MEDIA RELEASE
LORAINE BRAHAM MLA
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR BRAINTLING

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A LONE VOTE TURNS INTO FIVE

"Government delivered a dilemma to parliament members today by forcing a vote on the McArthur River mine legislation that was rushed", says Loraine Braham, Independent Member for Braitling.

"No one wants workers to lose their jobs but taking away the right of appeal and not providing full information at a briefing meant it was hard to make an informed decision".

Mrs Braham said her first attempt to call a division, that would record the members' votes, failed due to lack of support from any of the members.

"But then, the decision by three Indigenous members and the other Independent to vote against the bill at the third reading meant there was support to record the vote".

"It was a piece of history in the NT Parliament".

"Let me place on record my admiration for the Members for Arnhem, Macdonnell and Stuart for their bravery as Labor members to vote against their party's decision".

"It restores my faith in the parliamentary process that people will vote according to what they believe is the right thing to do".

"For too long I have been calling for the Indigenous Members to speak up".

"Their message was very effective and is a huge milestone for Labor in the Territory".

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