

1993-94

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 51

**TUESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 1994**  

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1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Stephen Martin) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 RETURN TO WRIT—WERRIWA DIVISION**

The Speaker announced that he had received a return to the writ which he had issued on 24 December 1993 for the election of a Member to serve for the electoral division of Werriwa, in the State of New South Wales, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Honourable John Charles Kerin and that, by the endorsement on the writ, it was certified that Mark Latham had been elected.

**3 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

**4 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

AeroSpace Technologies of Australia Limited—Report for 1992-93.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—Equal employment opportunity program—Civil Aviation Authority—Report for 1992-93.

**5 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following papers:

AeroSpace Technologies of Australia Limited—Report for 1992-93.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—Equal employment opportunity program—Civil Aviation Authority—Report for 1992-93.

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

**6 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

The House was informed that Mrs Gallus had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The total failure of the Government to adequately address key environmental issues in Australia".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—  
Mrs Gallus addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**7 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL 1993**

Message No. 194, dated 7 February 1994, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*”.

Bill read a first time.

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

**8 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIAN SPACE COUNCIL BILL 1993**

Message No. 195, dated 7 February 1994, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to establish the Australian Space Council, 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.

**9 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1993-94—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1993-94**

Message No. 109, dated 8 February 1994, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1994; 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 appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1993-94*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1994, and for related purposes.

Mr Beazley (Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1993-94*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1994, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**10 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1993-94—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1993-94**

Message No. 110, dated 8 February 1994, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of certain proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1994; 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 appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1993-94*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1994, and for related purposes.

Mr Beazley (Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1993-94*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on ending on 30 June 1994, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**11 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE IN RELATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS FOR YEAR 1993-94—APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 1993-94**

Message No. 111, dated 8 February 1994, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1994; 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 appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act 1993-94*, for certain expenditure in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1994, and for related purposes.

Mr Beazley (Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the sums appropriated by the *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act 1993-94*, for certain expenditure in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1994, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**12 BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS—JOINT COMMITTEE—REFERENCE—SENATE MESSAGE NO. 189**

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of message No. 189 from the Senate (*reported 7 February 1994, see page 724*)—

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That—

- (1) the House concurs in the resolution transmitted to the House in message No. 189 of the Senate relating to the proposed reference to the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings; and
- (2) a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution.

Question—put and passed.

**13 SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1993**

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.

Mr Dobie was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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

**14 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PROCEDURES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Keating (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to changes to procedures in the House of Representatives and informed the House of the Government's intention to accept the majority of recommendations made by the Procedure Committee in its report entitled *About time: Bills, questions and working hours*, and presented the following paper:

House of Representatives procedures—Ministerial statement, 8 February 1994.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

*Suspension of standing and sessional orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr Beazley moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent Dr Hewson (Leader of the Opposition) speaking for a period not exceeding 19 minutes.

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

Dr Hewson addressed the House.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bilney—Minister for Development Co-operation and Pacific Island Affairs), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**15 SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1993**

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.

*Message from the Governor-General:* Message No. 112, dated 26 November 1993, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

*In the committee*

Clauses 1 and 2, by leave, taken together, and agreed to, after debate.

Clause 3—

Mr Sciacca (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Security), by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Page 2, subclause (1), line 11, omit “to all”, substitute “only to”.

Page 2, subclause (1), line 13, omit “whether made before”, substitute “that are made on”.

*Paper:* Mr Sciacca presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate ensued.

Amendments agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 4 to 26, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clauses 27 to 29, by leave, taken together.

Mr Sciacca, by leave, moved the following amendment:

Part 7 (clauses 27 to 29), page 14, line 30 to page 16, line 15, omit the Part, substitute:

**“PART 7—VALUE OF ASSETS USED IN PRIMARY PRODUCTION**

**Effect of certain liabilities on value of assets used in primary production**

“27. Section 1121A of the Principal Act is amended:

- (a) by omitting the Method statement from subsection (2) and substituting the following Method statement:

*Method statement*

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|----------------|---|
| <i>Step 1.</i> | Add together the value of the assets referred to in paragraph (1)(b): the result is called the <b>gross primary production asset value</b> .  |
| <i>Step 2.</i> | Work out the value of the assets referred to in paragraph (1)(b) that are exempt assets: the result is called the <b>exempt primary production asset value</b> .<br>Note 1: For “exempt assets” see subsection (4).<br>Note 2: If none of the assets referred to in paragraph (1)(b) are exempt assets, the exempt primary production asset value is nil. |
| <i>Step 3.</i> | Take the amount obtained in Step 2 away from the amount obtained in Step 1: the result is called the <b>non-exempt primary production asset value</b> .   |
| <i>Step 4.</i> | Add together the value of the liabilities referred to in paragraph (1)(c): the result is called the <b>total primary production liability</b> .   |
| <i>Step 5.</i> | Apply the formula in subsection (2A) to work out the value of the exempt primary production liability.  |

- Step 6.* Take the amount obtained in Step 5 away from the amount obtained in Step 4: the result is called the **non-exempt primary production liability**.
- Step 7.* Take the non-exempt primary production liability away from the non-exempt primary production asset value: the result is the **value of the person's primary production asset**.

(b) by inserting after subsection (2) the following subsection:

‘(2A) The formula to be applied is:

$$\frac{\text{total primary production liability} \times \text{exempt primary production asset value}}{\text{gross primary production asset value}}$$

(c) by omitting from subsection (3) ‘Step 3’ and substituting ‘Step 7’;

(d) by adding at the end the following subsection:

‘(4) In this section, “**exempt assets**” means assets whose value is to be disregarded under section 1118.’.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the Part proposed to be omitted stand part of the Bill—put and negatived.

Question—That the Part proposed to be substituted be substituted—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Jenkins, in the Chair)—

AYES, 71

Mr Adams	Mr Duffy	Mr Howe	Mr Quick
Mr Baldwin	Mr Duncan	Mr Johns	Mr Sawford
Mr Beazley	Mrs Easson	Mr Jones	Mr Sciacca
Mr Beddall	Mr Elliott	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Bevis	Ms Fatin	Mr Knott	Mr Simmons
Mr Bilney	Mr Ferguson	Mr Lavarch	Mrs S. J. Smith
Dr Blewett	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Lee	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Brereton	Mr Free	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Brown	Mr Gear	Ms McHugh	Mr Snowdon
Mr Campbell	Mr Gibson	Mr McLeay*	Mr Staples
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Gorman	Mr Melham	Mr Swan
Mr Cleary	Mr Grace*	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Tanner
Mr Cleeland	Mr Griffin	Mr P. F. Morris	Dr Theophanous
Mr Crean	Mr Haviland	Mr Newell	Mr Tickner
Mrs Crosio	Ms Henzell	Mr O'Connor	Mr Walker
Mr Cunningham	Mr Holding	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Willis
Ms Deahm	Mr Hollis	Mr Price	Mr Woods
Mr Dodd	Mr Horne	Mr Punch	

## NOES, 60

Mr Aldred	Mr Downer	Mr McGauran	Mr Rocher
Mr Anderson	Mr Evans	Mr Mack	Mr Ronaldson
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Filing*	Mr MacKellar	Mr Ruddock
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Forrest	Mr McLachlan	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr Atkinson	Mr Hall	Mr Miles	Mr Sinclair
Mr Beale	Mr Halverson	Mr Moore	Mr Slipper
Mr Bradford	Mr Hawker	Mrs Moylan	Mr Somlyay
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hicks*	Mr Nehl	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Cadman	Mr Howard	Mr Neville	Mr Taylor
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Charles	Mr Katter	Mr Peacock	Mr Vaile
Mr Cobb	Dr Kemp	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Connolly	Mr Lieberman	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Costello	Mr Lloyd	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Dobie	Mr McArthur	Mr Reith	Ms Worth

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clauses 30 to 36, by leave, taken together, and debated.

Question—That the clauses be agreed to—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Jenkins, in the Chair)—

## AYES, 72

Mr Adams	Mr Duffy	Mr Horne	Mr Punch
Mr Baldwin	Mr Duncan	Mr Howe	Mr Quick
Mr Beazley	Mrs Easson	Mr Johns	Mr Sawford
Mr Beddall	Mr Elliott	Mr Jones	Mr Sciacca
Mr Bevis	Ms Fatin	Mr Kerr	Mr L. J. Scott
Mr Bilney	Mr Ferguson	Mr Knott	Mr Simmons
Dr Blewett	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Lavarch	Mrs S. J. Smith
Mr Brereton	Mr Free	Mr Lee	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Brown	Mr Gear	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Gibson	Ms McHugh	Mr Snowdon
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Gorman	Mr McLeay*	Mr Staples
Mr Cleary	Mr Grace*	Mr Melham	Mr Swan
Mr Cleeland	Mr Griffin	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Tanner
Mr Crean	Mr Griffiths	Mr P. F. Morris	Dr Theophanous
Mrs Crosio	Mr Haviland	Mr Newell	Mr Tickner
Mr Cunningham	Ms Henzell	Mr O'Connor	Mr Walker
Ms Deahm	Mr Holding	Mr O'Keefe	Mr Willis
Mr Dodd	Mr Hollis	Mr Price	Mr Woods

## NOES, 58

Mr Aldred	Mr Downer	Mr McGauran	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mr Evans	Mr Mack	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Filing*	Mr McLachlan	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Forrest	Mr Miles	Mr Slipper
Mr Atkinson	Mr Hall	Mrs Moylan	Mr Somlyay
Mr Beale	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Mr Sullivan
Mr Bradford	Mr Hawker	Mr Neville	Mr Taylor
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Hicks*	Mr Nugent	Mr Truss
Mr Cadman	Mr Howard	Mr Peacock	Mr Vaile
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Mr Katter	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Cobb	Dr Kemp	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Connolly	Mr Lieberman	Mr Reith	Ms Worth
Mr Costello	Mr Lloyd	Mr Rocher	
Mr Dobie	Mr McArthur	Mr Ronaldson	

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

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The House resumed; Mr Jenkins reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Sciacca, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

#### 16 PUBLIC SERVICE (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1993

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.

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

Mr Walker (Special Minister of State) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

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Debate continued.

*Paper:* The Speaker presented the following paper:

Proposed amalgamation of the Departments of the Parliamentary Library and the Parliamentary Reporting Staff—Financial arrangements—Copy of letter from Mr Willis, Minister for Finance, to the Speaker, 21 December 1993.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

#### 17 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Walker (Special Minister of State) moved—That the House do now adjourn.



Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.57 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

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**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 8 February 1994:

Defence Act—Determination under section 58B—1994 No. 2.

Public Service Act—Determination 1994 No. LES 1.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Crawford, Mr Fischer, Mr Langmore, Mr Latham, Mr Sharp and Mr Tuckey.

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**L. M. BARLIN**

Clerk of the House of Representatives