

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Nos 160, 161, 162 and 163

No 160 — Tuesday 3 February 2026

The House started at 12.00 noon.

- 1 The House met according to the resolution of the House on 9 December 2025 — The Speaker took the Chair, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.
- 2 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS** — Motion made, by leave, and question — That so much of standing and sessional orders be suspended today to immediately allow:
 - (1) The Premier to move a motion of condolence for the victims of the Bondi terror attack on 14 December 2025, and:
 - (a) the Premier, Leader of the Opposition, Deputy Premier, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Victorian Greens to speak on the motion for up to 15 minutes each; and
 - (b) any other member to speak for up to five minutes each;
 - (2) Immediately after the conclusion of the motion in (1), the Premier to move a motion of condolence for Victorian communities impacted by the recent and ongoing 2026 bushfires, and:
 - (a) the Premier, Leader of the Opposition, Leader of the Nationals and Leader of the Greens to speak on the motion for up to 15 minutes each; and
 - (b) any other member to speak for up to five minutes each;
 - (3) At the conclusion of the motion set out in (2), unless otherwise ordered, the House to adjourn for one hour as a mark of respect to all those affected by both events;
 - (4) When the House returns after the adjournment, the order of business to be:
 - (a) Question time and constituency questions
Formal business
Statements by members
Government business
Adjournment (7.00 pm); or

- (b) in the event that the House is debating one of the motions under (1) or (2) or is adjourned as a mark of respect at 7.00 pm, the order of business after the adjournment under (3) to be:

Question time and constituency questions
 Formal business
 Statements by members
 Government business
 Adjournment —

(Mary-Anne Thomas) — put and agreed to.

3 BONDİ ATTACK ON 14 DECEMBER 2025 — Motion made and question — that this House:

- (1) Tenders Victoria's heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of the 15 innocent people murdered at Bondi Beach on 14 December 2025;
- (2) Condemns the atrocity which stole their lives, an act of terrorism deliberately targeted at Australia's Jewish community gathering to celebrate the first night of Chanukah;
- (3) Unequivocally condemns the evil of antisemitism and vows stronger action to prevent extremism and keep our state safe, strong, proud and united;
- (4) Honours the courage, composure and quick action of all the police officers, first responders, healthcare workers and everyday people whose dedication and skill saved lives;
- (5) Acknowledges the trauma of the men, women and children injured physically and psychologically, including those who witnessed the horror; and
- (6) Affirms the fundamental right of every Jewish Victorian to live, work, worship and learn in peace and safety; to participate fully and freely in the civic life of our state; and to gather in community without fear or hindrance, proud of who they are, and proud of the profound contributions Jewish Victorians have made to the life and success of our state —

(Jacinta Allan) — members addressed the House in support, and the motion was agreed to unanimously with members rising in their places to signify their assent.

4 2026 VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES — Motion made and question — that this House:

- (1) Extends its condolences and deepest sympathy to the Victorian communities affected by the ongoing 2026 bushfires;
- (2) Praises the work of emergency services personnel for their courage and sacrifice in fighting fires and protecting our communities;

- (3) Expresses its deep gratitude to the many volunteers and community members who have supported friends, neighbours and anyone else in need; and
- (4) Pledges to continue to work with communities and all levels of government to support and rebuild fire-affected communities —

(*Jacinta Allan*) — members and the Speaker addressed the House in support, and the motion was agreed to unanimously with members rising in their places to signify their assent.

- 5 **ADJOURNMENT** — Motion made and question — That, as a further mark of respect to all those affected by both events, the House now adjourns until 5.30 pm (*Jacinta Allan*) — put and agreed to.

And the House, at 4.12 pm, adjourned until 5.30 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker

No 161 — Tuesday 3 February 2026 (5.30 pm)

- 1 The House met according to the adjournment — The Speaker took the Chair.
- 2 **QUESTION TIME.**
- 3 **CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS.**
- 4 **ENERGY AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (RESILIENCE REFORMS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2026** — Lily D'Ambrosio introduced 'A *Bill for an Act to amend the **Electricity Safety Act 1998**, the **Electricity Industry Act 2000**, the **Gas Industry Act 2001**, the **National Electricity (Victoria) Act 2005**, the **Energy and Land Legislation Amendment (Energy Safety) Act 2025**, the **Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Amendment (Energy Upgrades for the Future) Act 2025**, the **National Electricity (Victoria) Amendment (VicGrid Stage 2 Reform) Act 2025** and the **Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Act 2018** and for other purposes*'; and, after debate, the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow.
- 5 **PETITIONS** — The Clerk announced that the following petitions had been lodged for presentation:

Container deposit scheme in Eildon — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly investigates the reasoning behind the decision by Visy to close the Eildon container deposit scheme

collection site and immediately reinstate the scheme at a new site in Eildon, bearing 83 signatures (*Cindy McLeish*)

Heyington Station — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly allocates funding and prioritises the installation of ramps or lifts at Heyington Station to provide step-free access, ensuring compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth) and the *Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport*, bearing 192 signatures (*Michael O'Brien*)

Traffic safety audit for intersections in Thornbury — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to commission a traffic safety audit of the intersections of Darebin Road and Wilmoth Street, and Station Street and Collins Street in Thornbury to obtain evidence-based recommendations to improve public and active transport user safety in these areas, bearing 720 signatures (*Kat Theophanous*)

Fossil fuel consumption — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly achieves a minimum 20 per cent reduction in statewide fossil fuel consumption by promoting eco-friendly actions and replacing the use of fossil fuels for energy in housing and factories with sustainable energy sources, bearing 13 signatures (*Mathew Hilakari*)

cohealth in Kensington, Fitzroy and Collingwood — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly guarantees long-term, sustainable funding for cohealth, protects the role of community health in delivering equitable healthcare and reducing health disparities and recognises that the current Medicare Benefits Schedule model does not cater for the needs of community health practices, bearing 466 signatures (*Gabrielle de Vietri*).

Ordered to be tabled.

6 **PETITION — CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME IN EILDON** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Eildon be taken into consideration tomorrow (*Roma Britnell*) — put and agreed to.

7 **PETITION — HEYINGTON STATION** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Malvern be taken into consideration tomorrow (*Michael O'Brien*) — put and agreed to.

8 DOCUMENTS

SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE — Gary Maas, Chair, tabled the Alert Digest No 1 of 2026 from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee on the:

Volume A

Children, Youth and Families Amendment (Supporting Stable and Strong Families) Bill 2025

Crimes Amendment (Coercive Control) Bill 2025

Electoral Amendment Bill 2025

Entities Legislation Amendment (Consolidation and Other Matters) Bill 2025

Health Safeguards for People Born with Variations in Sex Characteristics Bill 2025

Justice Legislation Amendment (Community Safety) Act 2025

National Gas (Victoria) Amendment Bill 2025

Summary Offences Amendment (Begging) Bill 2025

Volume B

Casino and Gambling Legislation Amendment Act 2025

Consumer Legislation Amendment Act 2025

Crimes Amendment (Performance Crime) Act 2025

Crimes Amendment (Retail, Fast Food, Hospitality, and Transport Worker Harm) Act 2025

Justice Legislation Amendment (Family Violence, Stalking and Other Matters) Bill 2025

Justice Legislation Amendment (Police and Other Matters) Act 2025

Justice Legislation Amendment (Vicarious Liability for Child Abuse) Bill 2025

Justice Legislation Further Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2025

Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025

Social Services Regulation Amendment (Child Safety, Complaints and Worker Regulation) Act 2025

Victorian Early Childhood Regulatory Authority Act 2025

Voluntary Assisted Dying Amendment Act 2025

SR No 73 — Powers of Attorney Regulations 2025

together with appendices.

Ordered to be published.

DOCUMENT TABLED BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR — The Clerk announced that the following document had been lodged for presentation by Command of the Governor:

County Court of Victoria — Report 2024–25 (*Replacement for copy tabled on 4 December 2025*)

DOCUMENTS TABLED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled:

Alpine Resorts Victoria — Report 2024 — Released on 2 January 2026, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt and an explanation for the delay

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) — Report 2024–25

Country Fire Authority — Report 2024–25 — Released on 20 January 2026, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt and an explanation for the delay

Eastern Health — Report 2023–24 (*Replacement for copy tabled on 14 November 2024*)

Financial Management Act 1994 — Report from the Minister for Planning that she had received the report 2024–25 of the Surveyors Registration Board of Victoria

Fire Rescue Victoria — Report 2024–25, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt and an explanation for the delay

Greater Western Water Corporation — Report 2024–25 — Released on 24 December 2025, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt and an explanation for the delay

Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984 — Notice under s 32(3)(a)(iii) in relation to Statutory Rule 136/2025 (*Gazette S720, 17 December 2025*)

Planning and Environment Act 1987:

Infrastructure contributions and development contribution levies — Report 2024–25
Notices of approval of amendments to the following Planning Schemes:

Alpine — GC267
Ararat — GC267
Ballarat — C257, C258, GC282
Banyule — GC282
Bayside — C196, GC264
Boroondara — GC282
Brimbank — GC282
Casey — C291, C303
Colac Otway — GC282
Darebin — C220, GC282
East Gippsland — C169, C172
Frankston — C156, C165, GC267
Golden Plains — C104, GC282
Greater Bendigo — C282, C297
Greater Dandenong — C230
Greater Geelong — C278, C457, GC282
Hindmarsh — C21
Hobsons Bay — GC282
Hume — GC282
Kingston — GC264
Macedon Ranges — GC282
Manningham — GC282
Mansfield — C56 Part 1
Maribyrnong — C191, GC282
Maroondah — C162
Melbourne — C447, GC282
Melton — GC282
Merri-bek — C196, GC282
Mitchell — GC282
Monash — GC282
Moonee Valley — GC282
Moorabool — GC282
Mornington Peninsula — C286, C312, C313
Moyne — GC267
Nillumbik — GC282
Southern Grampians — C61, C62
Stonnington — C358, GC282
Strathbogie — C85
Surf Coast — GC282

Victoria Planning Provisions — VC277, VC278, VC303
 Warrnambool — GC267
 Whitehorse — C257, GC282
 Whittlesea — C251, C275, GC282
 Wyndham — C267, GC282
 Yarra — C329, GC282
 Yarra Ranges — C212

Puffing Billy Railway Board — Report 2024–25 — released on 8 January 2026, together with an explanation for the delay

Statutory Rules under the following Acts:

Australian Consumer Law and Fair Trading Act 2012 — SR 152/2025
Building Act 1993 — SR 140/2025
Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 — SR 144/2025
Casino Control Act 1991 — SR 137/2025
Commercial Passenger Vehicle Industry Act 2017 — SR 154/2025
Confiscation Act 1997 — SR 151/2025
County Court Act 1958 — SR 135/2025
Gas Safety Act 1997 — SR 145/2025
Human Tissue Act 1982 — SR 139/2025
Land Tax Act 2005 — SR 149/2025
Local Government Act 2020 — SR 146/2025
Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022 — SR 141/2025, SR 153/2025
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 — SR136/2025
Public Administration Act 2004 — SR 142/2025
Road Safety Act 1986 — SR 155/2025
Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 — SR 138/2025
Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983 — SR 147/2025, SR 148/2025
Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998 — SR 143/2025
Water Act 1989 — SR 150/2025

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994:

Documents under s 15 in relation to Statutory Rules 131/2025, 132/2025, 133/2025, 134/2025, 136/2025, 137/2025, 138/2025, 139/2025, 140/2025, 141/2025, 142/2025, 143/2025, 144/2025, 145/2025, 147/2025, 148/2025, 149/2025, 150/2025, 151/2025, 152/2025, 153/2025, 154/2025, 155/2025

Documents under s 16B in relation to:

Australian Grands Prix Act 1994 — Public access area declaration for the 2026 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix
Local Government Act 1989 — Ministerial guidelines for Councils relating to payment of rates and charges

Triple Zero Victoria — Report 2024–25 — Released on 20 January 2026, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt and an explanation for the delay

Victorian Law Reform Commission — Artificial Intelligence in Victoria's Courts and Tribunals — Ordered to be published.

DOCUMENTS TABLED UNDER STANDING ORDERS — The Clerk tabled:

Government response to the Legal and Social Issues Standing Committee's Report on the Inquiry into capturing data on people who use family violence in Victoria (*Released on 19 December 2025, replacing copy released on 17 December 2025*)

Proclamations fixing operative dates:

Consumer Legislation Amendment Act 2025 — Part 3 — 10 March 2026 (*Gazette S743, 23 December 2025*)

Justice Legislation Amendment (Police and Other Matters) Act 2025 — Part 4, Division 2 of Part 6 and Division 2 of Part 7 — 30 January 2026 (*Gazette S42, 28 January 2026*)

Labour Hire Legislation Amendment (Licensing) Act 2025 — Parts 1 and 3 — 17 December 2025 (*Gazette S715, 16 December 2025*); sections 3, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 — 24 December 2025 (*Gazette S743, 23 December 2025*)

Wage Theft Amendment Act 2025 — Parts 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 — 12 December 2025 (*Gazette S689, 9 December 2025*); Part 3 — 17 December 2025 (*Gazette S715, 16 December 2025*).

- 9 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the Labour Hire Legislation Amendment (Licensing) Bill 2025 without amendment.
- 10 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025 with amendments.

Ordered — That the amendments be taken into consideration later this day.

- 11 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR — ASSENT TO BILLS** — Informing the Legislative Assembly that she had, on 16 December 2025, given the royal assent to the following bills, presented to her by the Clerk of the Legislative Council, for and in the absence of the Clerk of the Parliaments:

Labour Hire Legislation Amendment (Licensing) Bill 2025

Social Services Regulation Amendment (Child Safety, Complaints and Worker Regulation) Bill 2025.

- 12 **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR** — Recommending appropriations for the purposes of the following bills:

Electoral Amendment Bill 2025

Entities Legislation Amendment (Consolidation and Other Matters) Bill 2025

Health Safeguards for People Born with Variations in Sex Characteristics Bill 2025.

- 13 **IBAC ACTING COMMISSIONER** — The Deputy Speaker advised that, on 15 December 2025, the Speaker administered to Stephen John Farrow, the Acting Commissioner of the

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission, the affirmation required by s 31 of the *Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Act 2011*.

- 14 **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PROGRAM** — Motion made and question — That, under SO 94(2), the Orders of the Day, Government Business, relating to the following bills be considered and completed by 5.00 pm on 5 February 2026:

Justice Legislation Further Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2025

Health Safeguards for People Born with Variations in Sex Characteristics Bill 2025 —

(*Mary-Anne Thomas*) — and, after debate —

Business interrupted at 7.00 pm under sessional orders.

Motion made and question — That the sitting be continued (*Mary-Anne Thomas*) — put and agreed to.

Debate continued on question — That the Government Business Program be agreed to.

Question put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 51

Juliana Addison; Jacinta Allan; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Eden Foster; Will Fowles; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; Danny Pearson; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

NOES 27

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Tim McCurdy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; John Pesutto; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowswell; David Southwick; Bridget Vallance; Peter Walsh; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

Question agreed to.

- 15 **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS** — Members made statements.

- 16 **PLANNING AMENDMENT (BETTER DECISIONS MADE FASTER) BILL 2025** — Order read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council.

The Acting Speaker advised that the Speaker had examined the amendments and was of the opinion that amendment Nos 1, 2, 5 and 6 are a direct infringement of the privileges of the

House as they seek to impose a tax. Under the *Constitution Act 1975*, a new tax can only originate in the Assembly.

Motion made and question — That:

- (1) Amendment Nos 3 to 4 and 7 to 35 be agreed to.
- (2) The Assembly refuses to entertain Amendment Nos 1, 2, 5 and 6 as they infringe the privileges of the Assembly.
- (3) The Assembly makes the following further amendments to the bill:
 1. Clause 2, lines 2 and 3, omit all words and expressions on these lines and insert—
 - “(1) This Part and section 11(2) and (3) come into operation on the day after the day on which this Act receives the Royal Assent.
 - (1A) The remaining provisions of this Act come into operation on a day or days to be proclaimed.”.
 2. Clause 2, line 4, omit “of this Act” and insert “referred to in subsection (1A)”.
 3. Clause 11, line 20, before “After” insert “(1)”.
 4. Clause 11, after line 22, insert—
 - ‘(2) After section 6(2)(j) of the Principal Act insert—
 - “(ja) provide that any use or development of land is conditional on the provision of an affordable housing contribution;”.
 - (3) After section 6(2) of the Principal Act insert—
 - (2AA) For the purposes of section 6(2)(ja), an affordable housing contribution may be imposed as a condition on a permit if—
 - (a) the relevant planning scheme identifies a need for affordable housing in the area; and
 - (b) the application exceeds a threshold prescribed in the regulations that is expressed in terms of number of dwellings or value of development.
 - (2AAB) An affordable housing contribution is to be in the prescribed form, including a monetary contribution in lieu of the provision of affordable housing.

- (2AAC) The regulations may prescribe the maximum affordable housing contributions that can be required under a planning scheme, including the application of differing maximums by reference to different zones and overlays.
- (2AAD) If a monetary contribution is made to acquit a requirement specified in a planning scheme for the provision of an affordable housing contribution, the monetary contribution must be collected by the responsible authority for the proposed use or development of land.
- (2AAE) Despite anything to the contrary in any other Act (other than the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*), any monetary contribution collected by a responsible authority under subsection (2AAD) must be spent on a project to construct new affordable housing in the municipal district in which it is collected.
- (2AAF) A responsible authority must keep proper and separate accounts and records of any monetary contribution collected under subsection (2AAD) and how that monetary contribution was spent on the provision of affordable housing in the municipal district.
- (2AAG) The accounts and records required under subsection (2AAF) must be kept in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.”’.

5. Clause 86, page 89, line 4, omit “(2)” —

(*Sonya Kilkenny*) — and, after debate —

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned (*Will Fowles*) — put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 20

Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Will Fowles; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Michael O’Brien; Kim O’Keeffe; John Pesutto; Brad Rowswell; Bridget Vallence; Peter Walsh; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

NOES 50

Juliana Addison; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D’Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Gabrielle de Vietri; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Eden Foster; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy;

Tim Read; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Ellen Sandell; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

Question defeated.

Debate continued on question — that the motion be agreed to.

Question put and agreed to.

Message sent to the Legislative Council informing them accordingly and requesting their agreement.

- 17 **POSTPONEMENT OF REMAINING BUSINESS** — Motion made and question — That the consideration of remaining business be postponed (*Sonya Kilkenny*) — put and agreed to.
- 18 **ADJOURNMENT** — After debate, the Deputy Speaker left the Chair at 8.49 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker

No 162 — Wednesday 4 February 2026

The House started at 9.30 am.

- 1 The Speaker took the Chair, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.
- 2 **EDUCATION AND TRAINING REFORM AMENDMENT (FREE TAFE GUARANTEE) BILL 2026** — Danny Pearson introduced ‘A Bill for an Act to amend the **Education and Training Reform Act 2006** in relation to the TAFE network, to guarantee the provision of certain courses of vocational education and training free of tuition fee, to provide for the TAFE Funding Guarantee and for other purposes’; and, after debate, the Bill was read a first time and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow.
- 3 **DOCUMENT TABLED UNDER AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT** — The Clerk tabled:

Emergency Management Act 1986 — Report to Parliament on the Declaration of the State of Disaster.
- 4 **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS** — Members made statements.
- 5 **STATEMENTS ON PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE REPORTS** — Members made statements on committee reports.

- 6 **ENERGY AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (RESILIENCE REFORMS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2026** — Lily D'Ambrosio tabled a statement of compatibility in accordance with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Motion made and question proposed — That this Bill be now read a second time (*Lily D'Ambrosio*).

The second reading speech was incorporated into Hansard.

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned (*James Newbury*) — put and agreed to.

Ordered — That the debate be adjourned for two weeks. Debate adjourned until 18 February 2026.

- 7 **JUSTICE LEGISLATION FURTHER AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2025 — MOTION TO EXTEND SCOPE** — Motion made and question — That the scope of the Justice Legislation Further Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2025 be extended to enable consideration of amendments to the *Crimes Act 1958* to provide that the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions is not required for a police officer to commence a prosecution for an offence against section 195N(1) or 195O(1) of that Act unless the accused is under the age of 18 years (*Sonya Kilkeny*) — and, after debate —

Amendment proposed — That the words 'unless the accused is under the age of 18 years' be omitted (*James Newbury*) — and, after debate —

Question — That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question — put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 54

Juliana Addison; Jacinta Allan; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Gabrielle de Vietri; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Eden Foster; Will Fowles; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkeny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; Danny Pearson; Tim Read; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Ellen Sandell; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

NOES 27

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Tim McCurdy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; John Pesutto; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowsell; David Southwick; Bridget Vallence; Peter Walsh; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

Question agreed to.

Original question put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 78

Juliana Addison; Jacinta Allan; Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Annabelle Cleeland; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Chris Crewther; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Wayne Farnham; Eden Foster; Will Fowles; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Matthew Guy; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; David Hodgett; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Emma Kealy; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Tim McCurdy; Steve McGhie; Cindy McLeish; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; Danny Pearson; John Pesutto; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowswell; Michaela Settle; David Southwick; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Bridget Vallence; Peter Walsh; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson; Jess Wilson.

NOES 3

Gabrielle de Vietri; Tim Read; Ellen Sandell.

Question agreed to.

- 8 **JUSTICE LEGISLATION FURTHER AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2025** — Order read for resuming debate on question — That this Bill be now read a second time.

Under SO 64, Sonya Kilkenny circulated amendments to be proposed when the House considers the Bill in detail.

Debate resumed.

Business interrupted at 2.00 pm under standing orders.

- 9 **QUESTION TIME.**

- 10 **CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS.**

- 11 **JUSTICE LEGISLATION FURTHER AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2025** — Debate continued on question — That this Bill be now read a second time.

Business interrupted at 4.00 pm under sessional orders.

- 12 **GRIEVANCES** — Question — That grievances be noted — after debate, put and agreed to.

- 13 **JUSTICE LEGISLATION FURTHER AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2025** — Debate continued on question — That this Bill be now read a second time..

Under SO 64, Danny Pearson circulated amendments in substitution of amendments previously circulated, to be proposed when the House considers the Bill in detail.

Debate resumed.

Business interrupted at 7.00 pm under sessional orders.

- 14 **ADJOURNMENT** — The Speaker announced that the time for the adjournment of the House had arrived and, after debate, the Deputy Speaker left the Chair at 7.27 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker

No 163 — Thursday 5 February 2026

The House started at 9.30 am.

- 1 The Speaker took the Chair, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.
- 2 **DOCUMENTS TABLED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT** — The Clerk tabled:

Financial Management Act 1994 — Report from the Attorney-General that she had received the report 2024–25 of the Sentencing Advisory Council

National Health Practitioner Ombudsman and Privacy Commissioner — Report 2024–25

Planning and Environment Act 1987 — Notice of approval of amendment VC265 to the Victoria Planning Provisions

Statutory Rules under the following Acts:

Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 — SR 1

Disability Service Safeguards Act 2018 — SR 4

Social Services Regulation Act 2021 — SR 2

Worker Screening Act 2020 — SR 3

Victorian Professional Standards Councils — Report 2024–25, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt.

- 3 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025 — Not insisting on their amendment Nos 1, 2, 5 and 6 and agreeing to further amendments made by the Legislative Assembly.

- 4 **COMMITTEE RESIGNATIONS** — The Speaker announced that she had received the resignations of Roma Britnell from the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee and John Pesutto from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee, both effective from 4 February 2026.

- 5 **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** — Motion made, by leave, and question — That:

(1) Roma Britnell be a member of the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee; and

(2) John Pesutto be a member of the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee —

(Danny Pearson) — put and agreed to.

- 6 **SITTING OF THE HOUSE** — Motion made and question — That the House, at its rising, adjourns until 17 February 2026 *(Danny Pearson)* — put and agreed to.

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

- 8 **EDUCATION AND TRAINING REFORM AMENDMENT (FREE TAFE GUARANTEE) BILL 2026** — Danny Pearson tabled a statement of compatibility in accordance with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Motion made and question proposed — That this Bill be now read a second time *(Danny Pearson)*.

The second reading speech was incorporated into Hansard.

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned *(Bridget Vallence)* — put and agreed to.

Ordered — That the debate be adjourned for two weeks. Debate adjourned until 19 February 2026.

- 9 **HEALTH SAFEGUARDS FOR PEOPLE BORN WITH VARIATIONS IN SEX CHARACTERISTICS BILL 2025** — Order read for resuming debate on question — That this Bill be now read a second time; debate resumed.

Under SO 64, Emma Kealy circulated amendments to be proposed when the House considers the Bill in detail.

Debate continued on question — That this Bill be now read a second time.

Amendment proposed — That all the words after ‘That’ be omitted and replaced with the words ‘this Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to reflect further consultation with the medical sector’ *(Emma Kealy)* — and, after debate —

Business interrupted at 2.00 pm under standing orders.

10 **QUESTION TIME.**

11 **CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS.**

12 **HEALTH SAFEGUARDS FOR PEOPLE BORN WITH VARIATIONS IN SEX CHARACTERISTICS BILL 2025** — Debate continued on question — That this Bill be now read a second time — and on the amendment.

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned (*Colin Brooks*) — after debate, put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 50

Jacinta Allan; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Eden Foster; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; Danny Pearson; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Emma Vulin; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

NOES 27

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Will Fowles; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Tim McCurdy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; John Pesutto; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowsell; David Southwick; Bridget Vallence; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

Question agreed to.

Ordered — That the debate be adjourned until later this day.

13 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the Justice Legislation Amendment (Family Violence, Stalking and Other Matters) Bill 2025 without amendment.

14 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY** — Motion made and question — That the consideration of Government Business, Order of the Day, No 3 be postponed until later this day (*Mary-Anne Thomas*) — and after debate —

[The Speaker left the Chair at 4.18 pm and resumed it at 4.39 pm]

Debate continued on question — That the motion be agreed to.

Question put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 50

Jacinta Allan; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Eden Foster; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; Danny Pearson; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Emma Vulin; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

NOES 27

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Will Fowles; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Tim McCurdy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; John Pesutto; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowsell; David Southwick; Bridget Vallance; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

Question agreed to.

- 15 **CONSPIRACY THEORIES** — Motion made and question — That this House condemns the Leader of the Opposition's personally appointed representatives for recklessly promoting conspiracy theories and sowing division at a time when Victorians want to be coming together (*Nick Staikos*) — and, after debate —

Allocation of time — The Speaker advised that the time allocated for consideration of bills under the resolution of the House on 3 February 2026 had expired.

- 16 **HEALTH SAFEGUARDS FOR PEOPLE BORN WITH VARIATIONS IN SEX CHARACTERISTICS BILL 2025** — Order read for resuming debate on question — That this Bill be now read a second time — *and on the amendment* — That all the words after 'That' be omitted and replaced with the words 'this Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to reflect further consultation with the medical sector'.

Question — That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question — put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 54

Jacinta Allan; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Gabrielle de Vietri; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Eden Foster; Will Fowles; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; Danny Pearson; Tim Read; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Ellen Sandell; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Emma Vulin; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

NOES 26

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Tim McCurdy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; John Pesutto; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowswell; David Southwick; Bridget Vallence; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

Question agreed to.

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

Bill sent to the Legislative Council and their agreement requested.

- 17 **JUSTICE LEGISLATION FURTHER AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2025** — Order read for resuming debate on question — That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question — That this Bill be now read a second time, Government amendment Nos 1 to 3 inclusive be agreed to and the Bill be now read a third time — put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 77

Jacinta Allan; Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Anthony Carabines; Ben Carroll; Anthony Cianflone; Annabelle Cleeland; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Chris Crewther; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D'Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Steve Dimopoulos; Paul Edbrooke; Wayne Farnham; Eden Foster; Will Fowles; Matt Fregon; Ella George; Matthew Guy; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; David Hodgett; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Emma Kealy; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; John Lister; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Tim McCurdy; Steve McGhie; Cindy McLeish; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; James Newbury; Danny O'Brien; Michael O'Brien; Kim O'Keeffe; Danny Pearson; John Pesutto; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowswell; Michaela Settle; David Southwick; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Meng Heang Tak; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Bridget Vallence; Emma Vulin; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson; Jess Wilson.

NOES 3

Gabrielle de Vietri; Tim Read; Ellen Sandell.

Question agreed to.

Bill sent to the Legislative Council and their agreement requested.

Business interrupted at 5.09 pm under sessional orders.

- 18 **ADJOURNMENT** — The Speaker announced that the time for the adjournment of the House had arrived and, after debate, left the Chair at 5.44 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker