

## AUSTRALIA

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 16

TUESDAY, 30 MARCH 1976

1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) and Mr Aldred—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government reverse the decision to cut 1975-76 overseas development assistance, reaffirm Australia's commitment of assistance of a minimum of 0.7% of G.N.P. and establish an independent statutory authority to administer such assistance.

Mr Hodges and Mr Jarman—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Bungey—from certain citizens of Australia praying that payments under the National Employment and Training System be re-adjusted to the equivalent of the average adult male award wage.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.

Mr Lucock—from certain residents of the Hastings Shire and the Port Macquarie and Camden Haven areas, N.S.W., praying that the Australian Heritage Commission be appointed urgently and grants be given to community organisations concerned with conservation.

Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Cadet forces be re-instated.

Mr Thomson—from certain electors of the Division of Leichhardt in terms similar to the last preceding petition.

Mr Millar—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the export of mineral sands from Fraser Island be prohibited and the Queensland Government and other bodies be assisted to develop and conserve the natural environment of the Island.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes be not re-introduced.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Aboriginal land claims—Reports by the Interim Aboriginal Land Commissioner on claims for land at—

Emery Point (known as Goondal), Darwin, dated 29 August 1975.

Kulaluk, dated 23 June 1975.

Lot 5027, Town of Darwin, dated 21 July 1975.

Supplejack Downs, dated 10 September 1975.

Pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Act—Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Commission—Fourteenth Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1974–75.

Social Welfare Commission Act—Social Welfare Commission—Progress report on Social Welfare Manpower, dated November 1975.

- 5 **POPULATION POLICY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to longer-term population goals and growth rates and the development of population policies, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:  
Population policy—Ministerial statement, 30 March 1976.  
Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation) moved—That the House take note of the paper.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Innes), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 6 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL:** A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:  
26 March 1976—Message No. 23—States Grants (Fruit Canneries) 1976.
- 7 **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND THE WORK TEST—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 23 March 1976*), viz.:  
Unemployment benefit and the work test—Ministerial statement, 23 March 1976—  
Debate resumed.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Ruddock), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 8 **MOTOR VEHICLE POLICY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Howard (Minister representing the Minister for Industry and Commerce), by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to the Government's policy decisions on the motor vehicle industry, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:  
Motor vehicle policy—Ministerial statement, 30 March 1976—  
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Scholes), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 9 **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND THE WORK TEST—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 23 March 1976*), viz.:  
Unemployment benefit and the work test—Ministerial statement, 23 March 1976—  
Debate resumed.  
Debate adjourned (Mr Wentworth), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 10 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:  
**MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:**  
We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign,

and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Dr Jenkins, viz.*—That the following words be added to the Address: “, but note that—

- (a) the Speech makes no acknowledgment of the financial pre-eminence of the House of Representatives;
- (b) the Speech makes no reference to the need for action to ensure that there cannot be a recurrence of the Constitutional crisis which threatens the continuation of the Australian Parliamentary system, and
- (c) the proposals outlined in the Speech are so framed as to cause a major transfer of resources from middle and low income families to those on higher income levels”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Address be agreed to—put and passed.

Mr Speaker informed the House that it would be ascertained when it would be convenient for His Excellency the Governor-General to receive the Address in Reply, and honourable Members would be informed accordingly.

11 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

30 March 1976—Message—

No. 19—Dried Vine Fruits Levy Amendment 1976 (*without requests*).

No. 20—States Grants (Housing Assistance) 1976.

12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Newman (Minister for Repatriation) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11.00 p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

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PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 30 March 1976, pursuant to statute:

Canberra College of Advanced Education Act—Statute—No. 31—Courses and Awards Amendment No. 12.

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—R. G. Eberhard.

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Crown Lands Ordinance—Statement of reasons by Minister for partial revocation of land reserved at Alice Springs, N.T.

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr K. M. Cairns, Mr Groom\* and Mr King.

\* On leave

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N. J. PARKES,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives