to assist the Clerk in ascertaining the number of votes cast for each candidate.

(6) As soon as practicable after the Presiding Officer has announced that the ballot will be proceeded with each Member present shall be provided with a ballot paper initialled by the Clerk.

(7) Each Member voting shall forthwith mark on the ballot-paper the order of his or her preference for all candidates, and any ballot paper not so marked shall be rejected as informal.

(8) The Member shall then fold and place the ballot paper so marked in the ballot box.

(9) If there are only two candidates, the Clerk shall report to the Presiding Officer the number of valid votes cast for each candidate, and the Presiding Officer shall declare in the manner provided in Rule 2 that the candidate who has the larger number of votes has been chosen to hold the vacant place.

(10) If there are more than two candidates, the method of counting the votes prescribed by Schedule 5 of the *Electoral Act 2004,* for cases in which only one Member is to be elected shall, so far as practicable, and not inconsistent with these rules, be observed.

(11) As soon as it is ascertained that any candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the valid votes recorded by the Members voting, the Clerk shall so report to the Presiding Officer, and the Presiding Officer shall declare in the manner provided in Rule 2 that such candidate has been chosen to hold the vacant place.

(12) If at any stage in the count, two or more of the candidates have an equal number of votes, and one of them has to be excluded, the Clerk shall forthwith report to the Presiding Officer the results of the count at that stage. The Members shall thereupon proceed to a special ballot to ascertain which of such candidates shall be excluded, but so that if there are more than two of such persons with an equality of votes only one shall be excluded.

(13) In all cases not provided for in these Rules resort shall be had to the procedure laid down in the *Electoral Act 2004,* so far as the same may in the opinion of the Presiding Officer be applicable and not inconsistent with these Rules.

Legislative Council, 25 November 2026 C.M. FARRELL, *President*

21 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered,* That Ms *Lovell* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

22 BILL NO. 66 OF 2025.—SUSPENSION OF A SESSIONAL ORDER.— *Ordered,* That so much of Sessional Order No. 7 in relation to time limits be suspended for the Second Reading debate in relation to the Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025. (Ms *Lovell*)

23 BILL NO. 66 OF 2025.— The Order of the Day was read for resuming the Debate on the Question, That the Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 be now read the Second time.

The Question was again proposed, and the Council resumed the Debate.

24 SITTING SUSPENDED. — It being 4.00 o'clock p.m. the Sitting of the Council was suspended.

The Council resumed the Sitting at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

25 BILL NO. 66 OF 2025.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 be now read the Second time.

A Debate arose thereupon.

26 SITTING SUSPENDED.— *Resolved*, That the Sitting of the Council be suspended until the ringing of the Division bells. (Ms *Rattray*)

The Sitting was suspended at 6.52 o'clock p.m. and resumed at 8.04 o'clock p.m.

27 BILL NO. 66 OF 2025.— The Council, according to Order, resumed the Debate on the Question, That Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025 be now read the Second time.

And the Question being put,

Council divided.

AYES 6	NOES 8
Mr *Duigan (Teller)*	Ms *Armitage*
Ms *Glade-Wright*	Mr *Edmunds*
Ms *O'Connor*	Ms *Forrest*
Ms *Palmer*	Mr *Gaffney*
Mr *Vincent*	Mr *Hiscutt*
Ms *Webb*	Ms *Lovell*
	Ms *Rattray (Teller)*
	Ms *Thomas*

So it passed in the Negative.

28 BILL NO. 45.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly does agree, without Amendment, to the Bill intituled, 'A Bill for an Act to prohibit practices that are directed to changing or suppressing a person's sexual orientation or gender identity, and for related purposes'.

House of Assembly, 25 November 2026 JACQUI PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

29 JOINT SITTING: SENATE VACANCY.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly has agreed to the following Resolution communicated to it by the Legislative Council on 25 November 2026:—

Resolved, That on Thursday 26 November 2026 at 9.30 o'clock in the forenoon the Legislative Council meet the House of Assembly in the House of Assembly Chamber for the purpose of sitting and voting together to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Honourable Jonathon Duniam; and further that and further, the Legislative Council proposes the following Rules for the Joint Sitting:—

1. PARLIAMENTARY USAGE TO BE FOLLOWED IN DEBATE –

That on any Debate arising, the same shall be conducted according to the Standing Rules and Orders of the House of Assembly. On all points of order, and on all questions arising during the proceedings for choosing a person to fill the vacant place in the Senate, the ruling of the Presiding Officer shall be absolute and final.

2. RULES OF PROCEDURE –

(1) The Presiding Officer shall call for nominations of persons to fill the seat rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Hon Jonathon Duniam. Each nomination shall be in writing, signed by the proposer, who shall certify on the form of nomination that the person so nominated is willing to hold the seat if chosen and is not disqualified from so doing. The proposer shall also certify that the nominee is a member of the Liberal Party. Nominations shall be handed to the Clerk of the Joint Sitting (hereinafter referred to as the Clerk), who upon being satisfied that they are in order, shall proceed with the preparation of the ballot paper. In the event that one or more nominees are certified to be members of the appropriate Party, those nominees only shall be taken to have been validly proposed to fill the vacancy, and no names other than theirs shall be included on the ballot paper as candidates for the vacant seat.

(2) If only one person be nominated for the vacant seat, the Presiding Officer shall propose the Question "That (name of proposed person) be chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator the Hon Jonathon Duniam" and, should such Question be passed in the affirmative, shall so declare.

(3) If more than one person be nominated for the vacant seat, a ballot shall be taken in the manner hereinafter provided to determine which of such persons shall be chosen to hold the vacant place. Each of such persons so duly nominated is hereinafter referred to as 'a candidate'.

(4) The Presiding Officer shall announce the names of the candidates who have been nominated, and shall then direct that a ballot be proceeded with, after which no other person shall be nominated; and the Clerk shall turn a two-minute sand-glass, to be kept on the table for that purpose, and the division bells of the House of Assembly shall be rung, and the doors shall not be closed till after the lapse of two minutes, as indicated by the said sand-glass. The doors shall be locked as soon after the lapse of two minutes as the Presiding Officer shall think proper to direct, and, unless otherwise ordered, shall remain locked until it shall have been declared in the manner provided in Rule 2 that a candidate has been chosen to hold the vacant place: provided that the Clerk and two Scrutineers may retire from the Chamber in order to prepare the ballot papers, and subsequently, to count the votes.

(5) The Presiding Officer shall appoint a Member of each House to be a Scrutineer to assist the Clerk in ascertaining the number of votes cast for each candidate.

(6) As soon as practicable after the Presiding Officer has announced that the ballot will be proceeded with each Member present shall be provided with a ballot paper initialled by the Clerk.

(7) Each Member voting shall forthwith mark on the ballot-paper the order of his or her preference for all candidates, and any ballot paper not so marked shall be rejected as informal.

(8) The Member shall then fold and place the ballot paper so marked in the ballot box.

(9) If there are only two candidates, the Clerk shall report to the Presiding Officer the number of valid votes cast for each candidate, and the Presiding Officer shall declare in the manner provided in Rule 2 that the candidate who has the larger number of votes has been chosen to hold the vacant place.

(10) If there are more than two candidates, the method of counting the votes prescribed by Schedule 5 of the *Electoral Act 2004,* for cases in which only one Member is to be elected shall, so far as practicable, and not inconsistent with these rules, be observed.

(11) As soon as it is ascertained that any candidate has obtained an absolute majority of the valid votes recorded by the Members voting, the Clerk shall so report to the Presiding Officer, and the Presiding Officer shall declare in the manner provided in Rule 2 that such candidate has been chosen to hold the vacant place.

(12) If at any stage in the count, two or more of the candidates have an equal number of votes, and one of them has to be excluded, the Clerk shall forthwith report to the Presiding Officer the results of the count at that stage. The Members shall thereupon proceed to a special ballot to ascertain which of such candidates shall be excluded, but so that if there are more than two of such persons with an equality of votes only one shall be excluded.

(13) In all cases not provided for in these Rules resort shall be had to the procedure laid down in the *Electoral Act 2004,* so far as the same may in the opinion of the Presiding Officer be applicable and not inconsistent with these Rules.

House of Assembly, 25 November 2026 JACQUIE PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

30 ADJOURNMENT.— *Resolved,* That the Council will, at its rising adjourn until 11.00 o'clock a.m. on Thursday, 26 November 2026. (Ms *Rattray*)

A Motion was made (Ms *Rattray*) and the Question was proposed, That the Council do now adjourn.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

The Council adjourned at 9.49 o'clock p.m.

C.L. VICKERS, *Clerk of the Council*.

Briefings:

- *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill 2025*