

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 111

TUESDAY, 11 APRIL 1989

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:

Australia-Japan Foundation Act—Australia-Japan Foundation—Report and financial statements, including the Auditor-General's Report, for 1987-88.

Central and Local Trades Committees—Report for 1987-88.

Conciliation and Arbitration Act—President of the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission—32nd Report, for year ended 13 August 1988.

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Food processing and beverages industries—Interim report on government regulation of packaging and labelling, dated 24 February 1989 (No. 417).

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Report, including freedom of information statement, for 1987-88.

4 **ADMINISTRATION OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—PUBLICATION OF PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:**

Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the administration of Aboriginal affairs, and presented the following papers:

Administration of Aboriginal affairs—Ministerial statement, 11 April 1989.

Allegations as to the administration of Aboriginal affairs—Interim report of inquiry by Mr A. C. C. Menzies, dated April 1989.

Department of Finance—Reports—

Certain staff classification matters in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, dated March 1989.

Financial management of the Aboriginal Development Commission, dated March 1989.

Public Service Commission—Report on allegations about personnel management in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, dated March 1989.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1908*, authorises the publication of the following papers:

Allegations as to the administration of Aboriginal affairs—Interim report of inquiry by Mr A. C. C. Menzies, dated April 1989.

Department of Finance—Reports—

Certain staff classification matters in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, dated March 1989.

Financial management of the Aboriginal Development Commission, dated March 1989.

Public Service Commission—Report on allegations about personnel management in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, dated March 1989.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Beazley moved—That the House take note of the papers.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr Beazley, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition speaking for a period not exceeding 24 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “this House condemns the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs for his failure to correct the defects in the administration of Aboriginal Affairs which were apparent from the time of the dismissal of the Secretary to his Department as revealed by successive Government reports”.

Debate adjourned (Mr Lamb), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**5 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Hand (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the establishment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and presented the following papers:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission: The way ahead—Ministerial statement, 11 April 1989, including attachments—

A—Summary of the principal changes proposed to the ATSIC legislation.

B—Summary of the main changes affecting the Aboriginal Development Commission.

Aboriginal Development Commission Act—Directions pursuant to section 11, dated 11 April 1989.

Administration of Aboriginal Affairs—Senate Select Committee—Report, dated February 1989—Government response.

Mr Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr Humphreys, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the honourable Member for Braddon speaking for a period not exceeding 27 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued on the question—That the House take note of the papers.

Debate adjourned (Mr Snowdon), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**6 ADMINISTRATION OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—PAPERS NOTED:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Beazley (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented this day*)—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “this House condemns the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs for his failure to correct the defects in the administration of Aboriginal Affairs which were apparent from the time of the dismissal of the Secretary to his Department as revealed by successive Government reports”—

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)—

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Mr Baldwin	Mr Dubois	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mountford
Mr Beazley	Mr Duffy	Mr Johns	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beddall	Mr Duncan	Mr Jones	Mr O'Neil
Mr Bilney	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Kelly	Mr Price
Mr Blanchard	Ms Fatin	Mr Kent	Mr Punch
Dr Blewett	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kerin	Mr Saunderson
Mr Bowen	Mr Free	Mr Kerr	Mr Sawford
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scholes
Mr Brumby	Mr Gear	Mr Lamb*	Mr Sciacca
Mr Charles	Mr Gorman	Mr Langmore	Mr L. J. Scott
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Grace	Mr Lavarch	Mr Simmons
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr Cleland	Mr Hand	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snowdon
Mr Cohen	Mrs Harvey	Ms McHugh	Dr Theophanous
Mr Courtice	Mr Hawke	Mr McLeay	Mr Tickner
Ms Crawford	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	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	
Mr Dawkins	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr P. F. Morris	

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Mr Adermann	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Rocher
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr McArthur	Mr Shack
Mr Andrew*	Mr Downer	Mr McGauran	Mr Sharp
Mr Beale	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Blunt	Mr Fife	Mr Macphee	Mr Smith
Mr Braithwaite	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Miles	Mr Spender
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Millar	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Burr	Mr Hall	Mr Moore	Mr Taylor
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Mr Tuckey
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Webster
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Dr Hewson	Mr Porter	Mr White
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Prosser	Mr Wilson
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Reith	Dr Woods
Mr Connolly	Mr Katter	Mr Robinson	Dr Wooldridge

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

**7 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS—PAPERS NOTED:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented this day*), viz.:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission: The way ahead—Ministerial statement, 11 April 1989, including attachments—

A—Summary of the principal changes proposed to the ATSIC legislation.

B—Summary of the main changes affecting the Aboriginal Development Commission.

Aboriginal Development Commission Act—Directions pursuant to section 11, dated 11 April 1989.

Administration of Aboriginal Affairs—Senate Select Committee—Report, dated February 1989—Government response—

Question—put and passed.

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

10 April 1989—Message—

No. 324—Insurance Legislation Amendment 1989.

No. 325—General Insurance Supervisory Levy 1989 (*without requests*).

No. 326—Life Insurance Supervisory Levy 1989 (*without requests*).

- No. 327—Insurance Supervisory Levies Collection 1989.  
 No. 328—Qantas Airways Limited (Loan Guarantee) 1989.  
 No. 329—Ministers of State Amendment 1989.

- 9 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WAGES POLICY:** The House was informed that Mr Reith had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The threat to the national interest of wages policy built on the dictates of the unions".  
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
 Mr Reith addressed the House.  
 Discussion ensued.  
 Discussion concluded.
- 10 **EXCISE TARIFF PROPOSALS (NO. 2) 1989:** Mr Simmons (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel) moved Excise Tariff Proposals No. 2 (1989).  
 Debate adjourned (Mr Tuckey), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 11 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1988-89:** 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 Dr Hewson, 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 notes that:  
 (1) budget estimates put Commonwealth Government outlays at over a quarter of Australia's GDP, and that this is funded by revenue collection that has made this the highest taxing Government in the post-war history of Australia;  
 (2) the Government's budget strategy is in tatters with its key forecasts on inflation and the balance of payments wildly off-track;  
 (3) the Government is locked into a strategy of sole reliance on monetary policy and high interest rates to bring the economy back on track with the result that home loan interest rates are now at their highest level in Australia's history; and  
 (4) the process of micro-economic reform has stalled with the Government either stopping or delaying much needed structural policies which are crucial if Australia is to increase productivity and to reduce its unsustainably high level of foreign debt"—  
 Debate resumed.  
 Debate adjourned (Mr Millar), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 12 **TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Langmore presented the following report:  
 Transport, Communications and Infrastructure—Standing Committee—Report on proposals for variation 1988/5 to the plan of layout of the City of Canberra and its environs, dated April 1989 (Fourth report).  
 Ordered to be printed.  
 Mr Langmore and Mr T. A. Fischer, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 13 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1988-89:** 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 Dr Hewson (see entry No. 11)*—  
 Debate resumed.

Mr Millar addressing the House—

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*Adjournment negatived:* It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Hand (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

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Mr Millar continued his speech.

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

14 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Hand (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

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

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 April 1989:  
Fisheries Act—Copies of Agreements between the Commonwealth of Australia and—

Karina Fisheries Pty Ltd, dated 5 January 1989.

Port Lincoln Tuna Processors Pty Ltd, dated 16 December 1988.

Higher Education Funding Act—Determinations—1989—

T1—Grants for Expenditure for Operating Purposes.

T2—Grants for Expenditure for Limiting Operating Purposes.

T3—Grants in respect of Teaching Hospitals.

T4—Grants for drug and alcohol education in teaching hospitals.

T5 and T6—Grants for Building Projects.

T7—Grants for Renovation Projects.

T8—Grants for Expenditure for Operating Purposes.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr J. J. Brown, Mr J. L. Scott and Mr Uren\*.

\* On leave

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**A. R. BROWNING**

Clerk of the House of Representatives