TUESDAY, 3 JUNE 2025

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

The sign † indicates the original language and [] directly thereafter indicates a translation.

[Hybrid Sitting held with some members present in the House and some in virtual attendance through Microsoft Teams]

The House met at 10:00.

The Speaker took the Chair and read the prayer.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, you may be seated. Before we proceed with today's Sitting on 3 June, please allow me to welcome Team Finance, the DG together with the Head of Treasury and senior officials. Also, the guests who are in the gallery and those that are joining and viewing online.

Hon members, I trust that you are familiar with the Standing Rules, and we

will promptly commence. The Secretary will now read the Order of the Day.

The SECRETARY: Introduction and First Reading – Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B4–2025].

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I recognise the hon Minister, hon Minister Baartman.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thank you, hon Deputy Speaker. Hon Premier and hon Cabinet colleagues, hon Leader of the Opposition, hon members of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, people of the Western Cape.

We are here today due to the withdrawal of the national budget by Minister Godongwana, including the national Division of Revenue Bill upon which all provincial budgets are legally based. Therefore, in line with Section 27 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), and to ensure legal compliance of all provincial processes, we are required to re-table the Western Cape Appropriations Bill in this House for consideration.

I would like to give this House the assurance that nothing in substance in the Western Cape Appropriations Bill has changed, perhaps the date. The Western Cape Budget will still appropriate R89,316 billion for 2025/2026, with the budget amounting to a total of R269,524 billion over the next 3 financial years. Of the almost R270 billion spend over 3 years, we will spend more than 80 per cent or R215,8 billion on Social Services made up of: Education, which is R101 billion; Health R100 billion, Housing: R6,4 billion, and Social Protection R8,4 billion.

In line with our Apex Priorities, to help ... [Interjection.]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon Minister, are you able to take your seat? We will duly mute. Hon members, together with those that are viewing and watching via MS Teams, I wish to remind you once again, you are not allowed to unmute your mic. Hon Minister, you may proceed.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE: In line with our Apex Priority to help businesses grow and create jobs and equip you to get those jobs, we have allocated to policy portfolio areas: R43,789 billion to Growth for Jobs; R3,955 billion to Safety; R194,928 billion to Educated, Healthy and Caring Society; and R23,439 billion to Innovation, Culture, and Governance. Further, over the MTEF, we will spend R32,898 billion on Infrastructure across our province.

It should be noted that Minister Godongwana announced additional funding for Education and Health in provinces. This funding will flow to provinces later in the year and does not form part of this budget. Once received, we will allocate the funding to the respective departments accordingly. Hon Deputy Speaker, 2025 has really seen us exercise our legal and procedural muscles within the uncertain fiscal space nationally, and I would like to thank the Provincial Treasury team as well as the Legal team in the Department of the Premier for their assistance and guidance throughout this process.

[†]Ngokuqinisekileyo, uzinzo kunye nokuthembeka kwezemali, lithemba lam elingazenzisiyo lokuba inkqubo yohlahlo lwabiwo-mali lukazwelonke luka-2026 luyakuhamba ngaphandle kwamagingxigingxi, ngenxa yempembelelo ethe ngqo enayo kumaphondo. [For certainty, fiscal stability and trust, it is my sincere hope that the national budget process for 2026 will flow more effortlessly, given the direct impact it has on provinces.]

[†]Ten spyte van die onsekerheid in die fiskale omgewing, kan die Wes-Kaapse Regering hierdie Huis verseker dat ons streng prosedures in die provinsie vir die beheer van kontantvloei in plek gestel het om te verseker dat dienslewering sonder onderbreking kon voortduur. [Despite the uncertain fiscal environment, the Western Cape Government can assure this House that we have kept strict protocols in place on cash flow management in the province to ensure service delivery continues uninterrupted.]

In light of this, the doors of the Western Cape Government have, and will continue to, remain open, hon Deputy Speaker.

I hereby re-table the Western Cape Appropriations Bill and the 2025 Budget Speech, which includes the electronic tabling of: the 2025 Overview of the Provincial Revenue and Expenditure; the 2025 Estimates of Provincial Revenue and Expenditure; the 2025 Overview of Provincial and Municipal Infrastructure Investment; and the Provincial Gazette Extraordinary: Allocations to Municipalities. I thank you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, hon Minister. The Secretary will read the Bill for the first time.

The SECRETARY: Western Cape Appropriation Bill.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon members, in accordance with Rule 188(1), the Introductory Speech, the Bill and Papers laid upon the table will be referred to the relevant committees for consideration and support.

Before we adjourn, I can confirm and remind the hon members that via the Programming Authority, that hon members are reminded that the Budget Committee will commence 15 minutes after the adjournment of the House.

That concludes the business of the day. The Secretary will now end the meeting, and all hon members will be exited from the online platform. Hon member, the House is adjourned.

The House adjourned at 10:08.