

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 132

FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 2023

1. Meeting of Assembly

The Assembly met at 12.00 noon pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker took the Chair.

An Acknowledgement of Country and Prayers were read.

2. Electoral District of Rockingham – Return of Writ and Member Sworn

The Clerk produced the certified copy of the returned writ for the by-election for the Electoral District of Rockingham and reported that it certified that Ms Magenta Marshall had been duly elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly for that district.

Ms M.R. Marshall took and subscribed the Affirmation of Office according to law.

Speaker's Statement – Women's Representation in the House

The Speaker, on behalf of the House, congratulated the member for Rockingham on her election and welcomed her to the Chamber. The Speaker acknowledged that this is an historic occasion, since the Legislative Assembly now has 30 women members out of a total of 59, marking the first time there is a majority of women members in the Chamber.

3. Speaker's Statement – Amended Seating Plan

The Speaker advised members that she had approved an amended seating plan for the Government.

4. Papers

The following papers were presented and ordered to lie upon the Table of the House –

By the Clerk –

Auditor General, Office of the – Financial Audit – Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation (Synergy), Report No. 2, 9 August 2023 (2164).

Auditor General, Office of the – Performance Audit – Requisitioning of COVID-19 Hotels, Report No. 1, 9 August 2023 (2163).

5. Notices of Motion

6. Brief Ministerial Statements

Brief Ministerial Statements were made by –

The Premier on the completion of the independent Review of Western Australia's COVID-19 Management and Response.

Papers

The following papers were presented and ordered to lie upon the Table of the House –

By the Premier –

Premier – Review of Western Australia's COVID-19 Management and Response, July 2023 (2165).

Premier – WA Government Response to the Review of Western Australia's COVID-19 Management and Response, July 2023 (2166).

The Minister for Tourism on the launch of Tourism WA's Events Strategy.

The Minister for Sport and Recreation on Western Australian athletes representing their State and nation in 2023.

The Attorney General on the passing of Hon Kevin Parker AC RFD QC, an accomplished Western Australian jurist.

The Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests on the announcement of the 2023 Community Languages Program grants.

The Minister for Education on the launch of the Education Minister's Running Challenge.

The Minister for Planning on the announcement of funds allocated through CoastWA for the Coastal Adaption and Protection Grants.

The Minister for Housing on an update on the development of the former Princess Margaret Hospital site.

The Minister for Child Protection on the 2023 Achiever Awards.

The Minister for Community Services on the passing of Margaret Cockman OAM and her lifetime dedication to community service.

7. Duties Amendment (Off-the-Plan Concession and Foreign Persons Exemptions) Bill 2023

The Treasurer, pursuant to notice, moved,

That a bill for “An Act to amend the *Duties Act 2008*.” be introduced and read a first time.

Question put and passed.

The Treasurer presented an explanatory memorandum and bill read a first time.

The Treasurer moved, That the bill be now read a second time.

Mr P.J. Rundle moved, That the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

8. Aboriginal Heritage Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2023

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, pursuant to notice, moved,

That a bill for “An Act to –

- to repeal the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021* and regulations made under that Act; and
- to amend the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*; and
- to make consequential and related amendments to other written laws.”

be introduced and read a first time.

Question put and passed.

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs presented an explanatory memorandum and bill read a first time.

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs moved, That the bill be now read a second time.

Mr P.J. Rundle moved, That the debate be adjourned.

Question put and passed.

9. Message from the Governor

Message No. 21 from His Excellency the Governor was reported recommending that appropriations be made for the purposes of the Aboriginal Heritage Legislation Amendment and Repeal Bill 2023.

10. Abortion Legislation Reform Bill 2023

The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate upon the second reading of the bill was read.

Debate resumed.

Debate interrupted by the Chair (Ms E.J. Kelsbie speaking) and adjourned until a later stage of the sitting.

11. Questions

Questions without Notice were taken.

Question on Notice Nos 847 to 848 were asked.

Question on Notice Nos 819 and 820 were answered.

12. Speaker's Statement – Robert Juniper's Ring of Grass Trees

The Speaker advised members that an oil painting titled Ring of Grass Trees, painted by esteemed Western Australian artist Robert Juniper AM, was recently put on display in the Dining Room Corridor.

13. Variation to the Order of Business

Ordered, That Government Business Order of the Day No. 1 be next considered.

14. Abortion Legislation Reform Bill 2023

The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate upon the second reading of the bill was read.

Debate resumed.

Debate interrupted by the Chair (Mr S.N. Aubrey speaking) and adjourned until a later stage of the sitting.

15. Variation to the Order of Business

Ordered, That Private Members' Business Notices of Motion Nos 2 and 1 be next considered.

16. Regional Representation in the Legislative Assembly

Ms M.J. Davies, pursuant to notice, moved,

That the House calls upon the WA Labor Government to amend the *Electoral Act 1907* to raise the calculation metric of the Large District Allowance from 1.5 percent to 3 percent thereby providing assurance of continued regional representation in this House, which Western Australian communities deserve.

Debate ensued.

Ms C.M. Rowe moved, That the debate be adjourned.

17. Women's and Babies Hospital

Ms L. Mettam, pursuant to notice, moved,

That this House condemns the WA Labor Government's decision to abandon the new Women's and Babies Hospital at QEII in Nedlands in favour of Fiona Stanley in Murdoch 20kms south of the city and not co-located with the Perth Children's Hospital, and calls on the Health Minister to listen to medical experts and family advocacy groups and rethink her Captain's call.

Debate ensued.

Debate interrupted by the Chair (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health speaking) and adjourned until a later stage of the sitting.

18. Adjournment

Ms C.M. Rowe moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned accordingly at 7.00 pm until Thursday, 10 August 2023 at 9.00 am.

Members present during any part of the day's proceedings – All the members except Ms D.G. D’Anna, Mr W.J. Johnston, Ms A.E. Kent, Mr P. Lilburne, Mr P. Papalia and Mr R.R. Whitby.

KIRSTEN M. ROBINSON
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

HON. MICHELLE H. ROBERTS
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

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