

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 39

TUESDAY, 1 JUNE 1999



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

**2 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Member ordered to withdraw*

At 3.19 p.m. the Member for Hunter (Mr Fitzgibbon) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

**3 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS**

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Auditor-General—Audit reports of 1998-99—Performance audits—

No. 40—Pharmaceutical Industry Investment Program—Assessment of applicants: Department of Industry, Science and Resources.

No. 41—General Service vehicle fleet: Department of Defence.

No. 42—Establishment and operation of Green Corps: Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs.

No. 44—Naval Aviation Force: Department of Defence.

Severally ordered to be printed.

**4 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race 1998—Meteorological aspects—

Ministerial statement by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, 27 May 1999.

Preliminary report, February 1999.

**5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAX SYSTEM**

The House was informed that Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Howard–Democrat tax deal to provide for efficiency, fairness and certainty in the tax system”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**6 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING**

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 2 June 1999, at 9.40 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

**7 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE**

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

Superannuation Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 1999;

Taxation Laws Amendment (CPI Indexation) 1999;

Taxation Laws Amendment (Demutualisation of Non-insurance Mutual Entities) 1999;

Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 6) 1999;

Criminal Code Amendment (Bribery of Foreign Public Officials) 1999; and

Damage by Aircraft 1999.

Question—put and passed.

**8 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT**

Mr Jenkins (Acting Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members’ business on Monday, 7 June 1999.

**9 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1999-2000—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—

Debate resumed.

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) addressing the House—

**10 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 10.59 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 1 June 1999:

Defence Act—Determination under section 58B—1999 No. 15.

Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1999 Nos. 81, 82.

Public Service Act—Determination—Defence—1999 No. 4.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Bailey, Mrs Draper, Ms Gillard, Ms Hoare, Mr Latham, Mr Martin, Mrs Moylan, Mr Nehl, Mr Rudd, Dr Southcott, Mr A. P. Thomson, Mr K. J. Thomson and Dr Washer.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives