No. 58

TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

Notices of Motion

300  Ms O’Connor to move—That the House:—

(1) Recognises that on 22 June 2020, the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute (TLRI) published a report on how the Marriage and Gender Amendments Act has operated since it was enacted in September 2019.

(2) Acknowledges the report was based on wide-ranging research, including public and stakeholder consultation.

(3) Notes that the report finds the nation-leading reforms make the lives of transgender, intersex and non-binary members of our community easier and make Tasmania an even kinder place to live.

(4) Further notes the TLRI confirms the reforms do not create any significant unintended consequences for the State’s law and justice system.

(5) Calls on the Government to enact all of the recommendations contained in the TLRI’s report.

(6) Specifically, calls on the Attorney General, Hon. Elise Archer, MP to progress recommendations to enact legislation governing surgical or medical intervention in relation to sex characteristics, including:

(a) amendments to the ‘Criminal Code Act 1924’ to criminalise non-consensual medical interventions;

(b) amendments to the ‘Civil Liability Act 2002’ to empower intersex people to pursue claims for compensation for personal trespass and breach of professional duty against doctors where medical interventions to alter intersex variations of sex characteristics have resulted in physical or mental harm; and

(c) establishment of a ‘Consent to Medical Treatment Act’ that covers the children’s consent to medical care. (24 June 2020)

301  Ms Standen to move—That the House:—

(1) Notes that a crisis in housing affordability and availability existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the problem has not gone away.

(2) Recognises that more than 8,000 low income Tasmanian households are experiencing rental stress and more than 20,000 Tasmanians have lost their job.

(3) Further notes that housing security is fundamental to job security, education and training which will underpin economic recovery.

(4) Further notes that many properties have transferred from short stay accommodation to the private rental market throughout the pandemic, and that returns on rental properties remain high for investors.

(5) Further recognises that two recent Parliamentary inquiries have recommended further regulation of the short stay accommodation sector.

(6) Further recognises that only the Tasmanian Government can act to ensure a timely and consistent statewide approach to further regulation of the short stay market.

(7) Calls on the Government to act without delay to amend legislation to place a pause on the number of short stay accommodation permits that can be issued for entire dwellings in areas of high demand for rental housing until market conditions ease. (24 June 2020)
304  The Minister for Veterans’ Affairs to move—That the House:—
(1)  Notes that 25 June 2020 will mark 70 years since the start of the Korean War when forces from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea crossed into the Republic of Korea.
(2)  Further notes that the War saw Australian forces fight as part of a multinational United Nations force, defending South Korea from forces of North Korea and China.
(3)  Pays tribute to the more than 17,000 Australians who served in the Korean War, including 350 who paid the ultimate price, 1,200 who were wounded and 44 who are still listed as missing in action today.
(4)  Acknowledges the sacrifice of our allies in Korea, including the estimated half a million casualties suffered by South Korea and almost 140,000 casualties suffered by the United States.
(5)  Further notes that 27 July 2020 will be the 67th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that brought an end to active fighting in Korea in 1953.
(6)  Honours the service and sacrifice of all those who fought for freedom and human dignity in this conflict.  (24 June 2020)

305  The Minister for Primary Industries and Water to move—That the House:—
(1)  Notes that Motor Neurone Disease (MND) affects over 420,000 people globally with over 140,000 people diagnosed with MND each year, which is 384 new cases every day.
(2)  Further notes that over 2,000 Australians are living with MND, including more than 40 Tasmanians, with MND Australia reporting more than 2 people per day die from MND.
(3)  Further notes that due to the current coronavirus pandemic “The Big Freeze 6 at the G” at the MCG fundraiser, coordinated by FightMND, could not be staged as usual and a #FilltheG virtual event was instead held.
(4)  Thanks Neale Daniher, football great and former Essendon and Melbourne player - as well as coach of Melbourne Football Club from 1998 to 2007 - for his courage in living with MND and supporting fundraising efforts for research and advocacy.
(5)  Recognises that 21 June 2020, was MND Global Day, a global day of recognition for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and MND—a disease that affects every country on the globe.
(6)  Congratulates and thanks both MND Australia and MND Tasmania, who for over twenty two years, have proved an effective advocate, promoted optimal care and support options for those living with MND and tirelessly raised funds for research into the cause and, ultimately, cure for MND.  (24 June 2020)

306  The Attorney-General to move—That the House:—
(1)  Notes the Tasmanian Government has a comprehensive plan to support access to justice, improve and modernise court processes and ensure the safety of our prisoners during the COVID-19 emergency and our recovery phase.  This includes bringing forward $5.9 million of its $15 million investment in improving access to court services in Burnie, streamlining court proceedings and helping inmates stay connected.
(2)  Further notes that the Tasmanian Labor Party’s so-called COVID-19 recovery package does not mention any infrastructure projects for Justice or Corrections, proposes no money be spent on our judicial or corrections systems and delivers no improved services.
(3)  Further notes that the Tasmanian Labor Party has no recovery plan for the Courts, inmates, corrections staff, or for improving and modernising the Tasmanian justice system.  (24 June 2020)

307  The Attorney-General to move—That the House:—
(1)  Notes the Australian Labor Party recently voted to support a Bill in the Australian Parliament which included minimum mandatory sentences for child sex offenders.
(2)  Commends the Australian Labor Party for abandoning their amendments to mandatory minimum sentences for child sex offences because, as Labor Senator, Senator the Hon. Murray Watts has been quoted, “protecting the welfare of children will always be Labor's overriding priority and concerns”.
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308 The Minister for Heritage to move—That the House:—
(1) Acknowledges that the Tasmanian Liberal Government remains committed to helping our world-renowned heritage sites recover from the difficult times faced as a result of COVID-19.
(2) Notes that our Government will contribute $3 million towards a new Visitor and Interpretation Centre at the World-Heritage listed Cascades Female Factory, operated by the Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority.
(3) Further notes this vital and exciting heritage project will deliver jobs for local businesses and contractors, and help the Tasmanian community recover and rebuild from COVID-19.
(4) Recognises that the Cascades Female Factory is one of very few surviving female factories and has been deemed of international heritage significance due to its ability to tell the female convict story.
(5) Further notes that it is also a significant site for the Hobart region, seeing 34,803 visitors in 2018-19, and is a significant tourist attraction.  (20 June 2020)

309 The Minister for the Arts to move—That the House:—
(1) Acknowledges that the Tasmanian Liberal Government is creating opportunity at a challenging time by undertaking major and fast-tracked maintenance works at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG).
(2) Notes that the Government has provided the TMAG $3 million for essential maintenance projects through our Government’s $50 million Public Buildings Maintenance Fund.
(3) Further notes this new Fund was announced as part of our COVID-19 stimulus package.
(4) Further notes the maintenance projects at TMAG include important heritage works for public safety and preservation, and improvements to the public galleries so that more of the most delicate objects in the State collection can be displayed.
(5) Further notes these fast-tracked maintenance works will also provide ongoing work for those in Tasmania’s building and related sectors.
(6) Recognises that the TMAG property portfolio includes some of the most significant heritage buildings in the State which are visited by more than 450,000 Tasmanians, interstate and international visitors every year.  (24 June 2020)

310 The Minister for Health to move—That the House:—
(1) Notes that on 19 June 2020, Tasmanian Cyclist Amy Cure announced her retirement from international cycling.
(2) Recognises that this young Tasmanian woman is one of the masters of the track on the international stage.  Amy is a three-time world champion and the only track cyclist in history to win a medal in six different world championship events.
(3) Further recognises that Amy has represented our country on two occasions at the Commonwealth Games, with two gold medals in 2018.  Amy is also a three-time Olympian, having been selected for Tokyo 2020.
(4) Joins with me to congratulate Amy on not only being a wonderful role model in the sporting community, but for also being an inspirational Tasmanian woman.  (25 June 2020)

311 Ms O'Connor to move—That the House:—
(1) Recognises the need to appropriately use Launceston Remand Centre and for northern prisoners to be less isolated from friends and family.
(2) Understands the Government’s plan to build a northern prison will not improve the safety of communities in the north, nor help rehabilitate inmates, and would cost the State a fortune.
(3) Realises the far preferable alternative is to repurpose the existing Ashley Youth Detention Centre for adult inmates, and build two fit-for-purpose restorative justice centres for youth detainees.

(4) Further understands the Government’s obsession with building a new prison at Westbury is damaging, and its approach to selecting the site has put significant strain on the Westbury community.

(5) Notes the Westbury community’s backlash forced the Government to reconsider its first preferred site, and no consultation was undertaken about the selection of a new location.

(6) Acknowledges the 70 hectares of forest at Westbury Reserve, now designated as the prison site, is part of the Tasmanian Reserve Estate, set aside under the Regional Forest Agreement.

(7) Further acknowledges Westbury Reserve is a haven for threatened species of flora and fauna, including Tasmanian devils, grey goshawks, masked owls, wedge-tailed eagles.

(8) Calls on the Government to abandon its plan to put a prison on the Westbury Reserve, and look instead to repurposing Ashley Youth Detention Centre. (25 June 2020)

312 Ms O’Connor to move—That the House censures the Minister for Resources, Hon. Guy Barnett MP on the grounds that he has treated Parliament with contempt by refusing to answer questions in the public interest on forests. (25 June 2020)

314 The Minister for Primary Industries and Water to move—That the House:—

(1) Recognises that 18 August 2020, is Vietnam Veterans Day, an annual day of remembrance for those who served during the Vietnam War.

(2) Notes that this day, originally known as Long Tan Day, commemorates the day in 1966 when the battle of Long Tan was fought by the men of D Company, 6th Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment (6RAR).

(3) Further notes that this day, first commemorated in 1969 with the raising of a cross at the battlefield by the men of 6RAR, has since been adopted to cover all veterans who served in the Vietnam War—the longest conflict in Australia’s history.

(4) Pays tribute to the almost 60,000 Australians who served in Vietnam between May 1962 and April 1975, including 521 who paid the ultimate price and more than 3,000 who were wounded.

(5) Acknowledges the service of the approximately 1,800 Tasmanians who served in Vietnam, including 17 who died in their country’s service.

(6) Further notes commemorative service and wreath-laying ceremonies being held in Tasmania to mark the event, and thanks all the members of the VVAA Tasmania, including State President Terry Roe, for their efforts in supporting Vietnam veterans across the State over the years.

(7) Honours the service and sacrifice of all those who fought for freedom in this conflict and remembers the motto of the VVAA: “Honour the Dead but Fight like Hell for the Living.” (18 August 2020)

315 The Minister for Primary Industries and Water to move—That the House:—

(1) Recognises the Hydro Tasmania COVID-19 Community Grant Program that was initiated to target the ongoing effects of COVID-19 on the Tasmanian way of life.

(2) Notes the Program was opened for applications at the end of May 2020, providing grants of up to $10,000 to help rebuild communities’.

(3) Further notes that 29 successful applicants have now received a total of $139,991 with recipients including local sport clubs and mental health programs and support provided including bathroom renovations, a cake stall and a ride-on lawnmower.

(4) Acknowledges the 2020 round of Hydro Tasmania’s annual Community Grant Program, which made grants of up to $5,000 available to 11 recipients.

(5) All these recipients were highly worthy, including:—

(a) the Derwent Valley SES (State Emergency Service) where the community grant will help update equipment and facilities;

(b) the Sheffield School Association who will establish a working garden for Prep – Year 6 classes at the Sheffield School; and

(c) the King Island District High School who are building new dining courtyard to be used by students, staff and the wider community.
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(6) Further acknowledges that in total, between March and July 2020, Hydro Tasmania has provided $238,000 for not-for-profit organisations, which includes staff donations and expansions of sponsorships with its existing community partners.

(7) Congratulates the Government owned energy businesses for their support of the Tasmanian community during these times. (18 August 2020)

320 Ms Standen to move—That the House:—

(1) Notes with deep concern recent reports in ‘The Examiner’ about long-standing workplace culture and technical issues at Heritage Tasmania that have existed since 2014.

(2) Recognises that in 2014 when the Liberal Government came to power, staffing numbers were slashed at Heritage Tasmania, and those that remained were expected to cut the Heritage Register by a third.

(3) Acknowledges that Heritage staff were under enormous pressure, and with reduced resources, mistakes were made.

(4) Further recognises that as a result the integrity of the Heritage Register is compromised and a cloud of legal uncertainty hangs over property owners and potentially the Crown.

(5) Further notes that in a leaked staff satisfaction survey, Heritage staff state they are stressed and anxious, alleging ongoing harassment, bullying, extensive workloads, and a lack of direction from management.

(6) Further notes with concern that a cultural change plan that has been running since May 2019 appears to have no end date.

(7) Further recognises that in this term of government, instability in ministerial portfolios has contributed to longstanding issues continually being ignored.

(8) Calls on the Hon. Elise Archer MP, Minister for Heritage, to take urgent action to intervene to fix these problems and restore damage to morale, reputation and relationships between Heritage Tasmania and other Agencies. (18 August 2020)

321 Ms Standen to move—That the House:—

(1) Notes the theme of National Homelessness Week (2-8 August 2020) in Tasmania was “Housing Ends Homelessness”.

(2) Recognises there is a current estimated shortfall in social and affordable housing of 11,400 homes across Tasmania.

(3) Further notes that the Liberal Government’s May Economic and Fiscal Update (14 August 2020) reports a $23M underspend on affordable housing; and that there was a $16M underspend in the Treasurer’s Annual Financial Report 2018-19.

(4) Acknowledges that the Premier’s Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council’s interim report focus on affordable housing construction.

(5) Further notes that the House of Assembly’s Select Committee on Housing Affordability report (Feb 2020) provided a comprehensive blueprint on tackling the housing and homelessness crisis.

(6) Calls on the Government to respond to the 61 recommendations in the Select Committee report including to act without delay to develop an evidence based 25-year plan to 2050 governing how to address housing affordability and availability in Tasmania. (18 August 2020)

322 The Minister for Primary Industry and Water to move—That the House:—

(1) Recognises that 15 August 2020, was the 75th anniversary of Victory in the Pacific Day, an annual day commemorating the end of the Second World War and Japan’s acceptance of the Allied demand for unconditional surrender 14 August 1945.

(2) Acknowledges that peace came with at a terrible price with 993,000 Australians serving in the Second World War, of whom 27,073 were killed in action or died, 23,477 were wounded and 30,560 taken prisoner of war.

(3) Further acknowledges that the Second World War was of particular significance to Tasmania with more than 30,000 Tasmanians serving out of a population of just 250,000.

(4) Pays tribute to the 1,100 Tasmanians who died in their country’s service and nearly 300 who received decorations for gallantry during the conflict.
(5) Further acknowledges the valuable effort of the 16,000 people, including 5,000 women, who worked in factories and on the land to support the war effort and supply the armed forces with vegetables, dairy and meat products—victory could not have come without the critical contribution of these people.

(6) Notes a special commemorative service held at Government House, Hobart on Saturday 15 August 2020, arranged with the support of RSL Tasmania and attended by the 2020 Frank MacDonald Memorial Prize tour group.

(7) Honours the service and sacrifice of all those who fought for freedom and human dignity in this conflict. (19 August 2020)

323 Mr O’Byrne to move—That the House:—
(1) Notes the advice contained in recommendation 14 of the Premier’s Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council (PESRAC) Interim Report, that the State Government ‘should fund a program of free VET courses in qualifications directly related to demonstrated jobs growth. These should be delivered rapidly and flexibly by TasTAFE and other training providers endorsed by industry’.
(2) Further notes the Government has accepted all recommendations of PESRAC and agreed to implement them.
(3) Calls upon the Government to follow PESRAC advice and immediately act to adopt Labor’s Free TAFE policy to provide free courses in areas of skills demand across the economy. (19 August 2020)

324 Ms O’Byrne to move—That the House:—
(1) Notes, that COVID-19 job losses have disproportionately affected women and that targeted initiatives will be required to get women back into work.
(2) Further notes recommendations 47, 48 and 49 of the Premier’s Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council (PESRAC) Interim Report dealing with the need to increase the employment of women.
(3) Further notes the Government has accepted all recommendations of PESRAC and agreed to implement them.
(4) Calls upon the Government to follow PESRAC advice and immediately adopt Labor’s policy of equal opportunity job applications for the public service to eliminate unconscious bias in recruitment processes. (20 August 2020)

325 Ms Ogilvie to move—That:—
(1) A Select Committee, with power to send for persons, papers and records be appointed to inquire into and make recommendations upon preventative health policies in Tasmania with particular reference to:—
(a) the progress of the Healthy Tasmania: Five Year Strategic Plan tabled in July 2016;
(b) the effectiveness of existing policies aimed at mitigating the health effects of key risk factors including obesity, smoking, alcohol, poor nutrition and low physical activity levels;
(c) investigate new and emerging preventative health research, techniques, programs and initiatives successfully operating in other jurisdictions that could be effective in improving the health of Tasmanians; and
(d) any other matters incidental thereto.
(2) The Committee shall consist of six members, being two from the Government nominated by the Leader of the House, two from the Opposition nominated by the Leader of the Opposition, one from the Tasmanian Greens nominated by the Leader of the Greens and the Independent Member for Clark.
(3) The Committee report by 31 May 2021.
(4) Should the House not be sitting, a report may be presented to the Speaker of the House, or in their absence, the Clerk of the House, any report so presented is taken to have been published by order of the House of Assembly. (20 August 2020)

326 Ms Ogilvie to move—That the House:—
(1) Notes that the global pandemic has caused not just a health crisis, but also an economic crisis.
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(2) Acknowledges that it is essential that we consider what our economic future should look like.
(3) Recognises that self-sustainability is critical for Tasmania.
(4) Understands that Tasmania has an opportunity to look at all of our supply chains, to consider whether we are able to do better.
(5) Further understands that too often we make a procurement decision based on price alone, but we know there is a substantial issue with modern slavery in supply chains that is not visible, but keeps price low.
(6) Further recognises that exploitation may be detected in garment manufacturing, technology, solar, food and plastics inputs.
(7) Agrees that we have the opportunity to innovate and clean up our supply chains, to eradicate elements of exploitation, and to re-create a sustainable Tasmanian economy. (20 August 2020)

327 Ms Ogilvie to move—That the House:
(1) Notes that the global pandemic has caused not just a health crisis, but also an economic crisis.
(2) Acknowledges that it is essential that we consider what our economic future should look like.
(3) Understands that we have the opportunity presented by the COVID-19 crisis to rethink how we approach infrastructure investment in Tasmania.
(4) Recognises that Tasmania has strong expertise in ship building and advanced manufacturing.
(5) Appreciates that now is the time for Tasmanians to get behind Tasmanian businesses and support our local industries to deliver big projects that benefit our communities.
(6) Agrees that the new the new Spirit ferries should be built in Tasmania, by Tasmanians. (20 August 2020)

328 Ms Ogilvie to move—That the House:
(1) Recognises Tasmanians are leaders in renewable energy.
(2) Understands the Marinus Link Project is an incredible opportunity for Tasmania.
(3) Acknowledges we have the opportunity to capitalise on our renewable energy expertise and on sell Tasmania’s renewable energy to the nation.
(4) Further acknowledges that the time is right now for Tasmania to assert its dominance in the nation’s future energy market.
(5) Appreciates that Tasmania should take the bold and pragmatic step of ensuring that we own and operate the Marinus cable - while ensuring that Tasmanians do not bear the majority of the cost.
(6) Further appreciates that it is imperative that Tasmanians are the masters of our own energy future, and ownership of this strategic job creating asset is key to this.
(7) Agrees that the Tasmanian Government should examine all options, including a special purpose vehicle to allow the cable to be jointly owned by Tasmania and Australia. (20 August 2020)

329 Mr Street to move—That the House:
(1) Acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic emergency has had a significant effect on employment levels in Tasmania.
(2) Recognises that, as public leaders, we have a responsibility to do everything we can to support job creation and job security for Tasmanians and to help Tasmania rebuild and recover from the pandemic emergency.
(3) Notes the Government’s approach to investigate local build options for the next Spirit of Tasmania vessels and to look at any ways to maximise Tasmanian jobs and utilise Tasmanian businesses in their replacement.
(4) Further notes the support for this approach from the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Tasmanian branch of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union (AMWU), as well as the significant interest from major Tasmanian and Australian shipbuilders.
(5) Further notes the recent public comments from Tasmanian Labor Senator Helen Polley: “The Federal Government, State Governments and businesses should all
collectively seek to reset supply chains to source from local manufacturers to a partial extent if not completely.”

(6) Urges the Parliament to support Tasmanian businesses, job creation and job security for Tasmanians. (25 August 2020)

330 The Minister for Veterans' Affairs to move—That the House:—

(1) Recognises that Legacy Week is being held from 30 August to 5 September 2020.
(2) Notes that Legacy Week, first held in 1942, is the annual national appeal of Legacy Australia, an iconic national charity providing services to Australian families suffering after the incapacitation or death of a spouse or parent, during or after their defence force service.
(3) Further notes that funds raised during Legacy Week go to helping Legacy care for around 52,000 Australians, including 787 widows and 19 children in southern Tasmania and 875 widows and 17 children across northern Tasmania.
(4) Further notes that funds raised assist Legacy in providing essential services including counselling, special housing, medical, advocacy and social support to Australian families and also help assist the education and development of the children of our deceased veterans.
(5) Acknowledges that Legacy Australia grew out of the Remembrance Club, formed in Hobart in 1923 by First World War hero, Tasmanian Major-General Sir John Gellibrand KCB DSO and Bar—something Tasmanians can be proud of.
(6) Congratulates the staff, Legatees and volunteers of Legacy—including the President of Legacy (Hobart), Mr Rob Grey, Friends of Hobart Legacy and the President of Legacy (Launceston), Mr Russell Hogarth—for their tireless efforts in supporting the families of our incapacitated and deceased veterans.
(7) Encourages Tasmanians to dig deep and support this important work. (25 August 2020)

331 The Minister for Primary Industries and Water to move—That the House:—

(1) Recognises that the Tasmanian Abalone Council CEO, Dean Lisson, stepped down at the end of last week, on 21 August 2020.
(2) Acknowledges Dean Lisson for his 26 years of loyal and dedicated service as CEO and former President of the Council.
(3) Notes Tasmania’s abalone fishery is the world’s largest abalone resource, supplying over 25 per cent of total annual global production of wild caught product.
(4) Further notes the Tasmanian abalone industry had a gross food value of just over $90 million in 2017-18, with $85 million of that exported.
(5) Joins with me in thanking Mr Lisson for his service, covering over a quarter of a century. (25 August 2020)

333 Ms O'Connor to move—That the House:—

(1) Understands many Tasmanians have been hit hard by the economic impact of COVID-19, and are already in dire financial straits.
(2) Recognises these financial circumstances will only get harder after 30 September 2020, when the Morrison Government cuts JobKeeper and JobSeeker payments.
(3) Further recognises the vital role residential rental protections have played in providing stability and support for thousands of Tasmanian tenants.
(4) Notes these protections are due to expire on 30 September 2020.
(5) Acknowledges the prospect of simultaneous cuts to income support and end to rental protections is frightening and extremely stressful for many Tasmanians, with some tenants already being threatened with a choice of eviction or increased rent.
(6) Urges the Premier, Hon. Peter Gutwein MP to use the next National Cabinet meeting to advocate for the JobKeeper and JobSeeker payments to continue at their current rate beyond 30 September 2020.
(7) Calls on the Premier to extend all residential rental protections until 31 December 2020. (25 August 2020)