

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

No. 55

TUESDAY, 6 MARCH 1984

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- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
  - Aboriginal Hostels Ltd—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1982-83.
  - Australian National University Act—Council of the Australian National University—Report for 1982—Part 2—Financial statements together with the Auditor-General's Report.
  - Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—Guidelines for the operation of national research facilities, dated 4 January 1984.
  - Industries Assistance Commission—Report—The dried vine fruits industry—Short term assistance during the 1984 season, dated 13 December 1983 (No. 334).
  - Repatriation hospital system—Review—Statement by Senator Gietzelt, Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
  - Special employment-related programs—Reports by Senator Button, Leader of the Government in the Senate, on the operation of the Special Employment-related Programs Act—
    - 5th report.
    - 6th report.
  - States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act—Statement of particulars of direction given by Minister under sub-section 42 (2).
- 4 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
  - Mr Braithwaite, Mr Cross, Mr Gear, Mr Hawker, Mr Rocher and Mr Wells—from certain citizens praying that chiropractic services be included in Medicare when it is introduced.
  - Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Fife and Mr Lusher—from certain residents of the Divisions of Indi, Farrer and Hume, respectively, praying that biological control of Paterson's Curse be implemented.
  - Mr Hicks—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petitions.
  - Mr Free, Mr Hollis and Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the ban on the export of kangaroo products be re-applied.

- Mr Charles and Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the Omega base in Victoria be closed.
- Mr Free and Mr Hunt—from certain parents representing government schools in New South Wales praying that an adequate general recurrent resource base for government schools be created and a planned program of improvements in government schools throughout the coming decade be ensured.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Hawker and Mr Steedman—from certain residents of Victoria praying that Victorian parent clubs be recognised as education auxiliaries and be exempted from bank account debits tax.
- Mr Humphreys and Mr Wells—from certain citizens praying that recurrent funding for government schools be increased and funding for special programs to assist primary school children with learning difficulties be provided, as promised.
- Dr Blewett—from certain citizens praying that parent clubs in government schools be granted exemption from bank account debits tax.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain electors of the Division of Dawson praying that the oath of allegiance remain unchanged.
- Mr Cross—from certain electors of the Division of Brisbane praying that a community housing scheme to meet the needs of the proposed Woolloowin, Albion and Windsor District Co-operative Limited be implemented.
- Mr Free—from certain citizens praying that the nation's total dependence on God the Creator in accordance with the Constitution and the standing orders of the House of Representatives be reaffirmed.
- Mr Fry—from certain citizens praying that the proposed formation of a new Commonwealth guarding service be stopped, the national security at various Government departments be retained, certain action be taken in respect of the Federal Police Act and a complete review of functions of the Australian Federal Police be carried out.
- Mr Gear—from certain citizens praying that laws be passed to outlaw discrimination in employment and in the provision of unemployment benefits, based upon race, ethnic origin, marital status and sex.
- Mr Hawker—from certain elected representatives and officers of local governments praying that the Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act be amended to provide a real term minimum guarantee to local government general revenue sharing arrangements.
- 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 McGauran—from certain residents of Mirboo North, Vic., and adjoining districts, praying that the Government ensure the impact of Medicare does not cause the decline and loss of the basic general medical services provided by Victorian Bush Nursing Hospitals.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that no further action be taken in respect of territorial or local government in the Australian Capital Territory until the findings of the inquiry into ACT finances have been made public and a further referendum of electors has been held.
- Mr Simmons—from certain citizens praying that the proposed closure of Telecom Australia's Manual Assistance Centre at Parkes, NSW, be halted, pending a full and open inquiry into the needs of affected subscribers and certain other matters.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the establishment of nuclear power plants in Australia and the export of Australian uranium be prohibited and a moratorium on all mining and treatment of uranium be declared.

Petitions received.

**5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—NEW SOUTH WALES  
CORRUPTION TAPES: Mr Speaker informed the House that both Mr Peacock (Leader**

of the Opposition) and Mr Wells 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 Peacock, namely, "The failure of the Government to properly respond to the deep community concern over the New South Wales corruption tapes".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Peacock addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 6 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mrs Kelly presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:  
221st Report—Finance Minute on Report 196—Australian War Memorial—Curatorial and conservation functions—  
and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
- 7 SHIPPING REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 1984:** 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 P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.
- 8 PROTECTION OF THE SEA (SHIPPING LEVY) AMENDMENT BILL 1984:** 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 P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.
- 9 AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT BOUNTY AMENDMENT BILL 1984:** 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.  
*Message from the Governor-General:* Message No. 115, dated 1 March 1984, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.  
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.
- 10 WOOL INDUSTRY AMENDMENT BILL 1984:** 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 Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.
- 11 FRESH VEGETABLES (EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGE) BILL 1984:** 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 Drummond addressing the House—
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12 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 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 Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

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**PAPER:** The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 6 March 1984:

Proclamation by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing the date on which the following Act shall come into operation—*Environment Protection (Sea Dumping) Act 1981*—6 March 1984.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hawker.

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**D. M. BLAKE**

Clerk of the House of Representatives