

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 5

TUESDAY, 10 MAY 1983

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- 1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) 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 Braithwaite, Mr Cadman, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Dr Charlesworth, Mr Dobie, Mr Drummond, Mr Fisher, Mr Free, Mr Gayler, Mr Lloyd, Mr McVeigh, Mr Millar, Mr Porter, Mr Rocher, Mr Ruddock and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the Government refrain from ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
  - Dr Blewett, Mr Bowen and Mr Hollis—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that podiatry services be extended to cover all pensioners.
  - Mr Braithwaite, Mr Brumby and Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that alcoholic wines be taxed to a degree comparable to other alcoholic beverages, no tax be imposed on non-alcoholic wines and imposts on all alcoholic beverages be adjusted annually.
  - Mr Baldwin—from certain citizens praying that theatre in Australia be supported by the increase of grants to a realistic level.
  - Dr Blewett—from certain citizens praying that the requirement for declarations to be completed by pensioners and health care cardholders when presenting prescriptions be abolished.
  - Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the findings of the major Airport Needs of Sydney Committee be endorsed and proposals for an airport at Scheyville, N.S.W., be rejected.
  - Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that Tony and Jennie Rice be granted permanent residency in Australia.
  - Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that carcass trade be promoted and that exports of live animals for slaughter be banned.
  - Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that a Royal Commission be established to investigate the health and other problems of Australian Vietnam veterans exposed to toxic chemicals during the Vietnam war.
  - Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the Macedonian language be used in Government multi-lingual publications and be taught in secondary schools and tertiary institutions.
  - Mr Moore—from certain citizens praying that the importation of marine mammal by-products be banned and an international ban on the slaughter of marine mammals be supported.
  - Mr Morrison—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that legislation be enacted to ban the advertising of alcohol from commercial television and radio.

Mr Scott—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Parliament require General Motors-Holden to continue its operations at the Woodville Plant, S.A.

Petitions received.

- 3 **DISTINGUISHED VISITOR:** Mr Speaker informed the House that the Honourable Francis Hilly, M.P., President of the Western Provincial Assembly and Chief Government Whip of the Solomon Islands National Parliament, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitor a warm welcome.
- 4 **HANSARD—INCORPORATION OF UNSPOKEN MATERIAL—STATEMENT BY MR SPEAKER:** Mr Speaker made a statement concerning the incorporation of unspoken material in *Hansard*.
- 5 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 6 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:  
 Australia-China Council—Report for year 1981-82.  
 Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies Act—Council of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1981-82.  
 Department of Transport and Construction—Report for year 1981-82.  
 National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act—Plan of management of Uluru (Ayers Rock-Mount Olga) National Park, together with copies of representations received and comments on the representations.  
 Repatriation Act—Repatriation Review Tribunal—Report for year 1981-82.
- 7 **ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs:  
 Mr Blanchard, Mr Campbell, Mr Gorman, Mr Hand and Mr O'Neil had been nominated by the Government Whip, Mr Andrew and Mr Porter had been nominated by the Opposition Whip and Mr I. M. D. Cameron had been nominated by the National Party Whip.
- 8 **ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Environment and Conservation:  
 Mr Chynoweth, Mr R. F. Edwards, Mr Milton, Mr A. A. Morris and Mr Reeves had been nominated by the Government Whip, Mr Burr and Mr Connolly had been nominated by the Opposition Whip and Mr Robinson had been nominated by the National Party Whip.
- 9 **ROAD SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Standing Committee on Road Safety:  
 Mr Brumby, Dr Charlesworth, Mrs Darling, Mr Gorman and Mr Wells had been nominated by the Government Whip, Mr Dobie and Mr Goodluck had been nominated by the Opposition Whip and Mr Katter had been nominated by the National Party Whip.
- 10 **LIBRARY COMMITTEE:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That, in addition to Mr Speaker, *ex officio*, Mr Andrew, Mr Blanchard, Mr Cross, Mr Maher and Mr O'Keefe be members of the Library Committee.  
 Question—put and passed.
- 11 **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That Mr Andrew, Mr Brumby, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Gear, Mr Lindsay, Mr McGauran and Dr Theophanous be members of the Publications Committee.  
 Question—put and passed.

- 12 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HEALTH INSURANCE INDUSTRY:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The grave threat to the jobs of 5000 Australians in the health insurance industry posed by the Government’s centralisation of health insurance”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

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*Distinguished visitor:* Madam Deputy Speaker informed the House that the Honourable Ratu David Toganivalu, M.P., Fijian Minister for Economic Planning and Development, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Madam Deputy Speaker extended to the visitor a warm welcome.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

- 13 **REFERENDUM (CONSTITUTION ALTERATION) AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** 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.

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*In the committee*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

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The House resumed; Mr Millar reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Young (Special Minister of State), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

- 14 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** 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 J. J. Brown (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

- 15 **CUSTOMS TARIFF (COAL EXPORT DUTY) AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** 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 motion of Mr J. J. Brown (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

- 16 **EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1983:** 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 by Mr Moore who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House notes that the Government has failed to honour its election commitment to reduce the price of petrol by 3 cents per

litre and its pre-election undertaking to disregard currency fluctuations in setting the price of Australian produced crude oil”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr J. J. Brown (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time

- 17 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:  
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

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

- 18 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Hurford (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

*Debate extended:* It being 6.30 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Keating (Treasurer) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 6.34 p.m., Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 10 May 1983:

Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 39.

Compensation (Commonwealth Government Employees) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 50.

Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 40.

Defence Act, Naval Defence Act and Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 41.

Defence Amendment Act—Interim Determinations—Statutory Rules 1983, Nos. 52, 53, 54.

Export Control Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 44.

Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 47.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1).

National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 45.

Naval Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 42.

Nursing Homes Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, Nos. 43, 46.

Patents Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 48.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1983—

No. 102—Australian Journalists' Association.

No. 103—Commonwealth Medical Officers Association.†

No. 104—Hospital Employees Federation of Australia.

No. 105—Printing and Kindred Industries Union.

No. 106—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).

- No. 107—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.  
No. 108—Commonwealth Medical Officers Association.†  
No. 109—Professional Officers Association, Australian Public Service.  
Nos. 110 to 112—Meat Inspectors' Association, Commonwealth Public Service and others.  
No. 113—Australian Workers' Union.  
No. 114—Association of Draughting, Supervisory and Technical Employees.  
No. 115—Merchant Service Guild of Australia.  
No. 116—Civil Air Operations Officers' Association of Australia.  
Nos. 117 and 118—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.†  
No. 119—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.†  
No. 120—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association and another.  
No. 121—Amalgamated Metal Workers' and Shipwrights Union and others.†  
No. 122—Association of Draughting, Supervisory and Technical Employees.†  
No. 123—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).  
(† Not accompanied by statement)
- Seamen's Compensation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 51.  
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Regulations—1983—  
No. 1 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).  
No. 2 (Health Commission Ordinance).  
Statute Law (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act (No. 1) 1982 and Patents Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1983, No. 49.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hayden, Mr Hunt, Mr Katter, Mr Kerin, Mr Robinson, Mr Street and Mr Tuckey.

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