



PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

REPORT OF DEBATES

Tuesday 22 June 2021

REVISED EDITION

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Tuesday 22 June 2021

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT

The Council met at 11 a.m. pursuant to the Proclamation of Her Excellency the Governor, the Honourable Kate Warner AC.

The Clerk read the Proclamation.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY COMMISSIONERS

The Commissioners appointed by the Governor, the Honourable Ruth Forrest, the Honourable Leonie Hiscutt and the Honourable Tania Rattray, sent a message to the House of Assembly requesting members to attend to hear the Governor's Commission for the opening of Parliament.

Madam DEPUTY PRESIDENT - Usher of the Black Rod, I command you to let the members of the House of Assembly know that Her Excellency's Commissioners desire their immediate attendance in this Chamber to hear the Commission read.

The members of the House of Assembly attended.

Madam DEPUTY PRESIDENT - Honourable members of the Legislative Council, honourable members of the House of Assembly, her Excellency the Governor, not thinking fit to be here at this time, has been pleased to cause a Commission under the Seal of the State to be prepared in order for the opening and holding of this Parliament. This will fully appear in the Letters Patent themselves, which the Clerk of the Council will now read.

The Clerk read the Commission.

Madam DEPUTY PRESIDENT - Honourable members of the Legislative Council, honourable members of the House of Assembly, we have it in command from Her Excellency, the Governor, to let you know that as soon as the new members of the House of Assembly shall be sworn and the House of Assembly has elected its Speaker in accordance with the Constitution Act, her Excellency will, in person, at 3.00 o'clock this afternoon, in this place declare the causes of her calling this Parliament together.

The members of the House of Assembly withdrew.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Madam DEPUTY PRESIDENT - Honourable members, the sitting is suspended until the ringing of the division bells to enable the Council to elect its President.

Sitting suspended from 11.08 a.m. to 11.38 a.m.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Madam DEPUTY PRESIDENT - Mr Clerk of the Council, I propose to the members of this honourable Chamber as their President, the honourable Craig Farrell, the member for Derwent.

I move - That the honourable Craig Farrell take the Chair of this Council as its President.

Ms RATTRAY (McIntyre) - Mr Clerk of the Council, I second the nomination.

The CLERK - Are there further nominations? There being no further nominations, I call the honourable member of Derwent.

Mr FARRELL (Derwent) - Honourable members, I am very much aware of the honour proposed to be conferred upon me, and I submit myself to the Council.

Mr Farrell was conducted to the Chair.

Mr PRESIDENT - Mr Clerk of the Council and members of this honourable Chamber, I wish to express my humble acknowledgement and grateful thanks for the high honour the Council has been pleased to confer upon me.

Members - Hear, hear.

Sitting suspended from 11.40 a.m. until 3 p.m.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

The Usher of the Black Rod announced Her Excellency the Governor.

Her Excellency commanded the Usher of the Black Rod to summon members of the House of Assembly.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Mr President and honourable members of the Legislative Council, Mr Speaker and members of the House of Assembly, as the twenty ninth Governor of this State I welcome you to the first session of the Fiftieth Parliament of Tasmania.

The State Election on 1 May delivered a significant and historic outcome. For the first time in Tasmania's history a majority Liberal Government was elected by the people of this State for a consecutive third term.

It is testament to the hard work of this Government, which over the past seven years has built a stronger, more resilient Tasmania, and steered our State safely through the ongoing threat of a global pandemic.

This was reflected in the unprecedented personal endorsement for the Honourable Peter Gutwein, Premier of Tasmania, who received overwhelming support from Tasmanians.

I acknowledge and welcome the new members to the House of Assembly, along with the new Member for Windermere to the Legislative Council.

I would also like to acknowledge and pay tribute to my predecessor, the former Governor, Professor Kate Warner AC, for her commitment to the role, through challenging personal times, as well as through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Professor Warner's tenure will be remembered for her connection and commitment to many grassroots issues of importance to Tasmanians, with a passionate and strong focus on creating a more inclusive Tasmania.

My Government has a clear vision for Tasmania to be a state of opportunity for all who call Tasmania home, no matter who you are, where you live, your circumstance or background. This is underpinned by a strong plan to secure Tasmania's future with a focus on: making the decisions necessary to continue keeping Tasmanians safe from COVID-19; delivering a more diverse and resilient Tasmanian economy to create jobs; delivering the revenue we need to protect against future challenges; and continuing our record investment into essential services.

Importantly, we will ensure young Tasmanians can get the skills, training, apprenticeships and jobs for their future here in Tasmania.

We are so very fortunate to call Tasmania home. As we see the images and hear the stories from other parts of the world, where COVID-19 has devastated communities, claiming more than 3.8 million lives, it is a stark and very real reminder that we cannot be complacent, and we must continue to follow the advice of our Public Health officials.

Tasmania is one of the safest places on the planet and we must all continue to do our bit to keep it so. Together with our vaccination strategy, we have in place our COVID safeguards to manage cases both here in Tasmania should they occur, as well as the risk of outbreaks in other jurisdictions on our State, as we have seen recently in Victoria.

I would like to acknowledge the incredible efforts of our public health and health staff, our frontline staff, and all those in our community who work hard every day to keep Tasmanians safe from the risk of COVID-19.

My Government took significant steps to keep Tasmanians safe from the pandemic, balancing both a health and an economic crisis. Together with economic support packages, the hard work done over the past seven years to build a more resilient Tasmanian economy, and the initiatives taken to stimulate Tasmania's economy through the pandemic, we have placed our State in a strong position for recovery. There are 25,000 more jobs in Tasmania now, compared to when my Government took office in 2014, and in fact, there are more Tasmanian jobs now than before the pandemic.

Our State is performing well across a number of key performance indicators, with job vacancies, exports and retail trade all increasing according to recent data reports.

However, now is not the time to walk the complacent middle path, because as the Premier has said on many occasions, there will be challenges ahead.

That is why my Government has adopted a bold agenda and clear plan to secure Tasmania's future. To secure more opportunities for Tasmanians and to build a more diverse and resilient economy. To harness our natural strengths and competitive advantages and realise our true potential. This includes advanced manufacturing, agriculture, mineral resources, fisheries, forestry, tourism, arts and the iconic events which showcase our culture, heritage and ingenuity.

Tasmania has secured its reputation as a climate leader. We were the first state in Australia to reach net zero emissions and we've reached our 2050 target early for five years in a row. My Government will continue to harness our island's competitive advantages and lead Australia's transition to a low-emissions economy. We will continue to take climate action across all sectors of our economy, including in housing, transport, waste, industry, energy and land use. And we have a bold plan to unlock Tasmania's world-class renewable energy resources, including hydro generation and storage, as well as wind and solar resources.

Key projects, including Marinus Link, Battery of the Nation and our Hydrogen strategy will help transition Tasmania to a renewable energy future and meet our Renewable Energy Target of 200% by 2040.

We are focused on building better and more connected communities, and ensuring we have the inter-generational infrastructure our growing state needs.

We are building better roads, schools, hospitals, bridges, dams and irrigation networks right across our State, which is supporting thousands of jobs in our regions.

To realise our vision for Tasmania to provide opportunity for all who call this State their home, my Government is focused on delivering improved outcomes for more Tasmanians.

This includes a substantial investment, and whole of Government approach to building a better health system for Tasmania, delivering more housing to meet demand and ensuring Tasmania has the best training pathways so more Tasmanians have access to the skills and training they need for the jobs available.

While my Government is providing unprecedented resources for our health system - delivering record staffing levels, opening and funding new beds, and investing in the facilities our patients and staff deserve across our regions - we know there is more to do. That is why there is a clear plan to ensure investments and reforms to Tasmania's health system will deliver a more integrated system, to deliver the care patients need in the right place and at the right time. At the very heart of this, my Government is leaving no stone unturned to identify all options to provide better and faster access to care for Tasmanians.

The Premier and Minister for Health met with each major public and private hospital immediately after forming Government, to look at further improvements to healthcare and solutions to take pressure off our busy public hospital system. We are drawing from learnings through COVID, where our private and public systems worked well together, and we are providing funding and support to deliver care sooner for Tasmanians by working with our

private hospitals to ensure they are better able to support our public hospitals to manage demand.

Right now work is underway to understand how private hospitals can assist our public hospital sector to meet our ambitious elective surgery schedule, identifying opportunities to purchase beds from private hospitals to improve patient flow and access to care, and enable private hospitals to support public hospitals with demand in other areas, including community nursing and home care.

Importantly, we have wasted no time in delivering on commitments, with a Memorandum of Understanding signed with Calvary Health Care to accelerate the delivery of their \$120 million co-located private hospital adjacent to the Launceston General Hospital, which will enable better health services and boost attraction and retention of health professionals, including specialists to the community.

Co-located private and public hospitals have been extremely successful and beneficial to communities across Australia, and we know they can help attract and help to retain difficult-to-recruit specialists to our healthcare system.

There is no doubt this will deliver additional and complementary services to support and reduce pressure on the Launceston General Hospital and provide better health outcomes for Tasmanians.

My Government has also allocated \$156.4 million over four years across the State, to deliver an additional 22,300 elective surgeries and endoscopies, and we will invest an additional \$56 million to continue our transformation of the mental health system, alcohol and drug services, and boost preventative health measures.

This includes funding for new initiatives like an Emergency Mental Health Co-Response Team, which will deliver better outcomes for Tasmanians, increase the capacity of emergency services, and reduce hospitalisations.

We will also focus on the prevention of mental ill-health with a whole-of-community approach for all Tasmanians, by increasing the capacity for advice and information, and build the capacity of communities so Tasmanians can better understand and engage with their mental health, and stay well, by targeting mental health literacy initiatives in collaboration with local government.

There is no doubt that if we work together, we can and will build a better health system. Strong, connected, healthy and safe communities are so important. This is why my Government has a strong focus on keeping Tasmanians safe, and investing in infrastructure to support our community- such as more social and affordable housing. I am very pleased that my Government is undertaking record investment into social and affordable housing, and homelessness initiatives, as well as incentives and plans to help more Tasmanians realise the dream of owning their own home.

Not only is this delivering more housing options for more Tasmanians, it provides a clear pipeline of work to keep our construction and building sector engaged and busy well into the future, supporting thousands of jobs and many businesses - large and small - across Tasmania.

We are keeping our communities safe by boosting Tasmania Police to the highest number of officers in the State's history, investing in CCTV in our rural and regional areas, and providing more funds to Crimestoppers and support for specialist recruitment, in areas such as cybercrime.

My Government is focused on keeping communities safe from the threat of bushfire, with more fuel reduction burns, more volunteers and new-generation technologies. Keeping our communities safe, means taking action against family violence, which remains a top priority for my Government. Since the launch of our first, nation-leading action plan in 2015, my Government has continued to build upon its commitment, investment and scope to respond to family and sexual violence in Tasmania.

Our response takes a whole of Government, multi-agency approach, and provides significant investment to deliver 40 actions under the current Safe Homes, Families, Communities: Tasmania's action plan for family and sexual violence 2019-2022.

We have made good progress over the past six years, and in 2019-20 we saw the continued reduction in the number of family violence incidents assessed as high risk.

We are investing in crisis accommodation through the Affordable Housing Action Plan, and extending the capacity of women's shelters across the State including Jireh House, Salvation Army and Magnolia House.

Through my Government's Rapid Rehousing program, we are helping more households into transitional accommodation and also funding an additional 20 properties as part of our response to COVID-19.

However, there is more work to be done. This is why my Government has committed to a third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan, with fully funded, evidence-based initiatives, in consultation with the Family and Sexual Violence Consultative Group and people with lived experience.

As part of this, we will commission a feasibility study for a new Safe Emergency Accommodation facility in the Northern Midlands, to better support women from rural areas.

Ensuring we are removing barriers to enable more women to participate in learning and in the workforce is key, and I am pleased my Government is boosting the Women's Workforce Participation initiative to include additional funding over the next three years to develop an industry-led approach, to enable and empower more women to participate across the economy.

This includes a Diversity Action Plan, in partnership with the Tasmanian Mineral and Energy Council, a Women in Building and Construction Strategy, and a Girls in Property pilot program.

My Government is also boosting health services for women through Family Planning Tasmania and we are providing free sanitary items in Government schools to ensure girls don't miss out on learning because they don't have access to basic items. There is nothing more important than the safety and wellbeing of children and young people, and supporting the families in which they grow, are loved and belong.

We are committed to continuing the work that's begun, including our response to our most vulnerable children, young people and their families. This is why we are developing Tasmania's very first Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.

We are also providing funds to support new, stable permanent family placements where children and young people can belong and thrive, and we will extend supports for Informal Kinship Carers, who play a crucial role in the lives of many Tasmanian children who are unable to live with their parents.

Ensuring we have a resilient and diverse economy to attract investment and enable our Tasmanian businesses to develop, grow and create employment opportunities for Tasmanians is critical. A strong economy enables greater investment in the key areas that make a difference to Tasmanian lives - health, housing, community infrastructure, the environment, and training and education.

My Government has worked hard to deliver transformative change in education, including prioritising the extension of Years 11 and 12 across senior schools, to increase the opportunity for more Tasmanians to complete tertiary education.

Now, my Government will invest almost \$100 million in new funding into our TasTAFE system, including 100 more teachers, and new infrastructure and facilities, with increased access for rural and regional students. These initiatives are described by industry as bold and pragmatic, and responding to the needs of Tasmanian businesses seeking to employ.

Ensuring young Tasmanians can get the training, apprenticeships and jobs for their future here in Tasmania is a key pillar of my Government's plan to Secure Tasmania's Future. My Government has a clear plan to realise its vision, underpinned by principles of compassion and conviction.

This is why we believe very strongly that we must continue on our pathway to achieve reconciliation with our First Nations people, the Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal people, who have inhabited this Island for more than 40,000 years. Acknowledgment under our constitution and Closing the Gap provide a solid foundation to build from. And whilst my Government remains committed to stronger protection of Aboriginal heritage and open to proposals for further land return, there is more to be done. In consultation with our First Nations people, my Government wants to find an agreed pathway to reconciliation so we can all share in the potential that exists from a truly meaningful, reconciled relationship. Our goal is to see better outcomes for Tasmanian Aboriginal people, more opportunity for them and their families, to dignify the relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal people and achieve a truly reconciled community.

During her recent term as Governor for Tasmania, Professor Kate Warner AC has demonstrated a strong commitment to Tasmanian Aboriginal people and she has agreed to facilitate a process to understand directly from Aboriginal people themselves how best to take our next steps towards reconciliation. Professor Warner, who will be supported by Professor Tim McCormack, will deliver a report to the Premier by October, which will then be tabled in Parliament later this year.

The Premier has requested that Professor Warner provide in her report recommendations that will outline a proposed way forward towards reconciliation, as well as the views of Tasmanian Aboriginal people on a Truth Telling process and on what a pathway to Treaty would consist of. Professor Warner will begin these discussions in the coming weeks.

While the last 16 months have been some of the most challenging this State has ever faced, my Government believes that Tasmanians - regardless of race, religion, circumstance or background - demonstrated a common humanity during this time that brought us closer together.

We must hold onto that, we must learn from that, because it makes all of us stronger as a result.

My Government has received the endorsement of the people of Tasmania who have voted for stability and certainty. They will responsibly and fairly govern for all, and importantly work hard to ensure more Tasmanians are able to grasp the opportunities that now exist in this beautiful State.

They have been given the honour and privilege of governing Tasmania to implement a bold vision to create opportunity for all Tasmanians, and to implement their plan to secure our State's future. They hold an important role, and with it comes great responsibility.

I know my Government will lead with conviction and compassion, and continue to place the wellbeing and welfare of the people of Tasmania first.

Thank you.

Usher of the Black Rod, I command you to deliver this speech to the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

The Governor withdrew.

The members of the House of Assembly withdrew.

Mr PRESIDENT - Honourable Members of the Legislative Council and guests, please be seated.

Honourable members, I shall resume the Chair at the ringing of the Division Bells which I anticipate will be at around 5.00 p.m.

Sitting suspended from 3.26 p.m. to 5.10 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE

Mr PRESIDENT - 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 traditional and original owners, and the continuing custodians of this land.

PARTITION BILL (pro forma)

First Reading

Bill presented by Mrs Hiscutt and read the first time.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Mr PRESIDENT - Honourable members, I have the honour to report the speech of her Excellency the Governor, delivered in the Chamber upon the occasion of the opening of the first session of the Fiftieth Parliament.

Mr WILLIE (Elwick) - Mr President, 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, her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the members of the Legislative Council 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 her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, 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.

Mr President, I will make my contribution in response tomorrow, but before I do move an adjournment I would like to welcome the member for Windermere to the Chamber and congratulations on your election. I am sure you will enjoy your time here and will get along very well despite the odd disagreement from time to time. I am sure the members and the staff have made you feel very welcome.

Mr President, congratulations on your re-election. It was a strong result, despite the headwind. We are all very glad for your return. I know you are thankful to be here too. On that note I will move that the debate stand adjourned.

Debate adjourned.

MOTION

Select Committee on TasWater

Ms RATTRAY (McIntyre)(by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the Legislative Council Select Committee on TasWater appointed on the 24 June 2020 with power to send for persons and papers with leave to sit during any adjournment for the Council and with leave to adjourn from place

to place, to enquire into and report upon the operations of TasWater be reappointed and that the membership of the Committee and its terms of reference be those agreed to in the second session of the Forty-Ninth Parliament and that the minutes of proceedings of and evidence taken by that Committee be referred to the Committee.

Motion agreed to.

MOTION

Select Committee on Greater Hobart Traffic

Mr VALENTINE (Hobart)(by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the Legislative Council Select Committee on Greater Hobart Traffic appointed on the 13 August 2019 with power to send for persons and papers with leave to sit during any adjournment of the Council and with leave to adjourn from place to place to enquire into and report upon traffic congestion in the Greater Hobart area be reappointed and that the membership of the Committee and its terms of reference be those agreed to in the second session of the Forty-Ninth Parliament and that the minutes of proceedings of and evidence taken by that Committee be referred to the Committee.

Motion agreed to.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT

Death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip

Mr PRESIDENT - Honourable members, I wish to advise that on Monday 12 April 2021, accompanied by the Speaker, I visited Government House and presented the following message to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, most gracious Sovereign:

On behalf of the members of the Parliament of Tasmania, we, the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly, desire to express to your Majesty the deep sorrow with which we have received the news of the lamented death of his Royal Highness, the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, whose life, leadership and devoted support of your Majesty endeared him to your Majesty's subjects in Tasmania and in all parts of the Commonwealth of Nations.

We desire to convey to your Majesty and all other members of the Royal Family our deepest sympathy in your bereavement.

Signed

Honourable C M Farrell, President of the Legislative Council,
Honourable Sue Hickey, Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Her Excellency, the Governor, made the following reply:

Mr President and honourable members of the Legislative Council, on behalf of her Majesty the Queen, I thank you for your message.

Signed Kate Warner, Governor, 12 April 2021.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Member for Prosser - Ms Howlett

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) (by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the member for Prosser, Ms Howlett, be granted leave of absence from the service of the Council for this day's sitting.

Motion agreed to.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) - Mr President, I wish to inform the Council that as a result of the general election for the House of Assembly held on 1 May 2021, her Excellency, the Governor, made the following ministerial appointments at Government House on 19 May 2021:

- Peter Gutwein MP, as Premier, Treasurer, Minister for Tourism and Minister for Climate Change;
- Jeremy Rockliff MP, as Deputy Premier, Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing, Minister for Community Services and Development and Minister for Advanced Manufacturing and Defence Industries;
- Elise Archer MP, as Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, Minister for Workplace Safety and Consumer Affairs, Minister for Corrections and Minister for the Arts;
- Guy Barnett MP, as Minister for Trade, Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction, Minister for Resources and Minister for Veterans' Affairs;
- Sarah Courtney MP, as Minister for Education, Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth, Minister for Children and Youth, Minister for Hospitality and Events and Minister for Disability Services;
- Michael Ferguson MP, as Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Finance, Minister for Science and Technology and Leader of the House;

- Roger Jaensch MP, as Minister for State Growth, Minister for Environment, Minister for Local Government and Planning, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Heritage;
- Jacqueline Petrusma MP, as Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, Minister for Prevention of Family Violence and Minister for Parks; and
- Jane Howlett MLC, as Minister for Small Business, Minister for Women, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Racing.

Mr President, I formally advise the Council that the Premier reappointed me as Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.

On 19 May 2021 the Premier appointed Jo Palmer MLC as Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.

I also advise the appointment of Madeleine Ogilvie MP as Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and John Tucker MP also as Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier. Mr Tucker continues as the Government whip.

WRITS FOR THE RETURN OF NEW MEMBERS

Members for Mersey, Derwent and Windermere

The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table of the Council writs for the return of new members for the Electoral Divisions of Mersey, Derwent and Windermere, certifying to Michael Victor Gaffney, Craig Maxwell Farrell and Nicholas John Henry Duigan respectively, having been chosen on 1 May 2021 to serve in the Legislative Council.

MEMBERS SWORN

Members for Mersey, Derwent and Windermere

The Clerk of the Council advised the Council that Michael Victor Gaffney, returned upon a new writ for Mersey, Craig Maxwell Farrell, returned upon a new writ for Derwent and Nicholas John Henry Duigan, returned upon a new writ for Windermere had each previously made and taken the affirmation or oath of allegiance as required by law.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT

Welcome - Members for Mersey, Derwent and Windermere

Mr PRESIDENT - I take this opportunity to welcome to this House and the Parliament the newly elected member for Windermere and wish him well in his role representing the people who have duly elected him. I know I speak on behalf of all members, Chamber officers

and staff when I say we are ready to offer any support, advice, or assistance that you may require, particularly in the early stages of your elected term.

Please do not hesitate to ask any member for assistance. There is no such thing as a ridiculous question. We all like to ask what is going on from time to time. You may not get the answer but we will try our best. You will find, I am sure, that your role at times will be challenging, but you can be assured you will find it very satisfying and extremely rewarding, not only to have the opportunity to assist and represent the people of Windermere electorate here in the Legislative Council, but to contribute to the improved welfare of the people of Tasmania. We have placed you between our two senior members. That is in experience, not age, I hasten to add. These two members will teach you all the ropes as far as Chamber practice and when we are in Committee and will be more than willing to offer their vast knowledge in this Chamber.

I also acknowledge and congratulate our dear friend, the member for Mersey, on your return to this Chamber. I know you will continue to work extremely hard for the people of Mersey and the people of Tasmania, as certainly you did during the last term. I am not sure if you plan anything quite that momentous, but who knows? We look forward to your further contributions, including your choice of shirts, to this Parliament. Well done on getting in unchallenged. It speaks volumes.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Deputation to Notify Governor of Election of President

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council)(by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That so much of Standing Order 16 be suspended as would prevent the Council proceeding to consider business prior to the Governor being notified of the election of the new President.

Motion agreed to.

MOTION

Presentation of President to Governor

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council)(by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That accompanied by a deputation of so many of the members of the Council as see fit to attend, you notify her Excellency, the Governor, of his election at Government House at 6.00 p.m. this day.

Motion agreed to.

MOTIONS

Sessional Orders and Other Orders

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) - Mr President, I seek leave to move motions without notice to establish certain sessional and other orders.

Leave granted.

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) (by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the sessional orders relating to e-petitions which were in place in the second session of the Forty-Ninth Parliament be again approved for this session.

Motion agreed to.

Mr President, I move -

That the following sessional orders apply in lieu of standing orders numbers 29(2), 138(2) and (4).

Number 29, Adjournment for want of a Quorum when notice taken by Member.

- (2) At any time after the council has proceeded to business, if a member notices that seven members, including the President or Deputy President are not present, and so states, the bells shall be rung for a division. If a quorum is not present at the expiration of four minutes, the President shall adjourn the Council without a question being first put until the next ordinary sitting time.

Number 138, After division called -

How Division Taken

- (2) The President will order the division bells to be rung for four minutes.

Locking of Doors

- (4) After the four minutes have expired, or such lesser time at the discretion of the President, he or she will order the doors to be locked and no member will enter or leave the Chamber until after the division.

Motion agreed to.

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) - Mr President, I move -

That the following sessional order apply in lieu of standing order no. 200 -

- (1) The evidence taken by any Select Committee of the Council, and documents presented to such Committee which have not been reported to the Council shall not, unless authorised by the Committee, be referred to in the Council by any member or published or disclosed by any member or any other person.
- (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to -
 - (a) any proceedings of the Committee that are open to the public and the news media;
 - (b) press releases or statements made by a member of the Committee on the authority of the Committee; and
 - (c) written submissions presented to a Select Committee and authorised to be published by the Committee.

Motion agreed to.

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) -
Mr President, I move -

That so much of standing order No. 39 be suspended for the duration of this session to enable Special Interest Matters to be called on each sitting Tuesday before Notices of Motion and Orders of the Day are proceeded with.

MOTIONS

Prayers

[5.36 p.m.]

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) -
Mr President, I move -

That upon the President taking the Chair at the commencement of each day's sitting, the following prayers shall be read -

Almighty God, we humbly beseech Thee to vouchsafe Thy blessing upon this Parliament. Direct and prosper our deliberations to the advancement of Thy glory and the true welfare of the people of Tasmania.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Motion agreed to.

PRESIDENT'S AUTHORITY

Advisers on the Floor

Mr PRESIDENT - Honourable members, by my authority, I have determined that advisers to the Leader of the Government, the Deputy Leader of the Government and the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Minister for Racing, Minister for Small Business and Minister for Women be authorised to go onto the Floor of this House for the duration of the session in order to advise and support those members.

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT

Appointment of Staff of the Legislative Council - Mr Tim Mills Clerk-Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod

Mr PRESIDENT - Honourable members, I am very pleased to advise that on 22 April 2021 I appointed Mr Tim Mills to the position of Clerk-Assistant and Usher of the Black Rod. The appointment followed a selection process with a recommendation made to me. This appointment is a significant one.

Tim has a background in law, having been admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Tasmania in 2004. Tim has worked as a criminal lawyer and a crown counsel in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

In addition, Tim has undertaken important work in the Office of the Secretary in the Department of Justice, including legislation development and providing other strategic advice. In more recent times, Tim has been the senior adviser in the Office of the Attorney-General and prior to being appointed Clerk-Assistant was the Assistant Director (Administration of Justice) in the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Justice.

On behalf of all members, I wish Tim well as he embarks on his new role, with our confidence and support. If the effort he put into arranging the opening of Parliament today - which was pretty much a baptism of fire - is any indication of what he is capable of, we are in very good hands. On behalf of all members, welcome to the Chamber, Tim.

Members - Hear, hear.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) - Mr President, I move -

That the sitting be suspended until the ringing of the division bells to allow members to attend at Government House.

Motion agreed to.

Sitting suspended from 5.40 p.m. to 6.34 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT TO GOVERNOR

Mr PRESIDENT - Honourable members, I wish to report to the Council that in accordance with standing order 16, in the company of other honourable members, I presented myself to her Excellency, the Governor, this afternoon and informed her that the Council had done me the honour of electing me President. Her Excellency sent the following message:

To the President and members of the Legislative Council, I congratulate honourable members of the Legislative Council on their choice of a President.

Signed

Honourable Barbara Baker, AC, Governor,
22 June 2021

MOTIONS

Chair of Committees - Appointment

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) (by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the member for Murchison, Ms Forrest, be appointed Chair of Committees of this Council.

Motion agreed to.

Deputy Chairs of Committees - Appointment

[6.36 p.m.]

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) (by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the member for McIntyre, Ms Rattray, be appointed Deputy Chair of Committees, the member for Hobart, Mr Valentine, be appointed second Deputy Chair, and the member for Launceston, Ms Armitage, be appointed third Deputy Chair of Committees of this Council.

Motion agreed to.

Committee Appointments

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) - Mr President, I seek leave to move Motions without Notice relating to committee appointments.

Leave granted.

Committee of Privileges - Membership

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) -
Mr President, I move -

That Mr Farrell, as President, Ms Forrest, as Chair of Committees, Mr Gaffney, Ms Rattray and the mover be appointed as the Committee of Privileges of this Council, to inquire into and report upon complaints of breach of privilege which may be referred to it by the Council.

Motion agreed to.

Standing Orders Committee - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That the President, the Chair of Committee, Ms Rattray, Mr Valentine and the mover be appointed as the Standing Orders Committee.

Motion agreed to.

Public Works Committee - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That Ms Rattray and Mr Valentine be appointed to serve on the Public Works Committee in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of the Public Works Committee Act of 1914.

Motion agreed to.

Subordinate Legislation Committee - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That Ms Forrest, Ms Rattray and Ms Webb be appointed to serve on the Subordinate Legislation Committee in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of the Subordinate Legislation Committee Act of 1969.

Motion agreed to.

Public Accounts Committee - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That Ms Forrest, Ms Webb and Mr Willie be appointed to serve on the Public

Accounts Committee in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of the Public Accounts Committee Act of 1970.

Motion agreed to.

Joint Standing Committee on Integrity - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That Ms Armitage, Ms Palmer and Mr Valentine be appointed to serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Integrity in accordance with section 23 of the Integrity Commission Act of 2009.

Motion agreed to.

Joint House Committee - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That the President, Ms Forrest, and the mover be appointed to serve on the Joint House Committee of this Parliament.

Motion agreed to.

Joint Committee to Manage the Parliamentary Library - Membership

Mr President, I move -

That Ms Armitage, Mr Farrell, Ms Forrest, Ms Rattray, Dr Seidel and Mr Valentine be appointed to serve on the Joint Committee of both Houses to manage the Parliamentary Library.

Motion agreed to.

MOTIONS

Government Administration Committees A and B - Re-Establishment

Ms FORREST (Murchison) (by leave) - Mr President, I move -

That the Legislative Council agree to the re-establishment of two Government Administration sessional committees in the following terms:

1. Sessional Committee A on Government Administration

- 1.1 The Sessional Committee A on Government Administration is re-established.
- 1.2 The Committee consists of not less than five members.
- 1.3 The functions of the Committee are to inquire into and report upon any matter related to
 - (a) any bill or other matter referred to by the Council;
 - (b) the administration, processes, practices and conduct of any department, agency, government business enterprise, state-owned company, or other entity for which the following ministers are responsible:
 1. Premier
 2. Treasurer
 3. Minister for Climate Change
 4. Minister for Tourism
 5. Deputy Premier
 6. Minister for Health
 7. Minister for Advance Manufacturing and Defence Industries
 8. Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing
 9. Minister for Community Services and Development
 10. Minister for Science and Technology
 11. Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
 12. Minister for Finance
 13. Minister for State Development, Housing and Construction
 14. Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
 15. Minister for State Growth
 16. Minister for Heritage
 17. Minister for Local Government and Planning
 18. Minister for Environment
 - (c) the administration, processes, practices and conduct of any other entity including those entities in which local government has interest.
- 1.4 That Mr Duigan, Mr Gaffney, Ms Lovell, Dr Seidel, Ms Webb and the mover be appointed to serve on the said Committee.

2. Sessional Committee B on Government Administration

- 2.1 The Sessional Committee B on Government Administration is re-established.
- 2.2 The Committee consists not less than five members
- 2.3 The functions of the Committee are to inquire into and report upon any matter related to -

- (a) any bill or other matter referred to by the Council;
- (b) the administration, processes, practices, and conduct of any department, agency, government business enterprise, state-owned company or other entity for which the following ministers are responsible:
 - 1. Minister for Education
 - 2. Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth
 - 3. Minister for Children and Youth
 - 4. Minister for Hospitality and Events
 - 5. Minister for Disability Services
 - 6. Attorney-General
 - 7. Minister for Justice
 - 8. Minister for Corrections
 - 9. Minister for the Arts
 - 10. Minister for Workplace Safety and Consumer Affairs
 - 11. Minister for Primary Industries and Water
 - 12. Minister for Resources
 - 13. Minister for Trade
 - 14. Minister for Veterans' Affairs
 - 15. Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction
 - 16. Minister for Sport and Recreation
 - 17. Minister for Racing
 - 18. Minister for Women
 - 19. Minister for Small Business
 - 20. Minister for Parks
 - 21. Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management
 - 22. Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence
- (c) the administration, processes, practices and conduct of any other entity including those entities for which local government has an interest.

2.4. That Ms Armitage, Ms Palmer, Ms Rattray, Ms Siejka, Mr Valentine and Mr Willie be appointed to serve on the said Committee.

Motion agreed to.

Government Administration Committees A and B - Sessional Orders

Ms FORREST (Murchison) (by leave) - Mr President I move -

That the sessional orders governing the operation of the two Government Administration sessional committees A and B, which were in place during the last session of Forty-Ninth Parliament be again approved for this session.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

[6.43 p.m.]

Mrs HISCUTT (Montgomery - Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council) -
Mr President I move -

That the Council at its rising adjourns until 11 a.m. Wednesday, 23 June 2021

Motion agreed to.

Mrs HISCUTT - Mr President, before I move the Council do now adjourn, I remind members of our briefing tomorrow morning at 9:30 in Committee Room 2 regarding the Stroke Foundation. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Mr President, I move that the Council do now adjourn.

The Council adjourned at 6.43 p.m.