

1996-97-98

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 165

TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 1998

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

2 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Moore (Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism), Mr Truss (Minister for Customs and Consumer Affairs) would answer questions on his behalf.

3 **QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 2.43 p.m. the Member for Burke (Mr O'Keefe) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a general warning had been given by the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.21 p.m. the Member for Wills (Mr K. J. Thomson) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a general warning had been given by the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Papers

Mrs Bishop (Minister for Defence Industry, Science and Personnel) presented the following papers:

Defence and industry—

Implementation plan.

Major initiatives.

Strategic policy statement, June 1998.

Questions without notice concluded.

4 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Aboriginal Deaths in Custody—Royal Commission—Implementation of the Australian Capital Territory Government response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission—Report for 1996-97.

Finance—

Advance to the Minister for Finance—

Statements for November 1997 and February, March and April 1998.

Supporting applications of issues from the Advance during November 1997 and February, March and April 1998.

Provision for running costs borrowings—

Statements for March and April 1998.

Supporting applications of issues from the Provision during March and April 1998.

5 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, 22 June 1998.

6 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIAN PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY BILL 1998

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with an amendment:

29 May 1998—Message No. 497—Australian Prudential Regulation Authority 1998.

Ordered—That the amendment be considered at the next sitting.

7 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUTHORISED DEPOSIT-TAKING INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISORY LEVY IMPOSITION BILL 1998

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment:

29 May 1998—Message No. 498—Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions Supervisory Levy Imposition 1998.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered at the next sitting.

8 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—RETIREMENT SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROVIDERS SUPERVISORY LEVY IMPOSITION BILL 1998

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment:

29 May 1998—Message No. 501—Retirement Savings Account Providers Supervisory Levy Imposition 1998.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered at the next sitting.

9 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—LIFE INSURANCE SUPERVISORY LEVY IMPOSITION BILL 1998

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment:

29 May 1998—Message No. 502—Life Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition 1998.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered at the next sitting.

10 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—GENERAL INSURANCE SUPERVISORY LEVY IMPOSITION BILL 1998

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment:

29 May 1998—Message No. 503—General Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition 1998.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered at the next sitting.

11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FINANCIAL SECTOR REFORM (AMENDMENTS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1998

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with amendments:

29 May 1998—Message No. 505—Financial Sector Reform (Amendments and Transitional Provisions) 1998.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered at the next sitting.

12 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, 29 May 1998, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

No. 499—Authorised Non-operating Holding Companies Supervisory Levy Imposition 1998 (*without requests*).

No. 500—Superannuation Supervisory Levy Imposition 1998 (*without requests*).

No. 504—Financial Institutions Supervisory Levies Collection 1998.

No. 506—Payment Systems (Regulation) 1998.

No. 507—Financial Sector (Shareholdings) 1998.

13 COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST-BAN TREATY BILL 1998

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.

Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs) moved the Government amendment as circulated.

Paper

Mr Downer presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Amendment agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Downer, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (RETIREMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS) BILL 1998

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

15 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1998-99—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE—REFERENCE TO MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been considered by the Main Committee and was returned with an unresolved question (*see item No. 2, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of the unresolved question.

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

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

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

NOES, 42

Mr Adams	Mr M. J. 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 Sercombe*
Mr Bevis	Mr Griffin*	Mr McLeay	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Brereton	Mr Hatton	Mr McMullan	Mr Tanner
Mr Brown	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Dr Theophanous
Mr Crean	Mr Hollis	Mr Melham	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Dargavel	Mr Jenkins	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Willis
Ms Ellis	Mr Jones	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Wilton
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Kerr	Mr Mossfield	
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Latham	Mr O'Connor	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, moved—That the Bill be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration.

Question—put and passed.

16 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 1998-99—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Ordered—That the report be considered at the next sitting.

**17 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL 1998-99—
REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Ordered—That the report be considered at the next sitting.

**18 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT
(RETIREMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS) BILL 1998**

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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 278, 12 March 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Ruddock (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security), the Bill was read a third time.

19 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1998

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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Truss (Minister for Customs and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

20 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1998

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 Rocher addressing the House—

21 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 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 2 June 1998:

Parliament Act—Parliamentary Zone—Proposal for interim landscape works at Constitution Place, Parkes.

Telecommunications Act 1997—Instrument—1998—Telecommunications Numbering Amendment Plan.

Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Act—Determination—1998—Telecommunications (Amount of Annual Charge) (Amendment No. 1).



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr R. C. Baldwin, Ms Gambaro, Mr Hawker and Mr Moore.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1996-97-98

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 165

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 2 JUNE 1998

1 The Main Committee met at 4.30 p.m.

2 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1998-99—BUDGET DEBATE**

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 Mr G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), 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 notes that the Budget:

- (1) does nothing to redress the pain caused to ordinary Australian families, and those doing it hardest in our community, by the impact of successive Budget cuts on health, education, job programs, aged care, child care and many other government programs and services;
- (2) by seeking to achieve surplus on the basis of savage Budget cuts, rather than on growth and job creation, does nothing to give hope to the unemployed and underemployed;
- (3) confirms that the Opposition’s alternative Budget strategy, as originally announced in 1996, would have returned the Budget to surplus in 1998-99—on the basis of putting growth and jobs first, with much more moderate outlays reductions;
- (4) lacks credibility in its growth, employment and current account deficit forecasts;
- (5) confirms that Australia has a private rather than public saving problem—and the stupidity of the Coalition’s promise-breaking decision in 1997 to abandon Labor’s superannuation co-contribution; and
- (6) is incomplete and misleading in its projections of future revenue and outlays, in that it makes no provision for election-driven new expenditures and the Government’s GST and other tax proposals” —

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put and not being resolved—Bill to be returned to the House.

3 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 1998-99

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.

Leave granted for the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

4 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL 1998-99

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—

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

Leave granted for the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

5 SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.13 p.m. the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

6 RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8 p.m. the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

7 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1998-99

The order of the day having been read for the consideration in detail of the Bill—

Consideration in detail

Schedule—

Ordered—That the proposed expenditures for the purposes and services in the Schedule be considered in the following order, either separately or together, as shown:

Department of Communications and the Arts

Department of Health and Family Services

Attorney-General's Department

Department of Industry, Science and Tourism

Department of Primary Industries and Energy

Department of the Environment

} together

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	}	together
Department of the Treasury		
Department of Finance and Administration		
Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration		
Provision for Running Costs Borrowings		
Department of Defence	}	together
Department of Veterans' Affairs		
Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade		
Department of Social Security	}	together
Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs		
Department of Transport and Regional Development		
Department of Workplace Relations and Small Business		
Proposed expenditure—Department of Communications and the Arts, \$1 183 973 000—debated and agreed to.		
Proposed expenditure—Department of Health and Family Services, \$3 141 041 000—debated and agreed to.		
Proposed expenditure—Attorney-General's Department, \$849 024 000— debated and agreed to.		
Proposed expenditure—Department of Industry, Science and Tourism, \$1 939 114 000—agreed to.		
Proposed expenditures —		
Department of Primary Industries and Energy, \$500 972 000—		
Department of the Environment, \$372 506 000—		
together debated—		
Debate adjourned (Mr Slipper), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.		

8 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Slipper, the Main Committee adjourned at 9.44 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 9.45 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee