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LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION - EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

28 November 2024

NOTICE OF MOTION IN TERMS OF RULE 131 OF THE STANDING RULES OF ORDER OF THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

I hereby give notice that I will move in terms of rule 131 of the Standing Rules of Order of the EC Provincial Legislature that this house:

Noting that:

1. The Committee on the Rationalisation of areas under the jurisdiction of the Division of the Hight Court of South Africa and Judicial Establishments recommended significant changes to the area of jurisdiction to the seats of the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court and that the main seat of the Division be moved to Bhisho.
2. It is estimated that over 5000 people in Makhanda and surrounding areas could lose their jobs as a result of the proposed move.

Resolves that:

1. The Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature debates the viability, feasibility and practicability of moving the seat of the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court from Makhanda to Bhisho, based on the following factors:
 - a) The effect of the proposed move on established employment networks in and around Makhanda.
 - b) The effect of the proposed move on people employed within the legal and related sectors in and around the area of Makhanda.
 - c) The impact on the socio-economic effects of the proposed move.
 - d) The economic impact of the proposed move on Makhanda and the Makana Local Municipality.
 - e) The degree and level of public participation in terms of recommendations to move the seat of the Hight Court.
 - f) The projected cost of moving the High Court to Bhisho.
 - g) The readiness of infrastructure related to establishment of the Hight Court and related industries in Bhisho.
2. The Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature ensures that the best interests of all the people in the Eastern Cape are taken into consideration.
3. The Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature ensures that we protect jobs in the province and prevent any further loss of employment opportunities and any further decline of our economy in the Eastern Cape.

I so move.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. M. M. M.', written in a cursive style.