

**NORFOLK ISLAND
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
10 JANUARY 2000**

**NORF'K AILEN
DIISEM MENETS LARNEN WATHING HAEPN
INAA
IETH LEJESLIETEW 'SEMBLE
10 JAENYUWERI 2000**

1 The Legislative Assembly met at 2.05 pm. The Speaker (Hon George Smith MLA) took the Chair and read the Prayer

2 CONDOLENCES

Mr Buffett recorded the death of –

John Oliver Anderson

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members stood in silence

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair at 2.10 pm

3 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Mr Bates moved –

THAT so much of standing orders be suspended as would prevent the House from dealing only with the matters set out in the Programme

Mr Brown moved –

THAT all words after “THAT” be deleted and the following inserted:

“this sitting be suspended until Wednesday 19 January 2000 at 10 am”

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put

The House voted –

AYES, 3

Mr Smith

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr Brown

NOES, 6

Mr Buffett

Mr Bates

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

Amendment negatived

Mr Brown moved –

THAT the following words be added after “Programme”:

“together with such other matters as may be granted leave”

Debate ensued

Amendment put and agreed to on the voices

Question – That the motion as amended be agreed to – put and agreed to on the voices

4 REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE INTO ALLEGATIONS OF POLITICAL INTERFERENCE AND INTIMIDATION – CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr Bates, pursuant to notice, moved -

THAT the Recommendations at page 11 of the Report tabled in the House on 5 January 2000 by the Chairman of the Select Committee appointed to Inquire into Allegations of Political Interference and Intimidation be debated and voted upon paragraph by paragraph

Debate ensued

Mr Brown moved – That the question be put

Question – That the question be put – put

The House voted –

AYES, 2

Mr Ion-Robinson`

Mr Brown

NOES, 7

Mr Smith

Mr Buffett

Mr Bates

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

Motion negatived

Debate continued

Mr Bates read into Hansard Parts 2.10 to 2.11 and 3.3 of the Report

Mr Brown moved –

THAT all words after “intimidation” be deleted and the words “be noted” be inserted

Debate ensued

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put

The House voted –

AYES, 2

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr Brown

NOES, 6

Mr Smith

Mr Bates

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

ABSTENTIONS, 1

Mr Buffett

Amendment negatived

Question – That the motion be agreed to – put

The House voted –

AYES, 6

Mr Smith

Mr Bates

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

NOES, 2

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr Brown

ABSTENTIONS, 1

Mr Buffett

Question agreed to

Consideration of Recommendation No. 4.1

Mr Brown moved –

THAT Recommendation 4.1 be amended by removing it in its entirety

Debate ensued

Question put

The House voted –

AYES, 2

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr Brown

NOES, 6

Mr Smith

Mr Bates

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

ABSTENTIONS, 1

Mr Buffett

Question negatived

Mr Brown moved –

THAT Recommendation No. 4.1 be noted

Question put and agreed to on the voices

Consideration of Recommendation No. 4.2

Mr Brown moved –

THAT Recommendation No. 4.2 be noted

Mr Nobbs moved –

THAT the word “noted” be changed to “actioned”

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put and agreed to, Mr Brown dissenting

Question – That the motion as amended be agreed to - put and agreed to on the voices,

Mr Brown dissenting

Consideration of Recommendation No. 4.3

Mr Nobbs moved –

THAT recommendation No. 4.3 be agreed to

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices, Mr Brown dissenting

Consideration of Recommendation 4.4

Mr Brown moved –

THAT Recommendation 4.4 be noted

Mr Nobbs moved –

THAT the word “noted” be changed to “actioned”

Debate ensued

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put and agreed to on the voices, Mr

Brown dissenting

Question – That the motion as amended be agreed to – put and agreed to on the voices,

Mr Brown dissenting

Mr Nobbs moved –

THAT the Report be made public in its entirety

Question put and agreed to on the voices, Mr Brown abstaining

5 REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF ELIGIBILITY OF SENIOR PUBLIC SERVANTS TO ALSO SIT AS MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr Brown, by leave, moved –

THAT this House recommends to the Speaker, under the provisions of the Referendum Act 1964, that he direct a referendum on the following:

- 1 Do you believe that senior officers and employees of the Public Service (i.e. Program Managers, Branch Heads, Section Heads and Managers of Government Business Enterprises) should be eligible, at the same time, to maintain their Public Service employment and to sit as Members of the Legislative Assembly?**
- 2 If the present system is changed, should such change be made effective from the earliest possible date (i.e. within a short time after obtaining assent to the necessary amending legislation)?**

Debate ensued

At the request of Mr Nobbs, Mr Brown, by leave, withdrew paragraph 2 of his motion.

Acting Deputy Speaker Gardner took the Chair at 4.02 pm

Mr Smith moved –

THAT so much of Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Buffett and Mr Bates from participating in discussion and voting on the question

Question put

The House voted –

AYES, 6**Mr Smith****Mr Buffett****Mr Bates****Mr Robertson****Mr Gardner****Mr Nobbs****NOES, 3****Mr Ion-Robinson****Mr Brown****Mr McCoy**

Question agreed to

Speaker took the Chair at 4.28 pm

Debate ensued

Acting Deputy Speaker Gardner took the Chair at 4.37 pm

Mr Brown moved –

THAT the discussion be suspended until after Notice No. 2 is dealt with

Question put and agreed to on the voices

6 DISSOLUTION OF THE HOUSE

Mr Bates, pursuant to notice, moved -

THAT the Administrator be requested to determine in accordance with section 35 of the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* a date for a general election at the earliest date possible

Debate ensued

Question put

The House voted –

AYES, 7

Mr Buffett

Mr Bates

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

Mr Brown

NOES, 2

Mr Smith

Mr Ion-Robinson

Motion agreed to

7 REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION OF ELIGIBILITY OF SENIOR PUBLIC SERVANTS TO ALSO SIT AS MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Debate resumed on the question – That the motion be agreed to

Mr Buffett, by leave, moved –

THAT the word “eligible” be changed to “ineligible”

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put

The House voted –

AYES, 4

Mr Smith

Mr Buffett

Mr Bates

Mr Gardner

NOES, 5

Mr Robertson

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

Mr Brown

Question negatived

Mr Brown, by leave, moved –

THAT the word “senior” be inserted on line 1 before “employees”

Question – That the amendment be agreed to - put

The House voted –

AYES, 7

Mr Smith

Mr Robertson

Mr Gardner

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

Mr Brown

NOES, 1

Mr Buffett

ABSTENTIONS, 1

Mr Bates

Amendment agreed to

Question – That the motion as amended be agreed to – put

The House voted –

AYES, 6

Mr Smith

Mr Robertson

Mr Ion-Robinson

Mr McCoy

Mr Nobbs

Mr Brown

NOES, 3

Mr Buffett

Mr Bates

Mr Gardner

Question, as amended, agreed to

Speaker took the Chair at 5.26 pm

8 FIXING OF NEXT SITTING DAY

Mr Bates moved –

THAT the House at its rising adjourn until Wednesday 9 February 2000 at 10 am

Question put and agreed to on the voices

9 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Brown moved –

THAT the House do now adjourn

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

AND THEN the House at 5.44 pm adjourned until Wednesday 9 February 2000 at 10.00 am

**Robin-Eleanor Adams
Clerk to the Legislative Assembly**

Members Present: All Members were present