



NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

NORTH WEST PROVINCE

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SPECIAL SITTING 2 OF 2026

TUESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2026



[Special Sitting No. 02-2026] Third Session, Seventh Legislature

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**LEGISLATURE OF THE
NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

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[EDITED]

HON. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, we will now observe a moment of silent prayer or meditation.

(PRAYER AND MEDITATION)

Thank you, Honourable Members, you may be seated.

Honourable Members, I will request the Chief Whip of the House to usher in new Honourable Member, Honourable Kodisang of Action SA who replaced Honourable Mangope, to her seat with accordance to the conviction of the Legislature. Honourable Chief Whip.

(Honourable Chief Whip ushering Honourable Kodisang to her seat)

Thank you very much Honourable Chief Whip.

Honourable Members, this special sitting is convened in order for the House to consider the Money Bill as required by the rules and also to pay tribute and respect to one of our Member, Honourable Dikolomela, who passed on 02 February 2026.

As we pay respect and pay tribute to the late Honourable Dikolomela, we have invited Members of her family and they have been allocated seats that are ordinarily reserved for media on our left. We welcome you the Dikolomela family at the Legislature of the North West. Secretary, you may read the next order.

SECRETARY: Order No. 2; Proceedings on Bills.

2.1. North West Second Adjustment Appropriation Bill, 2025. Introduction and first reading.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Secretary. I will now call on Honourable Mosenogi to introduce and table the North West Second Adjustment Appropriation Bill, 2025, for consideration by the House. Honourable Mosenogi, you have 40 minutes.

HON. MOSENOGI: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker, Mme [Madam] Dr Desbo Mohono, the Deputy Speaker, Ntate [Mr] Mokone Collen Maine, the Honourable Premier, Ntate [Mr] Lazarus Mokgosi, the Leader of Government, Mme [Madam] Viola Ntsetsao Motsumi, The Chief of the ruling party and the House, Mme mma [Madam] Motlalepule Rosho, leaders of different political parties in the Legislature and congratulations Ntate [Mr] Sonakile. Members of the Executive Council, Members of the Legislature, Bagolo ke a dumedisa ebile ke le tlhompile baagi ba Bokonebophirima [Greetings the the esteemed citizens of the North West.]

Honourable Speaker, since the tabling of the 2025/26 adjustment budget on 28 November 2025, the Provincial Treasury has revised urgent request for intervention on the matters relating to the scholar transport budget, outstanding salaries of the North West Transport Investment employees under the Department of Community Safety, Transport Management. To cater for these two items of critical importance, a second adjustment budget for 2025/26 financial is introduced to provide urgent funding for both NTI and COSATMA. The allocation to all other Departments will not be affected and will remain the same as per the 2025/26 adjustment. An additional allocation of R70million is proposed to clear the payment for deadlock for scholar transport. The proposal is made in order to ensure funding stability within this programme and guarantee that all leakages are addressed. The Department will be expected to ensure that strict measures are implemented to correct weaknesses in the delivery of the scholar transport.

The Provincial Treasury will perform strict oversight on the scholar transport function through the invocation of Section 18 of the Public Finance Management Act. Given the recurring challenges in relation to the prompt payment of salaries of NTI employees, an amount of R90million is proposed for allocation to COSTAMA. The allocation will cater for the payment of salaries for NTI employees for January, February, March 2026. Resultantly, the 2026 adjustment for COSATMA will further be adjusted upwards by R160, 000 000. 00 from R2, 463,000 000. 00 to R2, 623 000 000. 00.

Honourable Speaker, the additional allocation contained within the second adjustment Appropriation Bill for 2025/26 Financial Year will lead to the North West Provincial Budget being increased by R160, 000 000. 00. This adjustment will raise the total provincial appropriation from R67, 231, 000 000. 00 to R67, 391, 000 000. 00. I thank you and therefore table the Second Adjustment Honourable. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable MEC. You have saved a lot of time. Does the House consider this Bill and concur that the Bill be read for the First time?

HOUSE: Yes.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you Honourable Members. Secretary may you read the Bill for the first time.

SECRETARY: This Bill shall now be called the North West Second Adjustment Appropriation Bill [B01-2026].

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Honourable Members, the North West Adjustment Appropriation Bill [B01-2026] stand referred to the Portfolio Committee on Premier and Finance for scrutiny and further processing.

Honourable Members, it is with great sadness and profound sense of loss that today as this House we are paying tribute and the last respect to one of our own colleague, Honourable Dikolomela, who served as a Member of the Legislature from the 6th term until she met her untimely death on the 02 February 2026. She was a dedicated public representative from the

EFF and served the people of the North West Province with commitment, integrity and humility. Throughout her tenure, she made a significant contribution to the work of the House including that of Committees. On behalf of the North West Provincial Legislature, I wish to extend our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, colleagues and the community that she served with such a devotion. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and hope that with time, you will find your healing. Honourable Members, I now request that we rise and observe a moment of silence in honour of the Honourable late Dikolomela.

(MOMENT OF SILENCE)

Thank you, Honourable Members. You may be seated.

I will now invite political parties represented in the House to pay their tribute. Thank you very much. Honourable Members, I will firstly call the Premier of the province, Honourable Mokgosi. Honourable Premier, 10 minutes.

HON. MOKGOSI: Thank you very much Dr Sebonta sa mmaasone Desbo Mohono, the Speaker of the Legislature; Deputy Speaker, Collen Maine; the leader of government business, Mme [Madam] Viola Motsumi; the Chief Whip of the House, Ausi [Sister] Motlalepule Rosho; the leadership of the opposition in particular, Commander Botswe, in this instance re a le dumedisa re le puso ya Bokonebophirima [greetings from the government of the North West]. But over and above the Dikolomela family and all extended family members present here and those who are not present here today, from the Provincial Government, we are coming here today go tla go tlisa molaetsa wa matshidiso le go gomotsa boo-rra Dikolomela le masika ka kakaretso [...to convey our condolences and comfort the Dikolomela family and relatives.]

Honourable Dikolomela, I have known her for many years when she was still a member of the African National Congress. Even after she left the ANC, joining the EFF, I have known her at an intimate level because we worked together, we are coming from the same region of Dr Ruth Segomotsi Mompati. Through her activism in the ANC, she became one of the strongest members of the African National Congress and she grew through the ranks of the organisation and she participated and led at different levels of the organisation. She used to lead and live amongst

her people. She used to be part and parcel of communities. She used to understand the pains, the sufferings of our people. She lived amongst the people, and as a result, she led the society.

She was a true community leader and a developer because she understood what her people want. She lived through the aspirations of our people and the ANC and finally the EFF because at the centre of everything, all of us want what is good for our people. The ANC build her character. The ANC built her politics and sharpened them and she finally perfected them in the EFF. In essence, the EFF found somebody already grown, somebody who has already been properly natured and they just polished her to be a proper, sound politician.

All of us we know her. She was a humble person, very respectful but she was assertive. If she believed in something, she will strongly stand her ground. We want to thank her for the work that she has done for the community of our people. We want to thank her for what she did, for both the ANC and the organisation, the contribution she made in this Legislature and the lives of the North West in general, and in particular, the community where she lived.

Go bothokwa gore re itse gore mo lefatsheng, ga re a tla go dula nako e e telele. I think that is what we should be mindful of. Ke batla boo-rra Dikolomela ba tihaloganye selo se le sengwe, gore loso le tshwanetse gore le diragale. It as a matter of an eventuality that one day we are going to die. What is different is when, how and that is what is important. Ga gona tsela e re ka kopanang le Modimo wa rone ntle le go ya through loso. Ga re ne re kgona go tsamaya ka helicopter, ga re ne re kgona go fofa, ga re ne re kgona go kopa dihaeke tsa dikoloi, we would do that, but there is no other alternative except death.

I used to say to people, nna I take life generally as a theatre or a stage, where all of us are born and we are supposed to play our act on stage. We are playing different activities in this play called the earth. Ba bangwe ke dipolitician, ba bangwe ke business people, ba bangwe ke dipublic servants in different areas of discipline, ba bangwe ke baruti, jalo le jalo. Mongwe le mongwe o na le karolo e a e tshamekang mo botshelong. Mongwe le mongwe o na le buka e a e kwalang mo botshelong. Re batshameki mo seraleng ba ba tshamekang dikarolo tse di farologaneng. Therefore, when you are on scene one, you come and play your scene and you leave the stage. What is important is what do you do when you are on this stage. O tshamekile karolo ya gagwe ya botshelo. Modimo o ne a mo neile karolo e a tshwanetseng a e tshameke. O ile a kreiya correctly what is her role that she must play and she played it and she is gone.

What is important is, o tlogetse what legacy mo baneng ba gagwe ba ba neng ba le kwa ANC le ene le kwa mokgathong wa gagwe wa EFF. O re rutile eng sa botshelo se ka sone re tla tsamayang re se tshwere. Bana ba gagwe le ba a neng a tshela le bone o ba tlogetse lefa le le feng le ka lona ba tla mo gopolang gore fa a ne a le teng, ka 'tsatsi lengwe le tla nna le mathata e be le ipotsa gore fa a ne a le teng kana o ne a tle a re go diriwe eng. What it means literally, you are going to miss her and you will ask yourselves questions, fa a ne a le fa she will do this, she will do this. You are going to miss her. That is the unfortunate part.

Monate wa botshelo ke gore o ile kwa go Ramasedi. Go botlhokwa gore re dumalane gore loso le tshwanetse go nna teng, mme re tshwanetse gore re le amogele. Botlhoko ba teng ke fela gore bo tla re utlwisisa botlhoko, mme ka go re utlwisisa botlhoko jwa teng, ga re kitla re tlhoka go ka lela. Mme a re se lele jaaka batho ba ba senang tshepo mo Modimong gonne dilo tsotlhe tse di diragalang di diragala ka ntlha ya thata ya gagwe.

Go ba losika, makoko otlhe a a farologaneng, le yone Kokwaanotheomolao ya rona, molaetsa wa rona wa puso ke gore a re amogele gore se se diragetseng, se diragetse, ke thato ya Modimo mme re rapele ka thata gore rona ba re setseng mo lefatsheng, a re itharabologele, re tshelele mo Modimong. Re tshameke botshelo jo kamoso re se kitlang re ikotlhaya gore re paletswe ke go gopola gore rotlhe re bopilwe mo setshwanong sa Morena, re tshwanetse re tshelele ene. Madam Speaker, thank you very much.

English Translation Follows:

[It is important to know that we did not come to this world to stay. I think that is what we should be mindful of. I want the Dikolomela family to understand that death will always be there. It is a matter of an eventuality that one day we are going to die. What is different is when, how and that is what is important. There is no other way to meet our Creator except through death. We will not go to heaven in a helicopter, we will not fly to go to heaven, we will not get there through hiking cars, we would do that, but there is no other alternative except death.

I used to say to people, nna I take life generally as a theatre or a stage, where all of us are born and we are supposed to play our act on stage. We are playing different activities in this play called the earth. Some of us are politicians, some are business people, some are public servants

in different areas of discipline, some are pastors, etc. Each and every one of us has a role to play in this life. Everyone has a story to write in this life. All of us are actors performing different roles in this life. Therefore, when you are on scene one, you come and play your scene and you leave the stage. What is important is what do you do when you are on this stage.

She has played her role. God gave her a specific role to play in her lifetime. She knew what is her role that she must play and she played it and she is gone. What is important is, what legacy did she leave behind for the youth who worked with her in the ANC and also the ones who worked with her in the EFF party. What did she teach us about life that we can always lean on? What legacy did she leave behind for her children that can always be a reminder that if she was still alive and problems arise, what advice would she give to solve problems. What it means literally, you are going to miss her and you will ask yourselves questions, if she was still alive she will do this, she will do this. You are going to miss her. That is the unfortunate part.

We should be grateful that she is in heaven with God. We must all accept that death will always be there. Yes, it is very painful and we cry but we should not cry like people who do not have trust and hope in God. It is His will that we experience different circumstances.

The government of the North West wants to convey the message of condolence to the family, to the different political parties and to the Legislature, that they should accept what has happened. It is the will of God that it has happened and for us who are still alive we should pray for repentance and follow the ways of God. We should live a good life and not forget that we are all created in God's image, so that tomorrow we will not regret disobeying His ways. Madam Speaker, thank you very much.]

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Premier, Ntate [Mr] Mokgosi. We won't have Freedom Front, the Member has apologised. I will call MKP, Honourable Tsholo. Your three minutes.

HON. TSHOLO: Thank you very much Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, we must note that even if we convert here to give tribute to the late Honourable Meiki Dikolomela, we must acknowledge that this Provincial Legislature has done injustice to Honourable Dikolomela who served this particularly Legislature and the community at large with diligence

as there was no official funeral and this is what I said during the funeral, an injury to one political party is an injury to the rest of the political parties. We must note that.

Honourable Speaker, the family of Dikolomela, the uMkhonto weSizwe Party is deeply saddened and lost for words on the untimely passing of Honourable Modiegi Meiki Dikolomela, our fellow Member and dear colleague in this particular Legislature. Our sister, a progressive force to be reckoned with in the North West Province for many years. The North West Province has lost a selfless woman soldier, who has been committed to the advancement of the original, undiluted objectives of the freedom charter and the national democratic revolution. She was fearless Honourable Speaker, she was a trailblazer, she was a martyr for her cause, passionate in her work and very courageous as well as labouring in her convictions.

Honourable Speaker, MK extends love and condolences to the Dikolomela family, to the Economic Freedom Fighters family and to all who lived and worked with her. We join all the South African and North West Province community at large in prayer for the family to be comforted during difficult. We must also note that, Honourable late Dikolomela, her legacy probably inspired others, especially woman and she will be remembered as a heroine who gave her life for what she believed in.

Honourable Dikolomela will always be remembered as an activist, who was grounded in her community and a champion of total economic freedom for the majority of disposed Africans. Loyal, hardworking, humble approachable and committed. Indeed, a giant tree has fallen within the Economic Freedom Fighters. A communicator per excellence. She displaced amazing maturity and determination, she was always friendly and shall be missed for kind and generous spirit. She will be remembered for her sharp debate in the Legislature, even if she was attacked, she remained resilient and her presentation demonstrated a deep understanding of the tools of analysis and of community challenges.

HON. SPEAKER: You time is up Honourable Tsholo. Thank you very much. Chief Whip, you didn't do your work properly. It will be her maiden speech, she doesn't understand. Chief Whip will after the sitting orientate her how we do things in the Legislature. You will duly assist our Honourable Member. Honourable Kodisang, you have three minutes. If you can watch the watch there for your three minutes.

HON. KODISANG: Thank you Mme Mmusakgotla. Ke dumedisa Mopirimiri wa rona Rre Mokgosi, ke dumedise Mmusakgotla le motlatsi wa gagwe Rre Maine, ke dumedise semesegolo sa palamente, ke dumedise balekgotlha botlhe ba ba kokoaneng fa. Kwa bofelong ke dumedise boo-Dikolomela. [Thank you, Madam Speaker. Greetings to the Premier Mr Mokgosi, to the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker Mr Maine, to the Chief Whip of the Legislature, to the Council present here, and to the Dikolomela family.]

Madam Speaker, as today we are gathered here on the passing of the MPL, Honourable Modiegi Meiki Dikolomela of the EFF. Action SA in the North West is deeply saddened by the untimely passing of the Economic Freedom Fighter Member of the North West Legislature, the Honourable Modiegi Meiki Dikolomela. Through out her tenure, Honourable Dikolomela worked tirelessly to represent the interest of the people of the North West Province, advancing public accountability and strengthening democratic governance. Her passing is a loss felt, not only within her party, but also by all those committed to public service. Action SA extends its condolences to her family, friends and all those who worked closely with her. Honourable Dikolomela was laid to rest on Sunday 08 February 2026, at Ipeleng Location, Schweizer-Reneke, Mamusa Local Municipality. May her soul rest in peace. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Kodisang. I will now call Honourable Sonakile. You have eight minutes.

HON. SONAKILE: Ke a leboga membership. Kana ga o na le membership o leadership. [Thank you, Member. When you have a membership, you are a leader.] Thank you very much Speaker. Honourable Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Honourable Members, the Dikolomela family.

Death is not the extinguishing of a life but the lifting of a lamp because the dawn has come. Today we raise not only to mourn the passing of Honourable Modiegi Dikolomela, affectionately known as Ausi [Sister] Meiki but some of us used to call her Mizo. To honour a life that burnt with conviction, faith and quite strength. On behalf of the Democratic Alliance, we extend our deepest condolences to her family, her children whom she loved dearly, her comrades in the EFF and all who walked her journey. May you find comfort in knowing that her life left an imprint in this Legislature and in the hearts of many.

Honourable Dikolomela was a devoted woman of God. She was a loving mother. To those who didn't know her very well, she could appear reserved, even shy, but those of us who worked closely with her, knew another side. A principled, vocal and determined woman who spoke when it mattered. As this House sits and we sit again in other sittings, her microphone will be off but her courage will still echo here. Mizo was strong. I heard some people say at her funeral that she was not a fighter. I said nothing then, but today in this House today I think I must correct that on record. It is not coincidence that she wore the red beret of the EFF because she was a real fighter, even in spirit. Not the noisy kind, not the theatrical kind, but the dangerous kind, the one who stands when it matters.

If there is one thing that you cannot take away from her, is that she was grounded. We live in times where leaders, once elected begin to feel some sense of elevation above the people but Honourable Dikolomela lived among her people. She worked among the people and was found amongst them until the very end. That humility is a lesson to all of us across parties, including us in the DA about the true meaning of public.

I remember one particular engagement, where she showed an ANC Member, a former ANC Member of this House, real flames, to the extent that the then Honourable Deputy Speaker, Honourable Motsumi had to intervene. That was Mizo, that is why I am saying people who are saying that she was not a fighter have never seen anything. What that woman did to this House, we were all shocked. The Deputy Speaker had to intervene to stop what nearly turned into a fire in this House. That was a type of a person she was. She was calm, until principle was at stake and then she would be unshakable.

Midway through her life journey, scripture reminds us in 2 Timothy 4:7 "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Ke mathile ka tlala sebaka, ke lwanne ntwala e e molemo, go go setseng e se e le moqhaka wa hlolo [... henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness.] Truly she kept her faith, in her work, in her God, in her responsibilities and in her children and even in her political calling.

The last time I saw her was at the airport in Dubai, in November last year. She was returning from China with the DEDECT Committee while we were traveling with agriculture, so we met at the airport. She looked quite unwell, but she was smiling. She told me they had wanted to

remove her from the trip but she insisted on going despite not feeling well. Looking back now it almost feels like she understood the value of finishing her assignment.

Inside this House, my seat was right next to hers. That made it easy for us to exchange comments, share quite laughs and sometimes simply react to the drama unfolding before us. When debates became heated and ANC members will come and praise their government excessively, she will lean over and say, ba simolotse, a o a ba tlogela Sona? [Sona, they have started again, are you going to let them gloat just like that?] and then I will be propelled to just make a point of order because she had that subtle pressure, and because she was between myself and Honourable Moema, if I don't react, she goes to that side, Moema, o a ba tlogela? [Moema, are you going to let them gloat just like that?] and then you will see the House just erupting. It was because of that force that was between us. So, we are definitely going to miss that. We are going to miss her bravery, we must miss her bravado, her voice and those moments when you would simply turn and look at her in disbelief of what was happening.

Honourable Dikolomela served her people, she ran her race, she kept the faith. To the family, the DA extends a bandage, a bandage of healing, comfort and also of celebration of the life that was graciously borrowed to all of us. Scripture reminds us in Psalm 147:3 "He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds". May that divine bind your wounds in days ahead. Today we are just not mourning a Member of the Legislature, we are mourning the empty chair that will keep reminding us she should still be here. Ao Meiki, [Oh Meiki] sleep tight, goodnight Honourable Dikolomela. May her soul rest in eternal peace. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Sonakile. I will now call Honourable Botswe. Your ten minutes.

HON. BOTSWE: Honourable Speaker. Mmapaseka, Boipelo, Mpho Dikolomela; Mizo's sister, Mme [Madam] Boitumelo Ngidi; Mme [Madam] Morwesi Mokai Moruti; Leaders of the EFF representing all corners of the province of the North West Province; Members of the Executive Committee led by the Premier; fellow Members of this Provincial Legislature.

Today, we gathered with heavy hearts, yet revolutionary pride to pay tribute to a fearless servant of the people. Honourable Meiki Dikolomela, a former Member of the North West Provincial Legislature deployed by the Economic Freedom Fighters. She was not only a public

representative, but a mother to the struggle, a kind loving soul, a caring leader who dedicated her life, serve and uplift the lives of the community. In her, seated in this House, Honourable Speaker, you could see the people she represented, the domestic workers, the gardeners, the petrol attendants, the people of M'zwera, Ipelegeng Township, Lebaleng, Lomanyaneng, Kgabalatsane, Pitsedisulejang and the dejected masses of our people. For the period Mizo has been, she never lost her dignity or forgotten where she comes from.

Ausi [Sister] Meiki began her political journey in the African National Congress as an ordinary member. Through hard work and commitment, she rose to become an ANC Counsellor of Ward 8 in Mamusa. Serving her people diligently, however, she made a bold a decision to leave the ANC in 2015, when a clarion call was made in 2013 on what is to be done and the response from the people of South Africa was to form an alternative political party that will fight for the economic emancipation of our people. Mizo then responded by joining the Economic Freedom Fighter in 2015.

In the EFF, she did not demand position. She started as a ground force, worked tirelessly amongst her people. Her dedication saw her elected as a branch secretary in 2017. She later rose to become a member of the Provincial Command Team in 2019. She was deployed to the Provincial Legislature. Her deployment to the Legislature, was not for personal glory or material. She carried the radically, pro-poor mandate of the EFF to be the vanguard of the voiceless, the defender of the marginalised and the champion of service delivery for all black people, working class, residents of the North West Province. we stand proud to declare that she fulfilled the mandate with courage and excellency.

She spoke without fear, confronted injustice without hesitation and remained loyal to the revolution agenda of the economic in our life time. She served her people. Yet, in a painful and shameful of the state of the governance in our province, Honourable Dikolomela passes away while serving as a Member of Legislature. The very institution she served, failed to honour her and bury one of its own with dignity she deserves. This painful reality exposes the ANC led government that lacks compassion, unity and respect for public servants who dedicated their lives to the people.

Honourable Dikolomela lived in the Legislature House in Lowe, where services and maintenance appear to be centralised and prioritised only for ANC MPL's. Because she was

deployed by the EFF, she was subjected to humiliation, frustration and discriminatory treatment under the ANC led Department of Public Works. We always hear people say we will fight her until her grave. Indeed, we saw that. Re iponetse ka a rona matlho a a mabedi [we saw that with our own two eyes]. This Legislature failed to even contribute in burying Honourable Dikolomela. It was evident at her funeral that indeed the revolution will not be televised. This Legislature decided not to avail its media and communication unit for a live streaming of her funeral service because they knew that live streaming of a funeral of a Freedom Fighter is equal to allowing access to a petrol attendant, cleaners, mine workers and residents of Marikana to witness the funeral service of a revolutionary fighter.

Her House in Lowe was neglected, left in condition resembling a bush, with a basic maintenance ignored. She was denied the very service that should have been automatically provided to any member of Provincial Legislature, not because of she was underserving but because she represented a difference politically ideology. The cruelty of this discrimination becomes even clearer when few weeks after her passing, grass cutting and maintenance suddenly took place, conveniently as the State of the Province address is approaching. This exposes a government that only acts when there is a political convenience, not out of genuine care.

Se se utlwisang bothoko, ke gore some of the staff members tsa Legislature they have put Mme Dikolomela on their profile pictures, they received calls gore, why le tshwanetse go tsenya member wa EFF mo diprofile pictures tsa lona, you are not members of the EFF, you are members of the ANC, can you please remove that status. [The most painful part is that when some staff members of the Legislature put Madam Dikolomela on their profile pictures, they received calls reprimanding them of why should they put an EFF Member on their profile pictures and were ordered to remove her pictures] In this government that Honourable Meiki...

HON. SPEAKER: Just wait Honourable Botswe. Honourable Tsholo, Honourable Wessels, lets please respect the honouring of our Member, no matter how you feel on what a Member on the podium is saying, it is not for you to heckle that Member. For the spirit of the Honourable Dikolomela, let us honour it. Thank you Honourable Botswe, you can continue.

HON. BOTSWE: Thank you very much Speaker. Ga re makale [I am not surprised], this is what we are used to from the ANC. In this government that Honourable Meiki Dikolomela fought for, the answer is a resounding no. the value she stood for of fairness, equality, dignity and uncompromised service to the people are in direct opposition to the selective and factional government we witness today under the ANC led government. As the Economic Freedom Fighters, we remain resolute, we will not allow her struggle to be in vain. We will continue to expose injustice to confront discrimination and to fight for the government that serve all people equally regardless of their political affiliation.

The Economic Freedom Fighter, EFF will be tabling the Insourcing Bill before the Portfolio Committee on Public Service and Administration on 04 March 2026. Do you want to be part of it? Submit your written or oral submission before 24 February 2026 and clearly state your availability for 04 March 2026. This is what she stood.

Honourable Speaker, we want to thank Mizo's kids and family for allowing us and the people of this Province to share their mother and sisters with them. Honourable Meiki Dikolomela lived and died a revolutionary. She remained loyal to the cause of economic freedom and to the people of the North West Province until her last breath. May her revolutionary spirit guide us, may her courage inspire us, may her legacy strengthen and resolve. This year Honourable Speaker, it will be victory of that. I thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Botswe. I will now call the Chief Whip of the House, Honourable Rosho.

HON. ROSHO: Thank you very much Mmusakgotla [Speaker]. Tla ke tseye tšhono e go lemoga Tonakgolo ya rona, Rre Lazarus Mokgosi; ke lemoge khuduthamaga ya gagwe e e mo potapotileng le our leader of government business; ke lemoge the Deputy Speaker, Honourable Mokone Maine, ke lemoge baeteledipele ba makoko a dipolotiki a a leng ka fa gare ga palamente, [Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge our Premier, Mr Lazarus Mokgosi; acknowledge the Executive Council and our leader of government business. Let me also acknowledge the Deputy Speaker, Honourable Mokone Maine; and leaders of political parties present in the Legislature] all leaders of parties and I must sincerely acknowledge; ke lemoge [let me acknowledge] the leader of the Economic Freedom Fighters.

As the African National Congress, we are grieving with you. We are walking the path of the loss of one of our own. Lastly Honourable Chair, tla ke lemoge bana ba ga Honourable Dikolomela. Bana ba gagwe [let me acknowledge Honourable Dikolomela's children], the elder sister siblings, mmamogolo le mmangwane [the aunts], we want to say as the African National Congress, we know this family, we are not claiming the family as the ANC and our sincere and heartily condolences, we hope that you will find peace and with session gape, le tla kgona gore le [you will be able to] remind and celebrate the life of your mother and I must also accept all our officials, especially supported Portfolio Committees where Mme [Madam] Dikolomela participated, also support them and tell them that our sincere condolences from the African National Congress.

Madam Speaker, I am not playing to the gallery because we have lost one of our own. We have lost someone as the African National Congress we have enacted, we have raised. I think Honourable Premier said it mouthful when he started. I want to draw from one of our great gender activists, civil rights activist, Maya Angelou, in one of her poems when she said: "When great trees fall, rocks on distant hills shudder, lions hunker down in tall grasses and even elephants lumber after safety. When great trees fall in forests, small things recoil into silence, their senses eroded beyond fear. When great souls die, the air around us becomes light, rare, sterile. We breathe, briefly. Our eyes, briefly, see with a hurtful clarity. Our memory, suddenly sharpened, examines, gnaws on kind words unsaid, promised walks never taken".

It is a great privilege and deep honour, Honourable Members that I stand before you representing the African National Congress, which is a ruling party that works well with all the political parties to contribute in this important sitting celebrating the life of a great woman. A revolutionary in her own right, a gender activist, a people centred person, a humble soul, very silent in nature, reserved but an analyst of a special kind.

On behalf of the African National Congress, we like to formally extend our deepest condolences to the friends and family of Honourable Dikolomela, ausi [sister] Modiegi. Ke ne ke mmitsa ausi Modiegi [I used to call her sister Modiegi]. Also, to her political party, the Economic Freedom Fighters, we must also pass our condolences because you have lost one of your strategic stewards. She was very kind, very silent, very reserved, but one of the things Honourable Members that we must put on record about Honourable Dikolomela, she is one of the longest services Members in the Portfolio Committee of Economic Development.

She was an institutional memory if you don't know. She was able to actually empower us with information as and when we hold the Executive accountable. That was a rare breed that we found in our Portfolio Committee. She contributed immensely, you may look at her and think that she is not knowledgeable, she was knowledgeable. She would remind us that you know this matter we have discussed it in the Portfolio Committee in the previous administration and this is how it was resolved and you go to the researchers, they actually confirm what Honourable Dikolomela has said. She was our institutional memory in the Portfolio Committee of the Economic Development. She contributed immensely.

I actually stand before you with pride because Economic Development Portfolio Committee I am serving with, we have spent time of laughter and joy with her, together with Honourable Steenkamp and Honourable Nathan who made us not to sleep. She was not well but she fully recovered. As we landed back in South Africa, you could see Honourable Dikolomela she was lively, she was excited, she was jovial, she was very grateful for the journey, but she also expressed appreciation.

Madam Speaker, if I must tell on the support that we have given her as we prepared to depart to China. In her, we had girlish talks, we went out. Re ne re bitsana boausinyana when we were in China, re re hee ausinyana [when we were in China we called each other 'girl', we would say to each other 'hey girl']. We just enjoyed the study tour and issues that she learnt from China did a comparative study analysis and said you know if we should have done this in economic development, this is how we would be.

One of the issues, very observant and very strategic. Every time we go out to eat, I know that Honourable Steenkamp will move with Honourable Groenewald. They had their corner for breakfast. We had our own corner, myself and Honourable Dikolomela for breakfast and she said, o a itse these ones bona Chief Whip, o ba bone. Mare ba siame, a re dule fa wena ausi wa me re je breakfast [Chief Whip you must be careful of these ones. Anyway, it is okay, let us sit here and eat breakfast.]

One of the things that people don't know, she was, o ne a rata diaparo mme ole bagaetsho man [she liked clothes, she was stylish]. She was a snappy dresser. Before we left, we went out for a shopping with Nathan. I think we shopped almost for the whole night with Honourable

Steenkamp. There was a sale in some Adidas shop and I realised that wow, this woman she is a woman of style.

Madam Speaker, we are paying tribute to a gender activist, a smart lady, an analyst of a special kind that you would not realise until you get closer to her. The death of Honourable Dikolomela comes at a familiar time in our country and indeed for this institution too. The despair amongst South Africans is palpable as our people seek swift actions from the public representatives to deliver services. This country's wide anxiety about our future requires leaders of today to recommit themselves in word and duty to the very promises that we have made in 1994 as espoused by our forebears, of course at that time, we were building this revolutionary that left us while she was a member of EFF as the African National Congress. We are not claiming any victories.

It further requires us to interrogate what legacy has been left behind by people like Honourable Dikolomela and how best we can carry this baton and the path that she was carved for all of us in this Legislature especially with the memory, the institution, the insight that she had of the information and data within the Economic Development Portfolio Committee.

The African National Congress mourn the passing of a dedicated and tireless public representative who served her constituency in Schweizer-Reneke, Mamusa Local Municipality and the people of North West with wavering commitment and dedication. Of course, she was loyal to the African National Congress. She is been empowered to be able to be independent and think and make decisions. As a result, she was also able to join the Economic Freedom Fighters and she remained loyal to her party and we respected her for that even as and when we engaged with her but when coming to politics of women and gender mainstreaming, we shared a common vision. We had a common understanding that issues of patriarchy, there is no party-political position. We must advance this revolution together as women of the Legislature.

She was a fearless political activist who made significant contribution to advancing human rights, gender equality and democracy. Her contribution to the Legislature and its Committees as well as her work in the plenary was highly appreciated. Yes, we had to debate, we had to attack each other, I mean that is how it works, we represent the manifesto of our parties, but

we also need to demonstrate that we understand the ideology that we are advancing as the parties in the Legislature.

For the last seven years, she helped to establish the legislative system, she has made her contribution and I think also MEC for Social Development, the former Speaker would also attest to her participation and I think we appreciate that yourself and Dr Mohono, you have provided the support to her to empower her, to ensure that as women leaders, you have contributed to her position in advancing a revolutionary agenda which was actually informed by the EFF.

She made efforts to always be present in the Legislature despite her condition, even when she was very ill. I remember it was women's month, actually Speaker came to me and said we need to give Mma [Madam] Dikolomela. Mma [Madam] Dikolomela does not look ok but she was very confident, I think the theme was pink at that time, if you can recall Honourable Members, Honourable Suzy, you were there, MEC, she was on her pink jacket and it was this that says wow, I am here. That is why I am saying that she was a snappy dresser, a smart lady, a humble soul, a caring woman and she could connect with everybody, even when she was not well she could even respond to the invitations of the Legislature especially when coming to women and that is why I am saying that she was a real servant of the people, a people centred person.

Madam Speaker, as I come to close, I want to talk to the family of Mma [Madam] Dikolomela. Your sister was a friend to all of us. She has made her mark and hold that fondly to yourselves as you grieve her departure. To her three daughters, mama o le tlogeletse mola, gatang mo a gatileng teng bongwananke [your mother has laid a foundation, just follow on her footsteps].

God will walk you through the path and over time you will be able to talk about her and celebrate her life. As I close, I also want to say to our friends, the members of the Economic Freedom Fighters that, yes, we are in different political parties, but we are both grieving. We are both affected by the loss of Honourable Dikolomela. We might be in the ANC, but she is one of our own. If you go to Mamusa, you listen to members of the ANC talking about how ausi [sister] Modiegi was assisting and supporting people and advising, this is a great loss for all of us and sincere condolence to your good selves.

As I close Madam Speaker, ke rata gore ke tlogele tshika yotlhe ya go booRra Dikolomela, bo malome, bo rakgadi ba re kopaneng le bone and bana ga gagwe with a book of Romans 8:38-39 e e buang e re: a go senne sepe se se re kgaoganyang le lorato la Modimo. Modimo o atamela dipelo tse di thubegileng [I want to leave the entire Dikolomela family, the uncles and the aunts we have met and her children, with a message from the book of Romans 8:38-39 that says: Nothing can separate us from the love of God. God is closer to the broken hearted] and gather strength from today's engagement.

Because she was a gender activist, I want to go back to Maya Angelou's memories and say that: "And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms slowly and always irregularly. Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration. Our senses restored, never to be the same, whisper to us they existed, they existed. We can be. Be and be better. For they existed". May the revolutionary soul of this activist, a woman of prayer and faith rest in eternal peace. Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you very much Honourable Members for your words of comfort and support. I trust that should have provided comfort to the family. I also wish to extend our sincere appreciation to the family for attending this sitting and taking time to come and see where Honourable Dikolomela served with commitment and dedication in advancing the interests of the People of the North West Province. I pray that, this will also assist the family in finding closure.

To the EFF, our deepest condolences and thank you for your assistance in ensuring that the family was able to come. May the soul of Honourable Dikolomela rest in eternal peace and let's continue to honour her legacy through our services to the people of the North West. Thank you very much Honourable Members. The legacy that Honourable Dikolomela left in this Legislature and to the people of North West, it will forever be cherished.

The Honourable Members, before we adjourn the sitting, kindly make sure that you go through the table outside. HR people are there with a number of forms, so that everybody in this House, you know, Honourable Tsholo, you know that you have done the correct thing. If you don't do it, tomorrow don't blame anybody.

Honourable Members, this sitting is adjourned until the 26 February 2026 for the official opening of the Legislature and the State of the Province address. I thank you.

--SITTING ADJOURNED AT 10H02--