

Motions Passed at the 2017 ALP Tasmanian State Conference, Georgetown, 1-2 July 2017

Safe Schools

- Tasmanian Labor supports and, when in Government, commits to as a matter of urgency – providing State funding for the existing Safe Schools program in Tasmania in 2018 and beyond, and commits to investigating the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Tasmanian Government and the Safe Schools Coalition in relation to the scope of the rollout of Safe Schools in Tasmania. p25

Tasmanian Labor commits to supporting and funding the full Safe Schools program in Tasmanian schools p25

[A new Equality Portfolio will be responsible for]overseeing and implementation of a fully funded Safe Schools Coalition program so teacher training, professional development and resources to support students are provided at every government secondary school in the state. Inclusive of any support programs aimed at combating homophobia, preventing youth suicide and drug use, improving mental health and supporting parents and families of LGBTI Tasmanians.p90 (emphasis added)

Drugs

- A harm minimisation focused decriminalisation of small volume use and possession of illicit drugs provision p34

Abortion

- That terminations are a health issue not a criminal issue.
That public hospitals should provide terminations.
That terminations should be bulk billed and made accessible for all women p141

Charter of Rights

- Develop a Charter of Human Rights p65

Tasmanian Labor calls for the implementation of a Charter of Human Rights, which will set a comprehensive list of civil, political, economic, and social rights for citizens of Tasmania. This charter will also be used as a framework for parliament and the court, to ensure that new legislation does not infringe upon the common community values and rights as outlined in the proposed charter. p88

Prostitution

- Introduce sex industry legislation with paramount consideration given to the occupational safety and health of sex workers in the industry and regulations. p72

Tasmanian Labor supports decriminalisation of all forms of sex work in Tasmania.

Tasmanian Labor recognises that sex workers may prefer to work from brothels or in collectives of more than two, on the basis of magnifying opportunities for peer education whilst also supporting self-determination.

Labor also recognises that workers in the sex industry must be afforded access to industrial rights, fair work processes, anti-discrimination protections and occupational health and safety mechanisms akin to other workers.

Tasmanian Labor recognises that criminalising brothels only ensures the existence of brothels where workers are not guaranteed workplace safety, do not have protected conditions, are not protected by fair work laws, can be denied legal justice, and are unable to unionise or collectively bargain.

Tasmanian Labor will work with Scarlet Alliance and other relevant stakeholders and PACs to develop a comprehensive policy to reinstate funding to the Tasmanian Sex Worker Project once in office, as well as draft legislation to fully decriminalise sex work in Tasmania.p89

Euthanasia

- Introduce legislation to allow Voluntary Assisted Dying in Tasmania as a last resort option. p72

Conscience Votes

Conference notes that the National Constitution of the Australian Labor Party is the sole determinant of whether an issue is exempt from the provisions of party rules that require decisions of party units to be binding on all members.

Specifically, Conference notes that the National Constitution specifies only two issues (abortion and marriage) in which members of State and Federal Parliamentary Labor Parties cannot be bound by either parliamentary caucuses or State and Federal Platforms.

Conference therefore notes that a ‘free vote’ cannot be conferred on any member of a State or Federal caucus by any party unit or individual in relation to any issue for which either a State or Federal Platform explicitly outlines a party position.

Conference calls for the Constitution of the Australian Labor Party to be upheld and for appropriate disciplinary action to undertaken where it is not. p145

Equality Portfolio

- Call for the formation of a dedicated Cabinet Portfolio – Minister for Equality
Rainbow Labor along with State Labor conference calls for the formation of a dedicated Cabinet Role focusing on LGBTI issues.

The Australian Labor Party, in 2016 appointed the country’s first national equality spokesperson as part of its shadow cabinet in Parliament. Federal member for Griffith Terri Butler as the party’s Shadow Assistant Minister for Equality, a role that will be responsible for issues affecting Australia’s LGBTI community. In 2015 the Labor government in Victoria under Premier Daniel Andrews, became Australia’s first-ever cabinet minister with an LGBTI portfolio.

Rainbow Labor along with State Labor calls for the new Ministerial Portfolio to be responsible for modernising Tasmanian LGBTI legislation. The Minister responsible would be required to review legislation to identify provisions that unfairly discriminate against LGBTI Tasmanians, and act to change them. Act to remove barriers to new and old birth certificates for transgender, gender diverse and intersex Tasmanians. Establish equitable solutions surrounding the discriminatory automatic divorce consequence for transgender and gender diverse Tasmanians, developing a comprehensive plan to eliminate it.

Tasmanians want legislation to be modern and reflect community attitudes, by reviewing equal opportunity legislation to ensure the promotion, recognition and acceptance of rights, for LGBTI people. As such the ministerial portfolio will commit to fostering safe and inclusive work environments for all Tasmanian

employees. Develop an inclusive language guide to provide guidance to the Tasmanian public sector regarding appropriate inclusive LGBTI language.

The ministerial portfolio holder will promote equitable access and implement programs recognising the specific health needs of Tasmanian's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse and intersex communities. This will be inclusive of overseeing and implementation of a fully funded Safe Schools Coalition program so teacher training, professional development and resources to support students are provided at every government secondary school in the state. Inclusive of any support programs aimed at combating homophobia, preventing youth suicide and drug use, improving mental health and supporting parents and families of LGBTI Tasmanians. p89-90

References:

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