

1968-69

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 112

THURSDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 1969

- 1 The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable W. J. Aston) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 PETITIONS: Mr Everingham presented a petition from certain residents of Queensland praying that this House bring to the attention of the Government the need to return Army labrador tracker dogs to Australia when they are no longer required in Vietnam and that quarantine costs be borne by the Army.
- Mr Whittorn presented a petition from certain residents of Victoria praying that the Commonwealth Government place a complete ban on the export and local sale of kangaroo meat and fur products and that a Commonwealth body to control kangaroos be formed immediately.
- Mr Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) presented a petition from certain citizens of Australia praying that this House take immediate steps to abolish the means test for all people who have reached retiring age or who otherwise qualify for social service benefits or pensions.
- Petitions severally received and read.
- 3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:
- Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act—Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1968-69.
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Australian Capital Territory for year 1968-69.
- Tariff Board Act—Tariff Board—Report for year 1968-69, together with Summary of Recommendations and statement of action taken in respect of the Recommendations.
- 5 TOURISM IN AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE TO ABORIGINES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Wentworth (Minister in charge of Aboriginal Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's policy on the development of tourism in areas of significance to Aborigines.
- 6 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WHEAT INDUSTRY: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Patterson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Government to face up to its responsibilities to the wheat growers of Australia as evidenced by its refusal to provide an opportunity for the House to debate the critical and chaotic situation which has developed in the wheat industry".
- The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Patterson addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.

- 7 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That order of the day No. 1, government business (Grievance debate), be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 8 **FISHING INDUSTRY RESEARCH BILL 1969:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 167, dated 16 September 1969, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
Mr Anthony (Minister for Primary Industry) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.
- 9 **AIRCRAFT NOISE—SELECT COMMITTEE—REPORT (UNFINISHED INQUIRY)—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Bosman (Chairman) brought up a Report, together with Minutes of Proceedings, from the Select Committee on Aircraft Noise, being a report that the Committee had been unable to complete its inquiry.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr Bosman, Mr Swartz (Minister for Civil Aviation), Mr C. K. Jones, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr McIvor, Mr Arthur, Mr Duthie and Mr James, by leave, made statements with reference to the report.
Mr Mackay asked leave to make a statement with reference to the report.
Objection being raised, leave not granted.
- 10 **INCOME TAX BILL 1969:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr Garland), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 11 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS:** Mr Chaney (Chairman) brought up the following reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
Report relating to the proposed development of R.A.A.F. Base at Wagga, N.S.W. (Fourteenth report of 1969).
Report relating to the proposed construction of instructional buildings at H.M.A.S. *Cerberus*, Westernport, Vic. (Fifteenth report of 1969).
Severally ordered to be printed.
- 12 **CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 12 (1969):** Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 12 (1969).
Debate adjourned (Mr Crean), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
Tariff Board—Reports—
Citrus fruit juices.
Gang slitting machines.
Severally ordered to be printed.
- 14 **DISCHARGE OF TARIFF PROPOSALS:** Mr Nixon (Minister representing the Minister for Customs and Excise) moved, by leave—That Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 5 to 7 (1969) and Excise Tariff Proposals No. 1 (1969), constituting part of order of the day No. 43, government business, be discharged.
Question—put and passed.

- 15 **INCOME TAX BILL 1969:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

—————
In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion, by leave, of Mr Swartz (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the following amendments were made together, after debate:

Clause 3, page 2, at the end of sub-clause (1.), add the following definition:—

“ ‘the combined taxable income’, in relation to a taxpayer and his spouse, means—

- (a) where the spouse of the taxpayer has no taxable income—the taxable income of the taxpayer; or
- (b) where the spouse of the taxpayer has a taxable income—the sum of the taxable incomes of the taxpayer and his spouse less any amount by which the deduction allowable to the taxpayer in respect of the taxpayer’s spouse under section 82B of the Assessment Act would be increased if the separate net income of the spouse were reduced by an amount equal to the taxable income of the spouse.”

Clause 9, page 4, lines 25–38, omit sub-clause (3.), insert the following sub-clause:—

“ (3.) Where the taxable income of a taxpayer to whom this section applies does not exceed Four thousand one hundred and twenty-one dollars and during the year of income the taxpayer contributes to the maintenance of his spouse, being a person who is a resident of Australia during the whole of the year of income—

- (a) the amount of tax payable by the taxpayer by reason of the last three preceding sections shall not exceed the amount calculated in relation to the combined taxable income of the taxpayer and his spouse in accordance with the rates prescribed for the purposes of this sub-section by the Seventh Schedule, less any rebate or credit to which he is entitled; or
- (b) if the combined taxable income of the taxpayer and his spouse does not exceed Two thousand two hundred and sixty-two dollars, no tax is payable by the taxpayer.”

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

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The House resumed; Mr Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Swartz, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 **INCOME TAX (PARTNERSHIPS AND TRUSTS) BILL 1969:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Swartz (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

- 17 **BOOK BOUNTY BILL 1969:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Suspension of standing orders: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Bill being further proceeded with.

Question—put and passed.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Erwin, the Bill was read a third time.

- 18 STATES GRANTS (PETROLEUM PRODUCTS) BILL 1969: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Suspension of standing orders: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Bill being further proceeded with.

Question—put and passed.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Erwin, the Bill was read a third time.

- 19 STATES GRANTS (DWELLINGS FOR AGED PENSIONERS) BILL 1969: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Mr Speaker announced the receipt of message No. 168, dated 9 September 1969, from His Excellency the Governor-General recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clause 1—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr Lucock reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 20 ADJOURNMENT: Mr G. D. Erwin (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

FRIDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 1969

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes to one o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 18 September 1969, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for post office purposes—

Berri, South Australia.

Punthari, South Australia.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Ordinances—1969—

No. 15—Family Provision.

No. 16—Administration and Probate.

No. 17—Child Welfare.

No. 18—Workmen's Compensation (No. 3).

No. 19—Housing.

No. 20—Fishing.

No. 21—Medical Practitioners Registration.

Regulation—1969—No. 7 (Public Health Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Armstrong, Mr Beazley, Mr Birrell, Mr Bonnett, Mr J. F. Cairns, Mr Collard, Mr Connor, Mr Courtney, Mr Freeth, Mr Harrison, Sir Wilfrid Kent Hughes, Mr O'Connor, Mr Peters, Mr Stokes, Mr Turner and Mr Webb.

A. G. TURNER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives