

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL****WEDNESDAY, 23 MARCH 2022****1.00pm****1. Meeting of Council**

The Council assembled at 1.00pm pursuant to order.

The President, Hon Alanna Clohesy, took the Chair.

Prayers and an Acknowledgement of Country were read.

2. Petition

Hon Dr Brian Walker on behalf of Hon Sophia Moermond presented a petition from 189 petitioners requesting the Legislative Council to recommend to the Government that the face coverings for young people directive be revoked. (Tabled Paper 1160).

3. Ministerial Statement — Plant Traceability Program

The Minister for Agriculture and Food made a Ministerial Statement with respect to the launch of a new grant program to test the existing traceability systems in Western Australia's plant industries.

4. Government Budget Surpluses

Hon Dr Steve Thomas: To move on the next day of sitting —

That this House —

(1) Notes that —

- (a) the McGowan Government's prediction of \$15 billion in surpluses over five years looks to be an underestimate given the high iron ore price and high oil price;
- (b) the McGowan Government has also reaped in hundreds of millions of dollars extra in local fees, charges and taxes, which has given it the highest revenues and largest budget surpluses in the history of Western Australia; and
- (c) despite this record income the McGowan Government has failed to adequately deliver services to the people and businesses of this State, and that many of their Ministers have failed in their tasks.

(2) Calls on the McGowan Government to use the massive wealth in the upcoming 2022-23 State Budget to improve its performance, and to deliver a real vision for the future of all the people of Western Australia, including those in the regions.

5. Decriminalisation of marijuana for personal use

Hon Dr Brian Walker: To move on the next day of sitting —

That this House supports and endorses the Western Australian State Labor Party policy to decriminalise the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal use and return to a system of infringement notice penalties and diversion to counselling services.

6. Cultural Diversity

Motion No. 19 having been called, Hon Martin Pritchard, pursuant to notice, moved —

That this House —

- (a) acknowledges the extraordinary work and contributions made in our local communities by Western Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, both individuals and groups; and
- (b) acknowledges the extraordinary benefits of multiculturalism to Australian society:

Debate ensued.

Question — put and passed.

7. Consideration of Committee Reports

Pursuant to order for the consideration of Committee Reports.

In Committee

(Hon Peter Foster in the Chair)

Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People — Report 3 — The merits of appointing a commissioner for Aboriginal children and young people

Debate resumed on the motion of Hon Neil Thomson, That the Report be noted

Debate interrupted and postponed pursuant to SO 110(2A).

Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations — Report 85 — Consideration of the 2021-22 Budget Estimates

Hon Peter Collier moved, That the Report be noted.

Debate ensued.

Interruption pursuant to order.

The Acting President resumed the Chair.

The Deputy Chair of Committees reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the —

- (1) Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People — Report 3 — *The merits of appointing a commissioner for Aboriginal children and young people*, made progress, and postponed further consideration until the next sitting.
- (2) Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations — Report 85 — *Consideration of the 2021-22 Budget Estimates*, made progress, and seeks to sit again.

Report adopted.

8. Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bill 2021 and Legal Profession Uniform Law Application (Levy) Bill 2021

The Order of the Day having been read for the third reading of the Bills.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General moved, That the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Bill 2021*, be read a third time.

Debate ensued.

The President announced that the Chair of Committees had certified that this was a true copy of the Bill as agreed to in Committee of the Whole House and reported.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General moved, That the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application (Levy) Bill 2021* be read a third time.

The President announced that the Chair of Committees had certified that this was a true copy of the Bill as agreed to in Committee of the Whole House and reported.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

9. Questions Without Notice

Questions without notice were taken.

The Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health, in accordance with Standing Order 108(2), advised that an answer to question on notice 555 asked by Hon Martin Aldridge will be provided on 7 April 2022.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Culture and the Arts on behalf of the Minister for Emergency Services representing the Minister for Police, by leave, incorporated into *Hansard* information in relation to Operation "Regional Shield", in response to a question without notice asked by Hon Colin de Grussa.

10. Wittenoom Closure Bill 2021

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate resumed.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Acting President left the Chair.

In Committee

(Hon Dr Brian Walker in the Chair)

Clause 1.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 5 agreed to.

Clause 6.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 7.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 8 to 11 agreed to.

Clause 12.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 13 and 14 agreed to.

Schedule 1 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

The Acting President resumed the Chair.

Bill reported without amendment.

Report adopted.

The Leader of the House representing the Minister for Lands moved, That the Bill be read a third time.

The Acting President announced that the Deputy Chair of Committees had certified that this was a true copy of the Bill as agreed to in Committee of the Whole House and reported.

Question — put and passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

11. Sentencing Legislation Amendment (Persons Linked to Terrorism) Bill 2021

The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned debate on the second reading of this Bill.

Debate ensued.

Interruption pursuant to order.

12. Adjournment

There being no Members' Statements the Council adjourned at 6.20pm until Thursday, 24 March 2022 at 10.00am.

Members present during the day's proceedings

Attendance: Present all Members except Hon Stephen Dawson, Hon Stephen Pratt (*leave*), Hon Sophia Moermond (*suspended*) and Hon Rosetta Sahanna.

SAM HASTINGS

Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council

HON ALANNA CLOHESY MLC

President of the Legislative Council