

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)**

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIFTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT

FIRST SESSION

FRIDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2020

Internet: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/downloadhansard

By authority of the Victorian Government Printer

The Governor

The Honourable LINDA DESSAU, AC

The Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable KEN LAY, AO, APM

The ministry

Premier	The Hon. DM Andrews, MP
Deputy Premier, Minister for Education and Minister for the Coordination of Education and Training: COVID-19	The Hon. JA Merlino, MP
Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Resources	The Hon. J Symes, MLC
Treasurer, Minister for Economic Development, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for the Coordination of Treasury and Finance: COVID-19	The Hon. TH Pallas, MP
Minister for Transport Infrastructure, Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop and Minister for the Coordination of Transport: COVID-19	The Hon. JM Allan, MP
Minister for Health, Minister for Ambulance Services and Minister for the Coordination of Health and Human Services: COVID-19	The Hon. J Mikakos, MLC
Minister for Public Transport and Minister for Roads and Road Safety	The Hon. BA Carroll, MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Solar Homes	The Hon. L D'Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Child Protection and Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers	The Hon. LA Donnellan, MP
Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Equality and Minister for Creative Industries	The Hon. MP Foley, MP
Attorney-General, Minister for Workplace Safety and Minister for the Coordination of Justice and Community Safety: COVID-19	The Hon. J Hennessy, MP
Minister for Ports and Freight, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming and Liquor Regulation and Minister for Fishing and Boating	The Hon. MM Horne, MP
Minister for Crime Prevention, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Youth Justice and Minister for Victim Support	The Hon. NM Hutchins, MP
Minister for Local Government, Minister for Suburban Development and Minister for Veterans	The Hon. SL Leane, MLC
Minister for Water, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister for the Coordination of Environment, Land, Water and Planning: COVID-19	The Hon. LM Neville, MP
Minister for Industry Support and Recovery, Minister for Trade, Minister for Business Precincts, Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events, Minister for Racing and Minister for the Coordination of Jobs, Precincts and Regions: COVID-19	The Hon. MP Pakula, MP
Assistant Treasurer, Minister for Regulatory Reform and Minister for Government Services	The Hon. DJ Pearson, MP
Minister for Employment, Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy and Minister for Small Business	The Hon. JL Pulford, MLC
Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Minister for Community Sport and Minister for Youth	The Hon. RL Spence, MP
Minister for Training and Skills and Minister for Higher Education	The Hon. GA Tierney, MLC
Minister for Prevention of Family Violence, Minister for Women and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	The Hon. G Williams, MP
Minister for Planning and Minister for Housing	The Hon. RW Wynne, MP
Cabinet Secretary	Ms M Thomas, MP

Legislative Council committees

Economy and Infrastructure Standing Committee

Mr Barton, Mr Erdogan, Mr Finn, Mr Gepp, Mrs McArthur, Mr Quilty and Mr Tarlamis.
Participating members: Dr Bach, Ms Bath, Dr Cumming, Mr Davis, Mr Limbrick, Mr Meddick, Mr Ondarchie and Mr Rich-Phillips.

Environment and Planning Standing Committee

Dr Bach, Ms Bath, Mr Bourman, Mr Hayes, Mr Limbrick, Mr Meddick, Mr Melhem, Dr Ratnam, Ms Taylor and Ms Terpstra.
Participating members: Ms Crozier, Dr Cumming, Mr Davis, Dr Kieu, Mrs McArthur and Mr Quilty.

Legal and Social Issues Standing Committee

Ms Garrett, Dr Kieu, Ms Lovell, Ms Maxwell, Mr Ondarchie, Ms Patten, Dr Ratnam and Ms Vaghela.
Participating members: Dr Bach, Mr Barton, Ms Bath, Ms Crozier, Dr Cumming, Mr Erdogan, Mr Grimley, Mr Limbrick, Mr O'Donohue, Mr Quilty, Ms Shing and Mr Tarlamis.

Privileges Committee

Mr Atkinson, Mr Bourman, Ms Crozier, Mr Grimley, Mr Leane, Mr Rich-Phillips, Ms Shing, Ms Symes and Ms Tierney.

Procedure Committee

The President, the Deputy President, Ms Crozier, Mr Davis, Mr Grimley, Dr Kieu, Ms Patten, Ms Pulford and Ms Symes.

Joint committees

Dispute Resolution Committee

Council: Mr Bourman, Ms Crozier, Mr Davis, Ms Mikakos and Ms Symes.
Assembly: Ms Allan, Ms Hennessy, Mr Merlino, Mr Pakula, Mr R Smith, Mr Walsh and Mr Wells.

Electoral Matters Committee

Council: Mrs McArthur, Mr Meddick, Mr Melhem, Ms Lovell, Mr Quilty and Mr Tarlamis.
Assembly: Ms Blandthorn, Mr Guy, Ms Hall and Dr Read.

House Committee

Council: The President (*ex officio*), Mr Bourman, Mr Davis, Mr Leane, Ms Lovell and Ms Stitt.
Assembly: The Speaker (*ex officio*), Mr T Bull, Ms Crugnale, Ms Edwards, Mr Fregon, Ms Sandell and Ms Staley.

Integrity and Oversight Committee

Council: Mr Grimley and Ms Shing.
Assembly: Mr Halse, Mr McGhie, Mr Rowswell, Mr Taylor and Mr Wells.

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Council: Mr Limbrick and Ms Stitt.
Assembly: Ms Blandthorn, Mr Hibbins, Mr Maas, Mr D O'Brien, Ms Richards, Mr Richardson, Mr Riordan and Ms Vallence.

Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee

Council: Mr Gepp, Mrs McArthur, Ms Patten and Ms Taylor.
Assembly: Mr Burgess, Ms Connolly and Ms Kilkenny.

Heads of parliamentary departments

Assembly: Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: Ms B Noonan

Council: Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council: Mr A Young

Parliamentary Services: Secretary: Mr P Lochert

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
FIFTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION

President

The Hon. N ELASMAR (from 18 June 2020)

The Hon. SL LEANE (to 18 June 2020)

Deputy President

The Hon. WA LOVELL

Acting Presidents

Mr Bourman, Mr Gepp, Mr Melhem and Ms Patten

Leader of the Government

The Hon. J SYMES

Deputy Leader of the Government

The Hon. J MIKAKOS

Leader of the Opposition

The Hon. DM DAVIS

Deputy Leader of the Opposition

Ms G CROZIER

Member	Region	Party	Member	Region	Party
Atkinson, Mr Bruce Norman	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Maxwell, Ms Tania Maree	Northern Victoria	DHJP
Bach, Dr Matthew ¹	Eastern Metropolitan	LP	Meddick, Mr Andy	Western Victoria	AJP
Barton, Mr Rodney Brian	Eastern Metropolitan	TMP	Melhem, Mr Cesar	Western Metropolitan	ALP
Bath, Ms Melina Gaye	Eastern Victoria	Nats	Mikakos, Ms Jenny	Northern Metropolitan	ALP
Bourman, Mr Jeffrey	Eastern Victoria	SFFP	O'Donohue, Mr Edward John	Eastern Victoria	LP
Crozier, Ms Georgina Mary	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Ondarchie, Mr Craig Philip	Northern Metropolitan	LP
Cumming, Dr Catherine Rebecca	Western Metropolitan	Ind	Patten, Ms Fiona Heather	Northern Metropolitan	FPRP
Dalidakis, Mr Philip ²	Southern Metropolitan	ALP	Pulford, Ms Jaala Lee	Western Victoria	ALP
Davis, Mr David McLean	Southern Metropolitan	LP	Quilty, Mr Timothy	Northern Victoria	LDP
Elasmar, Mr Nazih	Northern Metropolitan	ALP	Ratnam, Dr Samantha Shantini	Northern Metropolitan	Greens
Erdogan, Mr Enver ³	Southern Metropolitan	ALP	Rich-Phillips, Mr Gordon Kenneth	South Eastern Metropolitan	LP
Finn, Mr Bernard Thomas Christopher	Western Metropolitan	LP	Shing, Ms Harriet	Eastern Victoria	ALP
Garrett, Ms Jane Furneaux	Eastern Victoria	ALP	Somyurek, Mr Adem ⁵	South Eastern Metropolitan	Ind
Gepp, Mr Mark	Northern Victoria	ALP	Stitt, Ms Ingrid	Western Metropolitan	ALP
Grimley, Mr Stuart James	Western Victoria	DHJP	Symes, Ms Jaclyn	Northern Victoria	ALP
Hayes, Mr Clifford	Southern Metropolitan	SA	Tarlamis, Mr Lee ⁶	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Jennings, Mr Gavin Wayne ⁴	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Taylor, Ms Nina	Southern Metropolitan	ALP
Kieu, Dr Tien Dung	South Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Terpstra, Ms Sonja	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP
Leane, Mr Shaun Leo	Eastern Metropolitan	ALP	Tierney, Ms Gayle Anne	Western Victoria	ALP
Limbrick, Mr David	South Eastern Metropolitan	LDP	Vaghela, Ms Kaushaliya Virjibhai	Western Metropolitan	ALP
Lovell, Ms Wendy Ann	Northern Victoria	LP	Wooldridge, Ms Mary Louise Newling ⁷	Eastern Metropolitan	LP
McArthur, Mrs Beverley	Western Victoria	LP			

¹ Appointed 5 March 2020

² Resigned 17 June 2019

³ Appointed 15 August 2019

⁴ Resigned 23 March 2020

⁵ ALP until 15 June 2020

⁶ Appointed 23 April 2020

⁷ Resigned 28 February 2020

Party abbreviations

AJP—Animal Justice Party; ALP—Labor Party; DHJP—Derryn Hinch's Justice Party;

FPRP—Fiona Patten's Reason Party; Greens—Australian Greens; Ind—Independent;

LDP—Liberal Democratic Party; LP—Liberal Party; Nats—The Nationals; SA—Sustainable Australia;

SFFP—Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party; TMP—Transport Matters Party

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Friday, 4 September 2020

Joint sitting of Parliament

SENATE VACANCY

Members of both houses met in Assembly chamber at 3.01 pm.

The CHAIR (Hon. CW Brooks): Order! Members, this is a joint sitting of the Legislative Council and the Assembly to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator Richard Di Natale. Joint standing orders 19 to 23 apply. I invite proposals from members for the appointment of a person to hold the vacant place in the Senate.

Mr ANDREWS (Mulgrave—Premier): I propose:

That Lidia Thorpe hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator Richard Di Natale.

She is willing to accept the nomination. In order to satisfy the joint sitting as to the requirements of section 15 of the commonwealth constitution, I also advise that I am in possession of advice from the state director of the Australian Greens Victoria that Lidia Thorpe is the selection of the Australian Greens, the party previously represented in the Senate by Senator Richard Di Natale.

The CHAIR: Who seconds the proposal?

Ms SANDELL (Melbourne): I am delighted to second the proposal.

The CHAIR: Are there any further proposals? As only one person has been proposed, I declare that Lidia Thorpe has been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the resignation of Senator Richard Di Natale.

I now declare the joint sitting closed.

Proceedings terminated 3.03 pm.