

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 112

WEDNESDAY, 4 MARCH 1992

-
- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment.
 - 2 **ABSENCE OF SPEAKER:** The Clerk having informed the House that the Speaker (the Honourable Leo McLeay) was absent until later this day, the Chairman of Committees (Mr R. F. Edwards) took the Chair as Acting Speaker, and read Prayers.
 - 3 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1992:** 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—Mr Burr dissenting.
Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Baldwin (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.
 - 4 **SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1992:** 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 Braithwaite 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 notes that the Government's family allowance proposal is little more than a one-off electoral gimmick—albeit a very costly one—which pales into insignificance when compared to the Coalition's 'Fightback' proposal for substantial and permanent increases".
Debate continued.
Amendment negatived.
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. 239, dated 3 March 1992, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Dr Blewett (Minister for Social Security), the Bill was read a third time.
 - 5 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice being asked—

Suspension of standing and sessional orders—Motion of censure of Treasurer:
Mr Reith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) 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 his role in the Government's attempt to grossly distort the benefits provided to Australians by the Coalition's "Fightback" package.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

Treasurer—Motion of censure: Mr Reith moved—That this House censures the Treasurer for his role in the Government's attempt to grossly distort the benefits provided to Australians by the Coalition's "Fightback" package.

Mr Dawkins (Treasurer) moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "this House censures the Opposition for:

- (1) its disgraceful and unjustified attacks upon important public institutions;
- (2) its misleading and incompetently costed 'Fightback' package;
- (3) its advocacy of a package which massively disadvantages low income earners but benefits high income earners;
- (4) its advocacy of a medical system which would place the health of the bulk of the Australian population hostage to their purse;
- (5) its failure to address the employment, education and training needs of Australia's young people;
- (6) its deceitful estimates of employment growth under its proposition;
- (7) its deliberate persecution of those who are social security and unemployment beneficiaries;
- (8) its failure to address the infrastructure requirements of microeconomic reform programs; and
- (9) its complete failure to review business taxation on investment critical to encouraging employment creating growth".

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

AYES, 69

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

NOES, 64

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

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion, as amended, be agreed to—put.

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

AYES, 69

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

NOES, 64

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

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Questions without notice concluded.

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

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 21 of 1991-92—Project audit—Department of Employment, Education and Training: National accounting and financial management system.

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. 21 of 1991-92; and
- (2) the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

7 CLIENT SERVICE DELIVERY IN DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER: Dr Blewett (Minister for Social Security), by leave, made a ministerial statement on Government initiatives

designed to improve client service delivery in the Department of Social Security, and presented the following paper:

Client service delivery in the Department of Social Security—Supplement to the ministerial statement by Dr Blewett, Minister for Social Security, 4 March 1992.

Mr Braithwaite, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

- 8 OZONE PROTECTION AMENDMENT BILL 1992:** Mrs Kelly (Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment and Territories), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Ozone Protection Act 1989*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Kelly moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

- 9 SALES TAX LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1992:** 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 Rocher who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “while not opposing the passage of the Bill, the House notes that the Bill adds further complexity to an already complex wholesale sales tax system and calls on the Government to abolish this ramshackle system and replace it with an efficient and more equitable goods and services tax”.

Debate continued.

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 4 March 1992:

Fisheries Act—

Notice—1991—No. SSF 5.

Plan of Management—1991—No. SEF 1.

Health Insurance Act—Determination pursuant to subsection 3C(1), 20 February 1992.

National Health Act—Pharmaceutical Benefits—Rules—1992—No. PB1.

Public Service Act—Determinations—

1991—No. 231.

1992—Nos. 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 108, LES 1, LES 2, LES 3.

States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act 1988—Determination of amounts and approval of payments under sections 16A and 17—SEP 92/4, SEP 92/5, SEP 92/6.

ATTENDANCE: All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mrs Bailey, Mr Bilney, Mr Carlton, Mr Costello, Mr Hicks, Mr Jones, Mr Sciacca, Mr Snowdon, Mr Staples and Mr Tuckey.

L. M. BARLIN
Clerk of the House of Representatives