

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

No. 49

FRIDAY, 11 OCTOBER 1985

- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
 10 October 1985—Message No. 138—Export Market Development Grants Amendment 1985.
- 3 **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES:** Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 to 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 4 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1985-86:** The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Treasury, \$588,503,000—

Department of Finance, \$72,276,000—

Advance to the Minister for Finance, \$160,000,000—
 together further debated and agreed to.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mrs Child reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 5 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1985:** Dr Blewett (Minister for Health), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend various laws relating to health, and for related purposes.
 Bill read a first time.
 Dr Blewett moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Porter), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 6 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1985-86:** The House, according to order, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
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In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Community Services, \$369,264,000—
 Department of Social Security, \$503,265,000—
 Department of Health, \$658,437,000—
 Department of Veterans' Affairs, \$900,732,000—
 together debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, \$718,056,000—
 Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce, \$300,512,000—
 together—

It being 12.45 p.m., in accordance with sessional order 101A—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Cowan reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said committee.

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

8 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY—PRIME MINISTER AND THE AUSTRALIAN BICENTENNIAL AUTHORITY:** The House was informed that Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The implications for the principle of ministerial responsibility arising out of the Prime Minister's handling of the \$500 000 payment to the former Chief Executive of the Australian Bicentennial Authority".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Howard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

9 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Blanchard, Mr Blunt, Mr Hollis, Mr Howard, Mr Nehl and Mr Webster—
 from certain citizens praying that all federal funding to children's services be restored.

Mr Beddall, Mr Dobie, Mr Price and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that there be no taxation on illness and no special taxation on those who seek to insure themselves against the cost of private health care.

Mr Beale, Mr Halverson and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Hollis and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that 1989 be proposed as the International Year for Repairing the Earth and certain other action be taken in support of world peace.

Mr Staples and Mr Tickner—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Kent and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the Government support the stand taken by the New Zealand Government on nuclear vessels and that the policy of developing zones of peace and nuclear free zones in the Indian and Pacific Oceans be implemented.

- Mr Milton and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that all changes to benefits for veterans and conditions of service for military personnel announced in the May Economic Statement be withdrawn.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that urgent financial assistance be provided to the sugar industry.
- Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that the Special Broadcasting Service be maintained as the funding authority for public ethnic broadcasting until all ethnic broadcasters can propose another solution.
- Mr Grace—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that no airport be built at Badgery's Creek, NSW, and surrounding districts.
- Mr Hollis—from certain citizens praying that efforts for nuclear disarmament be intensified, US military bases on Australian soil be removed and the Pacific and Indian Oceans be kept nuclear free.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decision to close the Enterprise Migrant Hostel, Vic., be reversed.
- Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to increase the burden of capital gains and wealth taxes be rejected.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the European Parliament's resolution in respect of the Baltic States be supported.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the right to work be acknowledged and protected and that certain other action be taken to protect workers.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the Government reconsider the assets test.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that compulsory identity cards not be introduced.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that there be no increase in State aid to private schools and that the primary obligation to government schools be re-affirmed.
- Dr Watson—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.
- Mr Wilson—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the principle that pensioner patients pay no more than their pension for nursing home care be restored and that certain other action be taken in relation to nursing home benefits.

Petitions received.

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

11 October 1985—Message—

No. 139—Northern Prawn Fishery Voluntary Adjustment Scheme Loan Guarantee 1985.

No. 140—Foreign Fishing Boats Levy Amendment 1985 (*without requests*).

No. 141—Fisheries Agreements (Payments) Amendment 1985 (*without requests*).

No. 142—Qantas Airways Limited (Loan Guarantee) 1985.

No. 143—Export Inspection Charges (Miscellaneous Amendments) 1985.

No. 144—Export Inspection (Service Charge) 1985.

No. 145—Export Inspection (Establishment Registration Charge) 1985.

No. 146—States (Works and Housing) Assistance 1985.

No. 147—Communications Legislation Amendment 1985.

- 11 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1985-86:** The House, according to order, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 2—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, \$718,056,000—

Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce, \$300,512,000—
together debated.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr Mountford reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 12 **COMPANIES AND SECURITIES LEGISLATION (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1985:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend laws relating to companies and securities.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 13 **ADJOURNMENT NEGATIVED:** It being 3.45 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

- 14 **AUSTRALIAN TRADE COMMISSION BILL 1985:** Mr Dawkins (Minister for Trade), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish an Australian Trade Commission for the purpose of facilitating and promoting trade between Australia and foreign countries, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 15 **AUSTRALIAN TRADE COMMISSION (TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1985:** Mr Dawkins (Minister for Trade), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal certain Acts, to enact certain transitional provisions, to make certain amendments in consequence of the enactment of the *Australian Trade Commission Act 1985*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 16 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Dawkins (Minister for Trade) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 4.30 p.m., adjourned until Monday next at 2 p.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 11 October 1985:
Banks (Shareholdings) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1985, No. 263.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adermann, Mr Aldred*, Mr Braithwaite, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Dobie, Mr Gear, Mr Hayden, Mr Hodgman, Mr Humphreys*, Mr Hurford, Mr Katter, Mr Lindsay*, Mr MacKellar, Mr McVeigh, Mr Rocher* and Mr Scott.

*On leave

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives