

1993-94

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 106

THURSDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 1994

1 The House met, at 9.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Stephen Martin) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **DECLARATION OF BILLS AS COGNATE BILLS**

Mr Howe (Minister for Housing and Regional Development), by leave, declared that the Supported Accommodation Assistance Bill 1994 and the Supported Accommodation Assistance Amendment Bill 1994 were cognate Bills.

3 **SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE BILL 1994**

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Howe (Minister for Housing and Regional Development) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Dr Wooldridge 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 condemns the Government for:

- (1) the transparent way in which the strength of the original Act is being weakened, in that the ‘open-door’ access to transitional accommodation is being replaced with a welfare-based and interventionist case management/counselling approach; and
- (2) failing to specify any structures for accountable outcomes, particularly in that the change in wording from the ‘*provision of adequate and appropriate supported accommodation and related support services*’ in the 1989 Act, to ‘.....*help people who are homeless to achieve the maximum degree of self-reliance and independence*’ in the Bill, demonstrates a shift from a clear and achievable mandate to an insubstantial statement of principle, impossible to quantify, and with outcomes impossible to measure; and
- (3) its significant neglect of the fundamental importance of housing, particularly long term, secure and affordable housing options as a solution to homelessness; and
- (4) failing to ensure that rural and remote communities do not suffer extreme disadvantage by developing more appropriate services ‘in relation to accommodation, housing and related services’.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Lindsay (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology), by leave, the following amendments were made together:

Preamble, page 2, after “the Universal Declaration of Human Rights” insert “and of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women”.

Clause 3, page 3, definition of “people who are homeless”, lines 15 and 16, omit the definition, substitute the following definition:

“ ‘people who are homeless’ includes:

- (a) people who are in crisis and at imminent risk of becoming homeless; and
- (b) people who are experiencing domestic violence and are at imminent risk of becoming homeless;”.

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

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Lindsay, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

4 SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE AMENDMENT BILL 1994

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Lindsay (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

5 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1994

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Brereton (Minister for Industrial Relations) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Howard moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the passage of this Bill, the House:

- (1) admonishes the Minister for Industrial Relations for clearly failing to meet his April 1994 promise to fully absorb coal industry arrangements into the industrial relations mainstream;
- (2) condemns the Government’s continued preference to satisfy the narrow sectional interests of trade union leaders rather than govern in the national interest; and
- (3) deplors the erratic fashion in which the Minister for Industrial Relations manages his portfolio responsibilities, clearly exemplified by the number of different bills presented by the Minister on the subject of the coal industry”.

Debate continued.

It being 3 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

Mr Brereton (Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Transport), who was not rostered to attend the question period today, by leave, was asked and answered questions.

Questions without notice continued.

7 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 8 of 1994-95—Aggregate financial statement prepared by the Minister for Finance year ended 30 June 1994.

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

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit report No. 8 of 1994-95; and
- (2) the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

8 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Authority—Report for 1993-94.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—Equal employment opportunity program—Civil Aviation Authority—Report for 1993-94.

Family Law Act—Australian Institute of Family Studies—Report for 1993-94.

Family Law Reform Bill 1994 [No. 2]—Supplementary explanatory memorandum.

Foreign Investment Review Board—Report for 1993-94.

Nursing home and hostel standards—List of monitoring statements published between 1 April and 30 June 1994.

9 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

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

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Authority—Report for 1993-94.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—Equal employment opportunity program—Civil Aviation Authority—Report for 1993-94.

Family Law Reform Bill 1994 [No. 2]—Supplementary explanatory memorandum.

Foreign Investment Review Board—Report for 1993-94.

Nursing home and hostel standards—List of monitoring statements published between 1 April and 30 June 1994.

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

10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INCOME GAP

The House was informed that Mr Ruddock had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The rising gap between rich and poor, especially in the Year of the Family".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Ruddock addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

11 ANL GUARANTEE BILL 1994—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Main Committee had resolved that further proceedings on the ANL Guarantee Bill 1994 be conducted in the House, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Ordered—That further proceedings on the Bill be made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

12 AUSTRALIAN POSTAL CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1994—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Australian Postal Corporation Amendment Bill 1994 had been fully considered in the Main Committee and agreed to with unresolved questions (*see item No. 3, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of the unresolved questions.

Ordered—That the report be considered at the next sitting.

13 SUPERANNUATION INDUSTRY (SUPERVISION) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1994—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Legislation Amendment Bill 1994 had been fully considered in the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Kerr (Minister for Justice), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

10 November 1994—Message No. 351—Primary Industries Legislation Amendment 1994.

15 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY

Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 3 to 8, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

16 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Hollis (Chairman) presented the following reports:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Reports—

Midlife upgrade of Blamey Barracks, Kapooka, NSW (9th report of 1994).

Stage 2 redevelopment of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, ACT (10th report of 1994).

Severally ordered to be printed.

Mr Hollis and Mr Hicks, by leave, made statements in connection with the reports.

17 RACIAL HATRED BILL 1994

Mr Kerr (Minister for Justice), for Mr Lavarch (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to prohibit certain conduct involving the hatred of other people on the ground of race, colour or national or ethnic origin, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Mr Kerr presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

18 INFRASTRUCTURE CERTIFICATE CANCELLATION TAX BILL 1994

Mr Kerr (Minister for Justice) presented a Bill for an Act to impose a tax in respect of the cancellation of infrastructure borrowing certificates.

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Mr Kerr presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

19 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1994

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 Mr Howard, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the passage of this Bill, the House:

- (1) admonishes the Minister for Industrial Relations for clearly failing to meet his April 1994 promise to fully absorb coal industry arrangements into the industrial relations mainstream;
- (2) condemns the Government’s continued preference to satisfy the narrow sectional interests of trade union leaders rather than govern in the national interest; and
- (3) deplores the erratic fashion in which the Minister for Industrial Relations manages his portfolio responsibilities, clearly exemplified by the number of different bills presented by the Minister on the subject of the coal industry”—

Debate having been resumed by Mr Wakelin—

Adjournment negated: It being 5.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

Mr Wakelin continued his speech.

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

20 ADJOURNMENT

Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Debate extended: It being 6 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Duncan (Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 6.05 p.m., the Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 12.30 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 10 November 1994:

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Plan—Amendment No. 11.

Australian National University Act—Statute No. 236.

National Health Act—Principle No. 24SH 3/94.

Public Service Act—Determinations 1994 Nos. 87, 88, 89, 185, 187, 188, 190.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beddall, Mr Braithwaite*, Mr Crean, Mrs Crosio, Mr Free, Mr Gorman, Mr Griffin, Dr Hewson, Mr Johns, Dr Lawrence, Mr Mack*, Mr Punch, Mr Staples* and Mr Taylor.

*On leave

L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1993-94

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 106

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 1994

1 The Main Committee met at 10 a.m.

2 ANL GUARANTEE BILL 1994

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—

On the motion of Mr Snowden (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education and Training), further proceedings on the Bill to be conducted in the House.

3 AUSTRALIAN POSTAL CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 1994

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.

Consideration in detail

Clauses 1 to 7, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 8—

Mr Wakelin moved—That the clause be omitted and the following clause be substituted:

Community service obligations

“8. Section 27 of the Principal Act is amended:

(a) by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

‘(2) The principal purpose of the letter service is, by physical means:

(a) to carry, within Australia, letters that Australia Post has the exclusive right to carry; and

(b) to carry letters between Australia and places outside Australia.’;

(b) by adding after paragraph 4(b):

'and (c) that all households to which a roadside delivery service is available have that service available at least twice each week.'."

Question unresolved.

Clauses 9 to 11, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 12—

Mr Wakelin, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Page 6, line 11, after paragraph (g) insert the following paragraph:

"(ga) by inserting after subparagraph (h)(ii) the following word and paragraph:

'or (iii) a service centre of a document exchange service;'. "

Page 7, paragraph (k), line 8, omit proposed paragraph 30(1A)(c)(vi), substitute the following paragraphs:

"(vi) any other unincorporated body; or

(vii) a group of bodies, whether the bodies are incorporated or not, that:

(A) are related bodies corporate within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 1989*; or

(B) have a common Board of Management; or

(C) carry on business or conduct operations under the same or substantially the same group name; and"

Question unresolved.

Clauses 13 and 14, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 15—

Mr Wakelin moved the following amendment: Page 8, at the end of proposed subsection 32A(2) add the following word and paragraph:

"and (d) specify that the rate reduction mentioned in subsection (1) applies to interstate deliveries and to intrastate deliveries."

Question unresolved.

Clause 16 agreed to.

Clause 17—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—debated, and unresolved.

Clauses 18 to 25, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 26—

Mr Wakelin moved—That the clause be omitted, and the following clause be substituted:

Termination of appointment

"26. Section 79 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsections (5) and (6)."

Question unresolved.

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

Bill agreed to with unresolved questions.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with unresolved questions.

4 SUPERANNUATION INDUSTRY (SUPERVISION) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1994

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 the motion for the Bill to be reported to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer), Bill to be reported to the House without amendment.

5 MERIT PROTECTION (AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES) AMENDMENT BILL 1994

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr O'Keefe (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

6 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer), the Main Committee adjourned at 1.02 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed Wednesday, 16 November 1994, at 10 a.m., for the next meeting of the Main Committee.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the Main Committee