

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 100

WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 1982

-
- 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 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
 - By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:
 - Department of Science and Technology—Report for year 1981-82.
 - Marine Sciences and Technologies Research Grants Scheme—Report by Queen's Fellowship and Marine Research Allocations Advisory Committee of grants approved for 1981-82.
 - Pursuant to statute:
 - Commonwealth Functions (Statutes Review) Act—Legislative Drafting Institute—Report and financial statements together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 1 July to 8 December 1981.
 - 4 **ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House that the Government Whip had nominated Mr I. M. D. Cameron to be a member of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs in place of Mr Robinson.
 - 5 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—UNEMPLOYMENT—A.C.T.U. PROPOSALS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Hawke had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's out-of-hand and counter-productive rejection of the A.C.T.U. proposals for attempting constructively to address the problem of unemployment in this country".
 - The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 - Mr Hawke addressed the House.
 - Discussion ensued.
 - Discussion concluded.
 - 6 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr J. J. Brown, Dr Cass and Mr Fry—from certain citizens praying that the Federal Government take all possible steps to prevent the destruction of the lower Gordon and Franklin rivers in south-west Tasmania.
 - Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Katter and Mr Spender—from certain citizens praying that the minimum level at which income tax is first payable be raised to \$4,500, the levels at which the higher rates of tax apply be proportionately increased and certain other action be taken to assist taxpayers.

Dr Blewett and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to apply a sales tax or an excise on wine be rejected.

Mr J. J. Brown and Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that income permitted to pensioners before disallowance of fringe benefits and the amount allowed before the amount of pension received is reduced, be increased to a realistic level and also linked to the Consumer Price Index.

Mr J. J. Brown and Mr Coleman—from certain citizens praying that adequate funds be provided for all children's services including vacation programs.

Mr Coleman and Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that the value of family allowances be restored, then indexed and the spouse rebate be increased to \$1,392 per year.

Mr Coleman and Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that all provisions of the Heritage Act and the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act be fully complied with in respect of national estate areas.

Dr Blewett—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to reduce interest rates.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that Australia Day be celebrated on 26 January each year and that a public holiday be declared on that day, regardless of which day of the week it falls.

Mr Burr—from certain citizens praying that no imposts be made on the wine industry.

Mr Coleman—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill 1981 be passed.

Mr Peacock—from certain citizens praying that all maximum wholesale petrol price increases sought or granted be refused or repealed, a single maximum price be established and certain action on oil parity pricing be taken.

Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that tax indexation on personal income tax scales be introduced and certain other action be taken in respect of taxation, pensions and interest rates.

Petitions received.

- 7 PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS:** Sir James Killen (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, government business take precedence of general business on each day of sitting until the Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 1982-83, the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 1982-83 and the Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill 1982-83 have passed all stages in the House.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 IMMIGRATION (UNAUTHORIZED ARRIVALS) ACT—DATE OF EXPIRATION:** Mr Hodges (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), pursuant to notice, moved—That, for the purposes of any Proclamation that may be made by the Governor-General before 30 September 1982 under section 31 of the *Immigration (Unauthorized Arrivals) Act* 1980, this House resolves that the date to be fixed as the date at the expiration of which that Act shall cease to be in force be 30 September 1983.

Question—put and passed.

- 9 SPECIAL PROSECUTORS BILL 1982:** Mr N. A. Brown (Minister Assisting the Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for Special Prosecutors.

Bill read a first time.

Mr N. A. Brown moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 10 **SALES TAX AMENDMENT BILLS (NOS. 1 TO 9) 1982:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bills be now read a second time—
- Debate resumed by Mr Willis who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the Bills the House expresses its concern at the Government’s actions in again increasing sales taxes, which increases will have adverse consequences in regard to inflation, the equity of the tax system, and living standards”.
- Debate continued.
- Amendment negatived.
- Question—That the Bills be now read a second time—put and passed—Bills together read a second time.
- Leave granted for third readings to be moved forthwith.
- On the motion of Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory), the Bills were together read a third time.
- 11 **SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** 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.

On the motion of Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory), the following amendment was made, after debate: Schedule, page 2, after clause 1 insert the following clause:

“1A. Item 107A in the First Schedule is amended by omitting from paragraph (1) (c) ‘item 107’ and substituting ‘item 6 in the Third Schedule’.”

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Millar reported accordingly.

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

- 12 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1982-83—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 Mountford addressing the House—

Adjournment negatived: It being 10 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Sir James Killen (Leader of the House) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Mr Mountford continued his speech.

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

- 13 **ADJOURNMENT:** Sir James Killen (Leader of the House) moved—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 10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Dobie, Mr Falconer, Mr Howard, Mr Keating, Dr Klugman, Sir Phillip Lynch, Mr McMahon, Mr Robinson and Mr Sainsbury.

D. M. BLAKE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives