

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 123

THURSDAY, 25 MAY 1989

1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Mr McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

Mr Anderson, Mr Baldwin, Mr Beale, Mr Bowen, Mr Courtice, Mr Fife, Mr P. S. Fisher, Mr Gorman, Mr Hall, Mr Holding, Mr McGauran, Mr Milton, Mr O'Neil, Mr Pratt, Mr Taylor, Mr Tickner and Mr White, from 606, 1026, 39, 50, 238, 84, 64, 22, 273, 110, 72, 94, 119, 1604, 226, 274 and 83 petitioners, respectively, praying that action to reverse rising cost trends be taken and positive incentives provided to encourage all health funds to share the cost of health care for the sick and elderly.

Mr Baldwin, Mrs Darling, Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Tickner, from 23, 13, 13 and 21 petitioners, respectively, praying that an International Earth Repair Action Decade begin on 5 June 1990.

Mr Cowan, Mr Smith, Mr Snow and Mr West, from 156, 15, 83 and 141 petitioners, respectively, praying that the provision of an adequately funded pharmaceutical benefits scheme which ensures availability of pharmaceutical benefits through local pharmacies be guaranteed.

Mr Smith, from 67 petitioners, in similar terms.

Mrs Darling, Mr Jull, Mr Millar and Mr White, from 24, 96, 106 and 137 petitioners, respectively, praying that the importation and availability of pornography in videos, films and television be banned and certain other action be taken in relation to pornography.

Mrs Darling, Mr Pratt, Mr Simmons and Mr Tickner, from 80, 27, 52 and 27 petitioners, respectively, praying that the decision to place certain pharmaceutical drugs on the "Authority only" listing be abandoned.

Mr Dobie, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Price and Mr Punch, from 25, 56, 150 and 49 petitioners, respectively, praying that the restructuring of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.

Mr Baldwin, Mr Lindsay and Mr McGauran, from 615, 11 and 95 petitioners, respectively, praying that the aged pension be increased to 30 per cent of average weekly earnings and certain other action be taken in relation to pensions.

Mr Cunringham and Mr Griffiths, from 25 and 109 petitioners, respectively, praying that mining and mineral exploration in the Kakadu conservation zone be halted and certain other action be taken in relation to Kakadu National Park.

Mr T. A. Fischer and Mr P. F. Morris, from 184 and 236 petitioners, respectively, praying that the importing and exporting of chlorofluorocarbons be banned and certain other legislative action be taken in response to the greenhouse effect.

- Mr Anderson, from 53 residents of the Warkton/Belar Creek area of Coonabarabran, NSW, praying that the proposal to reduce mail services to the Warkton mail service area be reconsidered.
- Mr Andrew, from 4036 petitioners, praying that a financially viable nursing home be maintained as an adjunct to the Star of the Sea Home for Aged at Wallaroo, SA.
- Mr N. A. Brown, from 865 petitioners, praying that the Parliament does all that is within its power and influence to halt immediately the cultural genocide occurring in Romania.
- Mrs Darling, from 66 electors of the Division of Lilley, praying for the implementation of promises that runway 14/32 at Brisbane Airport would not be used for jet aircraft.
- Mrs Darling, from 25 residents of Queensland, praying that immediate financial assistance be provided to the Salvation Army Boothville Maternity Hospital, Brisbane.
- Dr H. R. Edwards, from 306 residents of Berowra, NSW, praying that proposed cuts in funding of pharmaceutical benefits be rejected and a family chemist service maintained.
- Mr Fife, from 42 petitioners, praying that the excessive reliance on high interest rates as the major economic policy weapon cease.
- Mr T. A. Fischer, from 101 petitioners, praying that CPI-based increases to fuel excise be halved and the proportion of this tax spent on roads increased by one half.
- Mr T. A. Fischer, from 4 petitioners, praying that the administration of the tax file number related legislation be investigated.
- Mr Hicks, from 517 residents of Broken Hill, NSW, praying that increased funding be provided for support services to the frail and aged in Broken Hill and certain other action be taken in relation to aged care.
- Mr Jull, from 7 petitioners, praying that the necessary funds be provided to the Australian Federal Police and co-operation with State police forces be increased to combat crime, drug related violence and corruption.
- Mr Langmore, from 1295 petitioners, praying that construction of buildings for the National Museum of Australia commence immediately and that sufficient funds be provided to enable the Museum to operate effectively.
- Mr Pratt, from 408 petitioners, praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the Family Court of Australia, all bodies operating within the Court and the methodology used by these bodies.
- Mr Pratt, from 349 petitioners, praying that the Family Law Act be amended to ensure that the Family Court is open to media reporting and certain other action be taken in relation to access between non-custodial parents and children.
- Mr Prosser, from 2173 petitioners, praying that mining and tourism in the Antarctic be prevented and the Antarctic region be preserved as a heritage park.
- Mr West, from 168 petitioners, praying that the decision to place certain drugs on the "Authorities Required" list be reversed.

Petitions received.

- 3 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN REPORTS:** Mr D. M. Cameron, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the time for presentation and consideration of parliamentary committee and delegation reports continuing for a period not exceeding 1 hour 50 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

4 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Cross presented the following report and related papers:

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Committee—The priorities for Australia's mine countermeasure needs—

Report, dated May 1989.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Cross, Mr Halverson and Mr Bilney made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Cross moved—That the House take note of the report.

In accordance with sessional order 102B the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Thursday.

5 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr O'Keefe (Chairman) presented the following report and related papers:

Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Fairness, courtesy and efficiency?—Report on the quality of service provided by the Department of Social Security—

Report, dated May 1989.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr O'Keefe, Ms McHugh, Mr Sciacca, Mrs Harvey, Mr Dubois and Mr Johns made statements in connection with the report.

6 NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Cleeland (Chairman) presented the following report and related paper:

National Crime Authority—Joint Committee—Drugs, crime and society—

Report, including a dissenting report, dated May 1989.

Evidence received by the committee.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Cleeland and Mr MacKellar made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Cleeland moved—That the House take note of the report.

In accordance with sessional order 102B the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Thursday.

7 TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Saunderson (Chairman) presented the following report and related papers:

Transport, Communications and Infrastructure—Standing Committee—The role and functions of the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal—

Supplementary report, dated May 1989.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Saunderson and Mr Downer made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Saunderson made a further statement in connection with the report.

8 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Wright, by leave, presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to Indonesia and Vietnam, 18 January to 1 February 1989—Report—

and made a statement in connection with the report.

9 PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM: Mr Johns, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

(1) acknowledges the political endurance of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Margaret Thatcher, in having attained 10 years in government; and

(2) is appalled, however, at the policies which have delivered so many of her people into poverty and despair at the same time providing others with enormous wealth and power.

Debate ensued.

It being 12.30 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 104A and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Thursday.

10 GRIEVANCE DEBATE: Pursuant to the provisions of sessional order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

It being 1.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 106.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

11 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS: Members' statements were made.

12 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Papers: Mr Keating (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Government economic management—Copies of—

Press releases by—

Dr Hewson, dated—

3 May 1989.

17 May 1989.

Mr Keating, Treasurer, dated 16 May 1989.

Transcripts of interview of Dr Hewson on—

Radio 3LO, dated 17 May 1989.

TVAM, dated 25 May 1989.

Questions without notice continued.

13 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

NOTICE: Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent notice No. 1, government business, being called on forthwith.

Question—put and passed.

14 IMMIGRATION POLICY: Mr Hawke (Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

(1) acknowledges the important contribution which immigration has made to the economic, social and cultural development of Australia;

(2) recognises that bipartisan support for the dismantlement of the White Australia Policy and the adoption of a non-discriminatory immigration policy have been to the overwhelming national and international benefit of Australia;

(3) welcomes the support now publicly expressed by the newly-elected Leader of the Opposition on 9 May 1989 for a non-discriminatory and bipartisan immigration policy; and

- (4) reaffirms its unambiguous and unqualified commitment to the principle that, whatever criteria are applied by Australian Governments in exercising their sovereign right to determine the composition of the immigration intake, race or ethnic origin shall never, explicitly or implicitly, be among them.

Paper: Mr Hawke, by leave, presented the following paper:

Immigration policy—Copy of letter, together with motion to be proposed to Parliament, from Mr Hawke, Prime Minister, to Mr Peacock, Leader of the Opposition, dated 17 May 1989.

Mr Peacock (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That this House:” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “reaffirms the nine bipartisan principles of Australian immigration endorsed by successive Governments, namely:

Principle number 1

That it is fundamental to national sovereignty that the Australian Government alone should determine who will be admitted to Australia: no person, other than an Australian citizen, has a basic right to enter Australia.

Principle number 2

That apart from people admitted as refugees and for family reunion, migrant entry criteria should be developed on the basis of benefit to the Australian community, and the social, economic and related requirements within Australia: as a general rule, Australia should not admit for settlement people who would represent an economic burden to Australia through inordinate claims on welfare, health or other resources; who would endanger the community by criminal or other anti-social activities; or whose entry would be to their own detriment.

Principle number 3

That the size and composition of migrant intakes should not jeopardise social cohesiveness and harmony within the Australian community.

Principle number 4

That immigration policy should be applied on a basis which is non-discriminatory: there are external restraints on the extent to which Australia can apply a non-discriminatory policy; some countries will not allow their nationals to emigrate; other countries allow only those with exit permits to leave; some countries will not permit the emigration of skilled and professional workers; some countries will not allow advertising for migration purposes; others will not allow immigration offices to be established within their territories, or allow immigration officers to operate within their territories and, in addition, there are varying degrees of interest in migration to Australia in particular areas—the principle of non-discrimination means that the policy should be applied consistently to all applicants regardless of their race, colour, nationality, descent, national or ethnic origin, sex or religion.

Principle number 5

That applicants should be considered for migration as individuals or individual family units, not as community groups: an exception would be refugees in designated refugee situations, although even in such circumstances the criteria for selection should be related to the characteristics of individual applicants.

Principle number 6

That eligibility and suitability standards for migrants should reflect Australian social mores and Australian laws: polygamous unions should not be accepted, nor the entry of child fiances or fiancées, the concept of immediate family, for eligibility purposes, should be derived from the Australian norm, i.e. the unit consisting of husband, wife and minor unmarried children.

Principle number 7

That migration to Australia should be for permanent settlement although there should be no barrier preventing the departure of persons wishing to leave: the guest-worker migration flow, until recently popular in the industrialised countries of Western Europe, should not be adopted for Australia.

Principle number 8

That while migrants should have the same rights as other Australian residents to choose their place of residence individually or collectively, enclave settlement should not be encouraged: immigration policy should not consider communities for mass movement to Australia in situations where closed enclave settlement would occur.

Principle number 9

That policies governing entry and settlement should be based on the premise that migrants should integrate into Australian society: migrants should be given every opportunity, consistent with this premise, to preserve and disseminate their ethnic heritage”.

Paper: Mr Peacock, by leave, presented the following paper:

Immigration and ethnic affairs policy of the Liberal Party and National Party of Australia.

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

The House divided (the Acting Speaker, Mr McLeay, in the Chair)—

AYES, 77

Mr Baldwin	Mr Dawkins	Mr Johns	Mr Price
Mr Beazley	Mr Dubois	Mr Jones	Mr Punch
Mr Beddall	Mr Duffy	Mrs Kelly	Mr Saunderson
Mr Bilney	Mr Duncan	Mr Kent	Mr Sawford
Mr Blanchard	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Kerin	Mr Scholes
Dr Blewett	Ms Fatin	Mr Kerr	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bowen	Mr Fitzgibbon	Dr Klugman	Mr J. L. Scott
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Free	Mr Lamb*	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gear	Mr Langmore	Mr Simmons
Mr Brumby	Mr Gorman	Mr Lavarch	Mr Snowdon
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace	Mr Lee	Mr Staples
Mr Charles	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lindsay	Dr Theophanous
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Hand	Ms McHugh	Mr Tickner
Mr Chynoweth	Mrs Harvey	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Cleland	Mr Hawke	Mr Mildren	Mr West
Mr Courtice	Mr Holding	Mr Milton	Mr Willis
Ms Crawford	Mr Hollis	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Wright
Mr Cross	Mr Humphreys	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Cunningham*	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr O'Keefe	
Mrs Darling	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Neil	

NOES, 56

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

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

15 **SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT:** Mr McLeay (Chairman) presented the report of the Selection Committee relating to the program of business prior to 12.30 p.m. on Thursday, 1 June 1989, and on the first sitting Thursday of the Budget period of sittings.

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

Department of Administrative Services—Papers, dated May 1989—
External consultants 1987-88.

Summary of quarterly returns to the Minister for Finance on reports by the Auditor-General.

Housing Assistance Act—Report on operation of Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement for 1987-88.

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Commercial tariff concessions (PVC foam blocks and DC electric motors), dated 1 February 1989 (No. 416).

17 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AVIATION STANDARDS AND INFRASTRUCTURE:** The House was informed that Mr Jull had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The decline of aviation standards and infrastructure and its effect on the Australian economy".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Jull addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

18 **LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1989:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend various Acts relating to law and justice, 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 Smith), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

19 **BILLS—LIMITATION OF DEBATE—VARIATION OF ALLOTMENT OF TIME:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) moved—That the time allotted in connection with the Community Services and Health Legislation Amendment Bill 1989, Supported Accommodation Assistance Bill 1989, Income Equalization Deposits Laws Amendment Bill 1989 and Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 3) 1989 be varied as follows:

(1) Community Services and Health Legislation Amendment Bill—For the remaining stages, until 8.55 p.m. this day.

(2) Supported Accommodation Assistance Bill—For the remaining stages, until 9 p.m. this day.

(3) Income Equalization Deposits Laws Amendment Bill—For the remaining stages, until 10.10 p.m. this day.

(4) Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 3)—For the remaining stages, until 10.50 p.m. this day.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

20 **COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1989:**

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.

Limitation of debate: At 8.55 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the remaining stages of the Bill had expired—

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

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 212, dated 12 May 1989, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Further question—That the remaining stages of the Bill be agreed to—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 21 **SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE BILL 1989:** 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.

Limitation of debate: At 9 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the remaining stages of the Bill had expired—

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

Further question—That the remaining stages of the Bill be agreed to—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 22 **INCOME EQUALIZATION DEPOSITS LAWS AMENDMENT BILL 1989:** 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.

Limitation of debate: At 10.10 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the remaining stages of the Bill had expired—

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

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 213, dated 24 May 1989, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Further question—That the remaining stages of the Bill be agreed to—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 23 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1989:** 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.

Limitation of debate: At 10.50 p.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the remaining stages of the Bill had expired—

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

Further question—That the remaining stages of the Bill be agreed to—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

- 24 **MOTOR VEHICLE STANDARDS BILL 1989:** 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 R. J. Brown (Minister for Land Transport and Shipping Support), the Bill was read a third time.

25 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1989: 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.

The House continuing to sit until after 12 midnight—

FRIDAY, 26 MAY 1989

Debate continued.

Limitation of debate: At 12.40 a.m., the Deputy Speaker having called the attention of the House to the fact that the time allotted for the remaining stages of the Bill had expired—

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

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 214, dated 24 May 1989, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Further question—That the remaining stages of the Bill be agreed to—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

26 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 12.42 a.m., adjourned until Monday next at 2 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 May 1989:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for aviation purposes, Luddenham, NSW.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Agents Ordinance—Declaration pursuant to subsection 3 (2)—1989—No. 3.

Determinations listing fees and/or charges for the purposes of the following Ordinances—1989—

No. 5—Ombudsman.

No. 6—Freedom of Information.

No. 7—Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Taxation (Administration) Ordinance—Determination—1989—No. 1—Stamp Duties (Marketable Securities).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Akred, Mrs Child, Mr Howe, Mr Macphee, Mr Mountford, Mr Porter and Mr Snow.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives