

1993-94-95

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 122

MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 1995

1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Stephen Martin) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Ferguson presented the following paper:

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Visit to Thailand and Laos—Report, February 1995.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Ferguson, Mr Halverson, Mr Hollis and Mr Jull made statements in connection with the paper.

Mr Halverson, by leave, again addressed the House.

Mr Ferguson moved—That the House take note of the paper.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday, and Mr Ferguson was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

3 **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MARKETS**

Mr Langmore, pursuant to notice, moved—That recognising:

- (a) the damage caused to the Australian economy by turbulence in international financial markets through, for example, the increased risks and uncertainties of trade and overseas investment;
- (b) the massive anarchic power of the international financial markets to determine and constrain national economic policies;
- (c) the value of expanding the domestic tax base so as to reduce the budget deficit and increase resources for desperately needed improvements to human services and infrastructure and so to increase employment; and
- (d) the importance also of ensuring a reliable permanent improvement in the financial resources of the UN system so as to enable swift and effective international action to resolve conflict, cope with disasters and support economic and social development—

this House—

- (1) supports serious study of the possibility of introducing a small international tax on foreign exchange transactions, widely known as the Tobin tax after the originator of the proposal, Professor James Tobin; and
- (2) calls on the Government to (a) cooperate with other countries in initiating such a study which should include support for the establishment of an expert study group under the auspices of the UN and including the IMF and (b) move for the inclusion of this proposal in the declaration of the World Summit for Social Development.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

4 PROSTATE CANCER

Mr Nehl, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House acknowledges the need for more research into prostate cancer and that money be allocated for a major education program targeting Australian males.

Debate ensued.

Mr Nehl, by leave, again addressed the House without closing the debate.

It being 2.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 104A and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

5 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

6 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR B. W. GRAHAM)

The Speaker informed the House of the death, on Saturday, 18 February 1995, of Mr Bruce William Graham, OBE, a Member of this House for the Divisions of St George from 1949 to 1954 and 1955 to 1958 and North Sydney from 1966 to 1980.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

7 CANBERRA BY-ELECTION

The Speaker informed the House that he had, on 17 February 1995, issued a writ in connection with the by-election for the Division of Canberra, and that the dates fixed were those announced to the House on 7 February 1995.

8 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Member ordered to withdraw: At 3.08 p.m. the Member for O'Connor (Mr Tuckey) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for 1 hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given by the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

9 RESIGNATION OF MEMBER

Dr Hewson, by indulgence, informed the House of his intention to resign as the Member for the electoral division of Wentworth.

Mr Keating (Prime Minister), Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr Fischer (Leader of the National Party of Australia) paid tribute to the service and achievements of Dr Hewson.

10 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 21 of 1994-95—Project audit—Specific purpose payments to and through the States and Territories.

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

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit report No. 21 of 1994-95; and
- (2) the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

11 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent order of the day No. 1, government business, Grievance debate, when called on, continuing until 6 p.m.

Question—put and passed.

12 PETITIONS

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

Mr Brown, Mr Cobb, Mr Fitzgibbon, Dr Lawrence, Mrs Moylan and Mr Sinclair, from 154, 61, 89, 70, 188 and 459 petitioners, respectively, praying that a national working group be established to devise a long term strategy for providing lasting infrastructure for drought-proofing inland Australia.

Mr Bradford, Mr Crean, Mr Halverson and Mr Reith, from 972, 400, 480 and 244 petitioners, respectively, praying for certain changes to the Family Law Act and the Child Support Scheme.

Mr Dobie and Mr Woods, from 250 and 68 petitioners, respectively, praying that importation and use of the drug RU486 be banned.

Dr Hewson and Mr Howard, from 83 and 64 petitioners, respectively, praying that a classification system be applied to all audio tapes and compact discs and that certain items be restricted from sale to minors.

Mr Mack and Mr Woods, from 4243 and 671 petitioners, respectively, praying that certain actions be taken to protect all native old growth, wilderness and other high conservation value forests in Australia.

Mr Atkinson, from 259 residents of Victoria, praying that measures be introduced to support families, particularly those dependent on a single income.

Mr Campbell, from 993 residents of Pilbara, WA, praying that regional Western Australia be assisted in obtaining an extension of the SBS television service.

Mrs Easson, from 987 residents of New South Wales, praying that funding continue during 1995-96 for the Co.As.It. Sydney Aged Care Support Program for the Italian community.

Mr Georgiou, from 27 petitioners, praying that calls for the Indonesian army to be withdrawn from East Timor and for the establishment of a UN sponsored peace process be supported.

Mr Howard, from 19 residents of New South Wales, praying that the Grant-in-Aid program at Christian Community Aid Service Inc., Eastwood, NSW, continue to be funded.

Mr Kerr, from 39 residents of Tasmania, praying that funding for the Alternative Birthing Service be continued.

Dr Lawrence, from 1586 petitioners, praying that certain actions be taken to protect native forests in the south west of Western Australia.

Dr Lawrence, from 219 petitioners, praying that the decision to renew export woodchip licences for 1995 be revoked and protection be given to the 1300 forest areas recommended for exclusion from woodchipping.

Mr McLachlan, from 860 petitioners, praying that the guidelines for homeless rate recipients be reviewed and greater commitment shown to programs which prevent family breakdown.

Mr Snow, from 9 petitioners, praying that funding for breast cancer research be increased tenfold in the Budget and initiatives to encourage donations for research be considered.

Mr Tanner, from 7495 petitioners, praying that the Timor Gap Treaty be revoked.

Mr Taylor, from 175 petitioners, praying that the Australian National Flag not be changed without approval through a National Poll.

Petitions received.

13 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

It being 6 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

14 MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS

Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

17 February 1995—Message No. 238—Migration Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 1995.

23 February 1995—Message No. 239—

Evidence 1995.

Evidence (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) 1995.

Life Insurance 1995.

Life Insurance (Consequential Amendments and Repeals) 1995.

15 ENVIRONMENT, SPORT AND TERRITORIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1994—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Environment, Sport and Territories Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1994 had been fully considered in the Main Committee, a Governor-General's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

16 COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development), by leave, moved—That Mr Somlyay be appointed a member of the Committee of Privileges to fill a vacancy now existing on the committee.

Question—put and passed.

17 CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE

The House was informed that the Chief Opposition Whip had nominated Mrs Bishop to be a member of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities in place of Mr Beale.

18 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ROAD TRANSPORT REFORM (DANGEROUS GOODS) BILL 1995

Message No. 410, dated 9 February 1995, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to make provision for safety in the transport of dangerous goods by road as part of the system of nationally consistent road transport laws*".

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development) presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**19 CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE
—EXTENSION OF TIME FOR ADVISORY REPORT**

Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development), by leave, moved—That the time for the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities to present its advisory report on the First Corporate Law Simplification Bill 1994 be extended to 2 March 1995.

Question—put and passed.

**20 HEALTH LEGISLATION (PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM)
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—

Question—put.

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

AYES, 73

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

NOES, 59

Mr Abbott	Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr Lieberman	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr Anderson	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Filing	Mr McArthur	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fischer	Mr McGauran	Mr Slipper
Mr Atkinson	Mr Forrest	Mr Moore	Mr Somlyay
Mr Beale	Mrs Gallus	Mrs Moylan	Mrs Sullivan
Mrs Bishop	Mr Georgiou	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Bradford	Mr Hall	Mr Neville	Mr Truss
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Halverson	Mr Nugent	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mr Hawker*	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Cameron	Dr Hewson	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Charles	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Reith	Ms Worth
Mr Connolly	Mr Katter	Mr Ronaldson	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Dr Lawrence (Minister for Human Services and Health), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

21 PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COMPLAINTS LEVY BILL 1994

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Dr Lawrence (Minister for Human Services and Health) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr J. N. Andrew, in the Chair)—

AYES, 74

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

NOES, 61

Mr Abbott	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr B. C. Scott
Mr Aldred	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr McArthur	Mr Sharp
Mr Anderson	Mr Filing	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fischer	Mr Miles	Mr Slipper
Mr Atkinson	Mr Forrest	Mr Moore	Mr Somlyay
Mr Beale	Mrs Gallus	Mrs Moylan	Mrs Sullivan
Mrs Bishop	Mr Georgiou	Mr Nehl	Mr Taylor
Mr Bradford	Mr Hall	Mr Neville	Mr Truss
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Halverson	Mr Nugent	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mr Hawker*	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Cameron	Dr Hewson	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Charles	Mr Hicks*	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Reith	Ms Worth
Mr Connolly	Mr Katter	Mr Rocher	
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	
Mr Dobie	Mr Lieberman	Mr Ruddock	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Dr Lawrence, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

22 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 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.

Debate ensued.

Mr Charles addressing the House—

23 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 12.30 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 27 February 1995:
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 10.

Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 8.

Banks (Shareholdings) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 4.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Orders—Parts—

20—Amendment 1995, 17 February.

105—Amendments 1995, 24, 27, 31 January, 2, 3, 8(3), 10(3), 13(2), 15, 16(12), 17, 20, 21(4) February.

106—Amendments 1995, 8, 17 February.

107—Amendments 1995, 8(2), 16, 17(2) February.

Exemption 1995 No. 1.

Customs Act—

Notice 1995 No. 1.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 15.

Defence Act—

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations 1995 Nos. 1, 2.

Determination under section 58B 1995 No. 6.

Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration of Providers and Financial Regulation) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 13.

Excise Act—Notice 1995 No. 1.

Fisheries Act—Subsidiary agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan concerning Japanese tuna long-line fishing, 21 December 1994.

Fisheries Management Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 7, 12.

Health Insurance Act—

Determination 1995 No. 5.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 9.

Statement under section 106AA (Dr William Francis Wilson), 20 January 1995.

Industry Research and Development Act—Guidelines under section 39EB, 15 February 1995.

International Air Services Commission Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 6.

Interstate Road Transport Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 5.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement under section 40.

National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 14.

Occupational Health and Safety (Maritime Industry) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 17.

Patents Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 16.

Protection of the Sea (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Act—Orders 1994 Nos. 10, 11, 12.

Public Service Act—Determinations 1995 Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 20, 21, 23, 104, 105, 108, LES 1, LES 2.

Quarantine Act—Determination 1995 No. 1.

Social Security Act—Social Security (Approved Visas) Determination No. 1.

Special Broadcasting Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 11.

States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendment of scheme in relation to Queensland, 31 January 1995.

Telecommunications Act 1991—Technical standards 1994 No. TS 003—Corrigenda.

Therapeutic Goods Act—Therapeutic Goods Order No. 49.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments 1995 Nos. 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Campbell, Mr Griffiths, Mr McLachlan, Mr Swan and Mr Vaile.

L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives