



# HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2021

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT)

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 23

WEDNESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2021

- 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 Attorney-General laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-  
Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies University of Tasmania: Evaluation of Project Vigilance - Electronic Monitoring of Family Violence Offenders - Final Report July 2021.
- 6 PAPERS. - The Minister for Primary Industries and Water laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-  
Veterinary Board of Tasmania: Annual Report 2020-2021.
- 7 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: CHILD SAFETY. - Ms *White* in accordance with Standing Orders, moved - That the House take note of the following matter:  
  
Child Safety.  
  
And the Question being proposed;  
  
A Debate arose thereupon.
- 8 PAPERS. - Ms *O'Connor*, *by leave*, laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-  
Independent Inquiry into the Tasmanian Department of Education's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse - Final Report, 7 June 2021.
- 9 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: CHILD SAFETY. - And the Question being again proposed;  
  
The House resumed the Debate.  
  
And the Question being put;  
  
It was resolved in the Affirmative.
- 10 BILL NO. 54. - The Order of the Day being read for the Second reading of the Container Refund Scheme Bill 2021.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed - That the Bill be now read the Second time. (The Minister for Environment)

A debate arose thereupon.

And Mr *Ellis* was addressing the Chair.

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

**12** RECONNECTING TASMANIA PLAN. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—  
That the House:—

(1) Notes that:—

- (a) COVID-19 has been one of the greatest health, social and economic challenges Tasmanians have faced;
- (b) the Government's number one priority is to keep Tasmanians safe and secure;
- (c) on 22 October 2021, the Government announced its 'Reconnecting Tasmania' plan to safely re-open our Borders on 15 December 2021, based on advice from public health, the State health Commander, the State Controller and relevant agencies;
- (d) based on the Tasmania-specific modelling from the Kirby Institute, the Government is confident that we can open our Borders and manage COVID-19 safely, including within our health system;
- (e) the Government's 'Reconnecting Tasmania' plan allows Tasmania to re-open our Borders, while ensuring we have the health and safety nets in place to keep on top of COVID-19;
- (f) by retaining baseline community health, hygiene, tracking and tracing protocols, coupled with COVID-safety business plans, and a well-resourced and prepared health system, we can re-open our Borders safely and sensibly;
- (g) between now and 15 December 2021, vaccination remains the priority with more than 90% of Tasmanians aged 16 years and older having had at least one dose and nearly 80% fully vaccinated; and
- (h) by 15 December 2021, the Government is confident that everyone above the age of 12 in Tasmania will have had the opportunity to be vaccinated.

(2) Endorses the Government's 'Reconnecting Tasmania' plan. (Mr *Tucker*)

A debate arose thereupon.

An Amendment was proposed by Ms *Dow* to add the following paragraph:

“(3) Calls on the Premier to provide a Ministerial Statement, no later than 25 November 2021, on the preparedness for COVID of our health system.”

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put - That the Amendment be agreed to;

The House divided.

AYES 12

*Ms Butler*  
*Ms Dow*  
*Ms Finlay*  
*Ms Haddad*  
*Ms Johnston*  
*Mr O'Byrne*  
*Ms O'Byrne*  
*Ms O'Connor*  
*Ms White*  
*Mr Winter*  
*Dr Woodruff*  
*Dr Broad (Teller)*

NOES 12

*Ms Archer*  
*Mr Barnett*  
*Ms Courtney*  
*Mr Ferguson*  
*Mr Gutwein*  
*Mr Jaensch*  
*Ms Ogilvie*  
*Mrs Petrusma*  
*Mr Rockliff*  
*Mr Shelton*  
*Mr Tucker*  
*Mr Ellis (Teller)*

DEPUTY SPEAKER GIVES CASTING VOTE. – The Deputy Speaker said: 'The numbers being equal, I cast my vote with the Noes.'

So it passed in the Negative.

And the Main Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

**13** PREPAREDNESS FOR REOPENING THE BORDERS. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed —That the House:—

(1) Acknowledges that:—

- (a) the Tasmanian Government released its Roadmap to Reopen, 'Reconnecting Tasmania: our safe border reopening plan', on 22 October 2021;
- (b) the Tasmanian Government has set the date the 15 December 2021 for reopening Tasmania's borders; and
- (c) the Tasmanian Government's Kirby Institute modelling outlines a range of scenarios including forecasting the State can expect tens of thousands of cases in the first 200 days.

(2) Notes that:—

- (a) people right across the State have raised concerns about the health systems ability to cope with a COVID outbreak;
- (b) recent health dashboard data highlights current demand is not being met across the health system;
- (c) four out of five people presenting to the Royal Hobart Hospital ED (Emergency Department) and 60 per cent of people presenting to the Launceston General Hospital ED are not seen within clinically recommended timeframes; and
- (d) 10,776 Tasmanians are on the elective surgery wait list.

- (3) Further notes that Tasmanians, no matter where they live, should have every opportunity to be double vaccinated before 15 December 2021.
- (4) Calls on the Premier, Hon *Peter Gutwein* MP to:—
- (a) table the report and modelling on surge capacity which informs the Government's hospital preparedness plan;
  - (b) table the report and modelling on surge capacity which informs the Government's community health preparedness plan; and
  - (c) provide a Ministerial Statement to Parliament on the COVID@Home program and how this service will be provided across our communities. (Ms *Dow*)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

#### AYES 12

*Dr Broad*  
*Ms Butler*  
*Ms Dow*  
*Ms Haddad*  
*Ms Johnston*  
*Mr O'Byrne*  
*Ms O'Byrne*  
*Ms O'Connor*  
*Ms White*  
*Mr Winter*  
*Dr Woodruff*  
*Ms Finlay* (Teller)

#### NOES 12

*Ms Archer*  
*Mr Barnett*  
*Ms Courtney*  
*Mr Ferguson*  
*Mr Gutwein*  
*Mr Jaensch*  
*Ms Ogilvie*  
*Mrs Petrusma*  
*Mr Rockliff*  
*Mr Street*  
*Mr Tucker*  
*Mr Ellis* (Teller)

SPEAKER GIVES CASTING VOTE. - The Speaker said: 'The numbers being equal, I cast my vote with the Noes.'

So it passed in the Negative.

**14** BILL NO. 38. - The Order of the Day being read for the Second reading of the Electoral Amendment (Voting Age) Bill 2021.

And a Motion being made, and the Question being proposed - That the Bill be now read the Second time. (Ms *O'Connor*)

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 3

*Ms Johnston*

*Ms O'Connor*

*Dr Woodruff (Teller)*

NOES 21

*Ms Archer*

*Mr Barnett*

*Dr Broad*

*Ms Butler*

*Ms Courtney*

*Ms Dow*

*Mr Ferguson*

*Ms Finlay*

*Mr Gutwein*

*Ms Haddad*

*Mr Jaensch*

*Mr O'Byrne*

*Ms O'Byrne*

*Ms Ogilvie*

*Mrs Petrusma*

*Mr Rockliff*

*Mr Street*

*Mr Tucker*

*Ms White*

*Mr Winter*

*Mr Ellis (Teller)*

So It passed in the Negative

**15** BILL NO. 40. - A Message from the Legislative Council. -

MR SPEAKER

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendment, to a Bill, intituled –

“A Bill for an Act to repeal the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Act 1968 and to amend certain Acts, and rescind or revoke certain legislative instruments, consequent on that repeal”,

now returns the same to the House of Assembly, and requests its concurrence therein.

*Legislative Council, 10 November 2021.*

*C.M. FARRELL, President.*

*Ordered,* That the said Message be taken into consideration tomorrow. (The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport)

**16** BILL NO. 54. - The Order of the Day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on this day - That the Container Refund Scheme Bill 2021 be now read the Second time.

And the Question being again proposed;

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

**17** LEAVE TO EXTEND A MEMBER'S SPEAKING TIME. – *Ordered*, That the Minister for Environment have an extension of speaking time of ten minutes. (Ms *White*)

**18** BILL NO. 54. – And the Question being again proposed;

The House resumed the Debate.

And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

And the Speaker having left the Chair, the House resolved itself into the said Committee.

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(In the Committee)

Mr *Tucker* took the Chair.

Clause 1 agreed to.

The Chair of Committees took the Chair.

Clauses 2 to 23 agreed to.

Clause 24 read.

Mr *Tucker* took the Chair.

Clause 24, as read, agreed to.

Clauses 25 to 46 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without Amendment.

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The House being resumed, Mr *Tucker* reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and had directed him to report the same to the House without Amendment.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be now read the Third time.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Third time.

**19** BILL NO. 54. - A Message to the Legislative Council. -

MR PRESIDENT

The House of Assembly hath passed a Bill, intituled "A Bill for an Act to establish a container refund scheme to reduce litter in Tasmania and increase the recovery and recycling of containers",

to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*House of Assembly, 10 November 2021.*

MARK SHELTON, *Speaker*.

**20** ADJOURNMENT. – A Motion being made - That the House do now adjourn. (The Minister for Education)

The Speaker proposed – That the House do now adjourn and called for issues to be raised;

**21** PAPERS. –Dr *Woodruff*, *by leave*, laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-

Document titled “Lucian Beattie – SS4C October 15 Rally Speech”.

The House adjourned at Nine o'clock.

SHANE DONNELLY, *Clerk of the House*.

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MEMBERS. - All present during the day.

The Minister for Sport and Recreation, Minister for Racing, Minister for Women and Minister for Small Business attended Question Time.