

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 49

WEDNESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 1976

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- 1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Mr Lucock) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 PETITIONS: The Acting Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Martin, Mr Morris, Mr Stewart and Mr A. P. Whitlam—
from certain citizens praying that the M.V. *Australian Trader* be restored to the Tasmanian service.
 - Mr Beazley, Dr Jenkins and Mr L. K. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be maintained.
 - Mr Garrick, Mr Jacobi and Mr Wallis—from certain citizens praying that the previous Government's undertaking on the taxation of moneys due to the Thalidomide Foundation Limited be honoured.
 - Mr J. L. McMahon, Mr Morris and Mr A. P. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be maintained, advertising on the A.B.C. be rejected, public funding of the Commission be developed and any general inquiries into broadcasting be conducted publicly.
 - Mr Street (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations) and Mr Baillieu—
from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
 - Mr L. R. Johnson and Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that the 1976-77 Budget be re-drafted to provide for economic recovery within the guidelines laid down in the 1975-76 Budget.
 - Mr Abel—from certain citizens praying that a licence be granted to 2RDJ FM Community Radio to operate a public access radio station to service the mid-western suburbs of Sydney.
 - Mr Baillieu—from certain citizens praying that further mining and export of uranium, except for bio-medical purposes, be banned and the Australian Atomic Energy Commission be transformed into an Australian Energy Commission.
 - Dr Cass—from certain citizens 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 Connolly—from certain citizens praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.
 - Mr Giles—from certain electors praying that chiropractors' fees be covered by health insurance and be tax deductible.
 - Mr Groom—from certain citizens praying that the Industries Assistance Commission proposals for the apple and pear industry be rejected and the alternative proposals put forward by the industry be adopted.
 - Mr Haslem—from certain citizens praying that support for child care be continued and expanded.
 - Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the principles of Medibank be strengthened and extended from general revenue.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Newcastle, N.S.W., praying that the Government place immediate orders with the Newcastle State Dockyard and implement the plan to build a graving dock in Newcastle.

Mr Simon—from certain citizens praying that the Community Health Centre program be continued and permanent accommodation be provided for the centres.

Mr Wallis—from certain citizens praying that cuts in the budget of the Children's Commission be restored and no further cuts be made in children's services.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS—PUBLICATION OF PAPER: Mr Acting Speaker, pursuant to statute, presented: Audit Act—Report of the Auditor-General for year 1975–76, accompanied by the Treasurer's Statement of receipts and expenditure.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—

(1) That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act* 1908, authorises the publication of the Report of the Auditor-General for the year 1975–76, and

(2) That the paper be printed.

Question—put and passed.

The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Dairy industry marketing arrangements, dated 9 September 1976.

Telecommunications equipment, dated 9 April 1976.

Pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Police Act—Commonwealth Police Force—Report for year 1974–75.

Poultry Industry Assistance Act—Eleventh Annual Report, for year 1975–76.

Repatriation Act—Repatriation Commission—Report for year 1975–76.

5 INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY CO-OPERATION — PAPERS AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Anthony (Minister for Overseas Trade), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Agreement to establish the Intergovernmental Council of Copper Exporting Countries.

Fifth International Tin Agreement.

International Cocoa Agreement 1975.

International Coffee Agreement 1976—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement with reference to international commodity co-operation.

6 COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Committee on Overseas Professional Qualifications — Seventh Report, dated December 1975—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the activities of the committee.

Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bouchier), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

7 INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's attitude to the entry of children from overseas adopted by Australian residents.

Mr Bowen, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

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

14 September 1976—Message—

No. 95—Loan (No. 3) 1976.

No. 96—Administrative Changes (Consequential Provisions) 1976.

No. 98—Foreign Takeovers Amendment 1976.

9 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER: Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That leave of absence for 2 months be given to the honourable Member for Bonython (Mr Nicholls) on the ground of ill health.

Question—put and passed.

10 OPPOSITION WHIPS: Mr E. G. Whitlam (Leader of the Opposition) informed the House that, during the absence of Mr Nicholls (Opposition Whip), owing to illness, and Mr James (Deputy Opposition Whip), owing to Parliamentary business overseas, Mr L. R. Johnson would act as Opposition Whip and Mr L. K. Johnson as Deputy Opposition Whip.

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—UNEMPLOYMENT CRISIS: Mr Acting Speaker informed the House that both Mr Willis and Mr Neil had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, he had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Willis, namely, “The Government’s perfunctory response to the unemployment crisis”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 DEFENCE ESTABLISHMENT, ZETLAND, N.S.W.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr McLeay (Minister for Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Development of a navy supply centre and army workshop facility at defence establishment, Zetland, N.S.W.

Question—put and passed.

13 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AGED PERSONS HOSTELS AMENDMENT BILL 1976: The following message from the Senate was reported:

Mr Acting Speaker,

Message No. 97

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Aged Persons Hostels Act 1972–1974’*”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,

TOM DRAKE-BROCKMAN

Canberra, 14 September 1976

Deputy-President

Ordered—That the amendments be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, forthwith.

In the committee

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE

No. 1—Page 2, clause 4, lines 6 to 8, leave out the clause, insert the following clause:

“4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from sub-section (1) the words ‘approval of the hostel under section 5 of this Act’ and substituting the words ‘the making of the grant or within

Terms and conditions of grants.

such further period as the Director-General fixes having regard to the circumstances of a particular case'.”

No. 2—Page 2, after clause 4, insert the following new clause:

“4A. Section 10 of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following sub-section:— Period of operation.

“(2) Where—

- (a) an approval under section 5 was given, within the period referred to in sub-section (1), with respect to a building proposed to be erected on a particular site proposed to be acquired by the organization concerned; and
- (b) the Director-General is satisfied that, by reason of exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the organization, the organization has been unable to acquire that site,

the Director-General may, in his discretion, at the request of the organization, vary the approval by substituting a reference to another site for the reference to the first-mentioned site and, thereupon, that approval has effect as so varied.’.”

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security), the amendments were agreed to.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr I. L. Robinson reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hunt, the House adopted the report.

14 NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 1976: 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.

Mr Stewart addressing the House—

Closure: Mr Bouchier moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (the Acting Speaker, Mr Lucock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 77

Mr Abel	Mr Fife	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Adermann	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Giles	Mr Lynch	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anthony	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baillieu	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Baume	Mr Graham	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Birney	Mr Groom	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bouchier	Mr Hamer	Mr W. McMahan	Mr Staley
Mr Bradfield	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hodges	Mr Macphee	Mr Sullivan
Mr Burr	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Thomson
Mr Cadman	Mr Holten	Mr Millar	Mr Viner
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr Wentworth
Mr Carige	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil	Mr Wilson
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman	Mr Yates
Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr Nixon	
Mr Drummond	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr O'Keefe	
Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr Peacock	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Mr Porter	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Dr Richardson	Mr Fisher

NOES, 25

Mr Armitage	Mr Garrick	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahan	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Jacobi	Mr Stewart	
Dr Cass	Dr Jenkins	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. K. Johnson
Mr Crean	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—was put accordingly, 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.

Dr Cass moved the following amendment: Pages 5–8, omit clause 13.

Debate continued.

Mr Hayden addressing the committee—

Closure: Mr Bouchier moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Giles, in the Chair)—

AYES, 75

Mr Abel	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Dr Richardson
Mr Adermann	Mr Fife	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Gillard	Mr Lynch	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baume	Mr Graham	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Birney	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Bouchier	Mr Hamer	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bradfield	Mr Haslem	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hodges	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr Holten	Mr Martyr	Mr Thomson
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	Mr Viner
Mr Carige	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	Mr Wentworth
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	Mr Wilson
Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	Mr Yates
Mr Drummond	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr O'Keefe	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Mr Porter	Mr Fisher

NOES, 25

Mr Armitage	Mr Garrick	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Jacobi	Mr Stewart	
Dr Cass	Dr Jenkins	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. K. Johnson
Mr Crean	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the clause proposed to be omitted stand part of the Bill—being accordingly put—

The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Giles, in the Chair)—

AYES, 75

Mr Abel	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Dr Richardson
Mr Adermann	Mr Fife	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Garland	Mr Lusher	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Gillard	Mr Lynch	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baume	Mr Graham	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Birney	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Bouchier	Mr Hamer	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bradfield	Mr Haslem	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hodges	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Burr	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr Holten	Mr Martyr	Mr Thomson
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	Mr Viner
Mr Carige	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	Mr Wentworth
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	Mr Wilson
Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	Mr Yates
Mr Drummond	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr O'Keefe	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Ellicott	Mr Kelly	Mr Porter	Mr Fisher

NOES, 25

Mr Armitage	Mr Garrick	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Jacobi	Mr Stewart	
Dr Cass	Dr Jenkins	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. K. Johnson
Mr Crean	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Giles reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), the House adopted the report.

Mr Hunt, by leave, moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Mr Hayden addressing the House—

Closure: Mr Bouchier moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be put now—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Drummond, in the Chair)—

AYES, 73

Mr Abel	Mr Garland	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Adermann	Mr Giles	Mr Lusher	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Gillard	Mr Lynch	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baillieu	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Baume	Mr Graham	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Birney	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr Bradfield	Mr Hamer	Mr McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Haslem	Mr W. McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Burr	Mr Hodges	Mr McVeigh	Mr Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Holten	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	Mr Wentworth
Mr Carige	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr Chapman	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	Mr Yates
Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	
Dr Edwards	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Nixon	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Ellicott	Mr Katter	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Bouchier
Mr Falconer	Mr Kelly	Mr Porter	Mr Fisher
Mr Fife	Mr Killen	Dr Richardson	

NOES, 25

Mr Armitage	Mr Garrick	Dr Klugman	Mr Willis
Mr Bowen	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Bryant	Mr Hurford	Mr Morris	
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Jacobi	Mr Stewart	
Dr Cass	Dr Jenkins	Mr Uren	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. K. Johnson
Mr Crean	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Bill be now read a third time—was put accordingly, and passed—Bill read a third time.

15 HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 1976: 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—

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Dr Cass moved the following amendment: Clause 10, pages 4 and 5, Schedule 2, Head of Agreement 5, omit “and the agreement may make provision for limiting the obligation of the Commonwealth referred to in paragraph 4 in respect of a period by reference to a budget in respect of that period approved in accordance with the agreement and any variation of that budget so approved, but, if the agreement makes such a provision, it may authorize the Minister to approve further payments under the provision made in accordance with paragraph 4 where he is satisfied that circumstances justify those payments”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drummond reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 1976: 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.

Message from the Deputy of the Governor-General: Message No. 81, dated 10 September 1976, from His Excellency the Deputy of the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Dr Cass, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Clause 3, pages 1 and 2, omit “medibank private” (wherever occurring), substitute “supplementary”.

Clause 7—

Page 3, line 3, omit the heading “PART IIA—MEDIBANK PRIVATE”, substitute “PART IIA—MEDIBANK BENEFITS FUND AND HOSPITAL BENEFITS FUND”.

Pages 3 to 5, omit “medibank private” (wherever occurring), substitute “supplementary”.

Clause 8, page 5, line 34, omit “medibank private”, substitute “supplementary”.

Clause 9, page 6, omit “medibank private” (wherever occurring), substitute “supplementary”.

Clause 10, pages 6 and 7, omit “medibank private” (wherever occurring), substitute “supplementary”.

Clause 12, pages 7 and 8, omit “medibank private” (wherever occurring), substitute “supplementary”.

Mr Hunt (Minister for Health) addressing the committee—
It being 10.30 p.m.—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Drummond reported accordingly.

Adjournment negated: The question was accordingly proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

The House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Debate continued.

Amendments negated.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Drummond reported accordingly.

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

17 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bonnett, Mr Brown, Mr Bungey, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr Chipp, Mr Cohen*, Mr Connolly, Mr Corbett*, Mr Cotter, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Fry, Mr Innes, Mr Jull, Mr Lloyd, Mr Martin, Mr Nicholls*, Mr Scholes and Mr Snedden.

* On leave

J. A. PETTIFER,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives