

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 134

TUESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 1986

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- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
 - Aussat Pty Ltd—Report for 1985-86.
 - Australian Atomic Energy Commission—Committee of Review—Report, dated October 1986.
 - Australian Biological Resources Study Advisory Committee—Report for 1985-86.
 - Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Report for 1985-86.
 - Companies Act—Accounting Standards Review Board—Report for 1985-86.
 - Department of Community Services—Policy Co-ordination Unit—Report for 1985-86.
 - Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—
 - Citrus fruit—Interim report, dated 10 October 1986 (No. 395).
 - Reconditioned automotive engines, dated 18 September 1986 (No. 394).
 - Rice industry—Interim report, dated 15 October 1986 (No. 396).
 - Migrant and Multicultural Programs and Services—Committee for Stage 1 of Review—Report, dated August 1986—Don't settle for less—
 - Report.
 - Summary.
 - Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act—Commissioner for Superannuation—Report for 1985-86.
 - Public Service Act—Department of the Treasury—Report for 1985-86.
 - Rural Industries Research Act—Dried Fruits Research Council—Report for 1985-86.
 - Snowy Mountains Council—Report for 1985-86.
 - 4 **ROAD SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LICENSING OF DRIVERS—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport) presented the following paper:
 - Road Safety—Standing Committee—Report on education, training and licensing of drivers, including the special needs of disabled drivers—Government response.
- Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 COMMISSION FOR THE FUTURE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:

Mr Jones (Minister for Science) presented the following paper:

Commission for the Future—Report for 1985-86—Developing an innovative culture.

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 TELECOM AUSTRALIA (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications) presented the following paper:

Telecom Australia (International) Limited—Statement by Mr Duffy, Minister for Communications.

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

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

Mr Baldwin, Mr Blunt, Mr Cadman, Mr Carlton, Mr Dobie, Mr Dubois, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Howard, Mr MacKellar, Mr Robinson, Mr Tickner and Mr Webster—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.

Mr Charles, Mr Duffy, Mr P. S. Fisher, Mr Griffiths, Mr Holding, Mr Jones, Mr Lamb, Mr Lloyd, Mr O'Keefe and Mr Scholes—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

Mr Cadman, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Goodluck, Mr Hawker, Mr Rocher, Mr Ruddock and Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

Mr Baldwin, Mr Gorman, Mr Snow and Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that policies relating to overseas students which were contained in the 1986-87 Budget be reviewed.

Mrs Jakobsen, Mr Kent, Mr Staples and Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that Australia use its influence to establish a nuclear test moratorium and comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

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

Mr Charles, Mr Hawker and Mr Lloyd—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.

Mr Drummond, Mr Rocher and Mr Wright—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Coleman, Mr Ruddock and Mr West—from certain citizens praying that funding be restored to the English as a second language and multicultural education programs.

Mr Hawker, Mr Rocher and Dr Watson—from certain citizens praying that the assets test, capital gains tax, fringe benefits tax and tax on lump sum superannuation be repealed.

Mr Kent, Mr Scott and Mr Staples—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 Keogh—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Braithwaite and Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.

Mr Cadman, Mr McGauran and Mr Rocher—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

- Mr Cadman and Mr Grace—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.
- Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Webster—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Holding and Mr Howard—from certain citizens praying that 1988 be proclaimed the first International Earth Repair Year.
- 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 McLeay and Mr West—from certain citizens praying that community language resources centres be instituted and certain other action be taken to implement the teaching of community languages in schools.
- Mr Aldred—from certain citizens praying that the decision to phase down the Glen Waverley Rehabilitation Centre, Vic., be reversed.
- Mr Beale—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax and other taxes and administrative burdens on small businesses be repealed.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that the decision to deny secondary allowances to Year 11 students under the age of 16 years be reversed and allowances not be made directly payable to students.
- 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 citizens praying that proclamation of the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be delayed until a referendum has been held.
- Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.
- Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that no cutbacks be made to the portfolio of Veterans' Affairs and certain action be taken to assist ex-servicemen and women.
- 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.
- Mr Everingham—from certain residents of the Northern Territory praying that the Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act, the Fringe Benefits Tax Act, the Fringe Benefits Tax (Application to the Commonwealth) Act and the Fringe Benefits Tax (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act be rescinded.
- Mr T. A. Fischer—from certain residents of the Division of Farrer praying that the fringe benefits tax and capital gains tax legislation be repealed.
- 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 citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be opposed and certain other action be taken in relation to the Bill.
- Mr Hawker—from certain residents of the Division of Wannon praying that tertiary education remain free to all students.
- Mr Jones—from certain employees of B.F. Goodrich Chemical Limited praying that the Industries Assistance Commission's recommendations for the chemical industry not be adopted without modification.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that announcers on the Albanian program on radio 3EA be replaced with community representatives.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decisions to cut the English as a second language and multicultural education programs, amalgamate the

SBS with the ABC and abolish the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs be reversed.

Mr Lloyd—from certain citizens praying that incentive and opportunity be restored to the Australian economy and certain restrictions on small business be abandoned.

Mr McGauran—from certain citizens praying that uranium not be sold and that all uranium mining cease forthwith.

Mr A. A. Morris—from certain citizens praying that the standard pension be raised to 25 per cent of average weekly earnings and certain other action be taken to assist pensioners and low income earners.

Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying that the cost of prescriptions remain at the current level.

Mr Spender—from certain residents of North Sydney praying that funding for English as a second language programs be restored to the 1985 level.

Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken to relieve housing-related poverty.

Mr Staples—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.

Mrs Sullivan—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to discontinue the provision of free medication to pensioners be rejected.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that an Australian republic be created on or before 1 January 1988.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that the export of kangaroo products be banned and action be taken to prohibit the commercial killing of kangaroos.

Mr Tickner—from certain residents of Sutherland Shire, NSW, praying that an additional nuclear reactor not be constructed at Lucas Heights.

Dr Watson—from certain residents of Queensland praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.

Petitions received.

8 MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

23 October 1986—Message No. 191—

Australian Institute of Sport 1986.

Australian Institute of Sport (Consequential Provisions) 1986.

Remuneration and Allowances Alteration 1986.

27 October 1986—Message No. 192—Social Security and Veterans' Affairs (Miscellaneous Amendments) 1986.

4 November 1986—Message—

No. 193—

Freedom of Information Laws Amendment 1986.

Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 3) 1986.

Bank Account Debits Tax Amendment 1986.

No. 194—

Income Tax Rates 1986.

Income Tax 1986.

Taxation Laws (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1986.

Medicare Levy 1986.

No. 195—Student Assistance Amendment 1986.

9 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER: Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That leave of absence for 1 month be given to Mr Jacobi, on the ground of ill health.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—FRINGE BENEFITS 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 cynicism and lack of principle displayed by the Government in its introduction and subsequent handling of the fringe benefits tax".
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Carlton addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 11 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:**
 Mr Wilson presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:
 A taxing problem—Review of 5 Auditor-General's efficiency audit reports into the Australian Taxation Office—Report, dated 25 September 1986, together with extracts from the minutes of proceedings, the transcript of evidence and submissions authorised for publication.
 Ordered—That the report be printed.
 Mr Wilson, Mr Mountford, Mr Carlton and Mr R. J. Brown, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 12 PROTECTION OF THE SEA LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1986:** 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.
- 13 INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (SHARE INCREASE) BILL 1986:** 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. 196, dated 20 October 1986, 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 for Sport, Recreation and Tourism), the Bill was read a third time.
- 14 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1986:** 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 Adermann addressing the House—
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- 15 ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
Debate extended: It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.
 Mr Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) required the debate to be extended.
 The debate continuing until 11.10 p.m., the Deputy 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 11 November 1986:

- Australian Citizenship Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 306.
- Australian Meat and Live-stock Corporation Act—Orders—1986—
 - MQ18/86—High Quality Beef to EEC—1987 Quota Administration Scheme.
 - MQ19/86—Sheepmeat and/or Goatmeat to EEC—1987 Quota Administration Scheme.
 - MQ20/86—Buffalo Meat to EEC—1987 Quota Administration Scheme.
- Bankruptcy Act—Rules—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 323.
- Compensation (Commonwealth Government Employees) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 308.
- Customs Act—
 - Notice—1986—No. 11.
 - Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 307.
- Defence Act—Determinations—1986—
 - No. 64—Education Assistance Overseas.
 - No. 65—Travelling Allowance and other allowances.
 - Nos. 66 and 67—Intermediate Term Duty Living Allowance and other allowances.
- Excise Act—Notice—1986—No. 21.
- Export Control Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 313.
- Family Law Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 322.
- Federal Court of Australia Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 324.
- First Home Owners Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 312.
- Fisheries Act—Notice—No. 173.
- Grain Legumes Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, Nos. 309, 321.
- Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 318.
- Judiciary Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 305.
- Lands Acquisition Act—
 - Land acquired for telecommunications services—Ardlethan, NSW.
 - Statements (3) of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7(1).
- Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 317.
- National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, Nos. 319, 320.
- Navigation Act—Navigation (Orders) Regulations—Orders—1986—
 - No. 13—Marine, Part 31.
 - No. 14—Marine, Part 52.
 - No. 15—Marine, Part 2.
- Papua New Guinea (Members of the Forces Benefits) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 316.
- Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—By-laws—1986—Postal—Amendment—No. 3.
- Proclamation by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing 1 December 1986 as the day on which section 3 of the *Australian Federal Police Amendment Act 1986* shall come into operation.
- Public Service Act—
 - Determinations—1986—Nos. 71, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 83.
 - Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 314.
- Quarantine Act—Determination fixing fees pursuant to section 86E, dated 31 October 1986.
- Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—1986/19—The Secretary to the Department of Territories and holders of public offices on other bodies.
- Seamen's War Pensions and Allowances Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 315.

- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—
Determinations listing fees and charges for purposes of—
Health Authority Ordinance, dated 23 October 1986.
Radiation Ordinance, dated 16 October 1986.
- Ordinances—1986—
No. 66—Chiropractors Registration (Amendment).
No. 67—Health Professions Boards (Elections) (Amendment).
No. 68—Health Professions Boards (Procedures) (Amendment).
No. 69—Betting (Totalizator Agency) (Amendment) (No. 2).
No. 70—Coroners (Amendment).
No. 71—Magistrates Court (Amendment) (No. 2).
No. 72—Credit (Amendment) (No. 4).
- Regulation—1986—No. 24 (Motor Traffic Ordinance).
- States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendments of the schedules to the
subsidy schemes in relation to the States, dated 16 October 1986.
- Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 311.
- Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Commission—By-laws—
Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts)—Amendment—
No. 72.
- Trade Practices Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1986, No. 310.
- Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments, dated 1 November 1986, varying—
Pharmaceutical benefits scheme.
Treatment Principles (2).
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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting)
except Mr Bilney, Mrs Darling, Mr Downer, Ms Fatin, Mr Fife, Mr Gorman, Mr
Hand, Mr Jacobi* and Mr Uren.

*On leave

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives