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MEDIA RELEASE

ATTEMPTED GREEN “HIJACKING” OF PARLIAMENT

MINING AMENDMENT BILL REPORT AWAITING DEBATE

For immediate circulation

Yesterday there was an attempted “hijacking” of Government Business in the Legislative Council with the Greens trying to replace the Government order of business with a debate on their bills.

The Motion to change the order of business was defeated by the slimmest of margins, 18 to 17, in which the President of the House had to cast the deciding ballot. Rev Fred Nile MLC for the Christian Democratic Party also voted against this Motion.

Unfortunately, the ensuing debates concerning this proposed change in the order of business prevented some of the government reports being discussed, a matter which Rev Nile outlined in his statement, which reads as follows:

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE (15:52:49): *The House should continue with its usual practice. This is Government business day and I have already told the Deputy President that I want to discuss the Mining Amendment*

(Compensation for Cancellation of Exploration Licence) Bill 2019—item No. 6 on today's agenda—at the first opportunity this afternoon. I was looking forward to the House considering some recommendations in report No. 72 of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice. The House should respect that this is Government business day and the Government has said priority should be given to committee reports and Government responses – orders of the day. All members of the House should respect that.

The Mining Amendment (Compensation for Cancellation of Exploration Licence) Bill 2019 was introduced by the Christian Democratic Party and has gone through the Committee process. This would have been an opportunity for Rev Nile to put the CDP response to the Committee Report. Unfortunately, we will have to wait for the next sitting day for this to occur.

Media inquiries:

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