

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 50

MONDAY, 28 JUNE 1999



1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE

Ordered—That notice No. 1, given by the Speaker, be postponed until a later hour this day.

3 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to 101st Inter-Parliamentary Conference, Brussels, 10 to 16 April 1999, and a bilateral visit to Norway, 17 to 21 April 1999—Report, June 1999—

and made a statement in connection with the report.

Mr Morris, Mrs Gallus and Mr Causley also made statements in connection with the report.

4 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr A. P. Thomson (Chair) presented the following papers:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—22nd report—Five treaties tabled on 11 May 1999—

Report, 22 June 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr A. P. Thomson, Mr Adams and Mr Hardgrave made statements in connection with the report.

Mr A. P. Thomson, by leave, again addressed the House.

Mr A. P. Thomson moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr A. P. Thomson was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 BROADBAND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Mr Lindsay, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) recognises the vital and growing role electronic information transmission plays in education, research and business activity throughout Australia;
- (2) further recognises that the availability of adequate capacity, high quality and appropriately priced bandwidth—for the electronic transmission of information—is an important strategic issue for the development of the information economy in Australia;
- (3) notes that regional areas throughout Australia have a poorer electronic information infrastructure than metropolitan areas, and the gap is widening; and
- (4) acknowledges the urgent need to provide affordable broadband electronic communications to Australia's regional centres and, in particular, to our regional universities.

Debate ensued.

At 1.45 p.m., the time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106A, Mr I. E. Macfarlane was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

7 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Fischer (Minister for Trade), Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs) would be Acting Minister for Trade.

8 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

9 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

10 PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE BILL 1999

The Speaker, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment and management of the Australian Parliamentary Service, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

The Speaker moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

The Speaker presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

11 JUBILEE 2000 DEBT COALITION

Ms J. S. McFarlane, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) recognises the importance of the efforts of the Jubilee 2000 Debt Coalition in working to obtain a debt free start in the new millennium for a billion people in impoverished countries;
- (2) supports the Jubilee 2000 Debt Coalition's efforts to present a 370 000 signature petition to the G7 leaders meeting in Cologne on 19 June 1999; and
- (3) supports the Jubilee 2000 Debt Coalition's efforts to encourage the G7 leaders to take effective steps to prevent high levels of debt building up again in impoverished countries.

Debate ensued.

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

12 TIDAL ENERGY STATION

Mr Charles, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House of Representatives supports the proposal of Tidal Power Australia for a tidal energy station at Doctors Creek, Derby, WA, to supply the electric power needs of Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Western Metals and Broome in an environmentally sensitive manner with true renewable and non-polluting energy.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for private Members' business having expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

13 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

14 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 30 June 1999, at 9.40 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

15 BROADCASTING SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 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 *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, 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.

16 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE

Ordered—That notice No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

17 DAMAGE BY AIRCRAFT 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 Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment Services), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

18 STATUTE STOCKTAKE BILL 1999—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to with amendments, 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 Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment Services), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

19 LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATION 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, 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 Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment Services), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

20 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION BILL 1999

Message No. 103, 23 June 1999, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for an Act relating to the protection of the environment and the conservation of biodiversity, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

21 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ENVIRONMENTAL REFORM (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1999

Message No. 104, 23 June 1999, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for an Act to repeal and amend Acts and make other provisions consequential on the enactment of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, to make technical amendments, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

22 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS ORDER OF THE DAY

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent order of the day No. 20, private Members' business, for the second reading of the Adelaide Airport Curfew Bill 1999, being called on forthwith and the bill proceeding through all stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

23 ADELAIDE AIRPORT CURFEW BILL 1999

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mrs Gallus moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Ms Kernot moved Opposition amendment (1).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Ms Kernot moved Opposition amendment (2).

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Adams, in the Chair)—

AYES, 62

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| Mr Albanese | Mr Gibbons | Ms J. S. McFarlane | Mr Rudd |
| Mr Bevis | Ms Gillard | Ms Macklin | Mr Sawford* |
| Mr Brereton | Mr Griffin | Mr McMullan | Mr Sciacca |
| Ms Burke | Ms Hall | Mr Martin | Mr Sercombe* |
| Mr Cox | Mr Hatton | Mr Melham | Mr Sidebottom |
| Mr Crean | Ms Hoare | Mr Morris | Mr Smith |
| Mrs Crosio | Mr Hollis | Mr Mossfield | Mr Snowdon |
| Mr Danby | Mr Horne | Mr Murphy | Mr Swan |
| Mr Edwards | Mrs Irwin | Ms O'Byrne | Mr Tanner |
| Ms Ellis | Mr Jenkins | Mr O'Connor | Dr Theophanous |
| Dr Emerson | Ms Kernot | Mr O'Keefe | Mr K. J. Thomson |
| Mr M. J. Evans | Mr Kerr | Ms Plibersek | Mr Wilkie |
| Mr L. D. T. Ferguson | Mr Latham | Mr Price | Mr Wilton |
| Mr M. J. Ferguson | Mr Lee | Mr Quick | Mr Zahra |
| Mr Fitzgibbon | Ms Livermore | Mr Ripoll | |
| Ms Gerick | Mr McClelland | Ms Roxon | |

NOES, 70

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|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Mr Abbott | Ms Gambaro | Mr I. E. Macfarlane | Mr Slipper |
| Mr Anderson | Mrs Gash | Mr McGauran | Mr Somlyay |
| Mr K. J. Andrews | Mr Georgiou | Mrs May | Dr Southcott |
| Mr Anthony | Mr Haase | Mr Moore | Mrs Stone |
| Mr Baird | Mr Hardgrave | Mrs Moylan | Mrs Sullivan |
| Mr Barresi | Mr Hawker | Mr Nehl | Mr C. P. Thompson |
| Mr Bartlett | Mr Hockey | Dr Nelson | Mr A. P. Thomson |
| Mrs B. K. Bishop | Mrs Hull | Mr Neville | Mr Truss |
| Ms J. I. Bishop | Mr Jull | Mr Nugent | Mr Tuckey |
| Mr Brough | Mr Katter | Mr Prosser | Mr M. A. J. Vaile |
| Mr Cadman | Mrs D. M. Kelly | Mr Pyne | Mrs D. S. Vale |
| Mr Causley | Jackie Kelly | Mr Reith | Mr Wakelin |
| Mr Charles | Dr Kemp | Mr Ronaldson* | Dr Washer |
| Mr Downer | Mr Lawler | Mr Ruddock | Mr Williams |
| Mrs Draper | Mr Lieberman | Mr St Clair | Dr Wooldridge |
| Mrs Elson | Mr Lindsay | Mr Schultz | Ms Worth |
| Mr Fahey | Mr Lloyd | Mr Scott | |
| Mrs Gallus | Mr McArthur* | Mr Secker | |

* Tellers

Pairs

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| Mr Howard | Mr Beazley |
| Mr Fischer | Mr McLeay |

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mrs Gallus the Bill was read a third time.

24 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY

Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 2 to 11, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

25 ACIS ADMINISTRATION BILL 1999

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

Bill, as a whole—

Debate resumed on the question – That the amendment moved by Mr McMullan be agreed to.

Amendment negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

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

26 ACIS (UNEARNED CREDIT LIABILITY) 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 third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

27 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (ACIS IMPLEMENTATION) 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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr McMullan, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (1) to (9) together.

Amendments negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

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

28 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 7) 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 by Mr K. J. Thomson 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 notes that in relation to taxation policy:

- (1) the government has not achieved real tax reform in Australia, it has merely agreed to introduce an unfair GST;
- (2) the new Howard/Lees GST will involve a massive tax mix switch which will hurt ordinary families, which is directly contrary to the balloted policy of the Australian Democrats;
- (3) that the Howard/Lees deal will actually increase the tax on food in Australia;
- (4) that ordinary people will now face a GST on top of state indirect taxes on bank accounts;
- (5) the GST will be an administrative nightmare for Australia’s one and a half million small businesses; and
- (6) that the amended tax package is still unfair and will also damage the environment”.

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 a later hour this day.

29 CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (ESTABLISHMENT OF REPUBLIC) 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 (Jackie Kelly—Minister for Sport and Tourism), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

30 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 7) 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr K. J. Thomson (see item 28)*—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

31 **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—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 2 p.m.



PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 28 June 1999:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—Instrument 1999 No. CASA 297.

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—Orders—Export Control (Fees) Amendment 1999 (No. 2).

Family Law Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1999 No. 118.

Financial Management and Accountability Act—Financial Management and Accountability Orders, June 1999.

Navigation Act—Marine Orders 1999 No. 15.

Superannuation Act 1976—Determination under section 241—Superannuation (CSS) Additional Employer Component Payment (Telstra Superannuation Scheme) No. 1.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments under section 196B 1999 Nos. 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Cameron, Mr G. J. Evans, Mr Fischer and Dr Lawrence.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives