

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 161

THURSDAY, 26 MARCH 1987

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

2 **DAYS AND HOURS OF MEETING:** Mr Bowen (Acting Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, the House shall meet for the despatch of business on the following days and at the times specified:

Monday, 30 March, at 2 p.m.

Tuesday, 31 March, at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, 1 April, at 10 a.m.

Thursday, 2 April, at 10 a.m.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

3 **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES) BILL 1987:** 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr N. A. Brown (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “this House is of the opinion that the Bill not be proceeded with until it has been examined by the Business Regulation Review Unit in accordance with the procedures announced by the Government on 9 January 1987 for the review of government proposals affecting business regulation and until the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations prepares a Regulation Impact Statement on the proposals contained in the Bill”*—

Debate resumed.

Dr Theophanous addressing the House—

It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 106A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

4 **AIRPORT TERMINALS—PRIVATE INVESTMENT:** Mr Lloyd, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House—

- (1) condemns the Hawke Labor Government for its refusal to allow private investment in domestic and international terminals at Australia's major airports;
- (2) condemns the Hawke Labor Government for handicapping Australia's aviation and tourism industries by not moving to upgrade Kingsford-Smith Airport, and for refusing offers of private investment in Brisbane and Darwin Airports, and
- (3) calls on the Government to allow private investment in Australia's airports and terminal facilities, and to immediately commence the upgrading of

Kingsford-Smith Airport, including the construction of a parallel runway, as Sydney is still the principal point of entry for over 50% of Australia's tourists.

Debate ensued.

It being 1.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 109, as amended by sessional order.

Ordered—That the time for discussion of notice No. 1, general business, be extended until 2 p.m.

Debate continued.

The time allotted for precedence to general business having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr Gear was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Mr Keating (Treasurer) answering a question—

Closure of Member moved: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 55

Mr Adermann	Mr Conquest	Mr Howard	Mr Rocher
Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Ruddock
Mr Beale	Mr Dobie	Mr Katter	Mr Shack
Mr Blunt	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Drummond	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr Burr	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Slipper
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Miles	Mr Smith
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Mr Spender
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Halverson	Mr Moore	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Nehl	Dr Watson
Mr Cobb	Mr Hicks*	Mr Porter	Mr Webster
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodges	Mr Reith	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Robinson	

NOES, 77

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

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Mr Keating completed his answer.

Questions without notice concluded.

6 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

Airlines Agreement Act—

Ansett Transport Industries Limited—Financial statements, together with the auditor's report, for 1985-86.

Australian National Airlines Commission (Australian Airlines)—Financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:

Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) presented the following paper:

Human Rights Commission Act—Human Rights Commission—Report for 1985-86, including a report of operations under the Racial Discrimination Act and the Sex Discrimination Act for 1985-86.

Mr Bowen 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.

8 AIRLINES AGREEMENT ACT CONSULTATIONS—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Aviation) presented the following paper:

Airlines Agreement Act—Joint reports by the Australian National Airlines Commission (Australian Airlines) and Ansett Transport Industries Limited on consultations held during 1986 on—
Airfares.

Passenger revenue load factors and aircraft utilisation.

Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) 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.

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

Mrs Jakobsen, Mr Kent, Mr Milton, 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.

Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker and Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.

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

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 Australia use its influence to establish a nuclear test moratorium and comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

Mr Baldwin—from certain students of the University of Sydney Law School in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Punch and Mr Robinson—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.

Mr Beale—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the proposal for an identification card be rejected.

- 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 citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the assets test on pensions be repealed.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the US Government be urged to join the Soviet Union's nuclear test ban.
- Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr Rocher—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Langmore—from certain citizens praying that the pension discounting effect of the Superannuation and Other Benefits Legislation Amendment Act be limited to restore the base level for pension adjustment and certain other action be taken in relation to the Commonwealth Occupational Superannuation Schemes.
- Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that the annual administrative charge for higher education students not be introduced.
- Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that all education funding be restored to levels that existed prior to the 1986 Budget.
- Mr O'Neil—from certain residents of Whyalla, SA, praying that multicultural television be implemented in Whyalla and other country areas.
- Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the right of employees to select their own superannuation scheme be guaranteed and certain other action be taken in relation to superannuation.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the agreement with the US Government regarding the facilities at Pine Gap be renewed only if the US Government agrees to take up the phased nuclear disarmament plan put forward by the Soviet Union.
- Mr Staples—from certain residents of the Division of Jagajaga praying that tertiary education remain free to all students.

Petitions received.

10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—POLICIES FOR THE AGED:

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 disastrous impact of the failed policies of the Hawke Government and their effects upon the well being and living standards of Australia's aged".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Howard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

11 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mrs Mayer presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

267th Report—Response, including Finance Minute, to 243rd Report—Review of Defence Project Management.

Ordered to be printed.

Mrs Mayer, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

12 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES) BILL

1987: 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr N. A. Brown (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “this House is of the opinion that the Bill not be proceeded with until it has been examined by the Business Regulation Review Unit in accordance with the procedures announced by the Government on 9 January 1987 for the review of government proposals affecting business regulation and until the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations prepares a Regulation Impact Statement on the proposals contained in the Bill”—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Ruddock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 71

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

NOES, 51

Mr Adermann	Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Rocher
Mr Aldred	Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Shack
Mr Beale	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr Blunt	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Slipper
Mr Burr	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Miles	Mr Smith
Mr Cadman	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Millar	Mr Spender
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Moore	Mr Tuckey
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Dr Watson
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Porter	Mr Webster
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reith	Mr Wilson
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodges	Mr Robinson	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 and 2, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr N. A. Brown moved the following amendment: Page 2, line 29, omit paragraph (b) of the definition of “employee”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negated.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 4 and 5, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 6—

Mr N. A. Brown, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Page 5, omit paragraph (g), substitute the following paragraph:

“(g) to set objectives and make forward estimates in the program;”.

Page 5, at the end of the clause add the following subclause:

“(2) In subsection (1):

‘forward estimate’ means a quantitative measure or aim, which may be expressed in numerical terms, designed to achieve equality of opportunity for women in employment matters, being a measure or aim that can reasonably be implemented by the relevant employer within a specified time; ‘objective’ means a qualitative measure or aim, expressed as a general principle, designed to achieve equality of opportunity for women in employment matters, being a measure or aim that can reasonably be implemented by the relevant employer within a specified time.”.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 7 and 8, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 9—

Mr N. A. Brown moved the following amendment: Page 6, after subclause (3) insert the following subclause:

“(3A) Where a relevant authority has lodged a program report with the Board, the responsible Minister shall:

- (a) if the report fails to satisfy the requirements of the Act, by notice in writing, request the authority to lodge a further report with the Board within such period as is specified in the notice; and
- (b) if the report or further report, as the case may be, satisfies the requirements of this Act, cause a copy of the report or further report to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which the Board receives the report or further report.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr N. A. Brown moved the following amendment: Page 6, at the end of subclause

(4) add “in which case the Minister shall cause a copy of the annual report to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which the Minister receives the annual report”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 10—

Mr N. A. Brown moved the following amendment: Page 7, after subclause (4) add the following subclause:

“(5) Where a relevant authority has lodged a special report with the Board, the responsible Minister shall cause a copy of the report to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the day on which he or she receives the report.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr McLeay reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Willis (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), the House adopted the report.

Mr Willis, by leave, moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Ruddock, in the Chair)—

AYES, 70

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

NOES, 44

Mr Aldred	Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Rocher
Mr Beale	Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Shack
Mr Blunt	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr Burr	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Slipper
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Miles	Mr Smith
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Mr Tuckey
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Porter	Dr Watson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reith	Mr Webster
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodges	Mr Robinson	Mr Wilson

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a third time.

13 **VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** 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 Fitzgibbon addressing the House—

14 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Information systems developments for the new Parliament House—Statement by Madam Speaker: Madam Speaker informed the House of developments in the selection process and contractual arrangements for the information systems for the new Parliament House.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Madam Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 2 p.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 26 March 1987:
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Determination listing fees and charges
for purposes of the Health Authority Ordinance, dated 23 February 1987.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting)
except Mr Andrew, Mr Everingham, Mr Jull, Ms McHugh, Mr Macphee and Mr
Young.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives