

1996-97-98

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 174

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 1998

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- 1 The House met, at 9.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Right Honourable Ian Sinclair) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **AUSTRALIAN WOOL RESEARCH AND PROMOTION ORGANISATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998**

Mr Anderson (Minister for Primary Industries and Energy), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation Act 1993*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Anderson presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Dr Theophanous), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 3 **INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1998**

Mr Moore (Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Moore presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Dr Theophanous), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 4 **CIVIL AVIATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998**

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Transport and Regional Development), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr M. A. J. Vaile presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

5 NATIONAL MEASUREMENT AMENDMENT (UTILITY METERS) BILL 1998

Mr Truss (Minister for Customs and Consumer Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Measurement Act 1960*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Truss presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

6 HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1998

Mr Abbott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs), for Dr Kemp (Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to higher education, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Abbott presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

7 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Halverson, by leave, presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the 99th Inter-Parliamentary Conference, Windhoek, Namibia, and bilateral visits to Angola, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, 5 to 23 April 1998—Report, July 1998.

Mr Halverson and Mr Reid, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

8 STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT 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 by Mr Latham who moved, as an amendment—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 condemns the Government:

- (1) for failing to provide schools with adequate resources to cope with the expected increase of up to 27 000 students a year as a result of the introduction of the Youth Allowance;
- (2) for presenting distorted and misleading figures on school funding to the Australian people; and
- (3) for imposing the unfair Enrolment Benchmark Adjustment on government schools”.

Debate continued.

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

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr K. J. Andrews, in the Chair)—

AYES, 73

Mr Abbott	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr Lloyd	Mr Slipper*
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Fahey	Mr McArthur*	Mr W. L. Smith
Mr Anthony	Mr Forrest	Mr McDougall	Mr Somlyay
Mrs Bailey	Mrs Gallus	Mr Marek	Dr Southcott
Mr Barresi	Ms Gambaro	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gash	Mr Moore	Mr Taylor
Mr Billson	Mr Georgiou	Mr Mutch	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mr Broadbent	Mrs E. J. Grace	Mr Nairn	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mr Hardgrave	Dr Nelson	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr E. H. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Neville	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr R. A. Cameron	Mr Hicks*	Mr Nugent	Mr Wakelin
Mr Causley	Mr Hockey	Mr Prosser	Mrs West
Mr Charles	Ms Jeanes	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Randall	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Reid	Ms Worth
Mrs Draper	Miss J. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	
Mrs Elson	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	
Mr Entsch	Mr Lieberman	Mr Sharp	

NOES, 41

Mr Adams	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Ms Macklin	Mr Sawford*
Mr Albanese	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr McLeay	Mr Sercombe
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr E. L. Grace*	Mr Martin	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Bevis	Mr Griffin*	Mr Melham	Mr Tanner
Mr Brereton	Mr Hatton	Mr A. A. Morris	Dr Theophanous
Mr Brown	Mr Hollis	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr Mossfield	Mr Willis
Mrs Crosio	Mr Latham	Mr O'Connor	Mr Wilton
Mr Dargavel	Dr Lawrence	Mr O'Keefe	
Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Lee	Mr Price	
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr McClelland	Mr Quick	

* 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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 289, 26 June 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 Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

9 NEW FACILITIES FOR NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES—APPROVAL OF WORK

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: New facilities for the National Museum of Australia and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.

Question—put and passed.

10 SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) REPEAL AND AMENDMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend certain Acts in consequence of the enactment of the *Superannuation Legislation (Commonwealth Employment) Repeal and Amendment Act 1997*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

11 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES

Ordered—That notices Nos. 8 and 9, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

12 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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

30 June 1998—Message No. 548—Electoral and Referendum Amendment Bill 1998.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

13 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 1997—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Senate—

On the motion of Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Family Services), the amendments were agreed to.

14 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT 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 having been resumed by Mr K. J. Thomson—

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.

15 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence of Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), Mrs Bishop (Minister for Defence Industry, Science and Personnel) would answer questions on his behalf.

16 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

17 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs—National report on schooling in Australia—1996.

Superannuation Legislation (Commonwealth Employment) Repeal and Amendment (Consequential Amendments) Bill 1998—Explanatory memorandum.

18 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAX REFORM

The House was informed that Mr G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The need for tax reform which is genuinely in the interests of all Australians”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr G. J. Evans addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

19 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Deputy Speaker reported that Thursday, 2 July 1998, at 9.40 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

20 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:

29 June 1998—Message No. 294—

Financial Sector Reform (Consequential Amendments) 1998.

Crimes Amendment (Enforcement of Fines) 1998.

30 June 1998—Message—

No. 290—

Appropriation (No. 1) 1998-99.

Appropriation (No. 2) 1998-99.

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) 1998-99.

No. 291—Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 1) 1998.

No. 292—Health Care (Appropriation) 1998.

No. 293—

Excise Tariff Amendment (No. 1) 1998.

Income Tax (Untainting Tax) 1998.

Passenger Movement Charge Amendment 1998.

Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Pension Bonus Scheme) 1998.

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Amendment 1998.

Veterans' Entitlements Amendment (Male Total Average Weekly Earnings Benchmark) 1998.

No. 295—Fisheries Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1998.

21 MATTERS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Slipper (Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following orders of the day, committee and delegation reports, be referred to the Main Committee for debate:

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Report on seminar on the Asian currency crisis and its effect on Australia—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Report on aspects of family services—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Report on copyright, music and small business—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Report on retention of Census data—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties—Interim report on multilateral agreement on investment—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate;

Standing Committee on Procedure—Review of the House of Representatives committee system—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate; and

Standing Committee on Primary Industries, Resources and Rural and Regional Affairs—Report on international agricultural trade reform—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate.

Question—put and passed.

22 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT 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. 296, 30 June 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.

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

Debate ensued.

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

23 CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (SLAVERY AND SEXUAL SERVITUDE) BILL 1998

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Criminal Code Act 1995*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Williams presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

24 STATUTE STOCKTAKE BILL 1998

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to repeal redundant Acts, to make consequential amendments, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Williams presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

25 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—MOVED

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent order of the day No. 28, private Members' business, for the second reading of the Adelaide Airport Curfew Bill 1998, being called on forthwith and the bill proceeding through all stages without delay.

Debate ensued.

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

26 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Truss (Minister for Customs and Consumer Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 7.11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 1 July 1998:

Aged Care Act—Determinations 1998 Nos. ACA 1, ACA 2.

Australian Postal Corporation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 183.

Carriage of Goods by Sea Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 174.

- Corporations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 Nos. 184, 185, 186.
- Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*—RHQ company determination 1998 No. 6.
- Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 189.
- Insurance Acquisitions and Takeovers Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 194.
- Insurance (Agents and Brokers) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 190.
- Insurance Contracts Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 195.
- Live-stock Transactions Levy Act and National Residue Survey (Sheep, Lambs and Goats Transactions) Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 181.
- National Residue Survey (Excise) Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 182.
- Nuclear Non-Proliferation (Safeguards) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 173.
- Primary Industries Levies and Charges Act, Horticultural Export Charge Act and Horticultural Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 156.
- Public Service Act—Determinations 1998 Nos. LES 27, LES 28.
- Reserve Bank Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 188.
- Retirement Savings Accounts Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 Nos. 176, 178, 192.
- States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendment of schemes 1998 No. 1.
- Student and Youth Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 179.
- Superannuation Contributions Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 196.
- Superannuation Contributions Tax (Members of Constitutionally Protected Superannuation Funds) Assessment and Collection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 197.
- Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 Nos. 175, 177, 193.
- Superannuation (Productivity Benefit) Act—Declarations—Statutory Rules 1998 Nos. 168, 169, 170, 171, 172.
- Taxation Administration Act—Determinations 1998 Nos. TD 98/13, TD 98/14, TD 98/15, TD 98/16.
- Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments 1998 Nos. 7, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.
- Workplace Relations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1998 No. 187.
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ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Andren, Mr R. C. Baldwin, Mr Bradford, Mr Dondas, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr Holding, Mrs Johnston, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr Lindsay, Mr McLachlan, Mr Scott and Mrs Stone.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives