

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 145

WEDNESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 1980

-
- 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 **DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR D. J. CURTIN):** Mr Speaker informed the House of the death, on 4 February 1980, of Mr Daniel James Curtin, a Member of this House for the Division of Watson from 1949 to 1955 and the Division of Kingsford-Smith from 1955 to 1969.
As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.
 - 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Adermann, Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Falconer, Mr Lloyd and Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.
 - Mr Burns and Mr Giles—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.
 - Mr C. K. Jones and Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be maintained and Federal Government support for its activities be increased.
 - Mr FitzPatrick—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that medical research funds for the study of muscular dystrophy be increased.
 - Mr Fry—from certain residents and public transport users of the Australian Capital Territory praying that the decision to close certain ACTION bus ticket sales outlets be rescinded.
 - Mr Howe—from certain electors of Victoria praying that the *Commonwealth Employees (Employment Provisions) Act 1977* be repealed.
 - Mr C. K. Jones—from certain citizens praying that positive policies be adopted to reduce unemployment and that certain social security benefits be granted.
 - Dr Klugman—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 Morris—from certain citizens praying that Government proposals to sell publicly owned enterprises be rejected.
 Petitions received.
 - 4 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Mr MacKellar (Minister for Health) was acting as Minister for Foreign Affairs.
 - 5 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 6 **PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION STUDY—STATEMENT BY MR SPEAKER:** Mr Speaker made a statement informing the House of the appointment of a firm of consultants to analyse the information needs of Senators and Members and the Parliament generally and to report on possible applications of automated systems in meeting those needs.

- 7 CHRISTMAS ISLAND PHOSPHATE INDUSTRY—REPORT AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr J. E. McLeay (Minister for Administrative Services), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Christmas Island phosphate industry—Commission of Inquiry—Report, dated 15 February 1980—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report.

Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Mr Innes was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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

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

22 November 1979—Message—

- No. 354—Queensland Grant (Special Assistance) 1979.
- No. 355—Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs 1979.
- No. 356—Australian Federal Police (Consequential Amendments) 1979.
- No. 357—Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Amendment 1979.
- No. 358—Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 4) 1979.
- No. 359—Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 5) 1979.
- No. 360—Loan (Income Equalization Deposits) Amendment 1979.
- No. 361—Income Tax Laws Amendment 1979.
- No. 362—Income Tax (Rates) Amendment 1979.
- No. 363—Income Tax (Individuals) 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 364—Income Tax (Companies and Superannuation Funds) 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 365—Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- No. 366—Loan (Farmers' Debt Adjustment) Repeal 1979.
- No. 367—States and Northern Territory Grants (Rural Adjustment) 1979.
- No. 368—Canned Fruits Marketing 1979.
- No. 369—Canned Fruits Levy 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 370—Canned Fruits Levy Collection 1979.
- No. 371—Canned Fruit (Sales Promotion) Amendment 1979.
- No. 372—Excise Tariff Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- No. 373—Excise Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- No. 374—Wheat Marketing 1979.
- No. 375—Wheat Levy (No. 1) 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 376—Wheat Levy (No. 2) 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 377—Wheat Industry Stabilization (Reimbursement of Borrowing Costs) Amendment 1979.
- No. 378—Wheat Products Export Adjustment Amendment 1979.
- No. 379—Wheat Tax 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 380—Wheat Research Amendment 1979.

23 November 1979—Message—

- No. 381—Sugar Agreement 1979.
- No. 382—States Grants (Schools Assistance) 1979.
- No. 383—States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Amendment (No. 2) 1979.
- No. 384—Homes Savings Grant Amendment 1979.
- No. 385—Patents Amendment (Patent Cooperation Treaty) 1979.
- No. 386—Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- No. 387—Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 4) 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 388—Customs Tariff Validation (No. 2) 1979 (*without requests*).

- No. 389—Customs Tariff (Coal Export Duty) Amendment 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 390—Customs Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- No. 391—Excise Tariff Validation 1979 (*without requests*).
- No. 392—Public Accounts Committee Amendment 1979.
- No. 393—Customs Amendment (No. 4) 1979.
- No. 394—Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment 1979.
- No. 395—Australian Security Intelligence Organization Amendment 1979.

9 MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

23 November 1979—Message—

No. 215—

- Defence Amendment 1979.
- Naval Defence Amendment 1979.
- Air Force Amendment 1979.
- Defence Force (Retirement and Death Benefits Amendments) (No. 2) 1979.

No. 216—

- Remuneration Tribunals Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- High Court of Australia 1979.
- Judiciary Amendment (No. 2) 1979.
- Evidence Amendment 1979.
- Remuneration and Allowances 1979.
- Ministers of State Amendment 1979.
- Air Navigation (Charges) Amendment 1979.

27 November 1979—Message No. 217—Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment 1979.

28 November 1979—Message—

No. 218—

- Appropriation (No. 1) 1979–80.
- Appropriation (No. 2) 1979–80.

No. 219—

- Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 4) 1979.
- Income Tax Assessment Amendment (No. 5) 1979.
- Loan (Income Equalization Deposits) Amendment 1979.
- Income Tax Laws Amendment 1979.
- Income Tax (Rates) Amendment 1979.
- Income Tax (Individuals) 1979.
- Income Tax (Companies and Superannuation Funds) 1979.

No. 220—

- Queensland Grant (Special Assistance) 1979.
- Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs 1979.
- Australian Federal Police (Consequential Amendments) 1979.
- Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Amendment 1979.

29 November 1979—Message No. 221—

- Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
- Loan (Farmers' Debt Adjustment) Repeal 1979.
- States and Northern Territory Grants (Rural Adjustment) 1979.
- Canned Fruits Marketing 1979.
- Canned Fruits Levy 1979.
- Canned Fruits Levy Collection 1979.
- Canned Fruit (Sales Promotion) Amendment 1979.
- Excise Tariff Amendment (No. 3) 1979.

Excise Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
 Wheat Marketing 1979.
 Wheat Levy (No. 1) 1979.
 Wheat Levy (No. 2) 1979.
 Wheat Industry Stabilization (Reimbursement of Borrowing Costs) Amendment 1979.
 Wheat Products Export Adjustment Amendment 1979.
 Wheat Tax 1979.
 Wheat Research Amendment 1979.

4 December 1979—Message—

No. 222—National Companies and Securities Commission 1979.

No. 223—

Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
 Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 4) 1979.
 Customs Tariff (Coal Export Duty) Amendment 1979.
 Customs Amendment (No. 3) 1979.
 Customs Tariff Validation (No. 2) 1979.
 Excise Tariff Validation 1979.

No. 224—

Customs Amendment (No. 4) 1979.
 Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment 1979.
 Australian Security Intelligence Organization Amendment 1979.

No. 225—

Sugar Agreement 1979.
 States Grants (Schools Assistance) 1979.
 States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Amendment (No. 2) 1979.
 Homes Savings Grant Amendment 1979.
 Public Accounts Committee Amendment 1979.

No. 226—Patents Amendment (Patent Cooperation Treaty) 1979.

No. 227—Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment 1979.

6 December 1979—Message No. 228—

Australian National University Amendment 1979.
 Canberra College of Advanced Education Amendment 1979.

10 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Cairns (Chairman) presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:

Australian Industry Development Corporation—Report, dated 13 December 1979, together with copies of extracts from the minutes of proceedings, the transcript of evidence and certain submissions authorized for publication.

Mr Cairns and Mr J. J. Brown, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

11 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAX CUTS: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Willis had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The need for tax cuts to relieve the increased burden of taxation that has occurred under the Fraser Government".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Willis addressing the House—

Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 73

Mr Adermann	Mr Corbett	Mr Hunt	Mr Nixon
Mr Anthony	Mr Cotter	Mr Hyde	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Drummond	Mr Johnston	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier*	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Bungey	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Short
Mr Burns	Mr Fisher	Mr Lynch	Mr Simon
Mr Burr	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Giles	Mr McLean	Mr Street
Mr Cairns	Mr Gillard	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Thomson
Mr Calder	Mr Goodluck	Sir William McMahan	Mr Viner
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Mr Macphee	Mr Wilson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Haslem	Mr Martyr	Mr Yates
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges*	Mr Moore	
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Neil	
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Newman	

NOES, 33

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Dr Jenkins	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Fry	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Uren
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Wallis
Mr Bryant	Mr Howe	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr West
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Humphreys	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Willis
Dr Cass	Mr Hurford	Mr Kerin	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr L. B. McLeay	
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr J. L. McMahan	
Dr Everingham	Mr James	Mr Morris	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- 12 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED: Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Deputy Leader of the Opposition moving that this House condemns the Government for not allowing discussion of the matter of public importance raised by the honourable Member for Gellibrand.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Mr Viner (Leader of the House) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 73

Mr Adermann	Mr Cotter	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baume	Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Birney	Mr Drummond	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier*	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bungey	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Shipton
Mr Burns	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Garland	Mr Lynch	Mr Simon
Mr Cadman	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Staley
Mr Cairns	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Street
Mr Calder	Mr Goodluck	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Thomson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahan	Mr Viner
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges	Mr Martyr	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Moore	
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	
Mr Corbett*	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman	

NOES, 34

Mr Armitage	Mr Fry	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr Bryant	Mr Howe	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Humphreys	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Dr Cass	Mr Hurford	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr L. B. McLeay	Mr Young
Dr Everingham	Mr James	Mr J. L. McMahon	
Mr FitzPatrick	Dr Jenkins	Mr Martin	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion for the suspension of the standing orders be agreed to—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 34

Mr Armitage	Mr Fry	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr Bowen	Mr Holding	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Scholes
Mr Bryant	Mr Howe	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Humphreys	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Wallis
Dr Cass	Mr Hurford	Mr Keating	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr L. B. McLeay	Mr Young
Dr Everingham	Mr James	Mr J. L. McMahon	
Mr FitzPatrick	Dr Jenkins	Mr Martin	

NOES, 74

Mr Adermann	Mr Corbett*	Mr Hunt	Mr Newman
Mr Anthony	Mr Cotter	Mr Hyde	Mr Nixon
Mr Baillieu	Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baume	Mr Dobie	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Birney	Mr Drummond	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bourchier	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bungey	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Shipton
Mr Burns	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Garland	Mr Lynch	Mr Simon
Mr Cadman	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Staley
Mr Cairns	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Street
Mr Calder	Mr Goodluck	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Thomson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Viner
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Wilson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges*	Mr Martyr	Mr Yates
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Moore	
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Neil	

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

13 AFGHANISTAN—INVASION BY SOVIET UNION: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Viner (Leader of the House)—That this House—

- (1) condemns the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union as a gross violation of the United Nations Charter and of Afghanistan's non-aligned status; as involving acts of aggression and tyranny; as having a critically destabilizing effect on the region; and as potentially the gravest threat to international peace and security since 1945;
- (2) notes that a significant majority of world opinion, including Islamic opinion, has viewed the invasion with grave concern—as expressed in resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on 14 January 1980 and at the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on 29 January 1980;

- (3) calls for the immediate unconditional and total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in order to enable that country to regain its sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned status; and to permit its people to determine their own form of government free from external intervention, oppression, coercion or other constraint;
- (4) with a view to the furtherance of the aforementioned objectives, urges all independent-minded nations to take action separately or in concert to register with the Government and people of the Soviet Union, their abhorrence of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and
- (5) urges the provision of humanitarian relief assistance to alleviate the hardships of the Afghan refugees in co-ordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and calls for the attainment of conditions necessary to permit the voluntary return to their homes of the Afghan refugees—

Debate resumed by Mr Hurford who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “region” be omitted with a view to substituting the following:

- “(2) notes that a significant majority of world opinion, including Islamic opinion, has viewed the invasion with grave concern—as expressed in resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on 14 January 1980 and at the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers on 29 January 1980;
- (3) calls for the immediate unconditional and total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in order to enable that country to regain its sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned status; and to permit its people to determine their own form of government free from external intervention, oppression, coercion or other constraint;
 - (4) with a view to the furtherance of the aforementioned objectives, urges all independent-minded nations to take action separately or in concert to register with the Government and people of the Soviet Union, their abhorrence of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan;
 - (5) urges the provision of humanitarian relief assistance to alleviate the hardships of the Afghan refugees in co-ordination with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and calls for the attainment of conditions necessary to permit the voluntary return to their homes of the Afghan refugees;
 - (6) views with extreme concern the possibility that strategic arms limitation may be abandoned and an uncontrolled arms race resumed;
 - (7) urges the Government to recognise the serious problems which exist in Australia’s own region and which have a direct effect upon Australia and its future;
 - (8) calls on the Government to take a diplomatic initiative directed at convening an international conference which would have the objective of demilitarising Kampuchea and allowing the people of that country to determine their own future, and
 - (9) condemns the double standard applied by the Prime Minister in sanctions against the Soviet Union by harassing Australian athletes while permitting continued trade”.

Debate continued.

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

14 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ACTS INTERPRETATION AMENDMENT BILL 1980: Message No. 398, dated 20 February 1980, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Acts Interpretation Act 1901’*”.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate, by leave, ensued.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 Mr Viner moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 15 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AMENDMENTS INCORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1980:
 Message No. 399, dated 20 February 1980, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Amendments Incorporation Act 1905’*”.

Bill read a first time.
 Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate, by leave, ensued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 On the motion of Mr Viner, the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—STATUTORY RULES PUBLICATION AMENDMENT BILL 1980:
 Message No. 400, dated 20 February 1980, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Statutory Rules Publication 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, by leave, ensued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
 Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
 Mr Viner moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 17 ADJOURNMENT: It being past 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—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 Aldred, Dr Blewett, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Groom, Mr Katter, Mr Peacock, Mr Shack and Mr Sinclair.

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