

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 17

TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 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 were asked.

3 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:

Australian Biological Resources Study Advisory Committee-- Report for 1986-87.

Prices Surveillance Act-- Prices Surveillance Authority-- Report, including freedom of information statement, for 1986-87.

Tasmanian World Heritage Area Council-- Summary record of 3rd meeting, Cradle Mountain, 4-5 December 1986.

4 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE--ACCESS TO EVIDENCE AND RECORDS OF JOINT COMMITTEES ON THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY:** The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 20

Madam Speaker,

The Senate acquaints the House of Representatives of the following Resolution agreed to by the Senate this day:

(1) That the following matters be referred to the Standing Committee on Infrastructure:

All notices of intention to modify or vary the plan of lay-out of the city of Canberra and its environs, and all modifications and variations of that plan, under section 12A of the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*.

(2) That the Committee report to the Senate on each notice, modification and variation.

(3) That, for the purpose of considering the matters referred to in paragraph (1), the Committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committees on the Australian Capital Territory appointed during previous Parliaments.

The Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives in paragraph (3) of this Resolution.

KERRY SIBRAA
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 26 October 1987

Ordered--That consideration of the message be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 5 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** Message No. 21, dated 26 October 1987, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House of the appointment of the following Senators to the Joint Select Committee on Video Material, viz.: Senators Collins, Harradine, Jenkins, Walters and Zakharov.
- 6 **MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE:** Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:
26 October 1987—Message—
No. 22—Australian Land Transport (Financial Assistance) Amendment 1987.
No. 23—States Grants (General Revenue) Amendment 1987.
No. 24—States (Works and Housing) Assistance Amendment 1987.
- 7 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Mr Blunt, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Cobb, Mr McVeigh, Mr Robinson, Mr Ruddock, Mr Sharp and Mr Wright—from certain citizens praying that the major recommendations of the Senate Select Committee on the Human Embryo Experimentation Bill 1985 be implemented without delay.
- Mr Beale, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Courtice, Mr Hunt and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the circulation of X-rated videos be prevented and laws regarding obscenity in the media be revived and enforced.
- Mr Dobie, Mr Lloyd, Mr Porter, Mr Sharp and Mr White—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken within the Australian Taxation Office and other departments to counter tax evasion and fraudulent practices.
- Mr Beale, Mr T. A. Fischer, Mr Kent and Mr Milton—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 Cadman, Mr Cobb and Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens praying that the proposal for an identification card be rejected.
- Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens; and Mr Adermann and Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Divisions of Fairfax and Richmond, respectively, in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Hawker, Mr Ruddock and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that a referendum on the Australia Card Bill be held before the proposal is resubmitted to Parliament.
- Mr D. M. Cameron and Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that all action to close Telecom business offices cease immediately.
- Mr Andrew—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.
- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the Industrial Relations Bill be rejected.
- Mr Cadman—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—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that plans to introduce time charges for local telephone calls not be implemented.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that Telecom not proceed with timing local telephone calls.
- Mr Chynoweth—from certain citizens praying that funding continue for the Naranga Work Education Centre and the Nepean Education and Vocation Centre, Vic.

Mr Cobb—from certain citizens praying that the problems which identification cards are intended to reduce be attacked by other methods.

Mr Cobb—from certain citizens praying that any endeavour to introduce compulsory identification cards cease.

Mr Dobie—from certain citizens praying that the Kurnell peninsula, NSW, be rezoned.

Mrs Kelly—from Norman Parkes, John Pettifer and Douglas Blake, former Clerks of the House of Representatives, praying that the House not abide by the announced decision not to move the Speaker's Chair to the Chamber in the new Parliament House but take action to resolve that the Chair, together with the Despatch Boxes, be moved to the new Chamber when the transfer is effected in 1988.

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 McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken to prevent the implementation of the Australia Card legislation.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that the proposed closure of the Army Reserve subsection at Macksville, NSW, be stopped and a permanent depot be built.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.

Petitions received.

- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE:** The House was informed that Mr White had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Hawke Government's continuing neglect of the Australian Defence Force as evidenced by the record high wastage rates from the ADF and the reduction in the operational capabilities of the Australian Defence Force".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr White addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 9 EGG INDUSTRY RESEARCH (HEN QUOTA) LEVY 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 Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 10 COMMONWEALTH BORROWING LEVY 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 Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

- 11 COMMONWEALTH BORROWING LEVY COLLECTION 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 Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

12 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** Message No. 25, dated 27 October 1987, from the Senate was reported agreeing to the amendments made by the House in the following Bill: Australian National Railways Commission Amendment 1987.

13 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION OF APPOINTMENT:** The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 26

Madam Speaker,

The Senate, having considered Message No. 26 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following Resolution in connection therewith:

- (1) That the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 26 of the House of Representatives relating to amendments to the Resolution of appointment of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.
- (2) That the provisions of the Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

KERRY SIBRAA
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 27 October 1987

14 **DEFENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY BILL 1987:** The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mrs Kelly (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Paper: Mrs Kelly presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Mr White moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill, this House:

- (1) recognises that the housing needs of service men and women are one of the most important factors in their conditions of service; and
- (2) regrets the failure of the Government to assist in any adequate and practical way Australian Defence Force personnel to purchase privately built homes”.

Debate continued.

Mrs Kelly addressing the House—

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

Mrs Kelly requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Mrs Kelly continued her speech.

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

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 Mrs Kelly, the Bill was read a third time.

15 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mrs Kelly (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel) moved—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.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 27 October 1987:

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired for Pipeline Authority purposes, NSW.

Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under subsection 7 (1).

Navigation Act—Navigation (Orders) Regulations—Order—1987— No. 8—Marine,
Part 2.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Gayler, Mr Jones, Mr Macphee, Mr Prosser, Mr Snowdon and Mr Tuckey.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives