

1996

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 46

MONDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 1996

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- 1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Bob Halverson) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **ENVIRONMENT, RECREATION AND THE ARTS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**
Mr Truss (Chair) presented the following papers:
Environment, Recreation and the Arts—Standing Committee—Managing Australia's world heritage—
Report, October 1996.
Evidence received by the committee.
Minutes of proceedings.
Ordered—That the report be printed.
Mr Truss, Mr Langmore, Mr Entsch, Dr Lawrence, Mr Anthony, Mr Jenkins and Mr Hockey made statements in connection with the report.
The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—
Mr Truss moved—That the House take note of the report.
Mr Truss was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 3 **SYDNEY AIRPORT (REGULATION OF MOVEMENTS) BILL 1996**
Mr Albanese, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to limit the number of aircraft movements at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport, and for related purposes.
Mr Albanese made a statement in relation to the Bill.
Paper: Mr Albanese, by leave, presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.
Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting, in accordance with standing order 104A.

4 PLEDGE OF COMMITMENT AS A CITIZEN OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Ms Hanson, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House calls on the Government to strengthen the pledge of commitment as a citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia into a pledge of loyalty to acknowledge the primacy of the interests of Australia and its people above all others.

Debate ensued.

At 1.45 p.m., the time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106A, Mr R. A. Cameron was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

6 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence of Mr Fischer (Minister for Trade), Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs) would answer questions on his behalf.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

8 PETITIONS

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

Mr Anthony, from 65 families and friends of Cooloon Children's Centre Inc., NSW; Mr Anthony, from 41 families and friends of Gumnuts Community Preschool Inc., NSW; Mr Anthony, from 31 families and friends of Rainbow Children's Centre Inc., NSW; Mrs Crosio, from 141 families and friends of Merrydays Kindergarten Society Inc., NSW; Mrs Crosio, from 44 families and friends of Smithfield Child Care Centre, NSW; Mr McClelland, from 72 families and friends of Turrella Children's Centre, NSW; Mr Melham, from 49 families and friends of the Revesby Uniting Church Child Care Centre, NSW; and Mr Mutch, from 30 families and friends of Koala Child Care Centre, NSW, respectively, praying that operational subsidies to community based long day care centres be retained.

Mrs Crosio and Mr Mutch, from 20 and 40 residents of New South Wales, respectively, praying that the practice of issuing provider numbers only to certain medical practitioners be opposed.

Mr Tanner and Ms Worth, from 19 and 1963 petitioners, respectively, in similar terms.

Mr Albanese, from 184 petitioners, praying that the Marrickville, NSW, Medicare Office remain open.

Mr Anthony, from 48 electors of the Division of Richmond, praying that the operational subsidy remain for community based child care centres and certain other action be taken in relation to child care.

Mr Bradford, from 59 residents of Queensland, Ms Macklin, from 32 parents and staff of a long day care community children's centre, Ms Macklin, from 11 033 residents of the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, respectively, in similar terms.

Mr Bevis, from 120 residents of Queensland, praying that the decision to cut funding to the ABC be rescinded.

Mr Bevis, from 53 residents of Queensland, praying that reforms to public housing assistance be delayed to ensure effective transitional arrangements.

Mr Bradford, from 282 electors of the Division of McPherson, praying that offices of the Commonwealth Employment Service and the Department of Social Security in Palm Beach, Qld, be relocated.

Mrs Crosio, from 20 petitioners, praying that operational subsidies to community based long day child care centres be retained.

Mr McClelland, from 53 residents of Sydney, praying that the decision to remove the ability of permanent residents to sponsor the migration of family members be revoked.

Mr McClelland, from 52 residents of Sydney, praying that the decision to increase fees for certain family visa classes be revoked.

Mr McClelland, from 51 residents of Sydney, praying that the decision to impose a cap on certain family visa classes be revoked.

Mr McClelland, from 36 residents of New South Wales, praying that the outcomes of the 1996 Budget in relation to child care be reversed and certain other action be taken in relation to child care.

Mr McClelland, from 35 residents of New South Wales, praying that funding to Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs English language classes be restored and the limit imposed on Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs funded English language classes be abolished.

Mr McClelland, from 15 residents of Sydney, in similar terms.

Mr Melham, from 7545 petitioners, praying that Holsworthy be opposed as a site for Sydney's second international airport.

Mr Melham, from 5110 petitioners, in similar terms.

Mr Melham, from 9 petitioners, praying that the current level of funding to the ABC be maintained.

Mr Miles, from 217 students, teachers and parents of students of Tasmania, praying that legislation that will increase fees under the Higher Education Contribution Scheme be rejected.

Mr Moore, from 947 petitioners, praying that legislation be passed to prevent euthanasia and certain other action be taken in relation to the issue of euthanasia.

Mr Nairn, from 5 residents of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, praying that assistance be provided to the Munjuwa Queanbeyan Aboriginal Corporation to obtain alternative funding.

Mr Scott, from 57 petitioners, praying that the exclusiveness of marriage as being between one male and one female be preserved and that the Marriage Act be amended to prohibit certain marriages.

Mr Tanner, from 10 residents of Queensland, praying that legislation that would impact upon existing quality, affordable child care not be passed.

Petitions received.

9 SECOND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT FOR SYDNEY

Mrs Crosio, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) notes the high level of community concern in the Greater Western Sydney region over the proposed construction of a second international airport at Badgerys Creek;
- (2) acknowledges that the Sydney basin has a finite population capacity and it is clearly approaching its limits for absorbing air and water pollution;
- (3) recognises that building a second international airport, either at Badgerys Creek or Holsworthy, inside the Sydney basin will subject hundreds of thousands of people to the same, if not worse, environmental and lifestyle problems which have already beset the residents surrounding Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport;
- (4) calls on the Minister for Transport and Regional Development to initiate an Environmental Impact Study on Goulburn as a site for an international airport, to run in conjunction with the current studies on the Holsworthy and Badgerys Creek airport sites;
- (5) calls on the Minister for Transport and Regional Development to commission a study into the economic and social benefits for the Southern Highlands region in building an international airport at Goulburn serviced by a “very fast train” of the kind currently in operation, or being considered for operation, in Europe; and
- (6) conducts an inquiry through the relevant parliamentary standing committee into the viability of, and the benefits associated with, the operation of a “very fast train” linking Sydney and Canberra, and its capacity to act as the main conduit for passengers and freight between Sydney and an international airport situated at Goulburn.

Debate ensued.

Paper: Mr Latham, by leave, presented the following paper:

Holsworthy—Possible site for second international airport for Sydney—Copy of letter from Aldo Borgu, Senior Adviser, Office of the Minister for Defence Industry, Science and Personnel to Mr P. J. Healy, 2 October 1996.

Debate continued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

10 IRAQ

Mr Somlyay, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) condemns the Government of Iraq and particularly President Saddam Hussein for his continued, constant and unwarranted aggression against the Kuwaiti people and their government;
- (2) condemns the flagrant violations of human rights by the Government of Iraq in continuing to illegally hold hundreds of Kuwaiti citizens as prisoners of war since its abortive invasion of Kuwait in 1990; and
- (3) urges the international community, through its representatives at the UN, to:
 - (a) increase their efforts to achieve a lasting solution to the aggression of Iraq against its neighbours; and
 - (b) ensure the safe and speedy return of all prisoners of war held by the Government of Iraq.

Debate ensued.

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

11 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.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

12 PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—CONSTRUCTION OF EXTENSION TO NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA—APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL

Mr Jull (Minister for Administrative Services), for Mr W. L. Smith (Minister for Sport, Territories and Local Government), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the House approves the following proposal for work in the Parliamentary Zone which was presented to the House on 31 October 1996, namely: Construction of an extension to the National Gallery of Australia.

Question—put and passed.

13 HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1996

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.

Paper: Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Family Services) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

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

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

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Mr Adams	Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms Macklin	Mr Price
Mr Albanese	Mr E. L. Grace*	Mr McLeay	Mr Quick
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr Griffin	Mr McMullan	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beddall	Mr Hatton	Mr Martin	Mr Sercombe
Mr Bevis	Mr Holding	Mr Melham	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Brown	Mr Jenkins	Mr A. A. Morris	Dr Theophanous
Ms Ellis	Mr Langmore	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr M. J. Evans	Dr Lawrence	Mr Mossfield	Mr Wilton
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Lee	Mr O'Connor	
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr McClelland	Mr O'Keefe	

* Tellers

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

Consideration in detail

Clause 1—

Ordered—That further consideration of the Bill be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

14 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, dated 4 November 1996, were reported:

- (a) transmitting a resolution agreed to by the Senate approving, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the proposal by the National Gallery of Australia to construct an extension to the existing Gallery in Parkes, Australian Capital Territory, for the purpose of conducting temporary exhibitions—Message No. 86; and
- (b) acquainting the House that Senator Woods had been discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, and Senator Gibson had been appointed a member of the committee—Message No. 87.

15 CHILD CARE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1996

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 Dr Lawrence, viz.*—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:

- (1) deplores the Government for abolishing operational subsidies for community-based long day care centres which will have the effect of increasing the costs and reducing the quality of child care for parents using these centres; and
- (2) condemns the Government for breaking its election promise not to means test the Childcare Cash Rebate”—

Debate resumed.

Mr K. J. Thomson addressing the House—

16 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 4 November 1996:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals for the collection of information 1996 Nos. 16, 17.

National Health Act—Determinations 1996 Nos. PHI 15/1996, PHI 16/1996.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr R. C. Baldwin, Mr Beazley, Mr Brereton, Mr E. H. Cameron, Mr Fischer, Mr Jones, Mr Reid*, Mr Tanner and Mr Willis*.

* On leave

L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives