



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2022

(SECOND SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 2 WEDNESDAY, 4 MAY 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 PETITION. – Ms *Johnston* presented a Petition from approximately 300 residents of Tasmania, requesting the House to call on the Government to defer all wind farm developments in this State, until world's best practice is adopted by the EPA Board and an updated Threatened Tasmanian Eagles Recovery Plan is finalised. (HA6/2022).

Which Petition was read and received.

- 6 PAPERS. – The Deputy Premier laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:-
 - (1) Public Sector Superannuation Reform Act 2016: Public Sector Superannuation Reform Amendment Regulations 2022 (Statutory Rules 2022, No. 11).
 - (2) Housing and Land Supply Act 2018:
 - (a) Housing Land Supply (Burnie) Order 2022 - Ministerial Report pursuant to Section 9;
 - (b) Housing Land Supply (Warrane) Order 2022 - Ministerial Report pursuant to Section 9; and
 - (c) Housing Land Supply (Romaine) Order 2022 - Ministerial Report pursuant to Section 9.
- 7 PAPERS. – The Minister for Resources laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:-
 - (1) Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator: Energy In Tasmania Report 2020-21.
 - (2) Response to Petition HA19/2021 and HA20/2021.
- 8 PAPERS. – The Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-

Fee Units Act 1997: Schedule of Fees - Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management.

9 MESSAGE FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR. – The Speaker read the following Message from Her Excellency the Governor:-

MESSAGE.

Barbara Baker, *Governor*.

In accordance with the provisions of section 38 of the Constitution Act 1934 (25 Geo. V No. 94), the Governor recommends to the House of Assembly the payment out of the Public Account of the sum of four hundred and forty one million, seven hundred and thirty nine thousand dollars (\$441 739 000) for the purposes set forth in Schedule 1 of the Appropriation (Supplementary Appropriation for 2021-22) Bill 2022 and detailed in the agency information in support of the estimates for the financial year ending on 30 June 2022.

Government House, Hobart.

10 HOUSE COMMITTEE. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has made the following appointments to the Joint Committee of both Houses to control the Parliament House and grounds and other matters:

The President;
Ms *Forrest*; and
Mrs *Hiscutt*.

Legislative Council, 3 May 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, *President*.

11 LIBRARY COMMITTEE. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has made the following appointments to the Joint Committee of both Houses to manage the Library:-

The President;
Ms *Armitage*;
Ms *Forrest*;
Ms *Howlett*;
Ms *Rattray*; and
Mr *Valentine*.

Legislative Council, 3 May 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, *President*.

12 BILLS: RESUMPTION OF PROCEEDINGS. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Message of the House of Assembly requesting resumption of proceedings on the following Bills of the last Session, has agreed to resume proceedings on the said Bills at the stage at which they were interrupted by the prorogation of Parliament on 5 April 2022 –

Criminal Code Amendment (Bill No. 4); and

Land Tax Rating Amendment (Bill No. 6)

Legislative Council, 3 May 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, *President*.

13 ATTENDANCE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINISTERS AT QUESTION TIME. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council desires to inform the House of Assembly that it agrees to the request of the Assembly in its Message dated 3 May 2022 and has granted leave to Members of the Legislative Council who are Ministers of the Crown to attend the House of Assembly if they think fit so as to respond specifically to Questions without Notice seeking information of the kind covered by the Standing Orders of the House of Assembly.

Legislative Council, 3 May 2022.

C.M. FARRELL, *President.*

14 BILL NO. 19. – The Minister for Health presented -

“A Bill for an Act to amend the Acts Interpretation Act 1931, Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1995, Ambulance Service Act 1982, Asbestos-Related Diseases (Occupational Exposure) Compensation Act 2011, End-of-Life Choices (Voluntary Assisted Dying) Act 2021, Health Act 1997, Poisons Act 1971, Public Health Act 1997, Public Trustee Act 1930, Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 and other health-related legislation”.

And Mr *Rockliff* having presented the said Bill, the same was read the First time and made an Order of the Day for tomorrow.

15 BILL NO. 20. – The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport presented -

“A Bill for an Act to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Act 1999 and the Traffic Act 1925”.

And Mr *Ferguson* having presented the said Bill, the same was read the First time and made an Order of the Day for tomorrow.

16 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: CRISIS IN THE AMBULANCE SERVICE. – Ms *Dow*, in accordance with Standing Orders, moved - That the House take note of the following matter:

Crisis in the Ambulance Service.

And the Question being proposed;

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

17 BILL NO. 9. - The Order of the Day being read for the Second reading of the Youth Justice Amendment (Searches in Custody) Bill 2022.

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

A Debate arose thereupon.

And Ms *O'Connor* was addressing the Chair.

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

19 TASMANIAN ECONOMY. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That

the House:—

- (1) Agrees that Tasmania has experienced significant economic growth since the Tasmanian Liberal Government was first elected in 2014.
- (2) Welcomes news that CommSec's April 2022 'State of the State' Report ranks Tasmania's economic performance the best in the country, for the ninth quarter in a row.
- (3) Recognises that the strong economy is creating jobs, and the number of Tasmanians in work is currently at its second-highest level on record.
- (4) Notes that since the Tasmanian Liberal Government was elected in March 2014, 27,100 jobs have been created.
- (5) Further agrees that a strong economy not only creates jobs, but allows Government to fund and invest more into the things Tasmanians care about most like health, education, housing and community infrastructure. (Mr *Ellis*)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

20 COST OF LIVING. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Acknowledges:—
 - (a) the serious financial pressure being placed on Tasmanian households by the rising cost of living;
 - (b) that the most acute pressure is currently being felt with basic, non-discretionary expenses such as fuel, housing and utility bills;
 - (c) wages are not keeping pace with the cost of living; and
 - (d) that this pressure is felt equally by business owners.
- (2) Notes:—
 - (a) The National Rental Affordability Index shows Hobart is the least affordable capital city in the country for renters, while house price increases of nearly 30% in 2021 have put the dream of home ownership out of reach for many Tasmanians;
 - (b) a report by ANZ (Australia New Zealand Banking Group) has shown consumer confidence in Tasmania is now negative and inflation expectations are the worst in ten years;
 - (c) two recent surveys by NAB (National Australia Bank) and Roy Morgan Market Research Company have shown Tasmania has the lowest business confidence in the country;
 - (d) business investment in Tasmania fell nearly 10% in the December 2021 quarter, nearly three times more than in any other State;
 - (e) Tasmania's domestic economy shrank by 1.5% in the December 2021 quarter; and
 - (f) Tasmania's population has declined for the last two quarters, with record numbers of Tasmanians moving interstate.
- (3) Calls on the Premier, the Hon. *Jeremy Rockliff* MP, to fulfil his predecessor's promise to implement legislation to reduce petrol prices, scrap the bin tax and tell TasWater to amend its plan to significantly increase water bills. (Mr *Winter*)

A debate arose thereupon.

An Amendment was proposed by Ms *O'Connor* by leaving out clause (3) and inserting instead the following clause –

- “(3) Calls on the Premier, the Hon. *Jeremy Rockliff* MP, to act on cost of living by –

- (a) Introducing legislation to limit the use of whole properties as short-stay accommodation in tight rental markets; and
- (b) Introducing controls on unreasonable rent increases, and remove provisions allowing tenants to be evicted solely on grounds of lease expiration; and
- (c) Fund free public transport; and
- (d) Invest in programs that relieve food insecurity; and
- (e) Eliminate student fees and charges for TasTAFE students; and
- (f) Fund all school costs for children and young people from households in poverty; and
- (g) Enact a program to expand government concessions to all Tasmanian residents who live below the poverty line; and
- (h) Provide free household energy efficiency upgrades for low income Tasmanians; and
- (i) Adopt a Housing First approach to homelessness and housing insecurity; and
- (j) Funding these programs through increased corporate/property taxes, including one or more of the following –
 - (i) Increased casino tax rates; and/or
 - (ii) A 10% royalty on the gross value of salmonoids grown in state-owned waters; and/or
 - (iii) a 75% betterment tax on any increase in the value of land that results from a change in the allowable use of land; and/or
 - (iv) A ‘1% of unimproved value’ tax on residences left vacant – with the exception of legitimate uses, such as shacks; and/or
 - (v) Reversing the last two years of cuts to land tax rates.”

A debate arose thereupon.

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

The House divided.

AYES 3

Ms Johnston
Ms O'Connor
Dr Woodruff (Teller)

NOES 19

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Ms Butler
Ms Dow
Mr Ellis
Mr Ferguson
Ms Finlay
Mr Jaensch
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms Ogilvie
Mrs Petrusma
Mr Rockliff
Mr Street
Mr Tucker
Ms White
Mr Winter
Mr Wood
Mrs Alexander (Teller)

So it passed in in the Negative.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 7

Ms Butler
Ms Dow
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms White
Mr Winter
Ms Finlay (Teller)

NOES 13

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Mr Ellis
Mr Ferguson
Mr Jaensch
Ms Johnston
Ms O'Connor
Ms Ogilvie
Mr Street
Mr Tucker
Mr Wood
Dr Woodruff
Mrs Alexander (Teller)

PAIRS

Dr Broad
Ms Haddad

Mr Rockliff
Mrs Petrusma

So it passed in the Negative.

21 JBS PURCHASE OF HUON AQUACULTURE. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed—That the House:—

- (1) Notes:—
- (a) the sale of Huon Aquaculture to Brazilian meat giant JBS in November of 2021; and
 - (b) the ABC 4 Corners on 25 April 2022 revealed the Batista brothers, owners of JBS, under investigation in Brazil, confessed to bribery of over 1,800 Brazilian officials to secure cheap finance for their global expansion, and were fined US\$3.2 billion.
- (2) Recognises 4 Corners revealed US Department of Justice investigations determined JBS spent millions of dollars in bribes in Brazil to secure finance to buy US companies, with JBS subsequently being convicted of foreign bribery charges in a US Court.
- (3) Acknowledges 4 Corners details the cheap finance raised by JBS through corrupt conduct funded purchases of companies in Australia as well as the US.
- (4) Agrees these revelations raise serious questions about the funds used by JBS to purchase Huon Aquaculture, noting that the use of the proceeds of crime to purchase a venture is illegal.
- (5) Calls on the Government to refer the sale of Huon Aquaculture to the Australian Federal Police for investigation as to whether any criminal activity occurred during the course of its acquisition, or in the operation of Huon Aquaculture since the acquisition.
(Dr Woodruff)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 3

Ms Johnston
Ms O'Connor
Dr Woodruff (Teller)

NOES 18

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Ms Butler
Ms Dow
Mr Ellis
Mr Ferguson
Ms Finlay
Mr O'Byrne
Ms O'Byrne
Ms Ogilvie
Mrs Petrusma
Mr Rockliff
Mr Street
Mr Tucker
Ms White
Mr Winter
Mr Wood
Mrs Alexander (Teller)

So it passed in in the Negative.

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

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

SHANE DONNELLY, *Clerk of the House.*

MEMBERS. - All present during the day except Dr *Broad* and Ms *Haddad*.

The Minister for Primary Industries and Water, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Women attended Question Time.