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GREEK TRIBUNE

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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Late-term abortion bill defeated in SA Parliament

South Australia's lower house has voted down a bill to restrict access to late-term abortion, defeating it 36 votes to 9 after less than two hours of debate.

The legislation, introduced by Family First MP Sarah Game, had earlier passed the upper house by a narrow 10-9 margin with support from One Nation MPs. It would have effectively banned abortions from 25 weeks onwards, except when necessary to save the life of the mother or in cases of life threatening abnormalities.

The bill was subject to a conscience vote for Labor and Liberal MPs. Premier Peter Malinauskas and Opposition Leader Ashton Hurn voted in favour but did not speak during the debate.

An amendment by



Attorney General Kyam Maher

Labor MP Tung Ngo added an exemption for life threatening abnormalities. Health Minister Blair Boyer opposed the bill, citing medical advice.

Current South Australian law permits abortions after 23 weeks with approval from two doctors if continuing the pregnancy poses a significant risk to the pregnant person's physical or mental health. The defeated bill would have removed that provision.

Concerns about possible cost increases for projects

South Australia's Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis has raised concerns about possible cost increases for the new Women's and Children's Hospital, describing it as a "very troubled" project and admitting he has less confidence in it than the \$15.4 billion Torrens to Darlington road development. The hospital's estimated cost remains at \$3.2 billion, despite the figure not being updated since 2022 and rising construction and inflation pressures.

The state budget forecasts public sector net debt increasing from \$34.7 billion this year to \$53.7 billion by 2029-30, driven largely by spending on the hospital and Torrens to Darlington projects. While acknowledging

the hospital's challenges, the government has not released a revised cost estimate.

Mr Koutsantonis warned that hospitals are complex projects and costs could rise, but said contingency funds are built into major developments. Opposition treasury spokesman Ben Hood accused the government of lacking transparency, arguing higher labour and material costs make a blowout likely.

The budget also includes a \$500 million cost-of-living package, including the abolition of public school fees and an expanded Seniors Card. Greens leader Robert Simms criticised higher public transport fares, while Mr Koutsantonis said support should be targeted at working families and pensioners.

Greek Community Rejects 'Monoculturalism'

Adelaide, SA — The Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia has strongly defended multiculturalism, rejecting calls to replace it with a so-called "monocultural" Australia and describing cultural diversity as one of the nation's greatest strengths.

In a public statement, the community responded to recent comments by One Nation leader Pauline Hanson, who argued that multiculturalism had failed and advocated for a more culturally uniform Australia.

The Greek Orthodox Community said Australia's success as one of the world's most stable, prosperous and harmonious nations had been built on a foundation of shared democratic values combined with respect for cultural diversity.

"For generations, Greek Australians have proudly contributed to this country while preserving their language, faith, traditions and heritage,"

the statement said. "Being Australian by citizenship and commitment, and Greek by culture and history, are complementary identities that strengthen both individuals and the nation."

Community leaders argued that multiculturalism has enabled migrant communities to integrate successfully into Australian society while enriching the nation's cultural, economic and social life.

The statement highlighted the contributions of Greek Australians in establishing businesses, schools, churches, charities and community organisations that have benefited the wider Australian community.

"Our parents and grandparents came to Australia seeking opportunity and freedom," the statement noted. "They embraced Australian values and became part of the national story without abandoning their heritage."

The community also



The Greek Community will always defend their right to celebrate their language, culture and faith

warned that a monocultural approach would overlook the contributions made by millions of Australians whose family origins lie in countries such as Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Vietnam, China and India.

According to the statement, Australia's diversity is united by common principles including democracy, the rule of law, equality and mutual respect.

The Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia reaffirmed its support for multiculturalism, social cohesion and an inclusive society, while rejecting attempts to divide Australians along ethnic, cultural or religious lines.

"Australia's diversity is not a weakness," the statement concluded. "It is one of our nation's greatest strengths."

Fuel price expected to rise after excise cuts end on June 30

Australia's temporary fuel excise cut, introduced to ease the impact of the oil crisis on consumers, is due to expire on June 30. The federal government halved the fuel excise on petrol and diesel for three months, reducing prices by 26.3 cents per litre. The measure was implemented after oil prices surged following the US-Israeli attack on Iran and disruptions to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, a key global oil transit route.

The tax reduction helped bring fuel prices down significantly. By May 27, retail diesel prices in Australia's five largest cities had fallen by 31 per cent, while petrol prices were down by 29 per cent. However, uncertainty remains high because there is no clear end to the Middle East conflict and no agreement on the future management of shipping through the Strait of Hormuz. As a result, concerns about fuel supply and prices persist.

Federal Treasurer Jim Chalmers has

indicated that the government is not currently planning to extend the excise cut beyond June 30, although the situation will continue to be monitored. Experts believe fuel prices are likely to rise once the measure ends, but they do not expect a dramatic increase. Supply chain specialist Mahdi Abolghasemi said any price changes will depend largely on developments in the conflict and whether shipping through the Strait of Hormuz returns to normal. Economist John Quiggin similarly argued that fuel prices should remain within historical norms when adjusted for inflation, although renewed fighting could push oil prices higher.

Quiggin also suggested the excise cut should not become permanent, arguing that consumers should not be continuously shielded from higher fuel prices, particularly as Australia transitions away from internal combustion engine vehicles.

Additional support measures remain in place, including a temporary reduction in



the Heavy Vehicle User Charge, fuel-cost recovery protections for the road transport sector, and tailored tax payment plans for businesses affected by high fuel prices. Consumers are also encouraged to compare fuel prices using fuel apps and websites to find the best deals.

Cypriots to commemorate coup and Turkish invasion

Australian Cypriots will commemorate the 52nd anniversary of the tragic events of 1974 in Cyprus. On 15 July 1974, the military junta of Greece, in collaboration with the Cypriot terrorist EOKA B' organisation staged a military coup to overthrow the legitimate Cypriot Government of President Makarios. Hundreds of supporters of the legitimate government were murdered by the terrorists in the days that followed.

The Coup, gave Turkey the opportunity to invade with a 40,000 strong army, and occupy 1/3 of Cyprus using their air force and 250 tanks on the pretext that they were doing so in order to protect the Turkish Cypriots. The northern part of the island was illegally declared as a separate state

Community Life



Members of the teaching staff of the Greek Orthodox Community's SA Afternoon Schools, pose for the Greek tribune at the Annual Schools Dance held on 13 June at the Olympic Hall. From left, Sia, Thomae, Nelly and Eleni

and remains under occupation till today.

The Justice for Cyprus Committee will commemorate the tragic events and

protest against the continued illegal Turkish occupation at a gathering to take place on 19 July at 1pm at the Cyprus club.

Bonaros head of the Seafood Industry

Seafood Industry South Australia has appointed former SA parliamentarian Connie Bonaros as its new Chief Executive Officer.

Ms Bonaros commenced in the role on June 15 following a competitive recruitment process.

The industry body says she brings extensive experience in public policy, advocacy, stakeholder engagement and leadership.

Seafood Industry South Australia says Ms Bonaros has a strong understanding of regional South Australia and the opportunities and challenges facing the seafood sector.

She will lead the organisation as it continues representing the state's wild catch, aquaculture and post-harvest industries, with a focus on supporting a strong, sustainable and profitable seafood sector.

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ABN: 55 829 388 691

Correspondence to: The Editor, BOX 330, FULHAM GARDENS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5024

Phone: 0408 865004

Website: www.greektribune.com.au

E-mail: info@greektribune.com.au



Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

Contact: Harri on 0484 387 818 - or email your community's news or a photo: info@greektribune.com.au



The Greek Afternoon Schools of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA held its annual Dance on 13 June at the Olympic Hall. The theme was "Summer in Greece". In the picture, the choir of the Primary Schools singing Greek songs

Barnaby Joyce claims people who 'look like' recent arrivals dominate home auctions

One Nation leader Pauline Hanson has been forced to clarify her party's housing policy after confusion and conflicting statements from party representatives about who would be affected and how the plan would work.

The ABC reported that, under the policy, foreign owners of residential property in Australia would have two years to sell their homes or face government repossession.

Confusion arose when One Nation MP Barnaby Joyce initially suggested the measure would also apply to permanent residents who were not Australian citizens.

Speaking on Sky News, Mr Joyce said permanent residents would need to become Australian citizens to retain ownership of their homes. However, in a later interview, he reversed his position after consulting with the party.

"On further investigation and discussions with One

Nation, no, we are not going to be kicking permanent residents out of their house," he said.

The comments prompted Pauline Hanson to issue a clarification. She stated that the policy would apply only to temporary visa holders and foreign citizens living overseas. Those affected would have two years to sell their property to an Australian buyer.

Ms Hanson also said One Nation would prevent international students, non-permanent residents and non-Australian citizens from purchasing property in Australia in the future.

Questions about the policy continued when One Nation senator Sean Bell was unable to explain what would happen if a property was not sold within the two-year period or how repossession would be carried out.

During an interview with Sydney radio station 2GB, Mr Bell acknowledged the



One Nation Senator Barnaby Joyce

question but did not provide a direct answer. Host Mark Levy criticised the lack of detail, saying the interview was "turning into a train wreck" and arguing that the party needed to clearly explain how the policy would operate.

The Coalition also questioned the proposal. Deputy Opposition Leader Jane Hume said it appeared One Nation itself was uncertain about the details.

Ms Hume warned that any policy perceived as forcing people from their homes would concern many Australians and noted that even Mr Joyce had described the proposal as still being in a formative stage.

Statistics show fewer than 1% of homes are bought by foreigners, as race discrimination commissioner warns against blaming migrants for housing woes.

Woman rescued after getting stuck in quicksand at Glenelg

A woman's sunset walk with a friend quickly turned into an emergency rescue after she got her leg stuck in quicksand on a suburban beach in Adelaide.

Madz June, 20, was walking on the beach at Glenelg North on May 19 when she jumped off some rocks and on to the sand.

She said her leg "fell straight through" the soft sand and she became stuck.

"At first, I thought it was hilarious," the TAFE student said.

"It felt like my leg had been vacuum sealed into a bag, it was very tight.

"But it was once I realised how stuck I was, and it wasn't something I could do by myself to get out and I needed help was when panic started to set in ... I was very frightened."

She threw her keys and phone to her friend who was on the rocks and tried to stay calm as the water began to pool around her and the sun continued to set.

"It was getting up to my waist," she said.

Ms June spent 10 to 15 minutes trying to get herself out before making the call to emergency services as the tide continued to come in.

"Originally they thought I was talking about my car being stuck in the sand so, I had to inform them I meant me, my actual body," she said.

In the end, four



police officers and five firefighters attended the scene to remove her from the sand in "pitch black" conditions.

"I think I was in the sand for around an hour all up," she said.

"It was very much a 'I need to laugh or I'll cry' situation."

She said while it was "very embarrassing" she was happy to share her experience as a warning to others.

"My main concern was if it was an elderly person or a young child that had been in my situation that may not have been able to get themselves out of it or they didn't have a phone to call for help, I think that's the most worrying part," she said.

"Gratefully, I had a friend and I had a phone with me so I was able to get out of the situation whereas other people may not be in such good luck."

Ms June said she revisited the site today and said signs warning about quicksand had been displayed by the local council.

Greek Tribune Visits Adelaide Omonia Cobras at Weigall Oval



Last Sunday, we had the opportunity to watch Adelaide Omonia, the Cypriot community football club, play at its home ground, Weigall Oval in Plympton, against Eastern United. The match ended in a 1-1 draw,

although Omonia was the stronger side throughout the game and opened the scoring with the first goal of the match.

In the picture is Adelaide Omonia's first team, photographed by the Greek

Tribune before kick-off. Also in the picture, the club's new coach, George Oikonomou from Cyprus, up standing first on the right. George has commenced his duties as Omonia's coach at the start of July.

Adelaide Omonia competes in State League 1, South Australia's first state-level football competition.

Adelaide Omonia will be challenged by Fulham United this coming Saturday 3 July at the Weigall Oval.