

1996-97

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 83

TUESDAY, 13 MAY 1997

1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Bob Halverson) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 MS SUSIE MARONEY**

Mr Howard (Prime Minister), by indulgence, congratulated Ms Susie Maroney on swimming the Florida Straits from Cuba to Florida.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition), by indulgence, also extended his congratulations.

**3 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

**4 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER**

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 30 of 1996-97—Performance audit—Australian National University administration.

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

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit report No. 30 of 1996-97; and
- (2) the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

**5 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Reports relating to—

Malngin and Nyinin claim to Mistake Creek land claim No. 133 (No. 50).

Warnarrwarnarr-Barranyi (Borrooloola No. 2) land claim No. 30 (No. 49).

Australia-India Council—Report for 1995-96.

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Act—Nuclear Safety Bureau—Report for period 1 October to 31 December 1996.

Christmas Island Act—Casino Control Ordinance—Casino Surveillance Authority and Casino Controller—Report for 1995-96.

East Asia Analytical Unit—Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Report—China embraces the market: Achievements, constraints and opportunities.

Employment, Education and Training Act—National Board of Employment, Education and Training—Higher Education Council—Report, including the Board's comments—A review of institutional use of Commonwealth higher education funding for indigenous Australian students, March 1997.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Reports—Australia's relations with Thailand, October 1995—Government response. Bosnia: Australia's response, January 1996—Government response.

Industry Commission Act—Industry Commission—Report No. 57—Private health insurance, 28 February 1997.

Maritime College Act—Council of the Australian Maritime College—Report for 1996.

Treaties—

*Bilateral with text and national interest analysis—*

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Czech Republic on Trade and Economic Cooperation, done at Canberra on 20 March 1997.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the Investigation, Restraint and Confiscation of the Proceeds and Instruments of Crime, done at Canberra on 6 February 1997.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt relating to Air Services, done at Cairo on 10 March 1997.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Lebanon relating to Air Services, done at Beirut on 11 March 1997.

Agreement between Australia and New Zealand concerning the Establishment of the Governing Board, Technical Advisory Council and Accreditation Review Board of the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand.

*Multilateral national interest analysis for treaty previously tabled—*

Trademark Law Treaty, done at Geneva on 27 October 1994.

## 6 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—Nuclear Safety Bureau—Report for period 1 October to 31 December 1996.

Industry Commission Act—Industry Commission—Report No. 57—Private health insurance, 28 February 1997.

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

**7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—STEEL INDUSTRY IN NEWCASTLE**

The House was informed that Mr Crean had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to secure the future of the steel industry in Newcastle”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Crean addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**8 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:

27 March 1997—Message—

No. 119—Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration Charges) 1997.

No. 120—Education Services for Overseas Students (Registration of Providers and Financial Regulation) Amendment (No. 1) 1997.

No. 121—Euthanasia Laws 1997.

7 April 1997—Message No. 122—

Crimes and Other Legislation Amendment 1997.

Farm Household Support Amendment 1997.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1997.

Public Service Amendment 1997.

Sydney 2000 Games (Indicia and Images) Protection Amendment 1997.

10 April 1997—Message—

No. 123—

Family Law Amendment 1997.

Migration (Visa Application) Charge 1997.

Migration Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1997.

No. 125—Trade Practices Amendment (Industry Access Codes) 1997.

17 April 1997—Message—

No. 124—

Aviation Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1997.

Commonwealth Services Delivery Agency 1997.

Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 1) 1997.

Financial Transaction Reports Amendment 1997.

Law and Justice Legislation Amendment 1997.

No. 126—

Appropriation (No. 3) 1996-97.

Appropriation (No. 4) 1996-97.

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) (No. 2) 1996-97.

Income Tax Assessment 1997.

Income Tax (Consequential Amendments) 1997.

Income Tax (Transitional Provisions) 1997.

No. 127—Commonwealth Services Delivery Agency (Consequential Amendments) 1997.

22 April 1997—Message—

No. 128—

Export Market Development Grants (Repeal and Consequential Provisions) 1997.

Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Incentives) 1997.

Corporations Law Amendment 1997.

No. 129—

Radiocommunications Amendment 1997.

Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Amendment 1997.

Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Amendment 1997.

No. 130—

Telecommunications 1997.

Telecommunications Amendment 1997.

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) 1997.

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Fees) Termination 1997.

Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) 1997.

24 April 1997—Message No. 131—

Australian Communications Authority 1997.

Telecommunications (Universal Service Levy) 1997.

Telecommunications (Numbering Fees) Amendment 1997.

30 April 1997—Message No. 132—

Private Health Insurance Incentives 1997.

Taxation Laws Amendment (Private Health Insurance Incentives) 1997.

Export Market Development Grants 1997.

Trade Practices Amendment (Telecommunications) 1997.

3 May 1997—Message No. 133—Telecommunications (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) 1997.

## 9 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate were reported:

- (a) returning the Medicare Levy Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1996 and acquainting the House that the Senate had agreed to the Bill as amended by the House at the request of the Senate—6 May 1997—Message No. 210;
- (b) acquainting the House that Senator Short had been discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, and Senator

Coonan had been appointed a member of the committee—7 May 1997—Message No. 211; and

- (c) acquainting the House that Senator Short had been discharged from attendance on the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, and that Senator Ferguson had been appointed a member of the committee—7 May 1997—Message No. 212.

#### 10 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 14 May 1997, at 10 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

#### 11 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Cadman (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following Bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Excise Tariff Amendment (No. 2) 1997;

Petroleum Excise (Prices) Amendment 1997;

Broadcasting Services Legislation Amendment 1997;

Television Licence Fees Amendment 1997;

Radio Licence Fees Amendment 1997;

Dairy Produce Levy (No. 1) Amendment 1997;

Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Amendment 1997;

International Tax Agreements Amendment (No. 1) 1997;

Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 2) 1997; and

Crimes Amendment (Forensic Procedures) 1997.

Question—put and passed.

#### 12 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (ELECTION) BILL 1997

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

#### 13 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 1997-98—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1997-98—BUDGET SPEECH

Message No. 134, dated 12 May 1997, 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 1998; 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 1998, and for related purposes.

Mr Costello (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 1998, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

#### 14 PAPERS

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Budget strategy and outlook 1997-98 (Budget paper No. 1).

Budget measures 1997-98 (Budget paper No. 2).

Federal financial relations 1997-98 (Budget paper No. 3).

The Commonwealth public account 1997-98 (Budget paper No. 4).

Savings: Choice and incentive.

Investing in our natural heritage: The Commonwealth's environment expenditure 1997-98.

Our commitment to women.

Regional Australia: Leading the way.

Severally ordered to be printed.

#### 15 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 1997-98—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 1997-98

Message No. 135, dated 12 May 1997, 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 1998; 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 1998, and for related purposes.

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance) 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 1998, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**16 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION IN RELATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS FOR YEAR 1997-98—APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL 1997-98**

Message No. 136, dated 12 May 1997, 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 1998; 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 1998, and for related purposes.

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance) 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 1998, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**17 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the Hindmarsh Island Bridge Bill 1996 and acquainting the House that the Senate does not insist upon its amendments disagreed to by the House of Representatives—12 May 1997—Message No. 223.

**18 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT**

Mr Nehl (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business on Monday, 26 May 1997.

**19 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 8.04 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

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## PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 13 May 1997:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act—Rules—Zone Election Rules Amendment No. 4.

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act—Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Manufacturing Principles) Determination 1997 No. 1.

Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 80.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals for the collection of information 1997 Nos. 5, 6, 7.

Australian Horticultural Corporation Act—Australian Horticultural Corporation—Order 1997 No. 1.

Australian National University Act—Statute No. 255.

Bankruptcy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 76.

Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 84.

Christmas Island Act—Casino Control Ordinance—

Revocation of appointment of Deputy Casino Controller, 24 March 1997.

Variation to designation of casino area, 24 March 1997.

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

Exemptions—1997 Nos. 22/FRS, 23/FRS, 24/FRS, 25/FRS, 26/FRS, 27/FRS, 28/FRS, 29/FRS, 30/FRS, 31/FRS, 32/FRS, 33/FRS, 34/FRS, 35/FRS, CASA 8, CASA 9.

Part 20—Amendment 15 April 1997.

Part 105—Amendments 20, 21, 26 March, 2, 3(2), 7(2), 10(6), 11(7), 14(2), 28, 29(4) April 1997.

Part 106—Amendments 7(2), 8, 17, 21, 23, 28(3) April 1997.

Part 107—Amendments 3, 8, 10, 29 April 1997.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Ordinance 1997 No. 1.

Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 94.

Corporations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 81.

Currency Act—Determinations 1997 Nos. 1, 2.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules—

1996 No. 325 (*in substitution for paper presented on 4 February 1997*).

1997 Nos. 79, 89, 93.

Defence (Visiting Forces) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 73.

Defence Act—

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determination 1997 No. 6.



Determinations under section 58B 1997 Nos. 15, 16, 19.

Defence Force Discipline Appeals Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 74.

Director of Public Prosecutions Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 75.

Export Control Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 77.

Extradition Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 60.

Family Law Act—

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 98.

Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 97.

Federal Court of Australia Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1997 Nos. 82, 87.

Fisheries Management Act—

Direction No. NPPD 11.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 95.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 96.

Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 88.

Housing Assistance Act—Determination No. HAA 1/97.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statements under section 40 (2).

Life Insurance Act—

Actuarial standards—

Notification of invalidity of transitional provisions for the calculation of paid up values and surrender values, April 1997.

Transitional provisions for the calculation of paid up values and surrender values, April 1997.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 100.

Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Orders Nos. M77/97, MQ70/97.

Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 Nos. 91, 92.

Motor Vehicle Standards Act—Road Vehicle (National Standards) Determination 1997 No. 1.

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 59.

National Health Act—

Declarations 1997 Nos. PB 5, PB6.

Determinations 1997 Nos. HIS 3, HIS 4, HIS 5, HIS 6, PB 7.

Rules 1997 No. PB 4.

Native Title Act—Native Title (Alternative Right to Negotiate Scheme-South Australian *Opal Mining Act 1995*) Determination 1997 No. 1.

Proclamations by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing the dates on which the following Acts and provisions of Acts shall come into operation—

*Bankruptcy (Estate Charges) Act 1997*, 14 April 1997.

*Customs Amendment Act (No. 1) 1997*—Provisions of the Act except sections 1, 2 and 3, 1 April 1997.

*Migration (Visa Application) Charge Act 1997*, 1 May 1997.

*Migration Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1997*—Schedule 1, 1 May 1997.

Public Service Act—Determinations 1997 Nos. 10 (*in substitution for paper presented on 18 March 1997*), LES 7, LES 8, SESROB 17, SESROB 18, SESROB 19, SESROB 20, SESROB 21, SESROB 22.

Quarantine Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 85.

Radiocommunications Act—Determinations—

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Aeronautical Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Aircraft Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Amateur Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Apparatus Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Fixed Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Fixed Receive Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Major Coast Receive Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (PTS Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Scientific Licence) 1997 No. 1.

Radiocommunications Act, Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act and Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act—Determination—Radiocommunications (Definitions) No. 2 1993 (Amendment No. 7).

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations 1997 Nos. 1, 2.

Student and Youth Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 83.

*Superannuation Act 1976*—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 99.

*Superannuation Act 1990*—Declarations—Statutory Rules 1997 Nos. 71, 72.

Sydney 2000 Games (Indicia and Images) Protection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 65.

Taxation Administration Act—

Determinations 1997 Nos. TD 97/7, TD 97/8, TD 97/9, TD 97/10.

Ruling 1997 No. TR 97/7.

*Telecommunications Act 1991*—

Determination of a technical standard 1997 Nos. TS 002, TS 018, TS 031.

Notices 1997 Nos. TN 3, TN 4, TN 5.

Therapeutic Goods Act—Therapeutic Goods Orders Nos. 54A, 57, 59.

Tobacco Charge Act (No. 1)—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 90.

Trade Practices Act—

Declaration of designated secondary shipper body, 11 April 1997.

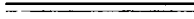
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 86.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments under section 196B 1997 Nos. 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.

Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act—Declaration under section 9—Amendment to Schedule 4, 10 March 1997.

Wool International Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 78.

Workplace Relations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1997 No. 101.



**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Miles and Mr Pyne.



**L. M. BARLIN**

Clerk of the House of Representatives