Busy Parliamentary Agenda Set for the Next Two Weeks

The Northern Territory Parliament will begin two weeks of sittings tomorrow with a range of important legislation and motions for introduction and debate.

Leader of Government Business, Dr Chris Burns, said further parliamentary reform will take place with the introduction of a motion to establish the Council for Territory Cooperation.

“The Territory Government will introduce the Council for Territory Cooperation which will comprise two members of Government, two members of the Opposition and at least one Independent, that can examine matters as it wishes,” Dr Burns said.

“A motion to increase Adjournment times will also be introduced.

“This week legislation will be introduced to ensure politician’s pay rises are capped at 2.5 per cent and are in line with public sector wage increases.

“Legislation for debate also includes the Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Amendment which will align the Territory’s prisoner transfer scheme with other jurisdictions.

“Hospital Boards legislation will also be up for debate and aims to improve governance of Territory hospitals.

“Parliament will debate the Criminal Code (Bushfires) Amendment that will increase fines and prison sentence lengths for people that deliberately and recklessly cause fires - the changes are in line with penalties agreed to at a national level following the Victorian bushfires.

“The Territory Government is focused on meeting the challenges that come with growth, so we’ll be debating an important statement looking at what government is doing to deliver the infrastructure and services to position the Territory for ongoing sustainable growth.

“This will also be the first sittings where people can listen and watch a live stream of Parliament on the internet coming from five newly installed cameras,” Dr Burns said.

People wanting to watch the live streams can go to www.nt.gov.au/lant/broadcast during sittings days. Parliament will run from Monday to Thursday for the next two weeks.

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