

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 103

WEDNESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 1991

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

 - 2 **FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Martin (Chairman) presented the following report and related papers:
 - Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—A pocket full of change: Banking and deregulation—
 - Report, incorporating a dissenting report, November 1991.
 - Conclusions and recommendations, November 1991.
 - Evidence received by the committee.
 - Minutes of proceedings.
 Ordered—That the report be printed.
 Mr Martin, by leave, moved—That the House take note of the report.
 Debate ensued.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Campbell), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

 - 3 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
 - 27 November 1991 a.m.—Message No. 341—International Monetary Fund (Quota Increase and Agreement Amendments) 1991.

 - 4 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—PUBLIC SERVICE AMENDMENT BILL 1991:**
 - Message No. 340, dated 26 November 1991, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the ‘Public Service Act 1922’, and for related purposes*”.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Free (Minister for Science and Technology) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Paper: Mr Free presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.
 Debate adjourned (Dr R. L. Woods), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

 - 5 **THE ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** 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 paper (*presented on 14 November 1991*), viz.:
 - The economy and employment—Ministerial statement, 14 November 1991—
 Debate resumed.

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

Waterfront and foreign shipping—Inspection report of vessel *Lok Maheshwari*—Copies of documents (2).

Debate continued.

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

6 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSAL: Mr Beddall (Minister for Small Business and Customs) moved Customs Tariff Proposal No. 11 (1991).

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

7 CONDUCT OF QUESTION TIME—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER: The Speaker made a statement relating to the conduct of question time.

8 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice having been called on—

Suspension of standing and sessional orders moved: Mr Reith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Treasurer responding forthwith to the Coalition's 'Fightback' program.

Debate ensued.

The time allowed by standing order 91 for debate on the motion having expired—

Question—put.

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

AYES, 64

Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson
Mr Anderson	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr J. N. Andrew*	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Shack
Mr Atkinson	Mr Filing	Mr Mack	Mr Sharp
Mrs Bailey	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Beale	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr McLachlan	Mr Smith
Mr Bradford	Mr Ford	Mr Miles	Mr Somlyay
Mr Braithwaite	Mrs Gallus	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Carlton	Mr Halverson	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Chaney	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Tuckey
Mr Charles	Dr Hewson	Mr Prosser	Mr Webster
Mr Cobb	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reid	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Reith	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Costello	Mr Jull	Mr Riggall	Dr Wooldridge

NOES, 70

Mr Baldwin	Mr Elliott	Mr Johns	Mr Punch
Mr Beazley	Ms Fatin	Mr Jones	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beddall	Mr Ferguson	Mr Keating	Mr Scholes
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mrs Kelly	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bilney	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr J. L. Scott
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Gibson	Mr Lavarch	Mr Simmons
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace*	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Courtice	Mr Hand	Mr Martin	Mr Tickner
Ms Crawford	Mr Hawke	Mr Melham	Mr Walker
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr West
Mrs Crosio	Mr Howe	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hulls	Mr Newell	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Dubois	Mr Humphreys	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Wright
Mr Duncan	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr O'Neil	
Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr Price	

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Suspension of standing and sessional orders moved: Mr Reith moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Deputy Leader of the Opposition moving forthwith: “That this House censures the Treasurer for failing to debate the merits of the only policy agenda before the nation, the ‘Fightback’ package”.

Closure of Member: Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 70

Mr Baldwin	Mr Elliott	Mr Johns	Mr Punch
Mr Beazley	Ms Fatin	Mr Jones	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beddall	Mr Ferguson	Mr Keating	Mr Scholes
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mrs Kelly	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bilney	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr J. L. Scott
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Gibson	Mr Lavarch	Mr Simmons
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace*	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Courtice	Mr Hand	Mr Martin	Mr Tickner
Ms Crawford	Mr Hawke	Mr Melham	Mr Walker
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr West
Mrs Crosio	Mr Howe	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hulls	Mr Newell	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Dubois	Mr Humphreys	Mr O’Keefe	Mr Wright
Mr Duncan	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr O’Neil	
Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr Price	

NOES, 63

Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew*	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Shack
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Filing	Mr Mack	Mr Sharp
Mr Atkinson	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mrs Bailey	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr McLachlan	Mr Smith
Mr Beale	Mr Ford	Mr Miles	Mr Somlyay
Mr Bradford	Mrs Gallus	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Tuckey
Mr Chaney	Dr Hewson	Mr Prosser	Mr Webster
Mr Charles	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reid	Mr Wilson
Mr Cobb	Mr Howard	Mr Reith	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Connolly	Mr Jull	Mr Riggall	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr T. A. Fischer (Leader of the National Party of Australia—second) addressing the House—

Closure of Member: Mr Beazley moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 70

Mr Baldwin	Mr Elliott	Mr Johns	Mr Punch
Mr Beazley	Ms Fatin	Mr Jones	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beddall	Mr Ferguson	Mr Keating	Mr Scholes
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mrs Kelly	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bilney	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr J. L. Scott
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Gibson	Mr Lavarch	Mr Simmons
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace*	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Courtice	Mr Hand	Mr Martin	Mr Tickner
Ms Crawford	Mr Hawke	Mr Melham	Mr Walker
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr West
Mrs Crosio	Mr Howe	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hulls	Mr Newell	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Dubois	Mr Humphreys	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Wright
Mr Duncan	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr O'Neil	
Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr Price	

NOES, 63

Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew*	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Shack
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Filing	Mr Mack	Mr Sharp
Mr Atkinson	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mrs Bailey	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr McLachlan	Mr Smith
Mr Beale	Mr Ford	Mr Miles	Mr Somlyay
Mr Bradford	Mrs Gallus	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Tuckey
Mr Chaney	Dr Hewson	Mr Prosser	Mr Webster
Mr Charles	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reid	Mr Wilson
Mr Cobb	Mr Howard	Mr Reith	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Connolly	Mr Jull	Mr Riggall	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr Beazley addressing the House—

Closure of Member moved: Mr Sinclair moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put and negated.

Closure: Mr Beazley moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 71

Mr Baldwin	Mr Elliott	Mr Johns	Mr Price
Mr Beazley	Ms Fatin	Mr Jones	Mr Punch
Mr Beddall	Mr Ferguson	Mr Keating	Mr Sawford*
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scholes
Mr Bilney	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr Sciacca
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerr	Mr J. L. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Gibson	Mr Lavarch	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Simmons
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace*	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Snowdon
Mr Courtice	Mr Hand	Mr Mack	Mr Staples
Ms Crawford	Mr Hawke	Mr Martin	Mr Tickner
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr Melham	Mr Walker
Mrs Crosio	Mr Howe	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr West
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hulls	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Willis
Mr Dubois	Mr Humphreys	Mr Newell	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Duncan	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Wright
Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Neil	

NOES, 62

Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr Anderson	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr Shack
Mr J. N. Andrew*	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Sharp
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Filing	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Atkinson	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr McLachlan	Mr Smith
Mrs Bailey	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Miles	Mr Somlyay
Mr Beale	Mr Ford	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Bradford	Mrs Gallus	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hall	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Peacock	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Prosser	Mr Webster
Mr Chaney	Dr Hewson	Mr Reid	Mr Wilson
Mr Charles	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reith	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Cobb	Mr Howard	Mr Riggall	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Connolly	Mr Jull	Mr Ronaldson	
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion for the suspension of standing and sessional orders be agreed to—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 63

Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew*	Mr Fife	Mr McGauran	Mr Shack
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Filing	Mr Mack	Mr Sharp
Mr Atkinson	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mrs Bailey	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr McLachlan	Mr Smith
Mr Beale	Mr Ford	Mr Miles	Mr Somlyay
Mr Bradford	Mrs Gallus	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Tuckey
Mr Chaney	Dr Hewson	Mr Prosser	Mr Webster
Mr Charles	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reid	Mr Wilson
Mr Cobb	Mr Howard	Mr Reith	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Connolly	Mr Jull	Mr Riggall	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	

NOES, 70

Mr Baldwin	Mr Elliott	Mr Johns	Mr Punch
Mr Beazley	Ms Fatin	Mr Jones	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beddall	Mr Ferguson	Mr Keating	Mr Scholes
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mrs Kelly	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bilney	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr J. L. Scott
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Gibson	Mr Lavarch	Mr Simmons
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace*	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Mr Courtice	Mr Hand	Mr Martin	Mr Tickner
Ms Crawford	Mr Hawke	Mr Melham	Mr Walker
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr West
Mrs Crosio	Mr Howe	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hulls	Mr Newell	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Dubois	Mr Humphreys	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Wright
Mr Duncan	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr O'Neil	
Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr Price	

* Tellers

And so it was negated.

Questions without notice were asked.

9 **AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER:** The Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 13 of 1991-92—Efficiency audit—Evaluation in preparation of the Budget.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That:

- (1) this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1908*, authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit report No. 13 of 1991-92; and
- (2) the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

10 **PAPER:** The Speaker presented the following paper:

Public Service Act—Department of the Parliamentary Library—Report for 1990-91.

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

Australia France Foundation—Report for 1990-91.

Australian Securities Commission Act—

Australian Accounting Standards Board—Report for period 24 May to 30 June 1991.

Companies Auditors and Liquidators Disciplinary Board—Report for 1990-91.

Companies Act—Accounting Standards Review Board—Report for 1990-91.

Employment, Education and Training Act—National Board of Employment, Education and Training—

Report—Assistance for disadvantaged jobseekers, November 1991.

Report by the Australian Research Council, including the Board's comments—Postgraduate awards for Bond University students, November 1991.

Ombudsman Act—Commonwealth and Defence Force Ombudsman—Report, including reports made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and the Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act, for 1990-91.

Public Service Act—

Department of Employment, Education and Training—Report for 1990-91.

Department of Industrial Relations—Report, incorporating a report on the operation of Part V of the Industrial Relations Act, for 1990-91.

Department of Primary Industries and Energy—Report for 1990-91.

Telecommunications Act—Australian Telecommunications Authority (AUSTEL)—Report for 1990-91.

12 **ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—

- (1) That the House invites Mr George Bush, the President of the United States of America, to attend and address the House, on Thursday, 2 January 1992, at a time to be notified by the Speaker.
- (2) That the House invites the Senate to meet with the House in this chamber for this purpose.
- (3) That, at the meeting of the two Houses for this purpose:
 - (a) the Speaker shall preside at the meeting;
 - (b) the only proceedings shall be an address by the President of the United States of America, after which the Speaker shall forthwith adjourn the House and declare the meeting concluded; and
 - (c) the procedures of the House shall apply to the meeting so far as they are applicable.
- (4) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.

(5) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

27 November 1991—Message—

No. 342—Broadcasting Amendment (No. 2) 1991.

No. 343—Radio Licence Fees Amendment 1991 (*without requests*).

No. 344—Television Licence Fees Amendment 1991.

14 TREASURER—MOTION OF CENSURE: Mr Reith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, moved—That this House censures the Treasurer for failing to constructively and in a measured and informed way debate the merits of the only policy agenda before the nation, the “Fightback” package.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Mr Wright moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr R. F. Edwards, in the Chair)—

AYES, 61

Mr Aldred	Mr Connolly	Dr Kemp	Mr Shack
Mr Anderson	Mr Costello	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr J. N. Andrew*	Mr Cowan	Mr McArthur	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Downer	Mr McGauran	Mr Smith
Mr Atkinson	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr MacKellar	Mr Somlyay
Mrs Bailey	Mr Fife	Mr McLachlan	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Beale	Mr Filing	Mr Miles	Mr Taylor
Mr Bradford	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Moore	Mr Truss
Mr Braithwaite	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Nehl	Mr Tuckey
Mr Broadbent	Mrs Gallus	Mr Nugent	Mr Webster
Mr Burr	Mr Hall	Mr Peacock	Mr Wilson
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Prosser	Dr R. L. Woods
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Chaney	Mr Hicks*	Mr Riggall	
Mr Charles	Mr Howard	Mr Ronaldson	
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock	

NOES, 66

Mr Baldwin	Mr Ferguson	Mrs Kelly	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beazley	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kerin	Mr Scholes
Mr Beddall	Mr Free	Mr Kerr	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bevis	Mr Gayler	Mr Lavarch	Mr J. L. Scott
Dr Blewett	Mr Gibson	Mr Lee	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Brereton	Mr Gorman	Mr Lindsay	Mr Simmons
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Grace*	Ms McHugh	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Griffiths	Mr Mack	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Hand	Mr Martin	Mr Staples
Mr Courtice	Mr Holding	Mr Melham	Mr Tickner
Ms Crawford	Mr Hulls	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Walker
Mr Crean	Mr Humphreys	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr West
Mrs Crosio	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Newell	Mr Willis
Mr Dubois	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Keefe	Mr H. F. Woods
Mr Duncan	Mr Johns	Mr O'Neil	Mr Wright
Mr Elliott	Mr Jones	Mr Price	
Ms Fatin	Mr Keating	Mr Punch	

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

15 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ECONOMIC POLICY: The House was informed that Mr T. A. Fischer (Leader of the National Party of Australia) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The urgent

need for a more visionary approach to solving Australia's economic malaise, including the total abolition of: Wholesale Sales Tax, Fuel Excise, Payroll Tax, Lump Sum Superannuation Tax, Training Guarantee Levy, Customs Duty and the Coal Export Duty".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr T. A. Fischer rising to address the House—

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put and passed.

- 16 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1991: Message No. 345, dated 26 November 1991, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to amend various Acts relating to law and justice, and for related purposes*".

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 17 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—PRIVATE MEMBERS' 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. 2, private Members' business, given for Wednesday, 27 November 1991, being called on forthwith.

Question—put and passed.

- 18 EAST TIMOR: Mr Gibson, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) expresses its deepest sympathy to the people of East Timor for the appalling tragedy they experienced with the Dili massacre of 12 November 1991;
- (2) condemns in the strongest terms the resort by the Indonesian military to force which on every account was wholly excessive;
- (3) regards as deeply repugnant the reported comments of the Indonesian Commander-in-Chief on the day following the massacre that the "disruptors ... had to be shot";
- (4) notes the Indonesian Government's decision to establish a National Commission of Investigation to investigate all aspects of the massacre, and calls upon it to take every necessary step to ensure to the satisfaction of both the East Timorese and international communities:
 - (a) that the inquiry is "free, accurate, just and thorough", as promised;
 - (b) that it is conducted fairly and impartially, with all witnesses guaranteed protection against intimidation or retaliation; and
 - (c) that appropriate action is taken against those found to be responsible for unlawful or excessive acts;
- (5) further calls upon the Indonesian Government:
 - (a) to provide immediate access by humanitarian and aid groups, especially the International Committee of the Red Cross, to those wounded or detained as a result of the events of 12 November and other recent incidents in East Timor, without any prejudice to those so visited;
 - (b) to respond promptly to requests for information in relation to detained or missing persons about whom concern has been expressed following the events of 12 November and other recent incidents;
 - (c) to release all political prisoners detained because of their opposition to the integration of East Timor with Indonesia; and

- (d) to guarantee that individuals who express peaceful opposition to the integration of East Timor with Indonesia are free from intimidation, harassment or detention;
- (6) requests the Government to instruct the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia to make an early visit, and subsequently regular visits, to East Timor to report fully on all aspects of the present situation and the progress of the National Commission of Investigation;
- (7) requests the Australian Government, having regard to the full range of its policies toward and bilateral contacts with Indonesia, to give consideration to the steps which it might take to review these policies and contacts in the event that the Indonesian investigation and follow-up action is unsatisfactory, for example the suspension of military training programs;
- (8) notes the importance of any Australian Government response to the 12 November massacre not only reflecting the deep concern of the wider Australian community but also being consistent with Australia's own national interests and above all with the interests and welfare of the East Timorese people;
- (9) calls, accordingly, upon the Government to explore all possible constructive avenues for:
 - (a) guaranteeing the effectiveness of the investigation process and its follow-up;
 - (b) achieving a peaceful resolution of the on-going conflict, including by requesting the Indonesian Government, in the Prime Minister's words, to "sit down with the people of East Timor including the resistance forces and try and work out a program of achieving peaceable relations"; and
 - (c) meeting the longer-term needs and aspirations of the East Timorese people; and
- (10) in particular in these respects, requests that:
 - (a) the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade make an early visit to Indonesia to discuss all aspects of the East Timor situation, including the events of 12 November and options for effective longer-term reconciliation;
 - (b) active steps be taken to explore the role which might now be played, with wide international support, by the United Nations and its Secretary-General;
 - (c) strong support be given to the role of the International Commission of the Red Cross in protecting and promoting human rights in East Timor, through continued representations to the Indonesian authorities and if possible targeted financial assistance; and
 - (d) approval be sought for the establishment of a resident Australian Consulate in Dili.

Mr Ruddock moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "the House:

- (1) expresses its deep sympathy to the people of East Timor for the appalling tragedy they experienced with the Dili massacre of 12 November 1991;
- (2) condemns in the strongest terms the resort by the Indonesian military to excessive force;
- (3) notes the Indonesian Government's decision to establish a National Commission of Investigation to investigate all aspects of the massacre, and calls upon it to take every necessary step to ensure to the satisfaction of both the East Timorese and the international communities:
 - (a) that the inquiry is 'free, accurate, just and thorough', as promised;
 - (b) that it is conducted fairly and impartially, with witnesses guaranteed protection against intimidation or retaliation; and

- (c) that appropriate action is taken against those found to be responsible for unlawful or excessive acts;
- (4) further calls upon the Indonesian Government:
 - (a) to provide immediate access by humanitarian and aid groups, especially the International Committee of the Red Cross, to those wounded or detained as a result of the events of 12 November and other recent incidents in East Timor, without any prejudice to those so visited;
 - (b) to respond promptly to requests for information in relation to detained or missing persons about whom concern has been expressed following the events of 12 November and other recent incidents;
 - (c) to release all prisoners detained without trial;
 - (d) to guarantee that individuals who express peaceful opposition to the integration of East Timor with Indonesia are free from intimidation, harassment or detention; and
- (5) requests the Government to instruct the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia to make an early visit and subsequently regular visits to East Timor to report fully to Parliament on all aspects of the present situation and the progress of the National Commission of Investigation".

Debate continued.

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

- 19 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Snowdon (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Communications) moved—That the House do now adjourn. Debate ensued.

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

Human pituitary-derived gonadotrophin injections and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease—Copies of letters from—

Mr P. Costello, MP, to Dr P. Schiff, Consultant Services Director, Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, 26 July 1991.

Peter Tuohy, Company Secretary, Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Limited, to Mr P. Costello, MP, 8 August 1991.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11.59 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Cameron, Dr Catley, Mrs Darling*, Mr Duffy, Mr Gear*, Mr Langmore, Mr Rocher* and Dr Theophanous.

*On leave

L. M. BARLIN
Clerk of the House of Representatives