

1996

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 60

WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 1996

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

2 **CHARTER OF BUDGET HONESTY BILL 1996**

Mr Costello (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for a Charter of Budget Honesty.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

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

3 **INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1996**

Mr Reith (Minister for Industrial Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991* and the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

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

4 **MULTILATERAL INVESTMENT GUARANTEE AGENCY BILL 1996**

Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister) presented a Bill for an Act relating to the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

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

5 TAX LAW IMPROVEMENT BILL 1996

Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law about income tax, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

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

6 TAX LAW IMPROVEMENT BILL 1996—REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE

Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) the Tax Law Improvement Bill 1996 be referred to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts for consideration and an advisory report to the House by 6 March 1997;
- (2) the terms of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with standing and sessional orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing and sessional orders; and
- (3) a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this reference to the committee.

Question—put and passed.

7 FLAGS 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—

Debate resumed.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

8 1996 PROGRESS REPORT TO THE PEOPLE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Howard (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement constituting the 1996 progress report to the Australian people.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

9 FLAGS 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—

Debate resumed.

It being 2 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.

10 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Reduction in interest rates—Media release by the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Mr Ian MacFarlane, 11 December 1996.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member ordered to withdraw: At 3.13 p.m. the Member for Isaacs (Mr Wilton) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

11 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS—PUBLICATION OF PAPERS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit reports of 1996-97—Performance audits—

No. 20—Selected Commonwealth property sales: Portfolio Departments of Veterans' Affairs, Defence and Administrative Services.

No. 21—Management of IT outsourcing: Department of Veterans' Affairs.

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

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit reports Nos. 20 and 21 of 1996-97; and
- (2) the reports be printed.

Question—put and passed.

12 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report and recommendations to the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs and to the Administrator of the Northern Territory—Jawoyn (Gimbat Area) land claim and Alligator Rivers Area III (Gimbat Resumption—Waterfall Creek) (No. 2) repeat land claim (Report No. 48).

Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand—Record and resolutions—8th meeting, Cairns, 27 September 1996.

Australian Industry Development Corporation Act—Australian Industry Development Corporation—Report for 1995-96.

Council of Financial Supervisors—Report for 1996.

Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Access and equity report for 1996.

Employment, Education and Training Act—National Board of Employment, Education and Training—Higher Education Council—Report, including the Board's comments—Professional education and credentialism, December 1996.

Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—Equal employment opportunity program—Army and Air Force Canteen Service—Report for 1995-96.

Fisheries Management Act—Western Australian Fisheries Joint Authority—Report for period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995.

National Crime Authority Act—National Crime Authority—Report for 1995-96.

Attachment to the report—Correspondence relating to the Intergovernmental Committee of the National Crime Authority.

National Environment Protection Council Act—National Environment Protection Council—Report for 1995-96.

Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act—Tobacco Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1995-96.

Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Act—Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund—Report for 1995-96.

Telecommunications Act 1991—Australian Telecommunications Authority (AUSTEL)—Competitive safeguards and carrier performance—Report for 1995-96.

Treaty—Multilateral—National interest analysis together with explanatory letter—Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), done at Vienna on 8 April 1979.

13 DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS—ACCESS AND EQUITY REPORT FOR 1996—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

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

Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Access and equity report for 1996.

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

14 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AND NATIONAL RAIL

The House was informed that Mr Tanner had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The prospective loss of jobs and rail services arising from the Government's decision to privatise Australian National and National Rail".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Tanner addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

15 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 115, dated 11 December 1996, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House of a resolution agreed to by the Senate approving, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the proposals by the National Capital Planning Authority:

- (a) to improve the National Gallery of Australia and the High Court of Australia precincts; and
- (b) to conduct stage 4 of the refurbishments to Old Parliament House.

16 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Mr J. N. Andrew (Chairman) presented the following papers:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Reports—

Development of facilities for 5 Aviation Regiment at RAAF Base Townsville (4th report of 1996).

Development of infrastructure on Townsville Field Training Area, Townsville (5th report of 1996).

Severally ordered to be printed.

Mr J. N. Andrew, by leave, made a statement in connection with the reports.

17 VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (1996-97 BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 1996

Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to veterans and the families of veterans, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

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

18 FLAGS 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—

Debate resumed.

19 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.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 December 1996:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals for the collection of information 1996 Nos. 18, 19.

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Plan—
Amendments Nos. 14, 16.

Bankruptcy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 263.

Child Support (Assessment) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 273.

Crimes Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 264.

Designs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 270.

Family Law Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 265.

Federal Court of Australia Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 266.

Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 274.

National Health Act—Nursing Homes Financial Arrangements Principles—
Amendment 1996 No. 2.

Patents Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 271.

Proceeds of Crime Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 267.

Student and Youth Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 275.

Superannuation Act 1976—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 268.

Trade Marks Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 272.

Workplace Relations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1996 No. 269.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Campbell, Mr Fischer, Mr Jones, Mr Katter, Mr McDougall, Mr McLachlan, Mr Marek, Mr Reid*, Mr Slipper, Mr S. F. Smith and Mr Willis*.

* On leave

L. M. BARLIN
Clerk of the House of Representatives

1996

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 60

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 1996

1 The Main Committee met at 10 a.m.

**2 ENVIRONMENT, RECREATION AND THE ARTS—STANDING COMMITTEE—
REPORT ON WORLD HERITAGE AREAS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF
PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Truss—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 4 November 1996*), viz.:

Environment, Recreation and the Arts—Standing Committee—World Heritage Areas—Report, October 1996—

Debate resumed.

Mr Truss, by leave, addressed the Main Committee without closing the debate.

Debate adjourned (Mr E. H. Cameron) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**3 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON AUSTRALIA-
JAPAN LONG-LINE TUNA FISHING AGREEMENT AND INDIAN OCEAN TUNA
COMMISSION AGREEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Bartlett—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 18 November 1996*), viz.:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—Australia-Japan Long-line Tuna Fishing Agreement and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Agreement—Report, November 1996—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr E. H. Cameron) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY AND SEAVIEW AIR—COMMISSION OF INQUIRY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sharp—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 8 October 1996*), viz.:

Relations between the Civil Aviation Authority and Seaview Air—Commission of Inquiry—Report, September 1996—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr E. L. Grace) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr A. C. Smith, the Main Committee adjourned at 11.52 a.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 10 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the Main Committee