LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No 201 — Wednesday 23 September 2026

The House started at 9.30 am.

1 The Speaker took the Chair, read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 **CONTROL OF WEAPONS AMENDMENT (POLICE SEARCH POWERS) BILL 2026** — Motion made and question — That the Member for Berwick introduce '*A Bill for an act to amend the* ***Control of Weapons Act 1990*** *to provide greater powers for police officers to search persons for weapons and for other purposes*' *(Brad Battin)* — after debate, put.

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

AYES 29

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Roma Britnell; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Gabrielle de Vietri; 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; Ellen Sandell; David Southwick; Bridget Vallence; Peter Walsh; Nicole Werner; Rachel Westaway; Jess Wilson.

NOES 51

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; 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; Jackson Taylor; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

Question defeated.

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

Bairnsdale hospital — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly notes the need for the Bairnsdale hospital rebuild to commence as a matter of urgency, with an emergency department given the highest priority in stage one of the works, bearing 1733 signatures *(Tim Bull)*

Lakes Entrance fire station — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly notes the need for a new Lakes Entrance fire station to be funded for construction, bearing 191 signatures *(Tim Bull)*

Metung fire station — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly notes the need for a new Metung fire station to be funded for construction, bearing 346 signatures *(Tim Bull)*

wallan wallan Regional Park — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly calls on the Government to commit to the establishment and adequate funding of the wallan wallan Regional Park and to complete research studies to address knowledge gaps and ensure well-informed holistic parkland planning, bearing 215 signatures *(Ros Spence)*

Fast-food developments — Requesting that the Legislative Assembly debates and supports the reforms contained in the Planning Amendment (Restricting New Fast-Food Developments) Bill 2026 if transmitted by the Legislative Council, bearing 398 signatures *(Kat Theophanous)*.

Ordered to be tabled.

4 **PETITION — BAIRNSDALE HOSPITAL** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Gippsland East be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Tim Bull)* — put and agreed to.

5 **PETITION — LAKES ENTRANCE FIRE STATION** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Gippsland East be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Tim Bull)* — put and agreed to.

6 **PETITION — METUNG FIRE STATION** — Motion made and question — That the petition presented by the Member for Gippsland East be taken into consideration tomorrow *(Tim Bull)* — put and agreed to.

7 **DOCUMENTS**

SCRUTINY OF ACTS AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE — Gary Maas, Chair, tabled the Alert Digest No 13 of 2026 from the Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee on the:

Firearms Amendment Bill 2026
Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Amendment Bill 2026
Inquiries Amendment (Special Prosecutor) Bill 2026
Justice Legislation Amendment (Family Violence, Coercive Control, Good Character, Risk Assessment and Other Matters) Bill 2026 [House Amendments]
Local Government Legislation Amendment (Stronger Communities) Bill 2026 [House Amendments]
Multicultural Victoria Amendment Bill 2026
Sale of Land Amendment (Property Developer Integrity) Bill 2026
Workplace Protection Orders Bill 2026
SR No 17 — Geothermal Energy Resources Regulations 2026
SR No 25 — Retirement Villages Regulations 2026

together with appendices.

Ordered to be published.

DOCUMENTS TABLED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled:

Auditor-General:

Preventing Youth Crime — Ordered to be published
Public Lottery Licence Extension — released on 16 September 2026

Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission:

Report 2025–26 under s 31 of the *Crimes (Assumed Identities) Act 2004*
Report 2025–26 under s 42BI of the *Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1958*
Report 2025–26 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Department of — Report 2025–26 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Game Management Authority — Report 2025–26 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission — Chief Officer report 2025–26 to the Minister under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984 — Notice under s 32(3)(a)(iii) in relation to Statutory Rule 120 *(Gazette G38, 17 September 2026)*

Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014 — Practitioner Remuneration Order 2027

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

East Gippsland — C175
Greater Geelong — C433
Greater Shepparton — C258
Hobsons Bay — C147
Kingston — C232
Melbourne — C479, GC240
Mitchell — C179
Port of Melbourne — C7, GC240
Port Phillip — C235, GC240
Surf Coast — C151
Victoria Planning Provisions — VC313
Wodonga — C142

Public Interest Monitor — Report 2025–26 under s 64 of the *Human Source Management Act 2023*

Statutory Rules under the following Acts:

Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 — SR 124
Supreme Court Act 1986 — SRs 122, 123

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 — Documents under s 15 in relation to Statutory Rules 118, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124

Victoria Police:

Report 2025–26 under s 42BI of the *Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1958*
Report 2025–26 under s 37F of the *Terrorism (Community Protection) Act 2003*

Victorian Fisheries Authority — Report 2025–26 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999.*

PROCLAMATIONS — Under SO 177A, the Clerk tabled the following proclamations fixing operative dates:

Consumer Legislation Amendment Act 2026 — ss 178ZF and 178ZJ — 16 September 2026 *(Gazette S510, 15 September 2026)*
Health Legislation Amendment (Regulatory Reform) Act 2026 — s 9 — 30 September 2026 *(Gazette S510, 15 September 2026).*

8 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR — ASSENT TO BILLS** — Informing the Legislative Assembly that she had, on 15 September 2026, given the royal assent to the following bills, presented to her by the Clerk of the Parliaments:

Education and Training Reform Amendment (Apprenticeships, Traineeships, Schools and Other Matters) Bill 2026
Fair Work (Commonwealth Powers) Amendment Bill 2026
Multicultural Victoria Amendment (Multicultural and Multifaith Victoria) Bill 2026.

9 **MESSAGE FROM THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR — ASSENT TO BILL** — Informing the Legislative Assembly that he had on 22 September 2026 given the royal assent to the Justice Legislation Amendment (Family Violence, Coercive Control, Good Character, Risk Assessment and Other Matters) Bill 2026, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments.

10 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the Fair Work (Commonwealth Powers) Amendment Bill 2026 without amendment.

11 **MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL** — Agreeing to the Local Government Legislation Amendment (Stronger Communities) Bill 2026 with amendments.

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

12 **JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FAMILY VIOLENCE, COERCIVE CONTROL, GOOD CHARACTER, RISK ASSESSMENT AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2026** — The Speaker announced that she had received a report from the Clerk of the Parliaments that, under JSO 6(1), she has made the following corrections in the Bill:

Council amendment No 6 agreed to by the Assembly inserts a clause adding new section 171AAA. New subsection 171AAA(a) refers to the **'Magistrates' Court 1989'**. She has inserted the word **'Act'** between **'Court'** and **'1989'**.

The correction ensures there is no ambiguity in the reference to the Act.

13 **VALEDICTORY STATEMENTS** — Motion made, by leave, and question — That so much of standing and sessional orders be suspended today to allow the Members for Sydenham and Murray Plains to make valedictory statements for a maximum of 15 minutes each at the conclusion of the Grievance debate *(Anthony Carbines)* — put and agreed to.

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

15 **STATEMENTS ON PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE REPORTS** — Members made statements on committee reports.

16 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (STRONGER COMMUNITIES) 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.

17 **FREE DENTAL CARE** — Motion made and question proposed — That this House:

(a) commends the Carroll Labor Government for committing to free dental care for all Victorians;

(b) recognises this investment will ease cost-of-living pressures and improve access to essential healthcare; and

(c) condemns Liberals' and One Nation's $40 billion in cuts, which threaten essential services relied upon by Victorian families —

(Ben Carroll) — and, after debate —

Business interrupted at 2.00 pm under standing orders.

18 **QUESTION TIME**.

19 **CONSTITUENCY QUESTIONS**.

20 **FREE DENTAL CARE** — Debate continued on question — That the motion be agreed to.

Business interrupted at 4.00 pm under sessional orders.

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

Business interrupted at 6.01 pm under the resolution of the House today.

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

23 **FREE DENTAL CARE** — Debate continued on question — That the motion be agreed to.

Business interrupted at 7.00 pm under sessional orders.

24 **ADJOURNMENT** — The Deputy Speaker announced that the time for the adjournment of the House had arrived and, after debate, left the Chair at 7.35 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker