

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 52

TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 1981

1 The House met, at 1.45 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 Adermann, Mr Anthony, Mrs Child, Mr Cowan, Mrs Darling, Mr Free, Mr Hall, Mr Hicks, Mr Humphreys, Mr Kerin, Mr J. L. McMahon, Sir William McMahon, Mr Mildren, Mr Millar, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Scholes, Mr Uren and Mr West—from certain citizens praying that the Community Youth Support Scheme be continued.

Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Duffy, Mr Fisher, Mr Holding, Mr Macphee and Mr Shipton—from certain residents of Victoria; Mr Goodluck—from certain residents of Chigwell, Tas., and Mr Scholes—from certain residents of Geelong, Vic., in similar terms.

Mr Charles, Mrs Child, Mr Cunningham, Mr Duffy, Mr Holding, Mr Kent, Mr Mildren, Mr Milton, Dr Theophanous and Mr Willis—from certain citizens praying that insulin syringes for diabetics be made available on the National Health Scheme and insulin prescriptions revert to 10 bottles.

Mr Howe, Dr Jenkins, Mr Kerin and Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to re-introduce a system of health care based on ability to pay and that access to health care be based on medical need.

Mr Beazley, Dr Everingham and Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to sell Trans Australia Airlines be rejected.

Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Hawke and Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that immediate and positive action be taken to avert further poverty and suffering in the community by raising the level of all pensions and benefits to the poverty line and by reconsidering the recent Government decisions taken in relation to the health system.

Mr Bradfield and Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that post-secondary tuition fees not be introduced, the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme be extended to meet the financial needs of students and certain other action be taken in relation to tertiary and adult education.

Mr Cross and Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that requests for export permits covering mineral sand products from Moreton Island, Qld, be refused.

Mr Hawke and Mr Tambling—from certain citizens praying that the basic pension be increased to 30% of average weekly earnings and the rent allowance be increased to \$20 a week.

Mr Bradfield—from certain citizens praying that funds not be allocated for the development of roads or dams in South-West Tasmania but be provided instead for the preservation of the area.

Mr Bradfield—from certain members of the Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association of Australia and others praying that the provision of funds for research into epidermolysis bullosa be restored.

- Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to preserve the identity of the Queensland Conservatorium of Music as it is presently constituted.
- Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that the Institute of Early Childhood Development be allowed to continue operating as an independent and autonomous institution.
- Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that sanitary products for women be brought under the scrutiny of the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee and certain other actions be taken in regard to the possible threat posed to the health of women by toxic shock syndrome.
- Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that the proposed 17½ per cent sales tax on manufactured pet foods be withdrawn.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that no approval be given to the application of Trans Australia Airlines or any other airline for a relaxation or withdrawal of the curfew at Eagle Farm Airport, Qld.
- Mr Dean—from certain members of Parents and Citizens Associations praying that the Schools Commission and Curriculum Development Centre be retained in their original forms and certain funding proposals and schools improvement programs be retained.
- Mr Dobie—from certain citizens praying that certain recommendations of the Law Reform Commission discussion paper on Privacy and Personal Information be rejected and some other means be found to protect children from the excessive abuse of some parents.
- Mr Duffy—from certain citizens praying that immediate and positive action be taken to avert any further effects of increases in interest rates on home mortgage loans.
- Mr Hawke—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to grant a service pension to ex-service personnel who did not serve overseas.
- Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that the value of family allowances be restored and then indexed and the spouse rebate be increased to \$1,342 per year.
- Mr Howe—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be maintained, community health program funding and services be increased, the means test be abandoned and certain other action be taken in relation to the health care needs of the community.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that funding be restored to the Commonwealth Experimental Building Station.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that the 1981 Budget amendments to sales tax legislation be repealed and the Sales Tax Amendment Bills be withdrawn.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to increase the lower end of the income test scale.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to extend the existing curfew at Brisbane's International Airport be refused and siting plans for the proposed new runway be reconsidered.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that legislation be introduced to require labelling of perfumes, cosmetics and toilet preparations to indicate any use of animal ingredients during manufacture.
- Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to deny unemployment benefits to unemployed persons under 18 years of age be unconditionally withdrawn and that certain other action be taken in regard to unemployment benefits and employment policies.
- Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the latest increase in taxes be stopped and a referendum be held on taxes and interest rates.
- Mr Johnson—from certain citizens praying that post-secondary tuition fees not be re-introduced and visa charges upon private overseas students be removed immediately.

Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to bring all family allowances and social security benefits up to levels which would make them equivalent in real monetary terms to the time when they were set.

Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that interest rate relief be given by way of tax concessions or a subsidy on mortgage repayments.

Mr Macphee—from certain citizens praying that refugee status be granted to the 2 Chilean refugees, Fernando Del Carmen Cerda Labarca and Pedro Jose Belmar Aquilera.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be re-introduced.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that the decision to pass the responsibility of funding of women's and children's refuges and health and crisis centres to the States be reversed and certain other actions be taken to consolidate the existing services and develop new initiatives for women and children in the community.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that the importance of the club industry be recognised and that any proposal to increase the excise on beer be rejected.

Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that disabled people be recognised as citizens who should have equal rights and that certain actions be taken to enable adequate planning of services needed by partially or totally disabled people to be undertaken.

Mr Viner—from certain citizens praying that sufficient funds be provided to State education systems to ensure the maintenance of the current high quality of education.

Petitions received.

3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

4 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1981-82—ESTIMATES COMMITTEES C, D AND E:**

Mr Speaker informed the House that he had received advice from the Acting Government Whip and the Acting Opposition Whip of the following alterations in the nomination of Members to Estimates Committees:

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE C:** To consider the proposed expenditure for the Department of Administrative Services—

(Members nominated, *see* page 456).

Mr Charles in substitution for Mr Mountford, discharged.

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE D:** To consider the proposed expenditure for the Department of Primary Industry—

(Members nominated, *see* page 457).

Mr E. C. Cameron in substitution for Mr Shack, discharged.

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE E:** To consider the proposed expenditure for the Department of Housing and Construction—

(Members nominated, *see* page 457).

Mr Duffy in substitution for Mr Mountford, discharged.

5 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS:** Mr Bungey (Chairman) presented the following reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to C.S.I.R.O. marine laboratories at Hobart, Tas. (4th report of 1981).

Report relating to the proposal for Armoured Centre redevelopment, Puckapunyal, Vic. (8th report of 1981).

Severally ordered, after debate, to be printed.

6 **EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved, pursuant to notice—That paragraph (9) of the resolution of appointment of the Standing Committee on Expenditure be omitted and the following paragraph substituted:

“(9) That 2 members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of that sub-committee.”

Question—put and passed.

- 7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY:** Mr Speaker informed the House that both Mr Hurford and Mr Cadman 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 Hurford, namely, "The damaging uncertainty created in the motor vehicle manufacturing industry by the confusing statements of Government spokespersons".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hurford addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 8 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY TAXATION (ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL 1981:** Mr Howard (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Capital Territory Taxation (Administration) Act 1969*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 9 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY TAX (LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS) BILL 1981:** Mr Howard (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act relating to the imposition of tax in respect of certain life insurance business having a connection with the Australian Capital Territory.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 10 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY TAX (VEHICLE REGISTRATION) BILL 1981:** Mr Howard (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act relating to the imposition of tax in respect of the registration of certain vehicles in the Australian Capital Territory.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 11 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY TAX (INSURANCE BUSINESS) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1981:** Mr Howard (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend section 6 of the *Australian Capital Territory Tax (Insurance Business) Act 1969*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 12 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 13 (1981):** Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory) moved Customs Tariff Proposals No. 13 (1981).

Mr Hurford 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.

- 13 PAPERS:** Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Miscellaneous manufacturing—Certain refractory products, dated 29 May 1981 (No. 264).

Railway and tramway locomotives, rolling stock, etc., dated 13 July 1981 (No. 272).

- 14 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICE:** Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the honourable Member for Mitchell moving forthwith the motion relating to public funding of political parties of which he has given notice for the next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

- 15 **ELECTIONS—PUBLIC FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES:** Mr Cadman moved—That this House—

- (1) deploras the funding of political parties for the purposes of elections, because it reduces the funding for housing, health, education, handicapped and early childhood programs;
- (2) endorses as a prerequisite the holding of referenda to allow the expression of public opinion on the funding of political parties for elections;
- (3) recommends that the Commonwealth Grants Commission Act be amended to take into account election funding when examining relativities between the States for revenue sharing, and
- (4) proposes that the Federal Government investigate the possibility of immediately reducing general revenue grants to States which adopt election funding by amounts equal to that spent by State Governments for funding political parties.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr C. K. Jones, in the Chair)—

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Mr Adermann	Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Anthony	Mr Cowan	Mr Hyde	Mr Peacock
Mr Baume	Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr Porter
Mr Birney	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Rocher
Mr Bradfield	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr Killen	Mr Sainsbury
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Bungey	Mr Giles	Mr Lusher	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr Groom	Mr MacKellar	Mr Street
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Tambling
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr McLean	Mr Thomson
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hicks	Sir William McMahon*	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges*	Mr McVeigh	Mr Viner
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Moore	Mr White
Mr Coleman	Mr Howard	Mr Nixon	Mr Wilson

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Mr Armitage	Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr Morrison
Mr Beazley	Mr Duffy	Dr Jenkins	Mr Mountford
Dr Blewett	Dr Everingham	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Free	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scott
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Fry	Mr Kent	Dr Theophanous
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Hawke	Mr Kerin	Mr Wallis
Dr Cass	Mr Holding	Dr Klugman	Mr West
Mr Charles	Mr Howe	Mr J. L. McMahon*	Mr Willis
Mrs Child	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Mildren	
Mr Cunningham	Mr Hurford	Mr Milton	
Mrs Darling	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	

\*Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- 16 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1981-82—BUDGET DEBATE:** 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 Willis moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the Bill, the House rejects the budget strategy because:

- (1) it deliberately reduces the rate of economic growth;
- (2) it increases unemployment;
- (3) it adds substantially to the rate of inflation;
- (4) it relies on a massive private capital inflow;
- (5) it fails to tackle the real causes of rising interest rates, and
- (6) it increases the burden of taxation to the highest level in our history, and, in addition, deploras the Government’s callous disregard of the millions of Australians living in poverty and its continued attempt to reduce the living standards of the great majority of Australians”.

Debate continued.

Mr Jacobi addressing the House—

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17 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 10.30 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 1.45 p.m.

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 15 September 1981, pursuant to statute:

Audit Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 259.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for collection of information—1981—No. 4—New topic to be included in the population survey in South Australia, October 1981.

Defence Act—

Determinations—1981—

No. 39—Attendance Allowance.

No. 40—Recreation Leave bonus.

No. 41—Payments in lieu of recreation leave, etc., upon the death of a member or former member.

Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 257.

International Organizations (Privileges and Immunities) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 261.

Life Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 262.

Naval Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 258.

Public Service Arbitration Act—

Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission—Determinations accompanied by statments regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1981—

Nos. 303 and 304—Administrative and Clerical Officers’ Association, Commonwealth Public Service (C Nos. 619–625/80).

No. 305—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers) (C Nos. 619–625/80).

Nos. 306 to 309—Federated Clerks Union of Australia (C Nos. 619–625/80).

Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1981—

No. 310—Australian Workers’ Union.†

No. 311—Association of Draughting, Supervisory and Technical Employees.

No. 312—Australian Institute of Marine and Power Engineers.

No. 313—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.

No. 314—Electrical Trades Union of Australia.

- No. 315—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.  
 Nos. 316 to 318—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.  
 No. 319—Australian Broadcasting Commission Senior Officers' Association.  
 No. 320—Australian Building Construction Employees' and Builders Labourers' Federation.†  
 Nos. 321 and 322—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.  
 No. 323—Federal Firefighters' Union.  
 No. 324—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†  
 No. 325—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia and another.  
 No. 326—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.  
 No. 327—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.  
 Nos. 328 and 329—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association and Australian Journalists Association.  
 Nos. 330 and 331—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.  
 No. 332—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.†  
 No. 333—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.†  
 No. 334—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.†  
 No. 335—Association of Draughting, Supervisory and Technical Employees.  
 No. 336—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.  
 No. 337—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.†  
 No. 338—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.  
 No. 339—Professional Radio and Electronics Institute of Australasia.  
 No. 340—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.  
 No. 341—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.†  
 No. 342—Federated Liquor and Allied Industries Employees Union of Australia.  
 No. 343—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.  
 Nos. 344 and 345—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).  
 No. 346—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.  
 (†Not accompanied by statement)
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—  
 Ordinances—1981—  
 No. 22—Money Lenders (Amendment).  
 No. 23—Long Service Leave (Building and Construction Industry).  
 No. 24—Long Service Leave (Amendment).  
 No. 25—Motor Omnibus Services (Amendment).  
 Regulations—1981—  
 No. 18—(Building and Services Ordinance).  
 No. 19—(Motor Omnibus Services Ordinance).
- States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendment of the schedule to the subsidy scheme in relation to the State of New South Wales, dated 1 September 1981.
- Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—By-laws—  
 Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts)—Amendment No. 13.  
 Telecommunications (Community Calls)—Amendment No. 11.  
 Telecommunications (General)—Amendments Nos. 28, 29.  
 Telecommunications (Staff)—Amendment No. 35.
- Territory Authorities (Financial Provisions) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 260.
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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bouchier\*, Mr Campbell, Mr Cohen, Mr Cross, Dr Edwards, Mr Falconer, Mr Johnson\*, Mr Keating, Mr McLeay, Mr Robinson and Mr Young.

\* On leave

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