

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 53

WEDNESDAY, 20 APRIL 1988

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

2 **CRIMES (TORTURE) BILL 1988:** 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.

Paper: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, presented the following paper: Convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1984—Table detailing countries participating, date of signature and ratification.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Bowen, the Bill was read a third time.

3 **NATIONAL COMPANIES AND SECURITIES COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1988:** 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 Moore who 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 it is not appropriate to provide retrospective validation to certain directions by the National Companies and Securities Commission generally bestowing its powers and functions to be exercised by its Divisions which might otherwise be found to be invalid”.

Debate continued.

Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) addressing the House—

It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

5 **AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS:** Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industries and Energy), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning allegations of possible breaches of Australia's nuclear safeguards agreements, and presented the following papers:

Australian nuclear safeguards—

Ministerial statement, 20 April 1988.

Diagram showing major steps in the uranium fuel cycle.

Australian bilateral nuclear safeguards agreements in force at 20 April 1988. Mr Smith, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

6 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE: Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That Dr Klugman be appointed a member of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts.

Question—put and passed.

7 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE: Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That Mr McLeay be discharged from attendance on the Publications Committee and that, in his place, Mr Sawford be appointed a member of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

8 LIBRARY COMMITTEE: Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That Mr Robinson be appointed a member of the Library Committee.

Question—put and passed.

9 STANDING COMMITTEES—MEMBERSHIP: The House was informed of the nominations of Members to be members of the following standing committees:

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs:

Mr Wright had been nominated by the Government Whip in place of Mr Johns.

Standing Committee on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure:

Mr Price had been nominated by the Government Whip in place of Mr McLeay.

10 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate, dated 20 April 1988, were reported—

(a) concurring in subparagraph 2 (b) of the resolution of the House relating to a reference to, and the powers and proceedings of, the Standing Committees on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure, and agreeing that the provisions of the resolution have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders—Message No. 137.

(b) returning the Ministers of State Amendment Bill 1988 without amendment—Message No. 138.

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM: The House was informed that both Mr Carlton and Mr O'Keefe 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 Carlton, namely, "The damage being caused to Australia's higher education system by the Hawke Government's corporate state approach to our universities and colleges".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

13 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR SERVICE OF THE YEAR 1988-89—INTERIM PROVISION—SUPPLY BILL (NO. 1) 1988-89: Message No. 74, dated 16 April 1988, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

(a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1989 for which interim provision is necessary; and

- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1989, and for other purposes.

Mr Dawkins (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1989, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Peacock—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

14 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1988-89—INTERIM PROVISION—SUPPLY BILL (NO. 2)

1988-89: Message No. 75, dated 16 April 1988, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1989 for which interim provision is necessary; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1989, and for other purposes.

Mr Dawkins (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1989, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Peacock—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

15 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE IN RELATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1988-89—INTERIM PROVISION—SUPPLY (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL 1988-89: Message No. 76, dated 16 April 1988, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1989, in relation to—
 - (i) the Department of the Senate;
 - (ii) the Department of the House of Representatives;
 - (iii) the Department of the Parliamentary Reporting Staff;
 - (iv) the Department of the Parliamentary Library; and
 - (v) the Joint House Department,
 for which interim provision is necessary; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure, in relation to the Parliamentary Departments, in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1989, and for other purposes.

Mr Dawkins (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure, in relation to the Parliamentary Departments, in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1989, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Peacock—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

16 TRANSPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1988: Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport and Communications Support), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Navigation Act 1912* and various other Acts relating to transport, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr P. F. Morris moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper: Mr P. F. Morris presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

17 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1988: Mr P. F. Morris (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Industries Assistance Commission Act 1973*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr P. F. Morris moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper: Mr P. F. Morris presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

18 NATIONAL COMPANIES AND SECURITIES COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1988: 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 Moore, viz.*—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 it is not appropriate to provide retrospective validation to certain directions by the National Companies and Securities Commission generally bestowing its powers and functions to be exercised by its Divisions which might otherwise be found to be invalid”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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 Bowen (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

19 TEXTILES, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BILL 1988: The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Debate ensued.

Dr Hewson addressing the House—

20 ADJOURNMENT: It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 7.33 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 20 April 1988:
National Health Act—Pharmaceutical benefits information provision incentive
payment rules, pursuant to section 99AAA, dated 23 March 1988.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting)
except Mr N. A. Brown, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Charles, Mr Cohen, Mr
Cowan, Mr Duncan, Mr Gorman, Mr Grace, Mr Lavarch, Mr McLeay, Mr Price,
Mr Ruddock and Mr Uren.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives