Legislative Council Daily Summary

Wednesday, 16 September 2009

LEGISLATION

For full text of bills and other associated documents please see www.parliament.vic.gov.au

The following bills were received on message from the Legislative Assembly:

- Planning Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 (No.2)
- Victorian Renewable Energy Amendment Bill 2009
- Valuation of Land Amendment Bill 2009

COMMITTEE REPORTS TABLED

No Committee Reports were tabled

SPECIAL REPORT TABLED

- Ombudsman's Office Report, 2008-09.

A full list of all papers tabled pursuant to Statute is available in the Minutes of the Proceedings.

PETITIONS

- Public Housing, Moorabbin — Mr D.M. Davis (151 signatures)
- Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution — Mrs Petrovich (378 signatures)

MOTIONS

The following motions were debated and agreed to in General Business:

- That there be laid before this House a copy of a Report by a number of members of the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Victorian Parliament to the Legislative Council.

— Mr D.M. Davis

- That this House —
  (1) expresses its concern about the proposed changes to the Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts curriculum and budget cuts by the University of Melbourne and calls on the Premier to make representations to the Vice Chancellor and the University Council to ensure the continuation of the specialist performing arts degree courses and practical training under the Victorian College of the Arts;
  (2) notes Melbourne's pre-eminent position in the performing arts and the substantial contribution of the musical theatre and other performing arts to the Victorian economy and recognises the significant role the Victorian College of the Arts has played in teaching performance skills and developing successful performers for Australian and international theatre, film, television and musical productions;
  (3) further notes the support of former Victorian Premier Jeff Kennett and other former Ministers of the Arts, including Mary Delahunty and Race Matthews, as well as the commitment of the Leader of the Opposition, Mr Ted Baillieu, to the continuation of the specialist courses and function of the Victorian College of the Arts;
  (4) notes that the University of Melbourne has limited and cut courses on offer through the Victorian College of the Arts and has abandoned various commitments made in agreements that led to the Parliament agreeing to the Melbourne University (Victorian College of the Arts) Act 2006; and
  (5) expresses its concern that the actions of the University of Melbourne, with limited consultation, have not been consistent with the assurance of the State Minister for Finance in the second reading debate of the Melbourne University (Victorian College of the Arts) Bill in 2006 that the integration would "guarantee that the College's role as Australia's pre-eminent provider of visual and performing arts training and education can continue".

— Mr Atkinson

- That this House —
  (1) expresses its concern at the Brumby Government's inadequate response to the growing levels of violent crime in Victoria and calls on the Premier, in conjunction with the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, to accept responsibility for this situation and the violence on our streets; and
  (2) notes that on 29 July 2009 this House referred these issues to the Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee which is to report by 30 August 2010.

— Mr Dalla-Riva

The following motions was debated in General Business:

- That this House calls on the Minister for Environment and Climate Change to explain —
  (1) why the Government has made little effort to utilise the 300,000 megalitres or more of waste water being dumped along the coast each year; and

(2) why more effort has not been made to harvest the 250,000 megalitres of stormwater that falls on Melbourne's roofs, roads and footpaths each year.

— Mr Hall

- Six motions relating to the production of certain documents were moved by Mr D.M. Davis and debated concurrently. See Minutes of the Proceedings No. 137 for full details.

Notices were given of the following motions:

- **MR VINEY** — That Standing Order 7.06 be suspended so as to enable the consideration of the Planning Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 (No. 2), which Bill contains provisions the same in substance to those originally rejected by the Council during this current Session.

- **MRS COOTE** — To move — That this House condemns the Premier for his Government's clearways policy, as traders, local councils, and residents were not properly consulted before the implementation of the policy, and there is still mass confusion regarding the parking restrictions under the policy.

- **MR D.M. DAVIS** — To move — That, in accordance with Sessional Order 21, there be tabled in the Council by 12 noon on 13 October 2009 a copy of the MAMS Expenditure Reports (as referred to on page 35 of the Auditor-General's Report on Government Advertising, September 2006) for each of the last five financial years.

- **MR O'DONOHUE** — To move — That this House —
  (1) notes that in a media release dated 15 September 2009 the Minister for Women's Affairs incorrectly calculated the number of women in the Victorian Parliament;
  (2) calls on the Minister to withdraw her factually inaccurate and misleading statement;
  (3) notes that women make up approximately 51 per cent of the Victorian population and men approximately 49 per cent;
  (4) notes that the current leadership of the Victorian Parliamentary Labor Party (namely Premier Brumby, Deputy Premier Hulls, the Leader in the Legislative Council, Minister Lenders and the Deputy Leader in the Legislative Council, Minister Jennings) is 100 per cent male;
  (5) notes that the current leadership of the Victorian Parliamentary Liberal Party comprises 50 per cent men and 50 per cent women which is a better representation of the community at large;
  (6) notes that 100 per cent of the Government Ministers in the Legislative Council are men; and
  (7) expresses its regret that the leadership of the Victorian Parliamentary Labor Party does not properly represent the gender balance in the Victorian community.

- **MR D.M. DAVIS** — To move — That, in accordance with Sessional Order 21, there be tabled in the Council by 12 noon on 13 October 2009 a copy of all documents relating to the Working Victoria and Shine advertising campaigns including, but not limited to costings, invoices, quotations, research, including public opinion and focus group research reports, reports defining objectives, breakdowns of media type and metropolitan and regional weighting and spend and briefings prepared for the Premier and or Ministers held by the Departments of Education and Early Childhood Development, Innovation, Industry and Regional Development and Premier and Cabinet.

- **MR D.M. DAVIS** — To move — That this House notes with concern the steady creep of new and extended taxes under Labor, an average of two and a half new and extended taxes for each of its ten years in government, which brings to a total of 25 new and extended taxes with which Victorians have been hit by Mr Brumby, first as Treasurer and now as Premier, including —
  (a) the gaming machine levy;
  (b) the extension of payroll tax;
  (c) the motorcycle tax;
  (d) the extension of stamp duty;
  (e) the indexation of fines, fees and charges;
  (f) the Transit City Tax;
  (g) the water levy;
  (h) motor vehicle registration charges for pensioners, war veterans and health care card holders;
  (i) the cap and restrictions on multi-purpose taxis;
  (k) increased forestry royalties;
  (l) doubling of state royalties/taxes on brown coal;
  (m) the long term parking (congestion) tax;
  (n) the extension of land tax to trusts;
  (o) the land development levy;
  (p) tolls on the Scoresby Freeway/Eastlink;
  (q) the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution;
  (r) the annual levy on Cemetery Trusts;
  (s) risk-based Liquor Licensing Fees;
  (t) the Port Freight Access Charge; and
  (u) the new Mine Stability Levy.

The following notices of intention to make a statement on a report or paper were given:

- Auditor-General's Report on Private Practice Arrangements in Health Services, October 2008 (Mr Eideh).
- South West Institute of TAFE Report, 2008 (Ms Tierney).

ALSO IN THE COUNCIL

Question Time

Members' Statements

Adjournment debate

The next sitting is on Thursday, 17 September 2009

The Legislative Council Daily Summary is prepared as a convenient summary of each day's proceedings. For a complete account please refer to the official record, the Minutes of Proceedings, available on Parliament's website www.parliament.vic.gov.au or through the Council Table Office.

Contact Details

Legislative Council Table Office
Parliament House
Spring Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002
Phone: 61 3 9651 8673 Facsimile: 61 3 9650 5253
Email: council@parliament.vic.gov.au