WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2020

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 Butler presented a Petition from approximately 109 citizens of Tasmania, requesting that the House investigate certain actions in respect of the stretch of the Tasman Highway between the Stieglitz turn off and the St Helens Bridge. (HA5/2020).

Which Petition was read and received.

6 PAPERS. – The Attorney-General laid upon the Table of the House the following Paper:-


7 PAPERS. – The Minister for Primary Industries and Water laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:-

Land Acquisition Act 1993: Notice of Acquisition pursuant to Section 18:

(i) Dated 1 June 2020, land situate in the Parish of Kelvedon, Land District of Glamorgan, Municipal Area of Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Lots 1 and 2 on Plan of Survey P178487, registered in the names of Adam Geoffrey Greenhill and Grainne Greenhill for road purposes;

(ii) Dated 24 July 2020, land situate in the Parish of Kelvedon, Land District of Glamorgan, Municipal Area of Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Lot 1 on Plan of Survey P179325, registered in the name of Strata Corporation Number 167109 Piermont Estate for road purposes;

(iii) Dated 24 July 2020, land situate in the Parish of Kelvedon, Land District of Glamorgan, Municipal Area of Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Lot 2 on Plan of Survey P179325, registered in the name of Waltrust Pty Ltd for road purposes;

(iv) Dated 10 August 2020, land situate in the Parish of Bicheno, Land District of Glamorgan, Municipal Area of Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Lot 2 on Plan of Survey P178793, registered in the name of Tasman Hwy Pty Ltd for road purposes; and
Dated 10 August 2020, land situate in the Parish of Bicheno, Land District of Glamorgan, Municipal Area of Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Lot 1 on Plan of Survey P178793, registered in the name of Strata Corporation Number 144709, 18356 Tasman Highway, Bicheno for road purposes.

8 BILL NO. 20. - A Message from the Legislative Council -

MADAM SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill intituled –

“A Bill for an Act to amend certain legislation consequent on the commencement of the Biosecurity Act 2019 and the repeal, under that Act, of certain other Acts.”

Legislative Council, 16 September 2020. C. M. FARRELL, President.

9 BILL NO. 35. – The Minister for Justice presented -


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

10 MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: SUPPORTING OUR FARMERS. – Dr Broad, in accordance with Standing Orders, moved - That the House take note of the following matter:

Supporting our Farmers.

And the Question being proposed;

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

11 BILL NO. 50 of 2019. – The Order of the Day being read for resuming the adjourned Debate on the Question proposed on 15 September 2020 – That the Teachers Registration Amendment Bill 2019 be now read the Second time.

And the Question being again proposed;

The House resumed the said adjourned debate.

And The Minister for Education and Training was addressing the Chair.

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

13 CONSERVATION COVENANTS AND ZONING. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed – That the House:

(1) Acknowledges conservation covenants established under the 'Nature Conservation Act 2002’ make a critical contribution to protection of natural values, ecosystem services and biodiversity.

(2) Notes there are 890 conservation covenants on private land, covering approximately 110,000 hectares.

(3) Further notes with concern that, as a result of changes to the planning system, the Gutwein Government is seeking to have all covenants on private land zoned Rural use.
Further notes this zoning allows for resource extraction, including logging and mining.

Further notes the new Landscape Conservation zoning category prohibits resource extraction such as logging and mining.

Further notes the Department of State Growth is writing to Councils tasked with rezoning conservation covenants under the State Planning Provisions (SPP) urging rejection of Landscape Conservation zoning, on the basis it would have a, “sterilising effect on rural land … and potential to limit future resource use and development.”.

Recognises each established conservation covenant was agreed between private landowners and the Crown, represented by the Minister for Environment and Parks, Hon. Roger Jaensch MP on the basis of protection in perpetuity.

Further notes there has been no engagement by the Minister for Environment and Parks with covenant land holders in relation to this proposed weakening of protections, and agrees this is disrespectful at best.

Agrees the most appropriate zoning for all land under conservation covenant is Landscape Conservation.

Calls on the Minister for Planning, Hon. Roger Jaensch MP who is also the Minister for Environment and Parks, to issue a Planning Directive to ensure covenanted land is protected from resource extraction through Landscape Conservation zoning across all municipalities. (Ms O’Connor)

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 3

Ms O’Connor
Ms Ogilvie
Dr Woodruff (Teller)

NOES 18

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Dr Broad
Ms Butler
Ms Courtney
Ms Dow
Mr Ellis
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Ms Haddad
Ms Houston
Mr Jaensch
Mr O’Byrne
Mr Rockliff
Mr Shelton
Ms Standen
Ms White
Mrs Petrusma (Teller)

So it passed in the Negative.
ELECTORAL DONATIONS REFORMS. – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed – That the House:

(1) Notes that on 3 May 2018, then Premier, Will Hodgman, announced that the Government would conduct a review into Tasmania’s Electoral Act.

(2) Further notes that an interim report was released in December 2018 which led to the ‘Electoral Amendment Bill 2019’ implementing several administrative changes to the Act.

(3) Further notes that the Government commissioned a second review and community consultation was held on the more substantive issues surrounding electoral donations laws.

(4) Understands the report from this consultation was received by Government in December 2019.

(5) Calls on the Attorney-General to release this report by tabling it in Parliament. (Ms Haddad)

A debate arose thereupon.

An Amendment was proposed by Ms O’Connor by adding after “Parliament” in paragraph (5) “by no later than 22 September 2020.”

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.

AYES 9

Dr Broad
Ms Haddad
Ms Houston
Ms O’Byrne
Ms O’Connor
Ms Standen
Ms White
Dr Woodruff
Ms Butler (Teller)

NOES 11

Ms Archer
Mr Barnett
Ms Courtney
Mr Ellis
Mr Ferguson
Mr Gutwein
Mr Jaensch
Ms Ogilvie
Mr Rockliff
Mr Shelton
Mr Street (Teller)

PAIRS

Ms Dow
Ms O’Byrne

Ms Hickey
Mr Tucker

So it passed in the Negative.

And the Main Question being put;

The House divided.
So it passed in the Negative.

**COVID-19 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY ECONOMIC RECOVERY** – A Motion being made and the Question being proposed – That the House:

1. Acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic emergency has had a significant effect on employment levels in Tasmania, but there is a cautious optimism in Tasmania right now and confidence is building.
2. Notes that increased confidence is seeing jobs growth return, evidenced by the recent positive Australian Bureau of Statistics’ (ABS) labour force and payroll jobs data showing Tasmania had the highest monthly and fortnightly, respectively, employment growth in Australia.
3. Further notes that in Tasmania, home loan numbers are up, more houses are being built, and retail trade is back at record levels.
4. Further notes that Tasmania entered the pandemic from a position of economic strength, with a strong budget and balance sheet, and that this is helping our recovery.
5. Further acknowledges that the positive jobs and economic data reported in recent weeks is good news for Tasmania as we cautiously step out of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. (Mr Street)

A debate arose thereupon.

An Amendment was proposed by Mr O’Byrne, to leave out paragraph (4).

A debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put;

The House divided.
So it passed in the Negative.

And the Main Question being put;

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

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

PAPERS. – Dr Woodruff, by leave, laid upon the Table of the House the following Papers:

1. Article from Nature Ecology & Evolution, Vol 4, July 2020 titled 'Recent Australian wildfires made worse by logging and associated forest management'.

2. Article from Pacific Conservation Biology, August 2020 titled 'Extensive recent wildfires demand more stringent protection of critical old growth forest'.

3. Article from PNAS, Vol 117, June 2020 titled 'New spatial analyses of Australian wildfires highlight the need for fire, resource, and conservation policies'.

4. Article from Ecological Applications, 2018 titled 'Severe fire weather and intensive forest management increase fire severity in a multi-ownership landscape'.

5. Article from Austral Ecology, Vol 43, 2018 titled 'Flammability dynamics in the Australian Alps'.

6. Article from Conservation Letters, Vol 2, 2009 titled 'Effects of logging on fire regimes in moist forests'.

7. Article from Conservation Letters July/August 2014 titled 'Nonlinear Effects of Stand Age on Fire Severity'.

8. Article from Nature Geoscience, Volume 12, February 2019 titled 'Long-term impacts of wildfire and logging on forest soils'.

The House adjourned at forty-four minutes past Six o'clock.
MEMBERS. - All present during the day except Mr Tucker.

The Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Racing attended Question Time.