

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 112

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST 1979

- 1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Kerin, Mr Lcock, Mr Lusher, Mr Ruddock, Mr Sainsbury and Mr West—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the 1980 level of education expenditure to Government schools be restored and increased in real terms.
 - Mr Gillard, Mr Lusher, Mr Ruddock and Mr Sainsbury—from certain electors of New South Wales praying that the *Commonwealth Employees (Employment Provisions) Act 1977* be repealed.
 - Mr Haslem—from certain electors of the Australian Capital Territory in the same terms as the last preceding petition.
 - Mr Hurford, Mr Jacobi, Mr Wallis and Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that subsidies to pre-schools be increased.
 - Mr Fraser and Mr Hurford—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of oil exploration within the Great Barrier Reef region and that the entire region be declared a Marine Park.
 - Mr Aldred—from certain members and ex-members of the citizens forces of Australia praying for the resumption of the award of several distinctive reserve forces decorations and medals for long service and good conduct.
 - Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to dismiss the present members of the Broadcasting Tribunal and replace them with Janet Strickland and representatives of other broadcasting and television bodies.
 - Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.
 - Mr Falconer—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.
 - Mr Hurford—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Security Intelligence Organization Bill 1979 be withdrawn.
 - Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that pensions be increased twice yearly in line with rises in the consumer price index and that certain other social security benefits be granted.
 - Mr Ruddock—from certain members of the Marsden High School Parents and Citizens Association, N.S.W., praying that a library/science block be constructed at Marsden High School.
 - Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that fees for tertiary study not be reintroduced and that the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme not be threatened by the introduction of a loans scheme of student financing.
 - Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that pension payments be restored to twice-yearly adjustments and that pensions and unemployment benefits be raised to 30% of average weekly earnings.
 - Mr Viner—from certain citizens praying that the importation of seal products be prohibited and that a protest be sent to the Canadian Government objecting to the slaughter of the Harp Seal.

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

Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.

Mr Young—from certain electors of the Australian Capital Territory praying that compensation benefits paid to injured Commonwealth Government employees be increased and then adjusted automatically.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Education and Training for Social Welfare Personnel in Australia—Report by Ms Eva Learner, dated May 1978.

International Bauxite Association—

Protocol to the Agreement establishing the International Bauxite Association, done at Kingston, Jamaica, 26 April 1976.

Reservations by Australia to the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities of the International Bauxite Association.

Amendments to the Agreement establishing the International Bauxite Association.

Training of skilled workers in the metal and electrical trades in Japan, Korea, Hong Kong and The Philippines—Report of Australian Tripartite Study Mission, dated 30 October 1978.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—Marine sciences and technologies in Australia: Immediate Issues, dated July 1979.

Canned Fruits Export Marketing Act—Australian Canned Fruits Board—53rd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1978.

National Water Resources (Financial Assistance) Act—Agreements relating to financial assistance to—

New South Wales for projects by way of the mitigation of flooding on coastal rivers, a flood mitigation study, Murray Valley salinity control and water hyacinth control, dated 13 June 1979.

Queensland in respect of the construction of distribution works in the Bundaberg Irrigation Scheme, dated 12 June 1979.

Western Australia in respect of the construction and provision of a water supply for Port Hedland from the De Gray River, dated 8 June 1979.

Trade Union Training Authority Act—Australian Trade Union Training Authority—3rd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 1 July 1977 to 31 July 1978.

Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act—

Agreement relating to financial assistance to Queensland for flood mitigation works on Kedron Brook, Brisbane, dated 6 June 1979.

Project approval and notice, dated 6 June 1979, relating to the agreement with South Australia of 24 October 1975 in relation to the provision of financial assistance to South Australia for the Adelaide water treatment program.

5 TOURISM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Lynch (Minister for Industry and Commerce), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of budgetary measures concerning tourism, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Tourism—Ministerial statement, 22 August 1979.

Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate ensued.

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

- 6 OVERSEAS STUDENTS, ADULT MIGRANT EDUCATION AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES—
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of budgetary measures concerning overseas students, adult migrant education and immigration services.

Dr Cass, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

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

21 August 1979—Message—

No. 292—High Court Justices (Long Leave Payments) 1979.

No. 293—Judges (Long Leave Payments) 1979.

- 8 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT: Mr Bungey (Chairman) presented the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to the proposed relocation of the Royal Australian Navy Research Laboratory (RANRL) from Rushcutters Bay to the Royal Edward Victualling Yard premises, Pyrmont, N.S.W. (5th report of 1979).

Ordered to be printed.

- 9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HEALTH CARE COSTS: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Dr Klugman had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The spiralling and inequitable costs of health care for the average family, caused by the Government’s erratic and ill-considered policies”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Dr Klugman addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 10 STATES GRANTS (ROADS) AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Roads) Act 1977*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Nixon moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PERSONAL INCOME TAX SHARING) AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Mr Howard (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act 1976*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Howard moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 12 LOAN BILL 1979: Mr Howard (Treasurer), for Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to authorize the borrowing and expending of moneys for defence purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Howard moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 13 NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1979: Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend section 84 of the *National Health Act 1953*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Hunt moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 14 MIGRATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1979: Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Migration Act 1958*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr MacKellar moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 15 NITROGENOUS FERTILIZERS SUBSIDY AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Mr Fife (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Nitrogenous Fertilizers Subsidy Act 1966*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Fife moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 16 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—NORTHERN TERRITORY SUPREME COURT (REPEAL) BILL 1979: Message No. 288, dated 21 August 1979, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to repeal the ‘Northern Territory Supreme Court Act 1961’, and to provide for related matters*”.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 17 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—JUDICIARY AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Message No. 289, dated 21 August 1979, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Judiciary Act 1903’*”.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Message No. 290, dated 21 August 1979, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Federal Court of Australia Act 1976’*”.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 19 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—JUDGES’ PENSIONS AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Message No. 291, dated 21 August 1979, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Judges’ Pensions Act 1968’*”.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Morris), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 20 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That order of the day No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 21 **QUARANTINE AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1979:** 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.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), the Bill was read a third time.
- 22 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 Mr Ellicott (Minister for the Capital Territory) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.
- 23 **OMBUDSMAN AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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 Ellicott (Minister for the Capital Territory), the Bill was read a third time.
- 24 **REMUNERATION TRIBUNALS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1979:** 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 Ellicott (Minister for the Capital Territory), the Bill was read a third time.
- 25 **COMMONWEALTH INSCRIBED STOCK AMENDMENT BILL 1979:** 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 of Mr MacKellar (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), by leave, the following amendments were made together:

Amendment—

Clause 3, page 1, lines 9–12, and page 2, lines 1–4, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

“3. Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by omitting paragraphs (a) and (aa) and substituting the following paragraphs:

Power to
create stock

‘(a) raising money by way of loan;

‘(aa) converting any loan—

(i) raised by the Commonwealth; or

(ii) raised by a State in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Agreement,

into any other loan so raised; and’; and

(b) by adding at the end thereof the following sub-section:

‘(2) Stock created pursuant to paragraph (1) (a) shall not be issued or sold unless—

(a) authority to borrow the moneys to be raised by the issue or sale is granted by an Act; or

(b) the issue or sale is for the purpose of carrying out an obligation of the Commonwealth under the Financial Agreement.’”.

New clause—

Page 3, after clause 8 add the following new clause:

‘9. Section 53 of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section substituted:

‘53. (1) The Auditor-General shall inspect and audit the accounts and ^{Audit} records of Registries established under section 14 and shall forthwith draw the attention of the Treasurer to any irregularity disclosed by the inspection and audit that is, in the opinion of the Auditor-General, of sufficient importance to justify his so doing.

‘(2) The Auditor-General may, at his discretion, dispense with all or any part of the detailed inspection and audit of any accounts or records referred to in sub-section (1).

‘(3) The Auditor-General shall, at least once in each year, report to the Treasurer the results of the inspection and audit carried out under sub-section (1).

‘(4) The Auditor-General or a person authorized by him is entitled at all reasonable times to full and free access to all accounts and records of the Registries established under section 14.

‘(5) The Auditor-General or a person authorized by him may make copies of, or take extracts from, any such accounts or records.

‘(6) The Auditor-General or a person authorized by him may require any person to furnish him with such information in the possession of the person, or to which the person has access, as the Auditor-General or authorized person considers necessary for the purposes of the functions of the Auditor-General under this section, and the person shall comply with the requirement.

‘(7) A person who contravenes sub-section (6) is guilty of an offence and is punishable, upon conviction, by a fine not exceeding \$200.’”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr Drummond reported accordingly.

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

26 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 6 to 9, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.

27 NAVIGATION AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 L. R. Johnson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

28 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport) 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.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 22 August 1979, pursuant to statute:

- Departure Tax Collection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 167.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1).
- Law Reform Commission Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 168.
- Phosphate Fertilizers Bounty Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1979, No. 166.
- Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
Business and Consumer Affairs—B. W. Pannell.
Health—V. I. Archer, M. J. Clair, J. J. Gregg, L. O. Long.
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Ordinances—1979—
No. 24—Liquor (Amendment) (No. 2).
No. 25—Child Welfare (Amendment) (No. 2).
Regulations—1979—No. 13 (Pounds Ordinance).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bowen, Mr C. R. Cameron, Mr FitzPatrick and Mr J. L. McMahon.

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