

1993-94-95

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 134

TUESDAY, 9 MAY 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 RETURN TO WRIT—WENTWORTH DIVISION

The Speaker announced that he had received a return to the writ which he had issued on 3 March 1995 for the election of a Member to serve for the electoral division of Wentworth, in the State of New South Wales, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr Hewson and that, by the endorsement on the writ, it was certified that Andrew Peter Thomson had been elected.

3 OATH OF ALLEGIANCE BY MEMBER

Andrew Peter Thomson was introduced, and made and subscribed the oath of allegiance required by law.

4 DEATH OF SIR EDWARD JOHN BUNTING

The Speaker informed the House of the death, on 2 May 1995, of Sir Edward John Bunting, AC, KBE.

Mr Keating (Prime Minister), Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition), Mr Fischer (Leader of the National Party of Australia), Mr Sinclair, Mr Dobie, Mr Beazley (Minister for Finance) and Mr Downer paid tribute to the deceased.

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

5 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:

31 March 1995—Message No. 253—National Health Amendment 1995.

6 April 1995—Message No. 254—Environment, Sport and Territories Legislation Amendment 1995.

7 April 1995—Message—

No. 255—

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) (No. 2) 1994-95.

Appropriation (No. 3) 1994-95.

Appropriation (No. 4) 1994-95.

No. 256—

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Amendment 1995.

Tax Law Improvement (Substantiation) 1995.

Taxation Laws Amendment (Drought Relief Measures) 1995.

12 April 1995—Message No. 257—

Communications and the Arts Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1995.

Corporations Law (Securities and Futures) Amendment 1995.

Road Transport Reform (Dangerous Goods) 1995.

Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1995.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1995.

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment 1995.

6 TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE—STANDING COMMITTEE

The House was informed that Mr Neville had been nominated by the Chief National Party Whip to be a member of the Standing Committee on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure for the purposes of the inquiry into Australia Post's rural and remote letter delivery services.

7 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS 48A AND 103

Mr Snowdon (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education and Training), by leave, moved—That standing order 48A (adjournment and next meeting) and standing order 103 (new business) be suspended for the sittings on Tuesday, 9 May 1995 and Thursday, 11 May 1995.

Question—put and passed.

8 HOUSING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1995

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Ms Crawford, by leave, the following amendments were made together:

Schedule—

Page 3, Part 1, item 1, omit "30 June 1995", substitute "31 August 1995".

Page 3, Part 1, item 4, omit "30 June 1995", substitute "31 August 1995".

Page 4, Part 2, item 2, omit “30 June 1995”, substitute “31 August 1995”.

Page 4, Part 2, item 5, omit “30 June 1995”, substitute “31 August 1995”.

Page 5, Part 3, item 2, omit “30 June 1995”, substitute “31 August 1995”.

Page 5, Part 3, item 5, omit “30 June 1995”, substitute “31 August 1995”.

Page 6, Part 4, item 2, omit “30 June 1995”, substitute “31 August 1995”.

Page 6, Part 4, item 5, omit “30 June 1995”, substitute “31 August 1995”.

Paper: Ms Crawford presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Ms Crawford, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9 DECLARATION OF BILLS AS COGNATE BILLS

Ms Crawford (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Regional Development), by leave, declared that the Dairy Produce Amendment Bill 1995, the Dairy Produce Levy (No. 1) Amendment Bill 1995 and the Dairy Produce Levy (No. 2) Amendment Bill 1995 were cognate Bills.

10 DAIRY PRODUCE AMENDMENT BILL 1995

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Duncan (Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr Lloyd addressing the House—

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.

11 PAPER

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) presented the following paper:

Question time—Roster of Ministers to attend as at 8 May 1995.

12 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

13 PAPER

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Social Security—Joint Committee (1941-1946)—Release of evidence and records—Report by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, 8 May 1995.

14 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—BUDGET

The House was informed that both Mr Reith and Mr Latham had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, the Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Reith, namely, “The importance of the budget documents in providing the Australian public with sound and

professional information on the state of the economy and the Government's record of manipulating budget forecasts and failing to meet its election promises".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Reith addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

15 **TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE—STANDING COMMITTEE**

The House was informed that Mr Woods had been nominated by the Chief Government Whip to be a member of the Standing Committee on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure for the purposes of the inquiry into Australia Post's rural and remote letter delivery services.

16 **DAIRY PRODUCE AMENDMENT BILL 1995**

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.

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

17 **MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair reported that the Deputy Speaker had fixed Wednesday, 31 May 1995, at 10 a.m., for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

18 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 1995-96—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1995-96—BUDGET SPEECH**

Message No. 258, dated 8 May 1995, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1996; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1996, and for related purposes.

Mr Willis (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1996, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Willis moved—That the Bill be now read a second time, and delivered the budget speech.

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

19 PAPERS

Mr Willis (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Budget statements 1995-96 (Budget paper No. 1).

The Commonwealth public account 1995-96 (Budget paper No. 2).

Commonwealth financial relations with other levels of Government 1995-96 (Budget paper No. 3).

Severally ordered to be printed.

20 PAPERS

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Social justice statement 1995-96 (Budget related paper No. 1).

Australia's overseas aid program 1995-96 (Budget related paper No. 2).

Women's budget statement 1995-96 (Budget related paper No. 3).

Saving for our future.

An agenda for families.

Severally ordered to be printed.

21 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 1995-96—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 1995-96

Message No. 259, dated 8 May 1995, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of certain proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1996; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1996, and for related purposes.

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1996, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

22 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION IN RELATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS FOR YEAR 1995-96—APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL 1995-96

Message No. 260, dated 8 May 1995, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1996; and

- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1996, and for related purposes.

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1996, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

23 LOAN BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to authorise the borrowing and spending of money for certain purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

24 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation.

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Mr Elliott presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Taxation Laws Amendment (Budget Measures) 1995; and

Income Tax Rates Amendment 1995.

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

25 INCOME TAX RATES AMENDMENT BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation.

Bill read a first time.

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

26 MEDICARE LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Medicare Levy Act 1986*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Mr Elliott presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Medicare Levy Amendment 1995; and

Fringe Benefits Tax Amendment 1995.

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

27 FRINGE BENEFITS TAX AMENDMENT BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Fringe Benefits Tax Act 1986*, 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.

28 SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) MODIFICATION (EXCISE) BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act relating to sales tax.

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Mr Elliott presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Modification (Excise) 1995;

Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Modification (Customs) 1995; and

Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Modification (General) 1995.

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

29 SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) MODIFICATION (CUSTOMS) BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act relating to sales tax.

Bill read a first time.

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

30 SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) MODIFICATION (GENERAL) BILL 1995

Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act relating to sales tax.

Bill read a first time.

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

31 TARIFF PROPOSALS

Mr Lindsay (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology) moved—

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (1995); and

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 4 (1995).

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

32 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT

Mr Jenkins (Chair) presented the following report:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the program of business prior to 2.45 p.m. on Monday, 29 May 1995.

33 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Snowdon (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education and Training) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 8.13 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 9 May 1995:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act—Declaration under section 12—1995 No. 1.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 54, 59.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals 1995 Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8.

Australian Film, Television and Radio School Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 48.

Australian Horticultural Corporation Act—Australian Horticultural Corporation (Australian Dried Fruits Board) Regulations—Orders 1995 No. 1.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Corporation Act—Order No. L13/95.

Christmas Island Act—Ordinance 1995 No. 1.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—Civil Aviation Orders—

Exemptions Nos. 1/FRS/13/1995, 2/FRS/14/1995, 3/FRS/15/1995, 4/FRS/16/1995, 5/FRS/17/1995, 6/FRS/18/1995, 7/FRS/19/1995, 8/FRS/20/1995, 19/FRS/21/1995, 20/FRS/22/1995, 11/FRS/23/1995, 12/FRS/24/1995, 13/FRS/25/1995, 14/FRS/26/1995, 15/FRS/27/1995, 16/FRS/28/1995, 17/FRS/29/1995.

Parts—

105—Amendments 1995, 16(5), 17(5), 21(12), 22(21), 23(20), 24(9), 27(9), 28(4), 29(2), 31(18) March, 6(4), 7, 10(7), 11(4), 12(2) April.

106—Amendments 1995, 16, 17, 23(2), 24 March, 6 April.

107—Amendments 1995, 23 March, 6 April.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Ordinance 1995 No. 1.

Copyright Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 67.

Currency Act—Determination 1995 No. 2.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 71.

Defence Act—

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determination 1995 No. 4.

- Determinations under section—
52—1995 No. 1.
58B—1995 Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 51, 69.
- Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 49, 50.
- Dried Fruits Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 72.
- Endangered Species Protection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 70.
- Federal Court of Australia Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 46.
- Fishing Levy Act and Fisheries Management Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 66.
- Higher Education Funding Act—Determination No. T7-95.
- Income Tax Assessment Act—
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 58.
RHQ Company Determination 1995 No. 1.
- Industry Research and Development Act—Guidelines under section—
39E, 12 April 1995.
39EA.
39F, 12 April 1995.
39HB, 12 April 1995.
- Insurance (Agents and Brokers) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 57.
- Judiciary Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 45.
- Merit Protection (Australian Government Employees) Act—Enactments (2).
- National Health Act—
Determination No. 24SH 1/1995.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 52.
- Native Title Act—Determinations 1995 Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5.
- Navigation Act—Orders 1995 No. 4.
- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act—
Declaration under section 7, 10 April 1995.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 53.
- Public Service Act—Determinations 1995 Nos. 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, LES 10, LES 11.
- Radiocommunications Act—
Guidelines—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 74.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 62, 65.
- Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 61.
- Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 60.

Radiocommunications Taxes Collection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 63.

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination 1995 No. 3.

Road Transport Reform (Vehicles and Traffic) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 55, 56.

Ships (Capital Grants) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 73.

States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendment of scheme for Western Australia, 21 March 1995.

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act—Determination No. 1995-443-s107.

Student and Youth Assistance Act—Determination 1995 No. 2.

Superannuation (Productivity Benefit) Act—Declaration—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 75, 76.

Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 47, 64.

Supported Accommodation Assistance Act 1994—Instrument No. SAAP/1995-1.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—

Instrument under section 90—1995 No. 5.

Instruments 1995 Nos. 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156.

Witness Protection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 68.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Holding.

L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives