

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 31

THURSDAY, 25 MARCH 1999

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

2 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act 1979* and certain other Acts, 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 McClelland), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999**

Mr Williams (Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Act 1901*, 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 McClelland), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

Mr Williams (Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Import Processing Charges Act 1997*, 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 McClelland), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

#### 5 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE

Ordered—That notice No. 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

#### 6 TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAWS AMENDMENT (UNIVERSAL SERVICE CAP) BILL 1999

Mr McGauran (Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr McGauran presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

#### 7 HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999

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 Truss—Minister for Community Services), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

#### 8 COMPENSATION FOR NON-ECONOMIC LOSS (SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT) BILL 1999

Mr Truss (Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* and the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, 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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**9 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1999**

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 Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), the Bill was read a third time.

**10 YOUTH ALLOWANCE CONSOLIDATION BILL 1999**

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 Slipper—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**11 NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) 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 Bevis—

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.

**12 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Papers*

Mr Crean, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for documents quoted from by Mr Tuckey (Minister for Forestry and Conservation)—

Mr Tuckey presented the following papers:

Regional Forest Agreement legislation—Copies of letters from Tim Daly, Branch Secretary, Western Australian Branch, the Australian Workers' Union to—

Mr Beazley, Leader of the Opposition, 19 March 1999.

Senator Harradine, 23 March 1999.

Questions without notice continued.

**13 PAPER**

Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), during a personal explanation, presented the following paper:

Student unions—Australian Institute for Public Policy—Critical issues No. 8—Compulsory student unions: Australia’s forgotten closed shop, 1987—Copy of chapter 5.

**14 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOODS AND SERVICES TAX**

The House was informed that Mr K. J. Thomson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The negative effect of the Government’s proposed GST and other policies on employment throughout Australia”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr K. J. Thomson addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**15 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (EXCISE) LEVIES BILL 1998—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to with amendments (*see item No. 3, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of amendments.

Amendments made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**16 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (CUSTOMS) CHARGES BILL 1998—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to with amendments (*see item No. 4, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of amendments.

Amendments made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**17 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES LEVIES AND CHARGES (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, a Governor-General’s message recommending an

appropriation had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**18 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1998—  
REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to with amendments (*see item No. 6, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of amendments.

Amendments made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**19 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1998—  
REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to with an amendment (*see item No. 7, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of the amendment.

Amendment made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**20 RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999—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.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**21 RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS (RECEIVER LICENCE TAX) AMENDMENT BILL  
1999—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.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**22 RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS (TRANSMITTER LICENCE TAX) AMENDMENT BILL 1999—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.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**23 THERAPEUTIC GOODS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999—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.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**24 WILDLIFE PROTECTION (REGULATION OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1998—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.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**25 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment and informing the House that the amendments indicated by schedule B annexed had been made by the Senate:

25 March 1999—Message No. 59—Health Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 1999.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered at a later hour this day.

**26 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate, 25 March 1999, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 60—Bounty (Ships) Amendment 1999.

No. 61—Industry Research and Development Amendment 1998.

No. 63—Assistance for Carers Legislation Amendment 1999.

**27 NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) 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 (Mrs Stone—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**28 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AIRPORTS AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

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

25 March 1999—Message No. 62—Airports Amendment 1999.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered forthwith.

On the motion of Mrs Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

**29 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mrs Moylan (Chair) presented the following paper:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Report—

62nd general report of the Committee, 1999, pursuant to the Public Works Committee Act.

Ordered to be printed.

Mrs Moylan, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

**30 ADJOURNMENT NEGATIVED**

Mrs Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

**31 PRIVILEGE—PREMATURE PUBLICATION OF CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE REPORT—REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES**

The Speaker referred to the matter of privilege raised by Mr Martin on 22 March 1999 relating to the premature publication on the *AM* radio program and other media of the contents of the report of the Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration on regional banking services. The Speaker also referred to the report made to the House yesterday by Mr Hawker (Chair—Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration) on the committee's consideration of the matter.

The Speaker stated that he was willing to allow precedence to a motion on the matter.

*Papers*

Mr Hawker presented the following papers:

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Report on regional banking services—Copies of—

AM radio program—Transcript, 22 March 1999.

Report demands banks lift game in bush—Article published in the *Australian Financial Review*, 22 March 1999.

Mr Hawker moved—That the following matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges for inquiry and report: Whether there was unauthorised disclosure of the ‘Regional banking services: Money too far away’ report of the Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration.

Question—put and passed.

### 32 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Anthony (Parliamentary Secretary (Trade)) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 6 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 12.30 p.m.

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### PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 March 1999:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Orders—Part 82 amendment 25 March 1999.

Exemptions 1999 Nos. CASA 9, CASA 10, CASA 11, CASA 12.

Instrument 1999 No. CASA 73.

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—Orders—Export Control (Fees) Amendment 1999 (No. 1).

Life Insurance Act—Prudential rule No. 30.

Sales Tax Assessment Act—Determination 1999 No. STD 2.

Taxation Administration Act—

Determination 1999 No. TD 1.

Ruling 1999 No. PR 10.

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### ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Haase, Mr Howard and Mr Latham.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-99

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 31

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**THURSDAY, 25 MARCH 1999**

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1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

**2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

**3 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (EXCISE) LEVIES 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 O'Connor, by leave, who had already spoken.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), who had already spoken, by leave, again addressed the Main Committee.

*Paper*

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

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

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile, by leave, moved Government amendments (1) to (34) together.

Amendments agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

**4 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (CUSTOMS) CHARGES 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—

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

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), by leave, moved Government amendments (1) to (4) together.

*Paper*

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

Amendments agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

**5 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES LEVIES AND CHARGES (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) 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—

*Paper*

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a correction to the explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 45, 1 December 1999, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

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.

**6 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY 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—

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

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), by leave, moved Government amendments (1) to (5) together.

*Paper*

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

Amendments agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

**7 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY 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—

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

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) moved a Government amendment.

*Paper*

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

Amendment agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with an amendment.

**8 RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

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.

**9 RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS (RECEIVER LICENCE TAX) AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

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.

**10 RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS (TRANSMITTER LICENCE TAX) AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

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.

**11 THERAPEUTIC GOODS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Dr Wooldridge presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate ensued.

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.

**12 WILDLIFE PROTECTION (REGULATION OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS) 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.

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.

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

All matters referred to the Main Committee having been completed—The question was proposed—That the Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

At 12.22 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee.

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**B. C. WRIGHT**  
Clerk of the Main Committee