

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 127

WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 1986

1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 ALTERATION OF HOUR OF MEETING, PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS AND SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 48A: Mr Young (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered—

(1) the House meet for the remaining sittings this week on:

Thursday, 16 October, at 9 a.m.

Friday, 17 October, at 9 a.m.;

(2) government business take precedence of general business for the next sitting, and

(3) standing order 48A (adjournment of the House), as amended by sessional order, be suspended for this sitting and the next sitting.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mrs Child, in the Chair)—

AYES, 65

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duncan	Mr Kent	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beddall	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Keogh	Mr O'Neil
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Kerin	Mr Punch
Mr Blanchard	Mr Fitzgibbon	Dr Klugman	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Free	Mr Langmore	Mr Scott
Mr Bowen	Mr Gayler	Mr Lee	Mr Simmons
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gear	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Brumby	Mr Gorman	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace	Mr McLeay	Dr Theophanous
Mr Charles	Mr Griffiths	Mr Maher	Mr Tickner
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hand	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Cleeland	Mr Holding	Mrs Mayer	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Hollis	Mr Mildren	Mr Wright
Mr Cross	Mr Howe	Mr Milton	Mr Young
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Humphreys*	Mr A. A. Morris	
Mrs Darling	Mr Hurford	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Duffy	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Mountford	

NOES, 54

Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr Katter	Mr Shack
Mr Aldred	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr Andrew*	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr Beale	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr Blunt	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Smith
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Macphee	Mr Spender
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr Tuckey
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Halverson	Mr Peacock	Dr Watson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Porter	Mr Webster
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodges	Mr Reith	Mr White
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Robinson	Mr Wilson
Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Rocher	
Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- 3 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1986-87:** The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the committee

Schedule 3—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Community Services, \$468,642,000—

Department of Social Security, \$573,693,000—

Department of Health, \$526,957,000—

Department of Veterans' Affairs, \$999,200,000—

together further debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$130,872,000—

Department of the Special Minister of State, \$278,939,000—

together further debated and agreed to.

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Treasury, \$723,995,000—

Department of Finance, \$110,747,000—

Advance to the Minister for Finance, \$160,000,000—

together debated.

Paper: Mr Hodges, by leave, presented the following paper:

Sales tax—Copy of letter from J. E. Scanlon, Deputy Commissioner of Taxation, Australian Taxation Office, Brisbane, dated 30 September 1986.

Mr Charles addressing the committee—

It being 3.15 p.m., in accordance with the resolution of the House of 9 October 1986—Progress to be reported.

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.

- 4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

- 5 **PAPER:** Madam Speaker presented the following paper:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Commonwealth Banking Corporation—Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia and Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia—Reports and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

- 6 **PAPER:** The following paper was presented:

Future ACT administration—Statement by Mr Scholes, Minister for Territories, dated 15 October 1986.

7 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS MOVED:** Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition making forthwith a statement to the House on the issues on which he has been misrepresented.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mrs Child, in the Chair)—

AYES, 73

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duncan	Mr Jones	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beazley	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Kelly	Mr O'Neil
Mr Beddall	Ms Fatin	Mr Kent	Mr Price
Mr Bilney	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Keogh	Mr Punch
Mr Blanchard	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Gear	Mr Langmore	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Simmons
Mr Brumby	Mr Grace	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Charles	Mr Hand	Mr McLeay	Dr Theophanous
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hayden	Mr Maher	Mr Tickner
Mr Cleeland	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Cohen	Mr Hollis	Mrs Mayer	Mr West
Mr Cross	Mr Howe	Mr Mildren	Mr Wright
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Milton	Mr Young
Mrs Darling	Mr Hurford	Mr A. A. Morris	
Mr Dawkins	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Duffy	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mountford	

NOES, 55

Mr Adermann	Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Robinson
Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Rocher
Mr Andrew*	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Beale	Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Shack
Mr Blunt	Mr Drummond	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr Braithwaite	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Smith
Mr Cadman	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Macphee	Mr Spender
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Goodluck	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Halverson	Mr Peacock	Dr Watson
Mr Cobb	Mr Hicks*	Mr Porter	Mr Webster
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodges	Mr Reith	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion for the suspension of the standing and sessional orders be agreed to—was put accordingly, and negatived.

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

Mr Andrew, Mr Beale, Mr Braithwaite, Mr Cadman, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Drummond, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker, Mr Mildren, Mr Robinson, Mr Ruddock, Mr Shipton, Mr Slipper and Mr Smith—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

Mr Blunt, Mr Cadman, Mr Cobb, Mr Coleman, Mr Connolly, Mr Dobie, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hicks, Mr Mountford, Mr Nehl, Mr Robinson, Mr Ruddock and Mr Sinclair—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.

Mr Griffiths, Mr McArthur, Mrs Mayer and Mr Shack—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

- Mrs Jakobsen, Mr Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that importation of cobalt 60 and other radioactive substances be banned and regulations permitting irradiation of food in Australia be disallowed.
- Mr Blunt, Mr Braithwaite and Mr Sinclair—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr Andrew, Mr Cadman and Mr Shack—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Hawker and Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.
- Mr Drummond and Mr Mildren—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Hawker, Mrs Mayer 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 Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that the principles of social justice, equity and redistribution of wealth be upheld.
- Mr E. C. Cameron and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be opposed and certain other action be taken in relation to the Bill.
- Mr Coleman and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that funding be restored to the English as a second language and multicultural education programs.
- Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens; and Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain residents of the Division of Maranoa praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the capital gains tax be repealed.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that proclamation of the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be delayed until a referendum has been held.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the decision to close the Wollongong office of the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs be reversed.
- Mr Cadman—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.
- Mr E. C. Cameron—from certain electors of the Division of Cowper praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill and associated bills be rejected, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission be abolished and ratification of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights be withdrawn.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the Extradition (Foreign States) Act be amended to protect the rights of accused persons.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax be cancelled.
- Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens praying that the assets test, capital gains tax, fringe benefits tax and tax on lump sum superannuation be repealed.
- Mr Halverson—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be withdrawn.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the assets test on pensions be repealed.

- Mr Hawker—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the proposed capital gains tax legislation be introduced without delay and that it be rejected.
- Mr Kent—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 Kent—from certain citizens praying that announcers on the Albanian program on radio 3EA be replaced with community representatives.
- Dr Klugman—from certain electors of the Division of Prospect praying that action be taken to facilitate the acceptance and resettlement of as many Cambodian refugees as possible from the Khao-I-Dang refugee camp.
- Mr McArthur—from certain citizens praying that the annual administrative charge for higher education students not be introduced.
- Mr Mildren—from certain citizens praying that the proposed alternative multi-channel television broadcasting system be implemented.
- Mr Milton—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the decision to sell uranium to France be reversed.
- Mr Shack—from certain citizens praying that the blasphemy, indecency and obscenity proscriptions of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations be reinvoked.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that measures be taken to reduce the burden of imposed costs and regulation on Australian horticultural growers.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland; and from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the fringe benefits tax be abandoned.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that home loan interest rates be tax deductible.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher 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 praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to reverse the decision to hand Ayers Rock over to an Aboriginal Land Council.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the capital gains tax proposal be abandoned.

Petitions received.

- 9 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—CAPITAL GAINS TAX:** The House was informed that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The high cost to the Australian community arising from the intended and unintended consequences of the Hawke Government's capital gains tax".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 10 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—WILDLIFE PROTECTION (REGULATION OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 340

Madam Speaker,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982', and for related purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate

has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

D. MCCLELLAND
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 15 October 1986

Ordered—That the amendments be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH AMENDMENT BILL 1986: The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 341

Madam Speaker,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Criminology Research Act 1971'*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

D. MCCLELLAND
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 15 October 1986

Ordered—That the amendment be taken into consideration, in committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

12 EXCISE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS: Mr Jones (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) moved—
Excise Tariff Proposals Nos. 11 and 12 (1986), and
Customs Tariff Proposals No. 17 (1986).

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt—Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

13 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Nehl presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:
256th Report—Forward obligation of Government expenditures—
and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

14 STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL (NO. 2) 1986: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make various amendments of the statute law of the Commonwealth, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Bowen presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

15 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1986: Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Hurford presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 4) 1986.

Australian Capital Territory Stamp Duty Amendment 1986.

Australian Capital Territory Tax (Transfers of Marketable Securities) 1986.

Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Amendment (No. 2) 1986.

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

- 16 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY STAMP DUTY AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Capital Territory Stamp Duty Act 1969*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 17 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY TAX (TRANSFERS OF MARKETABLE SECURITIES) BILL 1986:** Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act relating to the imposition of a tax on the registration of certain transfers of marketable securities.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 18 **SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1986:** Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act 1935*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 19 **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (SHARE INCREASE) BILL 1986:** Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the purchase of additional shares of the capital stock of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and of the International Finance Corporation.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Hurford presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

- 20 **NURSING HOMES AND HOSTELS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Aged or Disabled Persons Homes Act 1954*, the *National Health Act 1953* and the *Nursing Homes Assistance Act 1974*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Howe presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

- 21 **EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1986:** Mr Jones (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Excise.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Jones presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

- 22 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1986-87:** 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 3—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Treasury, \$723,995,000—

Department of Finance, \$110,747,000—

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

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, \$818,629,000—

Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce, \$353,853,000—

together debated and agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr McLeay reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said committee.

- 23 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.57 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 15 October 1986:

Customs Act—Notice—1986—No. 10.

Excise Act—Notice—1986—No. 18.

Public Service Act—Determinations—1986—Nos. 66, 67.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr J. J. Brown, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Dr Charlesworth, Mr Dubois, Mr Everingham, Mr Hawker, Mr Jacobi*, Mr MacKellar, Mr Millar and Mr Moore.

* On leave

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives