

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 186

FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTIETH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2020

1. Meeting of Assembly

The Assembly met at 2.00 pm pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker took the Chair.

An Acknowledgement of Country and Prayers were read.

2. Statement by the Premier – Temporary Order in relation to COVID-19

The Premier advised the House that from 31 March 2020, following agreement with the party leaders, the Temporary Order passed by the House on Thursday, 19 March 2020 would apply in order to pass urgent legislation or undertake any other immediate business arising from or in connection to COVID-19.

3. Speaker's Statement – Sitting Arrangements

The Speaker provided the following advice regarding sitting arrangements:

In order to maintain social distancing, members are permitted to sit in seats other than those allocated to them.

To assist the audio-visual team, for Question Time members who seek the call will come to the Table of the House to ask their questions. Similarly, Ministers answering questions will do so from the Table. Members may also speak from the Table of the House for other debates.

For consideration in detail, members may speak from the seat where they are sitting. Ministers will sit at the Table of the House as per normal, along with an adviser who will sit where Hansard sits.

Members who are at Parliament House during the week must ensure they enter the Chamber at some point during each day's sitting to be noted in the Attendance Book.

Hansard reporters will not report from the floor of the House.

As per standard arrangements, photographs and chamber footage will be available on a pooled basis for the media.

4. Brief Ministerial Statements

Brief Ministerial Statements were made by –

The Premier on COVID-19 Stage 3 Restrictions.

The Minister for Health on preparing the health system to minimise the impact of COVID-19.

The Minister for Police on the police operational response to COVID-19.

The Minister for Tourism on the COVID-19 quarantine facility on Rottneest Island.

The Minister for Transport on support for regional air services during the COVID-19 crisis.

5. Questions

Questions without Notice were taken.

Questions on Notice Nos 6065 to 6085 were asked.

Questions on Notice Nos 5951 and 5958 were answered.

6. Additional Information

The Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services provided additional information relating to Question on Notice No. 5508 from Mr A. Krsticevic.

Paper

The following paper was presented and ordered to lie upon the Table of the House –

By the Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services –

Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services, Minister for – Amended answer to Question on Notice 5508 (3311).

The Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services provided additional information relating to Question on Notice No. 5509 from Mr A. Krsticevic.

Paper

The following paper was presented and ordered to lie upon the Table of the House –

By the Minister for Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services –

Child Protection; Women's Interests; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services, Minister for – Amended answer to Question on Notice 5509 (3312).

7. Speaker's Statement – COVID-19 Parliamentary kitchen and staff to assist with meals

The Speaker advised members that during the upcoming recess, the Parliament's catering team will be providing meals for vulnerable members of the community. With COVID-19 practices in place, it is anticipated that Parliament House will have fewer people working in the building, with many working remotely. As such, chefs and kitchen staff are able to redirect their efforts to assist the food rescue charity OzHarvest.

8. Message from the Governor

Message No. 6 from His Excellency the Governor was reported assenting to the following bills –

North West Gas Development (Woodside) Agreement Amendment Bill 2019, Act No. 3 of 2020.

Petroleum Products Pricing Amendment Bill 2019, Act No. 4 of 2020.

Supply Bill 2020, Act No. 5 of 2020.

9. Messages from the Governor

Messages from His Excellency the Governor were reported recommending that appropriations be made for the purposes of the following bills –

Treasurer's Advance Authorisation Bill 2020 (Message No. 7).

Transport (Road Passenger Services) Amendment (COVID-19 Response and Regional Assistance) Bill 2020 (Message No. 8).

10. Papers

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

By the Clerk –

Financial Management Act 2006 – Section 82 notice from the Minister for Water advising of the reason he is unable to provide an answer to part (c) of Legislative Assembly Question on Notice No. 5873 (Received by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and deemed tabled on 20 March 2020) (3291).

Financial Management Act 2006 – Section 82 notice from the Minister for Water advising of the reason he is unable to provide an answer to question 6 of Legislative Assembly Question on Notice No. 5872 (Received by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and deemed tabled on 20 March 2020) (3292).

Auditor General, Office of the – Controls Over Purchasing Cards – Report 17: 2019–20 (Received by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and deemed tabled on 27 March 2020) (3293).

Anzac Day Trust – Annual Report 2019 (3294).

Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, Board of the – Chair Annual Report 2017–18 (3295).

Cat Act 2011 – Regulations (Cat Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 20/03/2020) (3296).

Cemeteries Act 1986 – Local Laws (Shire of Augusta Margaret River Cemeteries Local Law 2020 G.G. 24/03/2020) (3297).

Construction Contracts Act 2004 – Regulations (Construction Contracts Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 20/03/2020) (3298).

District Court of Western Australia Act 1969 – Rules (District Court Amendment Rules 2020 G.G. 24/03/2020) (3299).

Edith Cowan University Act 1984 – Statutes (Edith Cowan University – Amending Statute No. 1 of 2019 G.G. 17/03/2020) (3300).

Emergency Management Act 2005 – Regulations (Emergency Management Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 27/03/2020) (3301).

Fair Trading Act 2010 – Regulations (Fair Trading (Retirement Villages Interim Code) Regulations 2020 G.G. 27/03/2020) (3302).

Health Services Act 2016 – Orders (Health Services (Fees and Charges) Amendment Order (No. 2) 2020 G.G. 24/03/2020) (3303).

Local Government Act 1995 – Local Laws (Shire of Augusta Margaret River Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2020 G.G. 24/03/2020) (3304).

Local Government Act 1995 – Local Laws (Town of Bassendean Council Meeting Procedures Local Law 2020 G.G. 23/03/2020) (3305).

Local Government Act 1995 – Regulations (Local Government (Administration) Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 25/03/2020) (3306).

Mining Act 1978 – Regulations (Mining Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2020 G.G. 27/03/2020) (3307).

Retirement Villages Act 1992 – Regulations (Retirement Villages Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 27/03/2020) (3308).

School Education Act 1999 – Regulations (School Education Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 17/03/2020) (3309).

State Administrative Tribunal Act 2004 – Regulations (State Administrative Tribunal Amendment Regulations 2020 G.G. 27/03/2020) (3310).

11. Removal of Order of the Day

The Speaker advised that Private Members' Business Order of the Day, Impact of a Federal Labor Government on Western Australia, had not been debated for more than 12 calendar months and had been removed from the Notice Paper.

12. Emergency Management Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020

The Minister for Emergency Services, pursuant to the COVID-19 Temporary Order, moved,

That a bill for "An Act to amend the *Emergency Management Act 2005* in response to the COVID-19 pandemic." be introduced and read a first time.

Question put and passed.

The Minister for Emergency Services presented an explanatory memorandum and bill read a first time.

The Minister for Emergency Services moved, That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

CONSIDERATION IN DETAIL

Clauses 1 to 14 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

The Minister for Emergency Services moved, That the bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

13. Treasurer's Advance Authorisation Bill 2020

The Treasurer, pursuant to the COVID-19 Temporary Order, moved,

That a bill for "An Act to authorise expenditure in the financial year ending on 30 June 2020 to make payments in respect of extraordinary or unforeseen matters or to make advances for certain purposes." 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.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

CONSIDERATION IN DETAIL

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

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

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

14. Criminal Code Amendment (COVID-19 Response) Bill 2020

The Minister for Police, pursuant to the COVID-19 Temporary Order, moved,

That a bill for “An Act to amend the *The Criminal Code* in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.” be introduced and read a first time.

Question put and passed.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave was granted to proceed forthwith to the third reading of the bill.

The Minister for Police moved, That the bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

15. Transport (Road Passenger Services) Amendment (COVID-19 Response and Regional Assistance) Bill 2020

The Minister for Transport, pursuant to the COVID-19 Temporary Order, moved,

That a bill for “An Act to amend the *Transport (Road Passenger Services) Act 2018* in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to provide for regional assistance payments.” be introduced and read a first time.

Question put and passed.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

CONSIDERATION IN DETAIL

Clauses 1 to 7 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

The Minister for Transport moved, That the bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time and forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

16. Pay-roll Tax Assessment Amendment (Thresholds) Bill 2019

Message No. 106 dated 31 March 2020 from the Legislative Council was reported as follows –

The Legislative Council acquaints the Legislative Assembly that it has agreed to the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Amendment (Thresholds) Bill 2019* subject to the amendments contained in the Schedule annexed; in which amendments the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Schedule indicating the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Pay-roll Tax Assessment Amendment (Thresholds) Bill 2019

No. 1

Clause 4, page 2, line 15 to page 3, line 15 — To delete the lines and insert:

7A. Tax thresholds and tapering value: half-years in financial year beginning 1 July 2019

- (1) The threshold amount for a half-year in the financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 is as follows —
 - (a) for the half-year beginning on 1 July 2019 — \$425 000;
 - (b) for the half-year beginning on 1 January 2020 — \$475 000.
- (2) The monthly threshold amount for a half-year in the financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 is as follows —
 - (a) for the half-year beginning on 1 July 2019 — \$70 833;
 - (b) for the half-year beginning on 1 January 2020 — \$79 167.
- (3) The upper threshold amount for a half-year in the financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 is \$3 750 000.
- (4) The tapering value for a half-year in the financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 is to be calculated as follows —

$$\frac{HT}{UT - HT}$$

where —

HT is the threshold amount for the half-year;

UT is the upper threshold amount for the half-year.

Note for this section:

- (1) Division 6 sets out special provisions for determining liability for pay-roll tax using the tax thresholds and tapering values that apply to half-years in the financial year beginning on 1 July 2019.

No. 2

Clause 4, page 3, line 17 — To delete “2021” and insert:

2020

No. 3

Clause 4, page 3, line 19 — To delete “2021” and insert:

2020

No. 4

Clause 4, page 3, line 21 — To delete “2021” and insert:

2020

No. 5

Clause 4, page 3, line 23 — To delete “2021” and insert:

2020

No. 6

Clause 4, page 3, line 25 — To delete “2021” and insert:

2020

No. 7

Clause 5, page 4, lines 8 and 9 — To delete “**period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2021**” and insert:

assessment year beginning 1 July 2019

No. 8

Clause 5, page 6, lines 2 to 6 — To delete the lines and insert:

- (1) The amount of pay-roll tax payable by an employer or group for the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019, for part of that assessment year, or for a progressive return period or part of a progressive return period in that assessment year, is to be calculated under this Division.

No. 9

Clause 5, page 6, lines 11 and 12 — To delete “**assessment years in threshold transition period**” and insert:

of assessment year beginning 1 July 2019

No. 10

Clause 5, page 6, lines 14 and 15 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 11

Clause 5, page 7, line 20 — To delete “**threshold transition period**” and insert:

assessment year beginning 1 July 2019

No. 12

Clause 5, page 7, lines 22 and 23 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 13

Clause 5, page 9, line 7 — To delete “**threshold transition period**” and insert:

assessment year beginning 1 July 2019

No. 14

Clause 5, page 9, lines 9 and 10 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 15

Clause 5, page 11, lines 4 and 5 — To delete “**threshold transition period**” and insert:

assessment year beginning 1 July 2019

No. 16

Clause 5, page 11, lines 9 and 10 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 17

Clause 5, page 12, lines 3 and 4 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 18

Clause 5, page 12, line 13 — To delete “threshold transition period” and insert:

assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 19

Clause 5, page 15, after line 1, the Table the 1st row Column 2 — To delete “threshold transition period” and insert:

assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 20

Clause 5, page 15, lines 9 to 11 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period; and” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019; and

No. 21

Clause 5, page 16, lines 15 to 17 — To delete “an assessment year, or part of an assessment year, in the threshold transition period; and” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019 or part of that assessment year; and

No. 22

Clause 5, page 17, line 1 and after line 1 — To delete the Table and insert:

Table

Annual threshold amount	\$850 000
Monthly threshold amount	\$70 833
Upper threshold amount	\$7 500 000

No. 23

Clause 5, page 17, lines 7 and 8 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period.” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019.

No. 24

Clause 5, page 17, line 9 — To delete “**in threshold transition period**” and insert:

for assessment year beginning 1 July 2019

No. 25

Clause 5, page 17, lines 10 and 11 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 26

Clause 5, page 17, lines 17 and 18 — To delete “an assessment year in the threshold transition period” and insert:

the assessment year beginning on 1 July 2019

No. 27

Clause 8, page 19, line 5 — To delete “threshold transition period — ” and insert:

financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 —

No. 28

Clause 28, page 19, line 12 — To delete “threshold transition period — ” and insert:

financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 —

No. 29

Clause 8, page 19, lines 15 and 16 — To delete “threshold transition period,” and insert:

financial year beginning on 1 July 2019,

No. 30

Clause 8, page 19, lines 18 and 19 — To delete the lines.

No. 31

Clause 8, page 19, line 23 — To delete “threshold transition period — ” and insert:

financial year beginning on 1 July 2019 —

Ordered, That consideration in detail of Legislative Council Message No. 106 be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting of the Assembly.

17. Adjournment

The Leader of the House moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned accordingly at 9.46 pm until Wednesday, 1 April 2020 at 12.00 noon.

Members present during any part of the day's proceedings – All the members except Mr I.C. Blayney, Mr V.A. Catania, Mrs R.M.J. Clarke, Ms J. Farrer, Mr M.J. Folkard, Ms E.L. Hamilton, Mr T.J. Healy, Dr D.J. Honey, Mr M. Hughes, Mr A. Krsticevic, Mr J.E. McGrath, Mr K.J.J. Michel, Mr M.P. Murray, Dr M.D. Nahan, Mr K.M. O'Donnell, Mrs L.M. O'Malley, Mr D.T. Punch, Mr J.R. Quigley, Ms M.M. Quirk, Mr D.T. Redman, Ms C.M. Rowe and Ms A. Sanderson.

KIRSTEN M. ROBINSON
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

HON. PETER WATSON
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly