

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 168

THURSDAY, 30 APRIL 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 **WOOL MARKETING BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the export marketing of wool and certain other matters concerning the wool industry.

Bill read a first time.

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

Ordered—That Mr Jones be granted an extension of time.

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

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

3 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—WOOL TAX AMENDMENT BILLS:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent 5 Wool Tax Amendment Bills—

(a) being presented and read a first time together and one motion being moved without delay and one question being put in regard to, respectively, the second readings, the committee's report stage, and the third readings, of all the Bills together, and

(b) the consideration of the Bills in one committee of the whole.

Question—put and passed.

4 **WOOL TAX (NOS. 1 TO 5) AMENDMENT BILLS 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science) presented the following Bills:

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool Tax Act (No. 1) 1964*;

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool Tax Act (No. 2) 1964*;

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool Tax Act (No. 3) 1964*;

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool Tax Act (No. 4) 1964*, and

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool Tax Act (No. 5) 1964*.

Bills together read a first time.

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

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

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

5 **AUSTRALIAN MEAT AND LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend certain legislation relating to the Australian meat and live-stock industry, and for related purposes.

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

- 6 **LIVE-STOCK SLAUGHTER LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Live-stock Slaughter Levy Act 1964*.

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

- 7 **LIVE-STOCK EXPORT CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Live-stock Export Charge Act 1977*.

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

- 8 **EXPORT INSPECTION (ESTABLISHMENT REGISTRATION CHARGES) AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Export Inspection (Establishment Registration Charge) Act 1985*.

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 following Bills:

Export Inspection (Establishment Registration Charges) Amendment Bill 1987.

Export Inspection Charges Collection Amendment Bill 1987.

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

- 9 **EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGES COLLECTION AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Export Inspection Charges Collection Act 1985*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Jones 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.

- 10 **PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—LIGHTING AND ROADWORKS—APPROVAL OF PROPOSALS:** Mr Scholes (Minister for Territories), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the House approves the following proposals contained in the report of the Joint Standing Committee on the New Parliament House presented to the House on 2 April 1987, namely:

- (1) installation of standard high intensity lighting at the 7 marked pedestrian crossings within the Parliamentary Zone;
- (2) construction of an additional carpark and the provision of carpark lighting at the National Library of Australia on the basis that this carpark is designated as short stay parking;
- (3) construction of the east west roads between Parkes Place and the proposed mall to give access to the parking areas associated with the National Science and Technology Centre;
- (4) construction of a road north of King Edward Terrace adjacent to the land axis to provide additional access to the National Science and Technology Centre, and

(5) installation of the proposed lighting on the land bridge between the provisional Parliament House and the new Parliament House and on the roads associated with the National Science and Technology Centre.

Question—put and passed.

11 SOCIAL SECURITY 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 Snow 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.

12 INEQUALITY IN DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME AND WEALTH: Mr Blanchard, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House believes that the extent of inequality in the distribution of income and wealth in Australia is unacceptably high and accordingly calls on the Government to:

- (1) continue to pursue anti-poverty measures as a major priority of government programs;
- (2) eliminate the special advantages available to the rich through strengthening anti-tax avoidance and other measures, and
- (3) support the efforts of the community, trade unions and State governments to end poverty and eliminate inequality.

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 the 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, Ms McHugh was granted leave to continue her speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

13 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

14 PAPER: The following paper was presented:

Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act—Australian Industrial Research and Development Incentives Board—Report for 1985-86, including a review of the Board's activities 1976-86.

15 NATIONAL COMPANIES AND SECURITIES COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) presented the following paper:

National Companies and Securities Commission Act—National Companies and Securities Commission—7th Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

Mr Bowen moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

16 HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION CHARGE—REPORT OF MONITORING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Dawkins (Minister representing the Minister for Education) presented the following paper:

Higher Education Administration Charge—Report of the Monitoring Committee, dated April 1987.

Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

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

Mr Conquest, Mr Fife, Mr T. A. Fischer, Mr Nehl and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.

Mrs Jakobsen, 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.

Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Cross and Mr Snow—from certain citizens praying that pension adjustments related to November and May CPI increases be not deferred but paid immediately.

Mr Cowan, Mr Nehl and Mr Sharp—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 Bilney and Mr P. F. Morris—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be restored to their 1976 real money value and certain other action be taken in relation to family allowance payments.

Mr Conquest and Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying that any act which would desecrate the Australian War Memorial be prevented.

Mr Baldwin—from certain citizens praying that the administrative charge for higher education students be withdrawn immediately.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that Veterans' Affairs Pharmaceutical Benefits be restored to war widows.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that a wealth tax not be introduced.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.

Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.

Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the proposed introduction of a \$2 coin not proceed.

Mr Conquest—from certain residents of the Division of Hinkler praying that legislation be enacted to ensure that 1987 pension increases are based on the rate of pension applicable between June 1986 and 9 October 1986.

Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that delays in processing applications for the Austudy allowance be minimised.

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

Mr R. F. Edwards—from certain citizens praying that all child pornography entering or being produced in Australia be banned.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that funding be provided to improve the Pacific Highway between Port Macquarie and Woolgoolga, NSW.

Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that all education funding be restored to levels that existed prior to the 1986 Budget.

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

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the Soviet Foreign Minister be approached to seek the release of Raoul Wallenberg and his return to Sweden.

Mr Simmons—from certain citizens praying that new initiatives be taken to encourage all member states of the United Nations to conclude a treaty

banning all nuclear weapons tests and that certain other action be taken in relation to nuclear weapons tests.

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

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 Staples—from certain citizens praying that the “Star Wars” plans be condemned and Australia not be associated with these plans.

Mr Staples—from certain residents of the Division of Jagajaga praying that tertiary education remain free to all students.

Dr Watson—from certain citizens praying that tax free deposit investment funds to assist the housing industry be implemented.

Petitions received.

18 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—LIVING STANDARDS: The House was informed that Mr Hunt (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The continuing fall in living standards of farming families, small business people and those living in regional Australia”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hunt addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

19 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Dr Theophanous presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

270th Report—Implementation of the offsets program.
Ordered to be printed.

Dr Theophanous and Mr Ruddock, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

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

30 April 1987—Message—

- No. 418—National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment 1987.
- No. 419—National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Amendment (No. 2) 1987.
- No. 420—Environment Protection (Alligator Rivers Region) Amendment 1987.
- No. 421—Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment (No. 2) 1987.
- No. 422—Lands Acquisition Amendment 1987.

21 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 2 and 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

22 DISCHARGE OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, moved—That the following orders of the day, government business, be discharged: Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Bill 1986: Second reading—Resumption of debate.

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (Consequential Amendments) Bill 1986: Second reading—Resumption of debate.

Australian Stock Exchange and National Guarantee Fund Bill 1986: Second reading—Resumption of debate.

Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 1986: Second reading—
Resumption of debate.

Question—put and passed.

23 STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL (NO. 1) 1987: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), for Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), 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 Spender), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

24 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) AMENDMENT BILL 1987: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), for Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Telecommunications (Interception) Act 1979*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Papers: Mr Bowen presented the following papers:

Explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Telecommunications Interception—Joint Select Committee—Report—Schedule of principal recommendations with Government response.

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

25 PROCEEDS OF CRIME BILL 1987: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), for Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for confiscation of the proceeds of crime, 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 Spender), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

26 PROCEEDS OF CRIME (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1987: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), for Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make amendments of various Acts consequential upon the enactment of the *Proceeds of Crime Act 1987*, and for other 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 Spender), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

27 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BILL 1987: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), for Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the provision and obtaining of international assistance in criminal matters.

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

28 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1987: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), for Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make

amendments of certain Acts consequential upon the enactment of the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987*, and for related matters.

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

29 SOCIAL SECURITY 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.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 239, dated 25 March 1987, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mrs Sullivan moved the following amendment:

Schedule 1, page 15, additional amendments of the *Social Security Act 1947*, Part 1, omit—

“Subsection 6 (1) (definition of ‘de facto spouse’):

Insert ‘and includes a person who, but for a law of a State or Territory prohibiting sexual intercourse between the person and another person by reason only of the age of either person, would be such a person’ after ‘to that other person.’”,

substitute—

“Subsection 6 (1) (definition of ‘de facto spouse’):

Insert ‘but does not include a person who is living with another person in a relationship prohibited by a law of a State or Territory’ after ‘to that other person.’”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The committee divided (the Deputy Chairman, Mr Cowan, in the Chair)—

AYES, 54

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Mr Adermann | Mr Connolly | Mr Hodgman | Mr Reith |
| Mr Aldred | Mr Conquest | Mr Hunt | Mr Rocher |
| Mr Andrew* | Mr Dobie | Mr Katter | Mr Ruddock |
| Mr Beale | Mr Downer | Mr Lloyd | Mr Shack |
| Mr Blunt | Dr H. R. Edwards | Mr McArthur | Mr Sharp |
| Mr Braithwaite | Mr Everingham | Mr McGauran | Mr Shipton |
| Mr Burr | Mr T. A. Fischer | Mr MacKellar | Mr Smith |
| Mr Cadman | Mr P. S. Fisher | Mr McVeigh | Mr Spender |
| Mr D. M. Cameron | Mr Goodluck | Mr Miles | Mrs Sullivan |
| Mr E. C. Cameron | Mr Hall | Mr Millar | Mr Tuckey |
| Mr I. M. D. Cameron | Mr Halverson | Mr Moore | Dr Watson |
| Mr Carlton | Mr Hawker | Mr Nehl | Mr Webster |
| Mr Cobb | Mr Hicks* | Mr Peacock | |
| Mr Coleman | Mr Hodges | Mr Porter | |

NOES, 71

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

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Cowan reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

30 ABORIGINAL LAND (LAKE CONDAH AND FRAMLINGHAM FOREST) 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.

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Madam Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Fife, Mr Hurford, Mr Jull, Mr Kent, Mr Kerin, Mr Uren and Mr Wilson.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives