



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
60TH PARLIAMENT
Nos. 101, 102 and 103

No. 101 — Tuesday, 18 February 2025

- 1 The President took the Chair at 12.02 pm, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.
 - 2 **ASSENT TO ACTS** — The President read a Message from the Governor informing the Council that she had, on 11 February 2025, given the Royal Assent to the following Acts presented to her by the Clerk of the Parliaments:
Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Amendment (Paramedic Practitioners) Act 2025
Education and Training Reform Amendment Act 2025
Statute Law Repeals Act 2025.
 - 3 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** — The President advised the House that Dylan Wight, Member for Tarneit, resigned from the Integrity and Oversight Committee, effective from today.
 - 4 **QUESTION TIME** —
QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MINISTERS' STATEMENTS — Members asked questions without notice and ministers made statements.
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QUESTIONS DIRECTED FOR WRITTEN RESPONSE — The President directed a minister to provide a written response to questions without notice pursuant to Standing Order 8.07 as follows:
 - **Investigation of allegations against Victoria Police members (QwN 800)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Rachel Payne — response from Enver Erdogan due Thursday, 20 February 2025.
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- CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS** — Members asked constituency questions.
- 5 **PETITIONS** —
SAVE SILVERLEAVES FROM COASTAL EROSION — Melina Bath presented a petition bearing 34 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to urgently fund and implement the Department of

Energy, Environment and Climate Action's proposed geotextile revetment to protect homes, public infrastructure and public land in the short term, and work collaboratively with the Silverleaves community to plan and fund long-term solutions to mitigate and manage coastal erosion (*Ordered to be tabled*).

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STOP THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WASTE TRANSFER STATION IN HAMPTON PARK —

Ann-Marie Hermans presented a petition bearing 1,415 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative call on the Government to ensure that a waste transfer station is not constructed in the South-Eastern Metropolitan Region by overturning approval of planning permit application PA23/0694, rejecting development license application APP032219, and investigating the processes which have led to the planning permit application being approved by the City of Casey (*Ordered to be tabled*).

6 PAPERS —

COMMITTEE REPORT — SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE —

Pursuant to section 35 of the *Parliamentary Committees Act 2003*, Sonja Terpstra presented Alert Digest No. 2 of 2025 (including Appendices) from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee (*Ordered to be published*).

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PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled the following papers:

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 — Education and Care Services National Amendment (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2024, under section 303 of the Act.

Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986 — Minister's certificate of 10 February 2025 to not require the service of a notice of intention to acquire land, under section 7 of the Act.

Ombudsman — Support when children are sexually abused at school: The Department of Education's response to abuse in a Victorian primary school, February 2025 (*released on 13 February 2025 – a non-sitting day*).

Planning and Environment Act 1987 — Notices of approval of the —

Greater Geelong Planning Scheme — Amendment C452.

Mitchell and Strathbogie Planning Schemes — Amendment GC234.

Mount Alexander Planning Scheme — Amendment C94.

Statutory Rule under the Food Act 1984 — No. 1.

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PROCLAMATION — The Clerk tabled a proclamation of the Governor in Council fixing an operative date for the following Act:

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Trust Amendment Act 2024 — Whole Act — 5 February 2025 (*Gazette S29, 4 February 2025*).

7 BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL — David Davis moved, by leave, That the following general business take precedence on Wednesday, 19 February 2025 —

- (1) notice of motion given this day by David Davis on a new sessional order relating to the order of business on Wednesday;
- (2) notice of motion No. 790, standing in Georgie Crozier's name on Victoria's health system;

- (3) notice of motion given this day by Bev McArthur on the Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction Service; and
- (4) notice of motion given this day by David Davis on the Victorian debt ceiling.

Question — put and agreed to.

- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** — David Davis moved, by leave, That Wendy Lovell be discharged as a participating member of the Legal and Social Issues Standing Committee.

Question — put and agreed to.

- 9 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS** — Members made statements.

- 10 BUSINESS POSTPONED** — Ordered — That the consideration of notices of motion, government business, Nos. 278 to 806, be postponed until later this day.

- 11 INQUIRIES AMENDMENT (YOORROOK JUSTICE COMMISSION RECORDS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2024** — Debate resumed on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 21

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Katherine Copsey; Jacinta Ermacora; David Ettershank; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Shaun Leane; Sarah Mansfield; Tom McIntosh; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Sonja Terpstra; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 15

Melina Bath; Gaele Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Renee Heath; Ann-Marie Hermans; David Limbrick; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question agreed to.

Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

Bill reported without amendment, the Report was adopted.

Lizzie Blandthorn moved, That the Bill be now read a third time and do pass.

Question — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 21

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Katherine Copsey; Jacinta Ermacora; David Ettershank; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Shaun Leane; Sarah Mansfield; Tom McIntosh; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Sonja Terpstra; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 14

Melina Bath; Gaelle Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Renee Heath;
Ann-Marie Hermans; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken;
Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question agreed to.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Bill returned to the Assembly with a Message informing them that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

12 ADJOURNMENT — Ingrid Stitt moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Council adjourned at 6.33 pm until tomorrow.

ROBERT McDONALD

Clerk of the Legislative Council

No. 102 — Wednesday, 19 February 2025

1 The President took the Chair at 9.32 am, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PETITIONS —

STOP THE CREATION OF ANY NEW NATIONAL PARKS — Melina Bath presented a petition bearing 40,208 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to not create any new national parks and keep state forests open to public access and traditional activities *(Ordered to be tabled)*.

The petition having received the required number of signatures, Melina Bath listed the petition for future debate during Petitions (qualifying for debate).

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DESIST FROM HIGH-RISE HIGH-DENSITY ZONE PLANNING — Georgie Crozier presented a petition bearing 34 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to desist from the announced high-rise high-density zones and recommence proper discussions and consultation with local communities and councils and heritage peak bodies in all ten affected zones prior to taking any further planning actions *(Ordered to be tabled)*.

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STOP THE CONSTRUCTION OF A WASTE TRANSFER STATION IN HAMPTON PARK — Ann-Marie Hermans presented a petition bearing 3,001 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to ensure that a waste transfer station is not constructed in the South-Eastern Metropolitan Region by overturning approval of planning permit application PA23/0694, rejecting development license application APP032219, and investigating the processes which have led to the planning permit application being approved by the City of Casey *(Ordered to be tabled)*.

The petition having received the required number of signatures, Ann-Marie Hermans listed the petition for future debate during Petitions (qualifying for debate).

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RESTORE THE FYANSFORD PAPER MILL WATER RACE WALL — Bev McArthur presented a petition bearing 2,018 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to approve funding to restore the Fyansford Paper Mill water race wall breach, and to clear the water race of noxious weeds, rubbish, dead trees and non-native plants to enable water to flow again (*Ordered to be tabled*).

On the motion of Bev McArthur, the petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

- 3 WRONGS AMENDMENT (VICARIOUS LIABILITY) BILL 2025** — Rachel Payne introduced *A Bill for an Act to amend the Wrongs Act 1958 to make certain organisations vicariously liable for the abuse of children by persons akin to employees of those organisations and to consequentially amend the Victoria Police Act 2013 and for other purposes.*

On the motion of Rachel Payne, the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time on the next day of meeting.

- 4 PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT** — The Clerk tabled the following papers:

Auditor-General — Major Projects Performance Reporting 2024, February 2025 (*Ordered to be published*).

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 — Documents under section 15 in relation to Statutory Rule No. 1.

- 5 PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS — RECREATIONAL NATIVE BIRD HUNTING ARRANGEMENTS** — In response to a resolution of the Council on 20 March 2024 (on the motion of Georgie Purcell), relating to recreational native bird hunting arrangements, the Clerk tabled —

- 21 documents and schedules of the 36 documents identified within the scope of the Order; and
- a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 17 February 2025, making a claim of executive privilege in relation to 15 documents in full.

- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** — Sarah Mansfield moved, by leave, That Anasina Gray-Barberio be a participating member of the Legal and Social Issues Standing Committee.

Question — put and agreed to.

- 7 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS** — Members made statements.

- 8 PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS — PLAN MELBOURNE** — Evan Mulholland moved, That this House —

(1) notes that —

- (a) the Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) was not specifically considered in Plan Melbourne;
- (b) Victoria's Housing Statement sets a target to build 800,000 homes by 2034, and Plan Melbourne states 1.6 million homes will be required by 2051;

- (c) according to government documents, the SRL East precincts are intended to accommodate 70,000 homes alone;
- (2) in accordance with Standing Order 10.01, requires the Leader of the Government to table in the Council within three weeks of the House agreeing to this resolution —
 - (a) the latest version of Plan Melbourne, be it a wholesale revision, draft, addendum or similar;
 - (b) reports from consultancies that have been or are intended to be used to inform an updated version of Plan Melbourne;
 - (c) submissions from third parties, including municipalities, that have been, or are intended to be, used to inform an updated version of Plan Melbourne; and
 - (d) any material presented in the last 12 months to the Minister for Planning regarding changes to Plan Melbourne.

Debate ensued.

The President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 6, had elapsed.

Question — put and agreed to.

- 9 SESSIONAL ORDERS — ORDER OF BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY** — David Davis moved, That until the end of the Session, unless otherwise ordered by the Council, Sessional Order 2 is revoked and replaced with the following Sessional Order to come into operation on the next sitting week:

2. Order of business – Wednesday

Standing Orders 5.02(2) and (3) are suspended and the following order of business will apply on Wednesday —

Messages

Formal business

Members' statements (up to 15 members)

Private member bills – moving second readings of bills for which precedence has been ordered

Short form documents motions (up to 2 motions)

General business

At 12.00 noon Questions

General business (continues)

At 5.15 pm, or after 300 minutes of general business has elapsed (whichever is later) Statements on tabled papers and petitions (30 minutes)

Petitions (qualifying for debate) (30 minutes)

Government business (maximum 60 minutes)

Adjournment (up to 20 members).

Debate ensued.

Question — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 24

Melina Bath; Jeff Bourman; Gaelle Broad; Katherine Copsey; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; David Ettershank; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Renee Heath; Ann-Marie Hermans; David Limbrick; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Sarah Mansfield; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Adem Somyurek; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 14

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; Michael Galea; Shaun Leane; Tom McIntosh; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Lee Tarlamis; Sonja Terpstra; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question agreed to.

10 VICTORIA'S HEALTH SYSTEM — Georgie Crozier moved, That this House —

- (1) condemns the Allan Labor Government for failing to manage Victoria's health system, including the amalgamation of health services across Victoria which will lead to a loss of frontline jobs, services and local community voice, and centralised decision-making;
- (2) notes —
 - (a) the lack of community consultation by the Allan Labor Government on their plans to amalgamate health services and create Local Health Service Networks which has led to ongoing uncertainty for local communities, staff and hospital management;
 - (b) that no additional funding has been provided to establish the networks;
- (3) further notes —
 - (a) the closure of critical healthcare services, as a result of budget cuts, leaving vulnerable Victorians without the support and management they deserve and need;
 - (b) that hospitals across the State are running massive deficits in excess of \$1 billion;
 - (c) that hospitals have failed to maintain benchmark cash on hand holdings and are struggling to pay staff salaries and suppliers on time; and
- (4) further notes that under the leadership of the Hon. Jacinta Allan MP, the Department of Health is in disarray and the Labor Government's financial mismanagement and record debt is starving funding from Victorian hospitals leading to poorer outcomes for Victorian patients.

Debate ensued.

Business interrupted at 12.00 noon, pursuant to Sessional Orders.

11 QUESTION TIME —

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MINISTERS' STATEMENTS — Members asked questions without notice and ministers made statements.

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ANSWERS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION — On the motion of David Davis, the answers given by Jaclyn Symes to questions relating to the Suburban Rail Loop early works

package (QwN 806) were ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

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QUESTIONS DIRECTED FOR WRITTEN RESPONSE — The President directed ministers to provide written responses to questions without notice pursuant to Standing Order 8.07 as follows:

- **Native bird hunting season (QwN 807)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Georgie Purcell — response from Gayle Tierney due Friday, 21 February 2025.
- **Regional Victoria crime rates (QwN 809)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell — response from Enver Erdogan due Friday, 21 February 2025.
- **Medicinal cannabis driving changes – public information (QwN 811)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by David Ettershank — response from Harriet Shing due Friday, 21 February 2025.

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CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS — Members asked constituency questions.

12 VICTORIA'S HEALTH SYSTEM — Debate continued on the question, That this House —

- (1) condemns the Allan Labor Government for failing to manage Victoria's health system, including the amalgamation of health services across Victoria which will lead to a loss of frontline jobs, services and local community voice, and centralised decision-making;
- (2) notes —
 - (a) the lack of community consultation by the Allan Labor Government on their plans to amalgamate health services and create Local Health Service Networks which has led to ongoing uncertainty for local communities, staff and hospital management;
 - (b) that no additional funding has been provided to establish the networks;
- (3) further notes —
 - (a) the closure of critical healthcare services, as a result of budget cuts, leaving vulnerable Victorians without the support and management they deserve and need;
 - (b) that hospitals across the State are running massive deficits in excess of \$1 billion;
 - (c) that hospitals have failed to maintain benchmark cash on hand holdings and are struggling to pay staff salaries and suppliers on time; and
- (4) further notes that under the leadership of the Hon. Jacinta Allan MP, the Department of Health is in disarray and the Labor Government's financial mismanagement and record debt is starving funding from Victorian hospitals leading to poorer outcomes for Victorian patients.

The Acting President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 3, had elapsed.

Question — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 15

Melina Bath; Jeff Bourman; Gaelle Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Renee Heath; Ann-Marie Hermans; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Rikkie-Lee Tyrrell; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 20

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Lizzie Blandthorn; Katherine Copsey; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; David Ettershank; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Shaun Leane; Sarah Mansfield; Tom McIntosh; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Lee Tarlamis; Sonja Terpstra; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question negated.

13 COLORECTAL AND PELVIC RECONSTRUCTION SERVICE AT THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL — Bev McArthur moved, That this House —

(1) acknowledges that —

- (a) the Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction Service (CPRS) at The Royal Children's Hospital is a world-class, patient-specific surgical, nursing and allied health service that provides comprehensive and innovative care for children and their families affected by anorectal malformations, Hirschsprung disease and chronic constipation;
- (b) CPRS provides specialised outpatient clinics including nurse-led bowel management, stoma therapy, and a psychology clinic to support families in reducing the psychosocial impacts;
- (c) the increasing number of patients treated by CPRS alleviates a significant burden on other health services in Melbourne and regional Victoria, as they lack the expertise to handle complex colorectal conditions;

(2) notes that the —

- (a) CPRS is the first and only service of its kind in Australia and has had measurable positive impacts on the physical and emotional health of children and families;
- (b) false economy of removing the direct and continuing wraparound care would inefficiently offload responsibility to unprepared emergency departments and healthcare providers;

(3) expresses concern over reports from patients and families indicating that CPRS in its original form will be shut down imminently;

(4) recognises the philanthropic support for the establishment of CPRS in 2020, which could be jeopardised by any reduction in services;

(5) calls on the —

- (a) State Government to ensure CPRS continues in its original form to support children and families; and
- (b) Minister for Health to liaise with the Federal Minister for Health to ensure the funding and future of this vital program is safeguarded indefinitely.

Debate ensued.

The President advised that the total time allocated for debate, pursuant to Sessional Order 3, had elapsed.

Question — put and agreed to.

14 BUSINESS POSTPONED — Ordered — That the consideration of the remaining notices of motion and orders of the day, general business, be postponed until the next day of meeting.

15 STATEMENTS ON TABLED PAPERS AND PETITIONS — Members made statements on reports, papers and petitions.

Business interrupted at 5.39 pm, pursuant to Sessional Orders.

16 PETITIONS (QUALIFYING FOR DEBATE) — RESTORE THE NEWHAVEN JETTY — Melina Bath moved, That the petition be taken into consideration.

Debate ensued.

Question — put and agreed to.

17 ADJOURNMENT — Enver Erdogan moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Council adjourned at 6.40 pm until tomorrow.

ROBERT McDONALD
Clerk of the Legislative Council

No. 103 — Thursday, 20 February 2025

1 The President took the Chair at 9.32 am, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PETITION — DESIST FROM HIGH-RISE HIGH-DENSITY ZONE PLANNING — David Davis presented a petition bearing 42 signatures from certain citizens of Victoria requesting that the Legislative Council call on the Government to desist from the announced high-rise high-density zones and recommence proper discussions and consultation with local communities and councils and heritage peak bodies in all ten affected zones prior to taking any further planning actions (*Ordered to be tabled*).

On the motion of David Davis, the petition was ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

3 PAPERS PRESENTED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled the following papers:

Family Violence Protection Act 2008 — Report on the implementation of the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework, 2023-24.

Office of Public Prosecutions — Report, 2023-24.

Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2017 — Review of the Operation of Victoria's *Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2017*, October 2024, under section 116 of the Act.

4 RIGHT OF REPLY — VICTORIAN PEST ANIMAL CONTROL — Pursuant to Standing Order 21.03, the President tabled a Right of Reply from Jacob Haddad, Managing Director, Victorian Pest Animal Control relating to statements made by Georgie Purcell during questions without notice on 12 November 2024 (*Ordered to be published*).

5 SITTING OF THE COUNCIL — Gayle Tierney moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 4 March 2025.

Question — put and agreed to.

6 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS — Members made statements.

7 BUSINESS POSTPONED — Ordered — That the consideration of notices of motion, government business, Nos. 278 to 824, be postponed until later this day.

8 JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COMMITTALS) BILL 2024 — Debate resumed on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Evan Mulholland moved, as a reasoned amendment, That all the words after “That” be omitted and replaced with “the Bill be withdrawn and not reintroduced until the Government —

- (1) explains why it has rejected the Victorian Law Reform Commission recommendation to empower the Magistrates’ and Children’s Courts to discharge the accused on a relevant indictable charge or charges if satisfied that there is no reasonable prospect of conviction; and
- (2) commits to reviewing the implementation of the Bill to identify and remedy any demonstrable unfairness to defendants.”.

Debate ensued.

Business interrupted at 12.00 noon.

9 QUESTION TIME —

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE AND MINISTERS' STATEMENTS — Members asked questions without notice and ministers made statements.

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ANSWERS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION — On the motion of Georgie Crozier, the answers given by Jaclyn Symes to questions relating to performance reporting on major projects (QwN 817) were ordered to be taken into consideration on the next day of meeting.

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QUESTIONS DIRECTED FOR WRITTEN RESPONSE — The President directed ministers to provide written responses to questions without notice pursuant to Standing Order 8.07 as follows:

- **Testing on rats (QwN 816)** — substantive and supplementary questions asked by Georgie Purcell — response from Gayle Tierney due Monday, 24 February 2025.
- **Fisheries enforcement officers (QwN 820)** — substantive question asked by Jeff Bourman — response from Gayle Tierney due Monday, 24 February 2025.

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CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS — Members asked constituency questions.

10 JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COMMITTALS) BILL 2024 — Debate continued on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time — and on the reasoned amendment moved by Evan Mulholland — That all the words after “That” be omitted and replaced with “the Bill be withdrawn and not reintroduced until the Government —

- (1) explains why it has rejected the Victorian Law Reform Commission recommendation to empower the Magistrates’ and Children’s Courts to discharge the accused on a relevant indictable charge or charges if satisfied that there is no reasonable prospect of conviction; and
- (2) commits to reviewing the implementation of the Bill to identify and remedy any demonstrable unfairness to defendants.”.

Question — That the reasoned amendment moved by Evan Mulholland be agreed to — put.

The Council divided — The President in the Chair.

AYES, 14

Melina Bath; Gaelle Broad; Georgie Crozier; David Davis; Renee Heath; Ann-Marie Hermans; David Limbrick; Wendy Lovell; Trung Luu; Bev McArthur; Joe McCracken; Nick McGowan; Evan Mulholland; Richard Welch.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

NOES, 21

Ryan Batchelor; John Berger; Katherine Copsey; Enver Erdogan; Jacinta Ermacora; David Ettershank; Michael Galea; Anasina Gray-Barberio; Shaun Leane; Sarah Mansfield; Tom McIntosh; Rachel Payne; Aiv Puglielli; Georgie Purcell; Harriet Shing; Ingrid Stitt; Jaclyn Symes; Lee Tarlamis; Sonja Terpstra; Gayle Tierney; Sheena Watt.

(Recorded by Clerks-at-the-Table, pursuant to an order of the Council on 23 April 2020)

Question negated.

Question — That the Bill be now read a second time — put and agreed to.

Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

Bill reported without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Bill returned to the Assembly with a Message informing them that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

11 CONSUMER AND PLANNING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (HOUSING STATEMENT REFORM) BILL 2024 — Debate resumed on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time.

David Davis (*DD157C*) circulated amendments proposed to be moved during Committee of the whole.

On the motion of Lee Tarlamis, the debate was adjourned until the next day of meeting.

12 SOCIAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS — John Berger moved, That this House —

(1) condemns the Liberal and Nationals Coalition for their —

- (a) consistent efforts to undermine and oppose social housing developments in Victoria;
- (b) disregard shown to the wellbeing and dignity of their most vulnerable constituents;

(2) notes that in —

- (a) 2017, the Member for Brighton opposed a development in Hampton, building 207 new apartments;
- (b) 2021, the Member for Sandringham opposed a proposal to build 1,048 apartments in Highett; and
- (c) 2022, the former Liberal Minister for Housing believed low-income families had no place in the Member for Brighton's electorate as they would not have the latest sneakers or iPhones.

Debate ensued.

On the motion of Lee Tarlamis, the debate was adjourned until the next day of meeting.

- 13 ENERGY AND LAND LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ENERGY SAFETY) BILL 2025** — The Acting President read a Message from the Assembly presenting *A Bill for an Act to amend the Electricity Safety Act 1998, the Gas Safety Act 1997, the Pipelines Act 2005, the Energy Safe Victoria Act 2005 and the Land Act 1958 and for other purposes* and requesting the agreement of the Council.

On the motion of Enver Erdogan (for Ingrid Stitt), the Bill was read a first time and, by leave, ordered to be read a second time forthwith.

Enver Erdogan laid on the Table the statement of compatibility as required by the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Enver Erdogan moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Enver Erdogan incorporated the second reading speech in Hansard.

On the motion of Evan Mulholland, the debate was adjourned for one week.

- 14 JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ANTI-VILIFICATION AND SOCIAL COHESION) BILL 2024** — The Acting President read a Message from the Assembly presenting *A Bill for an Act to amend the Crimes Act 1958, the Equal Opportunity Act 2010 and the Bail Act 1977, to repeal the Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001 and to make consequential amendments to other Acts and for other purposes* and requesting the agreement of the Council.

On the motion of Enver Erdogan (for Jaclyn Symes), the Bill was read a first time and, by leave, ordered to be read a second time forthwith.

Enver Erdogan laid on the Table the statement of compatibility as required by the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Enver Erdogan moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Enver Erdogan incorporated the second reading speech in Hansard.

On the motion of Evan Mulholland, the debate was adjourned for one week.

- 15 REGULATORY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2025** — The Acting President read a Message from the Assembly presenting *A Bill for an Act to amend the Adoption Act 1984, the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1996, the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005, the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021, the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Act 2003, the Domestic Animals Act 1994, the Electricity Industry Act 2000, the Environment Protection Act 2017, the Essential Services Commission Act 2001, the Housing Act 1983, the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990, the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Amendment Act 2023, the Service Victoria Act 2018, the Subdivision Act 1988, the Transfer of Land Act 1958 and the Water Act 1989 and for other purposes* and requesting the agreement of the Council.

On the motion of Gayle Tierney (for Jaclyn Symes), the Bill was read a first time and, by leave, ordered to be read a second time forthwith.

Gayle Tierney laid on the Table the statement of compatibility as required by the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Gayle Tierney moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Gayle Tierney incorporated the second reading speech in Hansard.

On the motion of Evan Mulholland, the debate was adjourned for one week.

16 ADJOURNMENT — Gayle Tierney moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Council adjourned at 6.37 pm until Tuesday, 4 March 2025.

ROBERT McDONALD

Clerk of the Legislative Council

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL

Supplement to Minutes Nos. 101, 102 and 103

INQUIRIES AMENDMENT (YOORROOK JUSTICE COMMISSION RECORDS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2024

Committed Tuesday, 18 February 2025

Clauses 1 to 8 — put and agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment.

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JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COMMITTALS) BILL 2024

Committed Thursday, 20 February 2025

Clauses 1 to 63 — put and agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment.

