

1996

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 2

WEDNESDAY, 1 MAY 1996

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

**2 DEATH OF FORMER PRESIDENT OF FRANCE (MR MITTERRAND)**

Mr Fischer (Deputy Prime Minister) referred to the death of Mr Mitterrand and moved—That this House records its deep sadness at the death on 8 January 1996, of Francois Mitterrand, the former President of France, and expresses its deep sympathy to his widow, Mrs Danielle Mitterrand, to the Mitterrand family and to the people of France in their bereavement, and requests that this motion be conveyed by the Speaker on behalf of the House to the Government of France.

And Mr G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and other Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—passed.

**3 STANDING ORDERS—AMENDMENTS**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That the following amendments to the standing orders be made:

- (1) Standing orders 40, 48A, 91, 101, 101A, 103, 104, 104A, 106, 106A, 150, 152, 193, 215, 217, 217A, 217B, 222 and 322 be amended to read as follows:

*Days and hours of meeting*

**40.** Unless otherwise ordered, the House shall meet for the despatch of business on each—

Monday, at 12.30 p.m.

Tuesday, at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, at 9.30 a.m.

Thursday, at 9.30 a.m.

From the termination of the last sitting in the second week of sittings, the House shall stand adjourned until 12.30 p.m. on the third Monday after the termination, unless the Speaker shall, by writing addressed to each Member of the House, fix an alternative day or hour of meeting. The 4-weekly cycle will then be repeated.

*Adjournment and next meeting*

**48A.** At 10.30 p.m. on a sitting Monday or Tuesday, at 7.30 p.m. on a sitting Wednesday and at 5.30 p.m. on a sitting Thursday the Speaker shall propose the question—That the House do now adjourn—which question shall be open to debate. No amendment may be moved to this question:

Provided that:

- (a) if a division is in progress at the time fixed for interruption, that division, and any division consequent upon that division, shall be completed and the result announced;
- (b) if, on the question—That the House do now adjourn—being proposed, a Minister requires the question to be put forthwith without debate, the Speaker shall forthwith put the question;
- (c) a motion for the adjournment of the House may be moved by a Minister at an earlier hour;
- (d) any business under discussion and not disposed of at the time of the adjournment shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting; and
- (e) if the question—That the House do now adjourn—is negatived, the House shall resume the proceedings at the point at which they had been interrupted:

Provided further that, if at 11 p.m. on a sitting Monday or Tuesday, at 8 p.m. on a sitting Wednesday or at 6 p.m. on a sitting Thursday, the question before the House is—That the House do now adjourn—the Speaker shall interrupt the debate, at which time—

- (f) a Minister may require that the debate be extended until 11.10 p.m., 8.10 p.m. or 6.10 p.m., as appropriate, to enable Ministers to speak in reply to matters raised in the preceding adjournment debate; at 11.10 p.m., 8.10 p.m. or 6.10 p.m., as appropriate, or upon the earlier cessation of the debate, the Speaker shall forthwith adjourn the House until the time of its next meeting, or
- (g) if no action is taken by a Minister under paragraph (f) the Speaker shall forthwith adjourn the House until the time of its next meeting.

*Time limits*

**91.** The maximum period for which a Member may speak on any subject indicated in this standing order, and the maximum period for any debate, shall not, unless otherwise ordered, exceed the period specified opposite to that subject in the following schedule:

Subject	Time
Election of Speaker or Deputy Speaker— Each Member .....	5 minutes
Address in Reply— Each Member .....	20 minutes
Discussion of definite matter of public importance (under standing order 107)—	
Whole debate.....	2 hours
Proposer.....	15 minutes
Member next speaking .....	15 minutes
Any other Member .....	10 minutes
Question for adjournment of House to terminate the sitting— Each Member .....	5 minutes (no extension of time to be granted)
<p>Provided that, if no other Member rises to address the House, a Member who has already spoken to the motion may speak a second time for a period not exceeding 5 minutes.</p>	
Censure or want of confidence motion accepted by a Minister as provided under standing order 110—	
Mover .....	30 minutes
Prime Minister or one Minister deputed by the Prime Minister.....	30 minutes
Any other Member .....	20 minutes
Limitation of debate—Motion for allotment of time (under standing order 92)—	
Whole debate.....	20 minutes
Each Member .....	5 minutes
Second reading of a bill—	
Main Appropriation Bill for year—	
Mover .....	not specified
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader.....	not specified
Any other Member .....	20 minutes
Other bills (Government)—	
Mover .....	30 minutes
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader.....	30 minutes
Any other Member .....	20 minutes
Other bills (Private Government Member)—	

Mover .....	30 minutes
Prime Minister or one Member deputed by the Prime Minister .....	30 minutes
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader .....	30 minutes
Any other Member .....	20 minutes
Other bills (Opposition or other non-government Member)—	
Mover .....	30 minutes
Prime Minister or one Member deputed by the Prime Minister.....	30 minutes
Any other Member .....	20 minutes
Consideration in detail of a bill—	
Each Member—Unspecified number of periods each not exceeding.....	5 minutes
Consideration of amendments made or requested by the Senate—	
Each Member—Unspecified number of periods each not exceeding .....	5 minutes
Question “That grievances be noted” (under standing order 106)—	
Each Member.....	10 minutes
Proposed resolution relating to tax or duty—	
Mover .....	20 minutes
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader.....	20 minutes
Any other Member .....	10 minutes
Suspension of standing orders (under standing order 399)—	
Whole debate .....	25 minutes
Mover .....	10 minutes
Seconder (if any) .....	5 minutes
Member next speaking.....	10 minutes
Any other Member.....	5 minutes
Debates not otherwise provided for—	
Mover of a motion.....	20 minutes
Any other Member .....	15 minutes
Extension of time—with the consent of a majority of the House or of the Committee, to be determined without debate, a Member may be allowed to continue a speech interrupted under the	

foregoing provisions of this standing order  
for one period not exceeding..... 10 minutes  
Provided that no extension of time shall  
exceed half of the original period allotted.

*Routine of business*

**101.** The House shall proceed on the days indicated with its ordinary business in the following routine:

*Monday*

1. Presentation of, and statements on, reports from parliamentary committees and delegations. 2. Orders of the day for the resumption of debate on motions moved in connection with committee and delegation reports (debate concluding no later than 1.15 p.m.). 3. Private Members' business (debate commencing no later than 1.15 p.m., debate to be interrupted at 1.45 p.m.). 4. Members' statements (at approximately 1.45 p.m.). 5. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 6. Presentation of petitions. 7. Private Members' business (in continuation for 1 hour). 8. Grievance debate (debate to continue for 1 hour and 20 minutes). 9. Notices and orders of the day.

*Tuesday*

1. Questions without notice. 2. Presentation of papers. 3. Ministerial statements, by leave. 4. Matter of public importance. 5. Notices and orders of the day.

*Wednesday and Thursday*

1. Notices and orders of the day. 2. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 3. Presentation of papers. 4. Ministerial statements, by leave. 5. Matter of public importance. 6. Notices and orders of the day.

*Interruption for question period*

**101A.** At 2 p.m. on each sitting Monday, Wednesday and Thursday the Speaker shall interrupt the business before the House in order that questions without notice can be called on:

Provided that:

- (a) if a division is in progress at the time fixed for interruption, the division shall be completed and the result announced; and
- (b) the Speaker shall fix the time for the resumption of the debate on any business under discussion and not disposed of at the time of interruption.

*New business*

**103.** No new business may be taken after 11 p.m., unless the House otherwise orders.

*Precedence to government and private Members' business*

**104.** Government business shall, on each day of sitting, have precedence of private Members' business except on each sitting Monday as provided by standing order 101.

At the conclusion of grievance debate the Speaker shall put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment, any questions on which a division had been called for earlier in the day, and which had been deferred pursuant to standing order 193.

*Private Members' business—procedure*

**104A.** In the period during which private Members' business is accorded precedence pursuant to standing order 104, notices and orders of the day relating to private Members' business shall be called on by the Clerk in the order in which they appear on the Notice Paper. When the time allotted by standing order 102C or 104, or by the Selection Committee, for an item of business has expired, consideration shall be interrupted by the Chair and the question before the Chair shall be put:

Provided that, where the Selection Committee has determined that consideration of a matter should continue on a future day, at the time fixed for interruption, the Chair shall interrupt proceedings and further consideration of the matter shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

Notices by private Members of their intention to present bills shall stand referred to the Selection Committee which shall give priority to them over other notices and orders of the day and determine the order in which they are to be presented. Upon the respective notice being called on by the Clerk, the Member in whose name the notice stands shall present the bill and may speak for a period not exceeding five minutes in support thereof. The bill shall then be read a first time and the motion for the second reading shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

If the motion for the second reading of any private Member's bill is agreed to by the House, further consideration shall be accorded precedence of other private Members' business and the Selection Committee may allot times for consideration of the remaining stages of the bill.

*Grievance debate*

**106.** Notwithstanding standing order 105, the first order of the day, government business, on each sitting Monday following the conclusion of private Members' business shall be a question to be proposed by the Speaker, "That grievances be noted" to which question any Member may address the House or move any amendment.

If consideration of the question has not been concluded after 1 hour and 20 minutes, the debate thereon shall be interrupted and the Speaker shall put any questions then before the House, and after resolution of those

questions, shall forthwith call on the next order of the day, government business.

*Statements by Members*

**106A.** At 1.45 p.m. on each sitting Monday the Speaker shall interrupt private Members' business in order that statements by Members can be called on. A Member, other than a Minister, may be called by the Chair to make a statement for a period not exceeding 90 seconds. The period allowed for these statements shall not extend beyond 2 p.m.

*Replies to questions*

**150.** The reply to a question on notice shall be given by delivering it to the Clerk. A copy of the reply shall be supplied to the Member who asked the question, and the question and reply shall be published in Hansard.

If after the expiration of 60 days of a question first appearing on the Notice Paper, a reply has not been delivered to the Clerk, the Member who asked the question may rise in his or her place at the conclusion of the question period and request the Speaker to write to the Minister concerned, seeking reasons for the delay in answering.

*Questions to Speaker*

**152.** At the conclusion of the question period, questions without notice may be put to the Speaker relating to any matter of administration for which he or she is responsible.

*When division may be taken*

**193.** A division shall not be proceeded with unless more than one Member has called for a division. If one Member only calls for a division, that Member may inform the Speaker that he or she wishes his or her dissent to be recorded in the Votes and Proceedings and in Hansard and the Member's dissent shall be so recorded:

Provided that, on sitting Mondays, any division called for in the House during the consideration of private Members' business on a question, other than a motion moved by a Minister, shall stand deferred until after the conclusion of grievance debate.

*First reading*

**215.** On the presentation of a bill by a Member, or on the receipt from the Senate of a bill for the concurrence of the House, it shall be read a first time without any question being put.

*Second reading and explanatory memorandum*

**217.** After the first reading a future day shall be appointed for the Member to move "That this bill be now read a second time" and the bill shall meanwhile be printed:

Provided that if copies of the bill have been circulated among Members the second reading may be moved immediately after the bill has been read

a first time. The debate on the question shall then be adjourned to a future day.

In the case of a bill presented by a Minister other than an Appropriation or Supply Bill, an explanatory memorandum signed by the Minister and including an explanation of the reasons for the bill shall be presented to the House at the conclusion of the Minister's speech on moving the second reading.

*Reference to Main or other committee*

**217A.** At least seven days after the first reading and before the resumption of debate on the motion "That this bill be now read a second time", a motion may be moved without notice "That this bill be referred to the Main Committee for the remainder of the second reading and consideration in detail stages" or "That the bill be referred to the [*here insert title of committee*] for consideration and an advisory report". A motion to refer a bill to a committee for an advisory report may specify a date by which the committee is to report to the House.

Provided that, in the case of bills presented by Ministers:

- (a) a Minister may present a list of bills proposed to be referred to the Main Committee or other committees and move without notice either immediately or at a later time "That the bills be referred to committee(s) in accordance with the list"; and
- (b) the bills referred to the Main Committee may be considered by it after details of the reference have been published in the Notice Paper.

*Reference to Main Committee after advisory report presented*

**217B.** When a bill has been referred to a committee for an advisory report, and the committee's report has been presented to the House, the bill may be referred to the Main Committee for the remainder of the second reading and consideration in detail stages in accordance with standing order 217A.

*Consideration in detail unless—*

**222.** After the second reading, or when proceeding under standing order 221, after those proceedings have been disposed of, the House or the Main Committee, as appropriate, shall forthwith consider the bill in detail unless—

- (a) the bill has been referred to a select committee in accordance with standing order 221, or
- (b) if the bill is being considered in the House, the House grants leave for the question "That this bill be now read a third time" to be moved forthwith, or
- (c) if the bill is being considered in the Main Committee, the Committee grants leave for the question "That this bill be reported to the House without amendment" to be put forthwith.



*Motions to print or take note*

**322.** On any paper being presented to the House as provided in this chapter, a Minister or an Assistant Minister may move without notice either or both of the following motions: 1. That the paper be printed; 2. That the House take note of the paper:

Provided that, at the conclusion of the period for presentation of papers in the routine of business under standing order 101 on each sitting day, one motion may be moved that the House take note of certain papers presented that day, and the resumption of the debate on the motion to take note of each of the papers shall be made a separate order of the day on the Notice Paper:

Provided further that, if any of the motions contained in this standing order is not moved by a Minister at the time of the presentation of the paper or papers, a motion for printing or taking note of a specific paper may be moved, on notice, on a subsequent day.

- (2) New standing order 100A be inserted after 'BUSINESS':

*Notice Paper*

**100A.** All business before the House shall be set down on the Notice Paper in accordance with the standing or sessional orders and the Notice Paper shall be published.

- (3) Standing order 217C be omitted.

Mr Crean moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following:

"(1) the following amendments to the standing orders be made:

- (a) Standing orders 48A, 91, 101, 101A, 104, 104A, 106, 106A, 150, 152, 193, 215, 217, 217A, 217B, 222 and 322 be amended to read as follows:

*Adjournment and next meeting*

**48A.** At 8 p.m. on a sitting Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday and at 5.30 p.m. on a sitting Thursday the Speaker shall propose the question—That the House do now adjourn—which question shall be open to debate. No amendment may be moved to this question:

Provided that:

- (a) if a division is in progress at the time fixed for interruption, that division, and any division consequent upon that division, shall be completed and the result announced;
- (b) if, on the question—That the House do now adjourn—being proposed, a Minister requires the question to be put forthwith without debate, the Speaker shall forthwith put the question;
- (c) a motion for the adjournment of the House may be moved by a Minister at an earlier hour;

- (d) any business under discussion and not disposed of at the time of the adjournment shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting; and
- (e) if the question—That the House do now adjourn—is negatived, the House shall resume the proceedings at the point at which they had been interrupted:

Provided further that, if at 8.30 p.m. on a sitting Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday or at 6 p.m. on a sitting Thursday, the question before the House is—That the House do now adjourn—the Speaker shall interrupt the debate, at which time—

- (f) a Minister may require that the debate be extended until 8.40 p.m. or 6.10 p.m., as appropriate, to enable Ministers to speak in reply to matters raised in the preceding adjournment debate; at 8.40 p.m., or 6.10 p.m., as appropriate, or upon the earlier cessation of the debate, the Speaker shall forthwith adjourn the House until the time of its next meeting, or
- (g) if no action is taken by a Minister under paragraph (f) the Speaker shall forthwith adjourn the House until the time of its next meeting.

#### *Time limits*

**91.** The maximum period for which a Member may speak on any subject indicated in this standing order, and the maximum period for any debate, shall not, unless otherwise ordered, exceed the period specified opposite to that subject in the following schedule:

Subject	Time
Election of Speaker or Deputy Speaker—	
Each Member .....	5 minutes
Address in Reply—	
Each Member .....	20 minutes
Discussion of definite matter of public importance (under standing order 107)—	
Whole debate.....	2 hours
Proposer.....	15 minutes
Member next speaking .....	15 minutes
Any other Member .....	10 minutes
Question for adjournment of House to terminate the sitting—	
Each Member .....	5 minutes
	(no extension of time to be granted)

Provided that, if no other Member rises to address the House, a Member who has already spoken to the motion

may speak a second time for a period not exceeding 5 minutes.

Censure or want of confidence motion accepted by a Minister as provided under standing order 110—	
Mover.....	30 minutes
Prime Minister or one Minister deputed by the Prime Minister .....	30 minutes
Any other Member.....	20 minutes
Limitation of debate—Motion for allotment of time (under standing order 92)—	
Whole debate .....	20 minutes
Each Member.....	5 minutes
Second reading of a bill—	
Main Appropriation Bill for year—	
Mover.....	not specified
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader .....	not specified
Any other Member.....	20 minutes
Other bills (Government)—	
Mover.....	30 minutes
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader .....	30 minutes
Any other Member.....	20 minutes
Other bills (Private Government Member)—	
Mover.....	30 minutes
Prime Minister or one Member deputed by the Prime Minister .....	30 minutes
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader .....	30 minutes
Any other Member.....	20 minutes
Other bills (Opposition or other non-government Member)—	
Mover.....	30 minutes
Prime Minister or one Member deputed by the Prime Minister.....	30 minutes
Any other Member .....	20 minutes
Consideration in detail of a bill—	
Each Member—Unspecified number of periods each not exceeding .....	5 minutes
Consideration of amendments made or requested by the Senate—	
Each Member—Unspecified number of periods each not exceeding .....	5 minutes

Question 'That grievances be noted' (under standing order 106)—	
Each Member .....	10 minutes
Proposed resolution relating to tax or duty—	
Mover .....	20 minutes
Leader of Opposition or one Member deputed by the Leader .....	20 minutes
Any other Member .....	10 minutes
Suspension of standing orders (under standing order 399)—	
Whole debate.....	25 minutes
Mover .....	10 minutes
Seconder (if any) .....	5 minutes
Member next speaking .....	10 minutes
Any other Member .....	5 minutes
Debates not otherwise provided for—	
Mover of a motion .....	20 minutes
Any other Member .....	15 minutes
Extension of time—with the consent of a majority of the House or of the Committee, to be determined without debate, a Member may be allowed to continue a speech interrupted under the foregoing provisions of this standing order for one period not exceeding .....	10 minutes
Provided that no extension of time shall exceed half of the original period allotted.	

*Routine of business*

**101.** The House shall proceed on the days indicated with its ordinary business in the following routine:

*Monday*

1. Presentation of, and statements on, reports from parliamentary committees and delegations.
2. Orders of the day for the resumption of debate on motions moved in connection with committee and delegation reports (debate concluding no later than 1.15 p.m.).
3. Private Members' business (debate commencing no later than 1.15 p.m., debate to be interrupted at 1.45 p.m.).
4. Members' statements (at approximately 1.45 p.m.).
5. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.).
6. Presentation of petitions.
7. Private Members' business (in continuation for 1 hour).
8. Grievance debate (debate to continue for 1 hour and 20 minutes).
9. Notices and orders of the day.

*Tuesday*

1. Questions without notice. 2. Presentation of papers. 3. Ministerial statements, by leave. 4. Matter of public importance. 5. Notices and orders of the day.

*Wednesday and Thursday*

1. Notices and orders of the day. 2. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 3. Presentation of papers. 4. Ministerial statements, by leave. 5. Matter of public importance. 6. Notices and orders of the day.

*Interruption for question period*

**101A.** At 2 p.m. on each sitting Monday, Wednesday and Thursday the Speaker shall interrupt the business before the House in order that questions without notice can be called on:

Provided that:

- (a) if a division is in progress at the time fixed for interruption, the division shall be completed and the result announced; and
- (b) the Speaker shall fix the time for the resumption of the debate on any business under discussion and not disposed of at the time of interruption.

*Precedence to government and private Members' business*

**104.** Government business shall, on each day of sitting, have precedence of private Members' business except on each sitting Monday as provided by standing order 101.

At the conclusion of grievance debate the Speaker shall put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment, any questions on which a division had been called for earlier in the day, and which had been deferred pursuant to standing order 193.

*Private Members' business—procedure*

**104A.** In the period during which private Members' business is accorded precedence pursuant to standing order 104, notices and orders of the day relating to private Members' business shall be called on by the Clerk in the order in which they appear on the Notice Paper. When the time allotted by standing order 102C or 104, or by the Selection Committee, for an item of business has expired, consideration shall be interrupted by the Chair and the question before the Chair shall be put:

Provided that, where the Selection Committee has determined that consideration of a matter should continue on a future day, at the time fixed for interruption, the Chair shall interrupt proceedings and further consideration of the matter shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

Notices by private Members of their intention to present bills shall stand referred to the Selection Committee which shall give priority to them over other notices and orders of the day and determine the order in which they are to be presented. Upon the respective notice being called on by the Clerk, the Member in whose name the notice stands shall present the bill and may speak for a period not exceeding five minutes in support thereof. The bill shall then be read a first time and the motion for the second reading shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

If the motion for the second reading of any private Member's bill is agreed to by the House, further consideration shall be accorded precedence of other private Members' business and the Selection Committee may allot times for consideration of the remaining stages of the bill.

#### *Grievance debate*

**106.** Notwithstanding standing order 105, the first order of the day, government business, on each sitting Monday following the conclusion of private Members' business shall be a question to be proposed by the Speaker, 'That grievances be noted' to which question any Member may address the House or move any amendment.

If consideration of the question has not been concluded after 1 hour and 20 minutes, the debate thereon shall be interrupted and the Speaker shall put any questions then before the House, and after resolution of those questions, shall forthwith call on the next order of the day, government business.

#### *Statements by Members*

**106A.** At 1.45 p.m. on each sitting Monday the Speaker shall interrupt private Members' business in order that statements by Members can be called on. A Member, other than a Minister, may be called by the Chair to make a statement for a period not exceeding 90 seconds. The period allowed for these statements shall not extend beyond 2 p.m.

#### *Replies to questions*

**150.** The reply to a question on notice shall be given by delivering it to the Clerk. A copy of the reply shall be supplied to the Member who asked the question, and the question and reply shall be published in Hansard.

If after the expiration of 60 days of a question first appearing on the Notice Paper, a reply has not been delivered to the Clerk, the Member who asked the question may rise in his or her place at the conclusion of the question period and request the Speaker to write to the Minister concerned, seeking reasons for the delay in answering.

*Questions to Speaker*

**152.** At the conclusion of the question period, questions without notice may be put to the Speaker relating to any matter of administration for which he or she is responsible.

*When division may be taken*

**193.** A division shall not be proceeded with unless more than one Member has called for a division. If one Member only calls for a division, that Member may inform the Speaker that he or she wishes his or her dissent to be recorded in the Votes and Proceedings and in Hansard and the Member's dissent shall be so recorded:

Provided that, on sitting Mondays, any division called for in the House during the consideration of private Members' business on a question, other than a motion moved by a Minister, shall stand deferred until after the conclusion of grievance debate.

*First reading*

**215.** On the presentation of a bill by a Member, or on the receipt from the Senate of a bill for the concurrence of the House, it shall be read a first time without any question being put.

*Second reading and explanatory memorandum*

**217.** After the first reading a future day shall be appointed for the Member to move 'That this bill be now read a second time' and the bill shall meanwhile be printed:

Provided that if copies of the bill have been circulated among Members the second reading may be moved immediately after the bill has been read a first time. The debate on the question shall then be adjourned to a future day.

In the case of a bill presented by a Minister other than an Appropriation or Supply Bill, an explanatory memorandum signed by the Minister and including an explanation of the reasons for the bill shall be presented to the House at the conclusion of the Minister's speech on moving the second reading.

*Reference to Main or other committee*

**217A.** At least seven days after the first reading and before the resumption of debate on the motion 'That this bill be now read a second time', a motion may be moved without notice 'That this bill be referred to the Main Committee for the remainder of the second reading and consideration in detail stages' or 'That the bill be referred to the [here insert title of committee] for consideration and an advisory report'. A motion to refer a bill to a committee for an advisory report may specify a date by which the committee is to report to the House.

Provided that, in the case of bills presented by Ministers:

- (a) a Minister may present a list of bills proposed to be referred to the Main Committee or other committees and move without notice either immediately or at a later time 'That the bills be referred to committee(s) in accordance with the list'; and
- (b) the bills referred to the Main Committee may be considered by it after details of the reference have been published in the Notice Paper.

*Reference to Main Committee after advisory report presented*

**217B.** When a bill has been referred to a committee for an advisory report, and the committee's report has been presented to the House, the bill may be referred to the Main Committee for the remainder of the second reading and consideration in detail stages in accordance with standing order 217A.

*Consideration in detail unless—*

**222.** After the second reading, or when proceeding under standing order 221, after those proceedings have been disposed of, the House or the Main Committee, as appropriate, shall forthwith consider the bill in detail unless—

- (a) the bill has been referred to a select committee in accordance with standing order 221, or
- (b) if the bill is being considered in the House, the House grants leave for the question 'That this bill be now read a third time' to be moved forthwith, or
- (c) if the bill is being considered in the Main Committee, the Committee grants leave for the question 'That this bill be reported to the House without amendment' to be put forthwith.

*Motions to print or take note*

**322.** On any paper being presented to the House as provided in this chapter, a Minister or an Assistant Minister may move without notice either or both of the following motions: 1. That the paper be printed; 2. That the House take note of the paper:

Provided that, at the conclusion of the period for presentation of papers in the routine of business under standing order 101 on each sitting day, one motion may be moved that the House take note of certain papers presented that day, and the resumption of the debate on the motion to take note of each of the papers shall be made a separate order of the day on the Notice Paper:

Provided further that, if any of the motions contained in this standing order is not moved by a Minister at the time of the presentation of the paper or papers, a motion for printing or taking note of a specific paper may be moved, on notice, on a subsequent day.



- (b) New standing order 100A be inserted after 'BUSINESS':

*Notice Paper*

**100A.** All business before the House shall be set down on the Notice Paper in accordance with the standing or sessional orders and the Notice Paper shall be published.

- (c) Standing order 217C be omitted; and
- (2) the House refers to the Standing Committee on Procedure the question of whether further changes should be made to the times of sitting of the House for report before the House adjourns on 9 May 1996".

Debate continued.

*Tragedy at Port Arthur, Tasmania:* At 10.30 a.m., all Members present stood, in silence, as a mark of respect for the victims of the tragedy at Port Arthur, Tasmania.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

AYES, 87

Mr Abbott	Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr Sharp
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr Lloyd	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mr Fahey	Mr McArthur*	Mr A. C. Smith
Mrs Bailey	Mr Filing	Mr McDougall	Mr Somlyay
Mr R. C. Baldwin	Mr Fischer	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Barresi	Mr Forrest	Mr Marek	Mrs Stone
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gallus	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Billson	Ms Gambaro	Mrs Moylan	Mr Taylor
Mr Bradford	Mrs Gash	Mr Mutch	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mr Broadbent	Mr Georgiou	Mr Nairn	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mrs E. J. Grace	Dr Nelson	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr E. H. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Nugent	Ms D. S. Vale
Mr R. A. Cameron	Mr Hicks*	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Causley	Mr Hockey	Mr Pyne	Mrs West
Mr Charles	Ms Jeanes	Mr Randall	Mr Williams
Mr Cobb	Mrs Johnston	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Costello	Mr Jull	Mr Reith	Ms Worth
Mr Dondas	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Rocher	Mr Zammit
Mr Downer	Miss J. M. Kelly	Mr Ronaldson	

## NOES, 43

Mr Albanese	Mr M. J. Evans	Dr Lawrence	Mr O'Connor
Mr Andren	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Lee	Mr O'Keefe
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr McClelland	Mr Price
Mr Beddall	Mr E. L. Grace*	Ms Macklin	Mr Sawford*
Mr Bevis	Mr Griffin	Mr McLeay	Mr Sercombe
Mr Brereton	Ms Hanson	Mr McMullan	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Brown	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Dr Theophanous
Mr Crean	Mr Jenkins	Mr Melham	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mrs Crosio	Mr Jones	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Willis
Ms Ellis	Mr Langmore	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Wilton
Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr Mossfield	

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

#### 4 BROADCASTING OF PROCEEDINGS—CONDITIONS FOR BROADCASTERS

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That the conditions for broadcasters of the live broadcast and rebroadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House of Representatives and its Main Committee be amended to read as follows:

1. Access to the proceedings of the House of Representatives and its Main Committee for the recording and broadcasting of proceedings is subject to an undertaking to observe, and to comply with, the following conditions:
  - (1) Broadcasting and recordings may only be made from the official and dedicated composite vision and sound feed provided by the Sound and Vision Office (channels 1 and 5 on the House Monitoring System);
  - (2) Broadcasts shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
    - (a) political party advertising or election campaigns;
    - (b) satire or ridicule; or
    - (c) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising;
  - (3) Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views;
  - (4) Excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn may be rebroadcast only if the withdrawal also is rebroadcast;
  - (5) The instructions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Speaker's delegate, in respect of broadcasting, shall be observed.
2. Non-compliance with the guidelines listed above may incur penalties. Breaches of the guidelines and penalties are determined by the House members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary

Proceedings. The following is a general guide to the penalties which may be imposed on stations or programs:

- (a) first breach—access to the broadcast withdrawn for three sitting days;
- (b) second breach—access to the broadcast service withdrawn for six sitting days; and
- (c) third or subsequent breaches—such penalty as is determined by the House members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

#### **5 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—ROUTINE OF BUSINESS FOR 6 MAY 1996**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the routine of business for the sitting on Monday, 6 May 1996, being as follows, unless otherwise ordered:

1. Notices and orders of the day, government business.
2. Members' statements (at approximately 1.45 p.m.).
3. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.).
4. Presentation of petitions.
5. Grievance debate.
6. Notices and orders of the day, government business.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

#### **6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—VARIATION OF ROUTINE OF BUSINESS**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the routine of business for this day being varied to permit questions without notice being called on at 3 p.m., to be followed by presentation of papers, ministerial statements, by leave, matter of public importance and notices and orders of the day, government business.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

#### **7 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH**

Mrs Gash presented the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech, prepared by the committee appointed on 30 April 1996, which was read by the Clerk, as follows:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Mrs Gash moved—That the Address be agreed to.

Mr Brough seconded the motion.

Debate ensued.

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

#### 8 TRAGEDY AT PORT ARTHUR, TASMANIA—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Mr Howard (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the visit he and Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) and Tasmanian Members of the House of Representatives made to Port Arthur today, expressing his feelings and thanks to those who assisted.

Mr Beazley, by leave, also made a statement on the matter.

#### 9 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

*Papers:* Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Budget estimates—Copies of—

Fiscal and economic outlook—Treasury—Paper, 8 March 1996.

The Commonwealth budget position—Press release issued by the Treasurer, 12 March 1996.

Questions without notice continued.

#### 10 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS—PUBLICATION OF PAPERS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit reports of 1995-96—

No. 15—Financial statement audit—Aggregate financial statement prepared by the Minister for Finance year ended 30 June 1995.

No. 16—Performance audit—Assessable government industry assistance: Australian Taxation Office.

No. 17—Preliminary study—Management of Australian Defence Force preparedness: Department of Defence.

No. 18—Performance audit—Competitive employment, training and placement services: Department of Health and Family Services.

No. 19—Performance audit—The management of small and medium-sized overseas posts: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Australian Trade Commission.

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

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit reports Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of 1995-96; and
- (2) the reports be printed.

Question—put and passed.

## 11 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Advance Australia Logo Protection Act—Advance Australia Foundation—Report for 1994-95.

Australian Meat and Livestock Industry Policy Council Act—Australian Meat and Livestock Industry Policy Council—Report for 1994-95.

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Act—Safety Review Committee—Report for 1994-95.

Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—Australia's science and engineering base for information and communications services and technologies, November 1995.

Christmas Island Act—Casino Control Ordinance—Casino Surveillance Authority and Casino Controller—Reports for 1994-95.

Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Reports—

Christmas Island inquiry—1995.

General revenue grant relativities—1996 update.

Department of Defence—Special purpose flights—Schedule for period— 1 July to 31 December 1995.

East Asia Analytical Unit—Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Reports—

Growth triangles of South East Asia.

Iron and steel in China and Australia.

Employment, Education and Training Act—National Board of Employment, Education and Training—

Reports, including the Board's comments—

Higher Education Council—The promotion of quality and innovation in higher education: Advice of the Higher Education Council on the use of discretionary funds, November 1995.

Schools Council—Students' attitudes towards careers and post-school options for education, training and employment, November 1995.

Review of appointment procedures for Australian Research Council program committees and discipline panels, January 1996.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—Equal Employment Opportunity Program— Report for 1994-95—

Army and Air Force Canteen Service (AAFCANS).

Australian Industry Development Corporation.

Australian National Railways Commission (Australian National).

Foreign Investment Review Board—Report for 1994-95.

Freedom of Information Act—Report for 1994-95.

Housing Loans Insurance Act—Housing Loans Insurance Corporation—31st report, for 1994-95.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act—Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of the Human Rights Commissioner on the reconvened inquiry into the human rights of people with mental illness (Victoria), December 1995.

Landcare Australia Limited—6th report, for 1994-95.

Law Reform Commission Act—Australian Law Reform Commission (Report No. 77) and Administrative Review Council (Report No. 40)—Joint report—Open government: A review of the federal *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act—Honeybee Research and Development Council—Report for 1994-95.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child—Australia's report under the Convention, December 1995.

Wheat Marketing Act—Australian Wheat Board—Report for period 1 October 1994 to 30 September 1995.

## 12 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

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

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Act—Safety Review Committee—Report for 1994-95.

Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report—General revenue grant relativities—1996 update.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act—Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of the Human Rights Commissioner on the reconvened inquiry into the human rights of people with mental illness (Victoria), December 1995.

Landcare Australia Limited—6th report, for 1994-95.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child—Australia's report under the Convention, December 1995.

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

## 13 SPEAKER'S PANEL

The following warrant nominating members of the Speaker's panel, pursuant to standing order 18, was laid upon the Table:

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 18, I nominate—

John Neil Andrew,

Nicholas Bruce Reid,  
Kathryn Jean Martin Sullivan,  
Warren Errol Truss, and  
Mark Anthony James Vaile,

to be members of the Speaker's panel to assist the Chair when requested to do so by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

Given under my hand on 1 May 1996.

R. G. HALVERSON  
Speaker

**14 REGISTRAR OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

The House was informed that the Speaker, in accordance with resolution (3) of the House of Representatives relating to the registration of Members' Interests, had appointed Mr L. M. Barlin, Clerk of the House of Representatives, as Registrar of Members' Interests in the 38th Parliament and Mr B. C. Wright, First Clerk Assistant, to act as Registrar during any period of absence of Mr Barlin.

**15 BILLS AND ACTS—NEW FORMAT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the new format for bills and Acts and presented the following paper:

Bills and Acts—New format—Ministerial statement.

Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

*Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech:* Mr Miles, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Melham speaking for a period not exceeding 5 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Melham addressed the House.

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

**16 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ACCORD AND WAGES POLICY**

The House was informed that Mr G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The impact on interest rates and Australia's economic outlook of the Government's decision to abandon the Accord and wages policy".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr G. J. Evans addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**17 DAIRY PRODUCE LEVY (NO. 1) AMENDMENT BILL 1996**

Mr Anderson (Minister for Primary Industries and Energy) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Dairy Produce Levy (No. 1) Act 1986*.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper:* Mr Anderson presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**18 DAIRY PRODUCE AMENDMENT BILL 1996**

Mr Anderson (Minister for Primary Industries and Energy), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Dairy Produce Act 1986*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper:* Mr Anderson presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**19 SHIPPING GRANTS LEGISLATION BILL 1996**

Mr Sharp (Minister for Transport and Regional Development), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal the *International Shipping (Australian-resident Seafarers) Grants Act 1995* and to amend the *Ships (Capital Grants) Act 1987*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper:* Mr Sharp presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**20 EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1996**

Mr Prosser (Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Excise Tariff Act 1921*.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper:* Mr Prosser presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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



**21 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Mr M. J. Evans addressing the House—

**22 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 Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

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**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 1 May 1996:

Air Navigation Act—Determination—Air Navigation (Aerodrome Flight Corridors) Amendment 1996 No. 1.

Air Services Act—Direction, 20 March 1996.

Broadcasting Services Act—Broadcasting Services (Events) Notice No. 1 of 1994—Amendment 1996 No. 1.

Child Support (Assessment) Act—Ruling 1996 No. CSR 96/4.

Christmas Island Act—List of Western Australian Acts for period 9 September 1995 to 29 April 1996.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—Civil Aviation Orders—Exemption 1996 No. 115/FRS/127/1996.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—List of Western Australian Acts for period 9 September 1995 to 29 April 1996.

Sales Tax Assessment Act—Determination 1996 No. STD 96/6.

Taxation Administration Act—

Determination 1996 No. TD96/17.

Ruling 1996 No. TR 96/13.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hollis and Mr Katter.

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**L. M. BARLIN**

Clerk of the House of Representatives