

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No. 211

WEDNESDAY, 19 AUGUST 2020

1. Meeting of Council

The Council assembled at 1.00pm pursuant to order.

The President, Hon Kate Doust, took the Chair.

Prayers and an Acknowledgement of Country were read.

2. Petitions

Hon Diane Evers presented a petition from 213 petitioners requesting the Legislative Council to stop the prescribed burning area target for the Forest Management Plan area of the South West and investigate alternative approaches. (Tabled Paper 4133).

Hon Colin de Grussa presented a petition from 219 petitioners requesting the Legislative Council to support the establishment of a Midwest region based rescue helicopter service. (Tabled Paper 4134).

3. Ministerial Statement — Mental Health Services

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health made a Ministerial Statement with respect to increased funding for mental health services at Fremantle Hospital.

4. Papers

The following Papers were laid on the Table by —

Leader of the House

Annual Reports —

Local Government Advisory Board (2019-20) (Date received 19/08/2020) 4130

Reports —

Ministerial Resourcing Report (as at 23 July 2020)..... 4131

Minister for Environment

Proposals —

Land Administration Act 1997 — Submission No. 2/2020 — Amendment of Class A
Reserve No. 9106 4132

5. Digital Connectivity across Western Australia

Motion No. 3 having been called, Hon Martin Aldridge, pursuant to notice, moved —

That this House —

- (a) notes the critical nature of mobile and broadband networks, particularly in regional and remote areas;
- (b) notes the impact such networks have upon regional communities, commercial activities, education and healthcare;
- (c) discuss strategies to improve the availability and reliability of such networks to the benefit of all Western Australians; and
- (d) calls on the State and Federal Government to continue to identify and support opportunities to improve digital connectivity across our vast State.

Debate ensued.

Motion — put and passed.

6. Consideration of Committee Reports

Pursuant to order for the consideration of Committee Reports.

In Committee

(Hon Simon O'Brien in the Chair)

Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and Statutes Review — Report 124 — Inquiry into the Form and Content of the Statute Book

Debate resumed on the motion of Hon Alanna Clohesy, That the Report be noted.

Pursuant to Temporary Order 4, consideration of the report was postponed.

Select Committee into Elder Abuse — Final Report — 'I never thought it would happen to me': When trust is broken

Debate resumed on the motion of Hon Nick Goiran, That the Report be noted.

Pursuant to Temporary Order 4, consideration of the report was postponed.

Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations — Report 78 — 2019-20 Budget Cycle – Part 1: Estimates hearings and related matters

Debate resumed on the motion of Hon Stephen Dawson, That the Report be noted.

Hon Aaron Stonehouse moved, That consideration be postponed until the next sitting.

Question — put and passed.

Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations — Report 80 — 2018-19 Budget Cycle – Part 2: Annual Report Hearings

Hon Alanna Clohesy moved, That the Report be noted.

Debate ensued.

Interruption pursuant to order.

The Acting President resumed the Chair.

The Chair of Committees reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the —

- (1) Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and Statutes Review — Report 124 — *Inquiry into the Form and Content of the Statute Book*, made progress, and postponed further consideration until the next sitting.
- (2) Select Committee into Elder Abuse — Final Report — *'I never thought it would happen to me': When trust is broken*, made progress, and postponed further consideration until the next sitting.
- (3) Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations — Report 78 — *2019-20 Budget Cycle – Part 1: Estimates hearings and related matters*, made progress, and postponed further consideration until the next sitting.

- (4) Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations — Report 80 — 2018-19 Budget Cycle – Part 2: Annual Report Hearings, made progress, and seeks to sit again.

Report adopted.

7. COVID-19 Response and Economic Recovery Omnibus Bill 2020

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate ensued.

8. Questions Without Notice

Questions without notice were taken.

The Minister for Education and Training, by leave, incorporated into *Hansard* information in relation to the impact of COVID-19 on apprentices and trainees, in response to a question without notice asked by the Hon Peter Collier on behalf of Hon Donna Faragher.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health tabled a letter from the Department of Health to the Premier, in relation to Phase 4 COVID-19 restrictions and the proposed cancellation of the Perth Royal Show, in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Aaron Stonehouse. (Tabled Paper 4135).

9. COVID-19 Response and Economic Recovery Omnibus Bill 2020

Debate resumed on the second reading of this Bill (*see item 7 above*).

Interruption pursuant to order.

10. Members' Statements

Statements were taken.

11. Public Health Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020

The following Message from the Legislative Assembly was reported —

Madam President

Message No. 215

The Legislative Assembly acquaints the Legislative Council that it has agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the *Public Health Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020*.

Ms M.M. Quirk

Acting Speaker

Legislative Assembly Chamber

Perth, 19 August 2020

12. Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 6.27pm until Thursday, 20 August 2020 at 10.00am.

Members present during the day's proceedings

Attendance: Present all Members except Hon Donna Faragher and Hon Michael Mischin.

NIGEL PRATT
Clerk of the Legislative Council

HON KATE DOUST MLC
President of the Legislative Council