

1996-97

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 131

TUESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 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 PRIVILEGE—COMPLAINT OF BREACH

Mr Sinclair raised, as a matter of privilege, articles published today in the *Australian*, the *Australian Financial Review* and the *Daily Telegraph* concerning a video recording scheduled to be screened in part by the 'Witness' television program involving Ms Hanson.

Papers

Mr Sinclair presented copies of the *Australian*, the *Australian Financial Review* and the *Daily Telegraph* of 25 November 1997.

Ms Hanson addressed herself to the matter.

The Speaker stated that he would consider the matter and report to the House at a later time.

3 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

4 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Council of Financial Supervisors—Report for 1996-97.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report, May 1997—Hong Kong: The transfer of sovereignty—Government response.

Marketing in Australia of infant formula—Advisory panel—Report for 1996-97.

Members of Parliament (Staff) Act—Report on consultants engaged under section 4 for 1996-97.

Multilateral treaty action under negotiation or consideration by the Australian Government—List, November 1997.

National Health Act—Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Report on the operations of the registered health benefits organisations for 1996-97.

Natural Resources Management (Financial Assistance) Act—National Landcare Advisory Committee—Report for 1996-97.

Public Service Act—Department of Industrial Relations—Report, incorporating a report on the operation of Part V of the Workplace Relations Act, for 1996-97—Erratum.

Treaties—Text of—*Multilateral with national interest analysis*—Amendments, done at Monaco in October 1997, to the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling of 2 December 1946. Protocol, done at London on 7 November 1996, to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter of 29 December 1972.

Witness Protection Act—Report for 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97—Erratum.

5 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

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

Council of Financial Supervisors—Report for 1996-97.

Members of Parliament (Staff) Act—Report on consultants engaged under section 4 for 1996-97.

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

6 PAPER

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

Petition not in accord with standing and sessional orders of the House—Support for a racially tolerant Australia (Mr K. J. Andrews, 2717 petitioners).

7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AGED CARE

The House was informed that Ms Macklin had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to address the continuing uncertainty surrounding its aged care changes”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Ms Macklin addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

8 PRIVILEGE COMPLAINT—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker referred to the complaint of breach of privilege raised earlier today by Mr Sinclair in connection with articles published in the *Australian*, the

Australian Financial Review and the *Daily Telegraph* concerning a video recording scheduled to be screened in part by the *Witness* television program involving Ms Hanson.

The Speaker stated that the information available to him did not establish a prima facie case of improper interference. Accordingly, he was not prepared to allow precedence to a motion on the matter.

Mr Sinclair, by indulgence, addressed the House on the matter.

9 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, 1 December 1997.

10 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE

The House was informed that the Chief Government Whip had nominated Mr Lieberman to be a member of the Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs for the purpose of the inquiry into indigenous health.

11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 387, 24 November 1997, from the Senate was reported transmitting a resolution agreed to by the Senate approving, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the proposal by the National Capital Authority to lower the parapets on the Administrative Building.

12 MATTERS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr J. N. Andrew (Chief Government Whip), pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) the following Bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment 1997;

Corporations Law Amendment (ASX) 1997; and

Australia New Zealand Food Authority Amendment (No. 2) 1997;

- (2) the following order of the day, government business, be referred to the Main Committee for debate: Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report on Australia's relations with Southern Africa—Government response—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate; and
- (3) the following orders of the day, committee and delegation reports, be referred to the Main Committee for debate:
Employment, Education and Training—Standing Committee—Report on factors influencing the employment of young people—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report on ANZUS after 45 years: Seminar proceedings, 11-12 August 1997—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Sharpening the focus: Seminar on the Simons Committee Report, 11 July 1997—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report—From empire to partnership: Seminar on the Commonwealth of Nations, 20 August 1997—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate; and

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee—Report on role of the Australian Electoral Commission in conducting industrial elections—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate.

Question—put and passed.

13 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

Mr Charles (Chairman) presented the following papers:

Public Accounts—Joint Committee—

Report 354—Report for 1996-97.

Report 355—Aboriginal Councils and Torres Strait Island Councils: Review of financial accountability requirements.

Severally ordered to be printed.

Mr Charles, Mr Beddall and Mr Griffin, by leave, made statements in connection with the reports.

Mr Charles, by leave, moved—That the House take note of each report.

Mr Charles was granted leave to continue his speech when each debate is resumed.

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

14 JUDICIARY AMENDMENT 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.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mrs Crosio, in the Chair)—

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

NOES, 43

Mr Adams	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr O'Connor
Mr Albanese	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Lee	Mr O'Keefe
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr E. L. Grace*	Mr McClelland	Mr Price
Mr Beddall	Mr Griffin*	Ms Macklin	Mr Quick
Mr Bevis	Mr Hatton	Mr McLeay	Mr Sawford*
Mr Brereton	Mr Holding	Mr McMullan	Mr Sercombe
Mr Brown	Mr Hollis	Mr Martin	Mr Tanner
Mr Crean	Mr Jenkins	Mr Melham	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Dargavel	Mr Jones	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Willis
Ms Ellis	Mr Kerr	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Wilton
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr Mossfield	

* Tellers

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Williams (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

15 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—JOINT COMMITTEE

Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister), by leave, moved—That Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Transport and Regional Development) be discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, and that, in his place, Mr Sharp be appointed a member of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

16 COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 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.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Debate ensued.

17 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 November 1997:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Orders—Part 40—Amendment 20 November 1997.

Exemption 1997 No. CASA 24.

Higher Education Funding Act—Determinations 1997 Nos. T24, T26.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement under section 40.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instrument 1997 No. 5.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Downer, Mr Georgiou, Mr Howard, Mrs Johnston, Mr Katter, Mr Lindsay, Mr S. F. Smith and Dr Theophanous.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives