

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 182

MONDAY, 1 JUNE 1987

- 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 being asked—
Paper: Mr Tuckey, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Keating (Treasurer)—
 Mr Keating laid upon the Table the following paper:
 Tax cuts—Table detailing tax cuts from 5 March 1983.
 Questions without notice concluded.
- 3 **ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PROTECTION OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment) presented the following paper:
 Environment and Conservation—Standing Committee—Report on protection of the Great Barrier Reef—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.
- 4 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 Mr Bowen, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Charles, Mr Cowan, Mr Fife, Mr Hand, Mrs Kelly, Mr McArthur, Mr Macphee, Mr Moore, Mr Peacock and Mr Shack—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 Beale, Mr Kent, Mr Saunderson 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 N. A. Brown, Mr T. A. Fischer and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.
 Mr N. A. Brown and Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that any act which would desecrate the Australian War Memorial be prevented.
 Mr Cadman and Dr H. R. Edwards—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 Cadman and Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

- Mr Hodges and Mr Gayler—from certain citizens praying that pension adjustments related to November and May CPI increases not be deferred but paid immediately.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the proposal for an identification card be rejected.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the assets test, capital gains tax, fringe benefits tax and tax on lump sum superannuation be repealed.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr Chynoweth—from certain citizens praying that rainforests be protected.
- Mr Duncan—from certain residents of South Australia praying that alleged child rapists not be granted bail pending trial and that upon conviction child rapists be given a sentence of genuine hard labour without parole.
- Mr Hand—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken to prevent the extinction of Aboriginal and Islander languages.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the assets test on pensions be repealed.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.
- Mr Hawker—from certain residents of Mortlake, Vic., praying that monies allocated to the Victorian Government for road funding be increased to allow adequate funding for the construction and maintenance of roads in south-west Victoria.
- Mrs Jakobsen—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 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 any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.
- Mr Peacock—from certain citizens praying that substantial foreign aid be extended to third world countries.
- 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 family allowances be restored to 1976 real values and certain other action be taken in relation to family incomes.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that public funding for projects which are undesirable or of dubious worth be halted.
- 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 Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that pharmaceutical benefits be restored to their former level.
- 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.

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 unemployed people in the CES district serving Caboolture, Qld, be allowed to lodge their completed unemployment benefits forms at the Caboolture Job Centre.

Petitions received.

- 5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INFLATION AND INTEREST RATES EFFECT ON PRIMARY INDUSTRY:** The House was informed that both Mr Hunt (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia) and Mr Tuckey had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, Madam Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Hunt, namely, "The critical need for reductions in inflation and interest rates to enable primary industry and family farmers to survive".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hunt addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 6 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) 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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Uren (Minister for Local Government and Administrative Services), the Bill was read a third time.

- 7 CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION 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 Braithwaite moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that the general long term tariff rate of duty on processed vegetables initially should be phased down to 15%".

Debate continued.

Amendment negated.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

- 8 EXCISE TARIFF VALIDATION 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—

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

9 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) 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 by Mr Spender who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “while not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for—

- (1) its delay in introducing the legislation, and
- (2) its failure to fully implement the recommendations contained in Mr Justice Stewart’s Royal Commission report of April 1986 into Alleged Telephone Interceptions”.

Debate continued.

Mr Ruddock addressing the House—

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

Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

Debate continued.

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

10 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Papers: Mr Cunningham, by leave, presented the following papers:

Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education—Copies of statutory declarations, dated 1 June 1987, from—

Mrs W. J. Kempster.

Dr K. R. Spriggs, Head of School of Engineering.

Debate continued.

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

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 1 June 1987:

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under subsection 7 (1).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Coleman, Mr Dawkins, Mr Drummond, Mr Everingham, Mr Hawke, Mr Hayden, Mr Jacobi, Mrs Mayer, Mr Staples and Mr Webster.

A. R. BROWNING

Clerk of the House of Representatives