LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No 197 — Tuesday 8 September 2026

The House started at 12.00 noon.

1 The House met according to the resolution of the House on 27 August 2026 — The Speaker took the Chair, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 **INDEPENDENT BROAD-BASED ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 2026** — Ben Carroll introduced '*A Bill for an Act to amend the* ***Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Act 2011*** *to broaden the concept of corrupt conduct and enhance the IBAC's ability to follow the money, to make consequential amendments to the* ***Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012*** *and for other purposes*'; and, after debate, the Bill was read a first time. In accordance with SO 61(3)(b), the House proceeded immediately to the second reading.

Ben Carroll tabled statements of compatibility in accordance with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and the *Statewide Treaty Act 2025*.

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

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 until later this day.

3 **INQUIRIES AMENDMENT (SPECIAL PROSECUTOR) BILL 2026** — Ben Carroll introduced '*A Bill for an Act to amend the* ***Inquiries Act 2014*** *to establish a Special Prosecutor to assist the Construction Royal Commission, to strengthen a Royal Commission's power to require information and for other purposes*'; and, after debate, the Bill was read a first time. In accordance with SO 61(3)(b), the House proceeded immediately to the second reading.

Ben Carroll tabled statements of compatibility in accordance with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and the *Statewide Treaty Act 2025*.

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

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 until later this day.

4 **PETITIONS** — The Clerk announced that the following petitions had been lodged for presentation:

Structurally destructive flora in residential areas — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly amends Victoria's environmental, building, and biosecurity laws to introduce a comprehensive containment, enforcement, and incentive framework for structurally destructive residential flora, bearing one signature *(Matt Fregon)*

Rail services to City Loop — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to restore direct access for East Pakenham and Cranbourne line commuters to key city stations, including Richmond, Southern Cross and the City Loop, bearing 2609 signatures *(Brad Battin)*

Upgrade of Yarck-Gobur Road — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to partner with Murrindindi Shire Council to fund safety upgrades to Yarck-Gobur Road, bearing 75 signatures *(Cindy McLeish)*

Council rate relief for bushfire victims — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to provide three years of council rate relief for properties destroyed or severely damaged in the January 2026 bushfires, bearing 603 signatures *(Annabelle Cleeland)*

Royal Commission into the Big Build — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly immediately commences a royal commission into the $15 billion of Victorian taxpayers' funds that have been lost to corruption on Big Build sites and seeks to recover the money to enable the delivery of the projects Victoria desperately needs, bearing 188 signatures *(Danny O'Brien)*

Camberwell Police Station — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to reverse its cuts to Camberwell Police Station's operating hours and give hardworking local police officers and staff the support they deserve, bearing 90 signatures *(John Pesutto)*

Truck bans in Melbourne's North-East — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly implements permanent, enforceable truck bans to ensure arterial roads in Melbourne's North-East are safer, quieter, and not used as freight bypass routes, bearing 769 signatures *(Anthony Carbines)*

Jeparit Weir — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly provides urgent infrastructure funding to the Hindmarsh Shire Council to fully restore, replace and secure the future of the Jeparit Weir structure, bearing 402 signatures *(Emma Kealy)*

South Morang data centre development — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to place an emergency moratorium on the South Morang data centre projects until further public consultation, including on whether mandatory planning considerations were followed, bearing 73 signatures *(Lily D'Ambrosio)*

Battery facilities — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Premier, the Minister for Energy and Resources and the Minister for Planning to immediately intervene to stop battery energy systems at Bunyip North and Wimpole to ensure prime agricultural farmland and green wedge zones are protected, bearing 274 signatures *(Wayne Farnham)*

Mirboo North-Trafalgar Road — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to provide funding to deliver a permanent infrastructure solution to the area known as the Thorpdale slip on the Mirboo North-Trafalgar Road to ensure safety for road users and the local community, bearing 647 signatures *(Wayne Farnham)*

West Gippsland Hospital — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on its members and the Government to recognise the urgent need for a new West Gippsland Hospital and commit to a clear timeline for its delivery, bearing 270 signatures *(Wayne Farnham)*

Big Buffalo Dam — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to work with the Federal Government to commission a comprehensive, independent feasibility study into the construction of the Big Buffalo Dam near Myrtleford through the National Water Grid Authority, or a similar Commonwealth-funded body, bearing 87 signatures *(Tim McCurdy)*

Bus route 534 — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to improve the frequency of services on bus route 534 to every 15 minutes, bearing 1300 signatures *(Anthony Cianflone)*

Covered outdoor learning area for Pascoe Vale North Primary School — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to provide funding support for the construction of a covered outdoor learning area and new outdoor surface at Pascoe Vale North Primary School, bearing 1039 signatures *(Anthony Cianflone)*

Funding for upgrades at Coburg Primary School — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to provide investment to deliver Coburg Primary School's Concept Master Plan and support the community's vision for new and refurbished indoor and outdoor learning facilities, and modernisation and upgrade works, bearing 549 signatures *(Anthony Cianflone)*

Safer Murray Road — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly takes a corridor-based approach, and fund and deliver new physical infrastructure to make Murray Road between Coburg and Preston safer for all, bearing 1414 signatures *(Anthony Cianflone)*

Visy papermill in Reservoir — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to ensure that EPA Victoria imposes odour control requirements on Visy's papermill in Reservoir and moves the mill to a different industrial site away from residents, bearing 178 signatures *(Nathan Lambert)*

Routine rental inspections — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly amends the *Residential Tenancies Act 1997* to — (a) prohibit continuous video sweeps of occupied properties during routine inspections; (b) restrict digital documentation to high-resolution static photography of identified structural defects or maintenance items; and (c) ban the

filming or photography of undamaged furniture or living areas for the purpose of assessing a tenant's housekeeping or neatness, bearing 171 signatures *(Gabrielle de Vietri)*

Neighbourhood Houses funding — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly meets the requests of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria's 2026 budget submission to restore funding for Neighbourhood Houses through a 25 per cent increase, fund the 25 Neighbourhood Houses that do not receive any ongoing funding, and develop a fund for the establishment of 20 additional Neighbourhood Houses in growth areas, bearing 6578 signatures *(Martha Haylett).*

Ordered to be tabled.

5 **PETITION — ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE BIG BUILD** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Gippsland South be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Danny O'Brien)* — put and agreed to.

6 **PETITION — ROUTINE RENTAL INSPECTIONS** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Richmond be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Gabrielle de Vietri)* — put and agreed to.

7 **PETITION — BUS ROUTE 534** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Pascoe Vale be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Anthony Cianflone)* — put and agreed to.

8 **PETITION — COVERED OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA FOR PASCOE VALE NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Pascoe Vale be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Anthony Cianflone)* — put and agreed to.

9 **PETITION — FUNDING FOR UPGRADES AT COBURG PRIMARY SCHOOL** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Pascoe Vale be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Anthony Cianflone)* — put and agreed to.

10 **PETITION — SAFER MURRAY ROAD** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Pascoe Vale be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Anthony Cianflone)* — put and agreed to.

11 **PETITION — BIG BUFFALO DAM** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Ovens Valley be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Tim McCurdy)* — put and agreed to.

12 **PETITION — JEPARIT WEIR** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Lowan be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Emma Kealy)* — put and agreed to.

13 **PETITION — SOUTH MORANG DATA CENTRE DEVELOPMENT** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Mill Park be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Lily D'Ambrosio)* — put and agreed to.

14 **PETITION — COUNCIL RATE RELIEF FOR BUSHFIRE VICTIMS** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Euroa be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Annabelle Cleeland)* — put and agreed to.

15 **PETITION — BATTERY FACILITIES** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Narracan be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Wayne Farnham)* — put and agreed to.

16 **PETITION — MIRBOO NORTH–TRAFALGAR ROAD** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Narracan be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Wayne Farnham)* — put and agreed to.

17 **PETITION — WEST GIPPSLAND HOSPITAL** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Narracan be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Wayne Farnham)* — put and agreed to.

18 **PETITION — TRUCK BANS IN MELBOURNE'S NORTH-EAST** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Ivanhoe be taken into consideration tomorrow *(John Mullahy)* — put and agreed to.

19 **PETITION — CAMBERWELL POLICE STATION** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Hawthorn be taken into consideration tomorrow *(John Pesutto)* — put and agreed to.

20 **PETITION — NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES FUNDING** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Ripon be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Martha Haylett)* — put and agreed to.

21 **PETITION — UPGRADE OF YARCK–GOBUR ROAD** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Eildon be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Cindy McLeish)* — put and agreed to.

22 **PETITION — VISY PAPERMILL IN RESERVOIR** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Preston be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Nathan Lambert)* — put and agreed to.

23 **DOCUMENTS**

SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE — Gary Maas, Chair, tabled the Alert Digest No 12 of 2026 from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee on the:

Corrections Amendment Bill 2026 [House Amendments]
Crimes Amendment (Recruitment of Children for Criminal Activity and Production Notices) Act 2026 [House Amendments]
Domestic Gas Choice (Repeal of Gas Appliance Ban) Bill 2026
Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Amendment (Functions) Bill 2026
Local Government Amendment (Stability of Councils) Bill 2026
Local Government Legislation Amendment (Stronger Communities) Bill 2026

Local Government Legislation Amendment (Stronger Communities) Bill 2026 [House Amendments]

together with appendices.

Ordered to be published.

ELECTORAL MATTERS COMMITTEE — Mathew Hilakari, Chair, tabled a report from the Electoral Matters Committee on the Inquiry into Voting centre accessibility, together with appendices and transcripts of evidence.

Report and appendices ordered to be published.

DOCUMENTS TABLED UNDER STANDING ORDERS — The Clerk tabled:

Audit Act 1994 — Financial Audit of the Auditor-General and the Victorian Auditor-General's Office 2026 (three documents)

Auditor-General — Report 2025–26

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission — Report 2024 to the Attorney-General under s 464ZP of the *Crimes Act 1958* — Ordered to be published

Major Events Act 2009 — Major Sporting Event Order for the NFL Game — San Francisco 49ers v Los Angeles Rams to be held at Melbourne Cricket Ground — 11 September 2026

Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust — Report year ended 31 March 2026, together with the Minister's reported date of receipt and an explanation for the delay

Planning and Environment Act 1987 — Notices of approval of amendments to the following Planning Schemes:

Alpine — C65
Cardinia — C289
Gannawarra — GC218
Glen Eira — C279
Greater Dandenong — C252
Greater Geelong — C484
Hobsons Bay — GC276
Maribyrnong — GC276
Melton — C244, C256
Mitchell — C155
Swan Hill — GC218
West Wimmera — C37
Whitehorse — C268

Statutory Rules under the following Acts:

Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1996 — SR 117
Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022 — SR 116
Spent Convictions Act 2021 — SR 118
Transport (Compliance and Miscellaneous) Act 1983 — SR 119

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 — Documents under s 15 in relation to Statutory Rules 116, 119

Victorian Local Government Grants Commission — Allocation report year ended 31 August 2026.

24 **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the following bills without amendment:

Energy and Resources Legislation Amendment (VEET Strategic Review and Other Matters) Bill 2026
Workplace Protection Orders Bill 2026.

25 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the Multicultural Victoria Amendment Bill 2026 with amendments.

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

26 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Informing the Legislative Assembly that they had rescinded JSO 25 effective from 1 December 2026, with which they request the agreement of the Legislative Assembly.

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

27 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Informing the Legislative Assembly that they had rescinded the resolution of continuing effect regarding the Parliamentary Integrity Adviser, effective from 1 December 2026, with which they request the agreement of the Legislative Assembly.

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

28 **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR — ASSENT TO BILLS** — Informing the Legislative Assembly that she had given the royal assent to the following bills, presented to her by the Clerk of the Parliaments:

On 1 September 2026
Corrections Amendment Bill 2026
Crimes Amendment (Recruitment of Children for Criminal Activity) Bill 2026
Racing Legislation Amendment (Entity Governance and Other Matters) Bill 2026
Safe Patient Care (Nurse to Patient and Midwife to Patient Ratios) Amendment Bill 2026
Workplace Protection Orders Bill 2026

On 8 September 2026
Consumer Legislation Amendment Bill 2026
Energy and Resources Legislation Amendment (VEET Strategic Review and Other Matters) Bill 2026.

29 **VALEDICTORY STATEMENTS** — Motion made, by leave, and question — That so much of standing and sessional orders be suspended today to allow the Speaker to interrupt business at 6.00 pm and the members for Croydon and Rowville to make valedictory statements for a maximum of 15 minutes each *(Anthony Carbines)* — put and agreed to.

30 **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS PROGRAM** — Motion made and question — That, under SO 94(2), the Orders of the Day, Government Business, relating to the following items be considered and completed by 5.00 pm on 10 September 2026:

Budget Papers — motion
Effect of spending cuts on hospital pipeline — motion
Conspiracy theories — motion
Neale Daniher AO — motion
Community leaders — motion
Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Amendment Bill 2026
Inquiries Amendment (Special Prosecutor) Bill 2026 —

(Anthony Carbines) — after debate, put.

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

AYES 50

Juliana Addison; 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; Luba Grigorovitch; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; 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; Jackson Taylor; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

NOES 28

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Wayne Farnham; Matthew Guy; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Anthony Marsh; 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; Peter Walsh; Kim Wells; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

Question agreed to.

31 **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS** — Members made statements.

32 **MULTICULTURAL VICTORIA AMENDMENT BILL 2026** — Order read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council.

After debate, the amendments were agreed to.

Message sent to the Legislative Council informing them accordingly.

33 **INDEPENDENT BROAD-BASED ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 2026** — Order read for resuming debate on question — That this Bill be now read a second time; debate resumed.

Under SO 64, James Newbury 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.

Business interrupted at 2.00 pm under sessional orders.

34 **QUESTION TIME**.

35 **CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS**.

36 **INDEPENDENT BROAD-BASED ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 2026** — Debate continued on question — That this Bill be now read a second time.

Business interrupted at 6.00 pm under the resolution of the House on 8 September 2026.

37 **VALEDICTORY STATEMENTS** — Retiring members made valedictory statements.

38 **INDEPENDENT BROAD-BASED ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 2026** — Debate continued on question — That this Bill be now read a second time.

Business interrupted at 7.00 pm under sessional orders.

39 **ADJOURNMENT** — The Deputy Speaker announced that the time for the adjournment of the House had arrived and, after debate, left the Chair at 7.26 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker