

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 72

THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 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 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (INDIRECT TAX AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1999**

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) presented a Bill for an Act to implement A New Tax System by amending legislation relating to indirect tax, and by amending other legislation consequentially on indirect tax reform, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Hockey presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

3 **AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), for Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979* and other legislation, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Dr Stone moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Dr Stone presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

4 CRIMES AT SEA BILL 1999

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), for Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to give effect to a cooperative scheme for dealing with crimes at sea, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Dr Stone moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Dr Stone presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

5 SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS AND TERMINATION PAYMENTS TAXES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999—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 Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

6 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES

Ordered—That notices Nos. 3 and 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

7 INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (SUPPLEMENTARY ASSISTANCE) 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr M. J. Evans, 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:

- (1) notes that indigenous Australians are the most educationally disadvantaged group in the country;
- (2) condemns the Government for:
 - (a) failing to release the findings of the 1997-98 review of ABSTUDY; and
 - (b) cutting ABSTUDY payments to some categories of indigenous students; and
- (3) calls on the Government to legislate to re-direct savings from its ABSTUDY changes into indigenous education”—

Debate resumed.

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

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

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

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Mr Adams	Ms Gerick	Ms Macklin	Mr Sawford*
Mr Albanese	Mr Gibbons	Mr Martin	Mr Sciacca
Mr Andren	Ms Gillard	Mr Melham	Mr Sercombe*
Mr Cox	Mr Hatton	Mr Mossfield	Mr Sidebottom
Mr Crean	Mr Hollis	Mr Murphy	Mr Smith
Mr Danby	Mrs Irwin	Ms O'Byrne	Mr Snowdon
Mr Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Connor	Mr Swan
Ms Ellis	Ms Kernot	Mr O'Keefe	Dr Theophanous
Dr Emerson	Mr Kerr	Ms Plibersek	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr Price	Mr Wilkie
Mr M. J. Evans	Dr Lawrence	Mr Quick	Mr Wilton
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Ms Livermore	Mr Ripoll	Mr Zahra
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr McClelland	Ms Roxon	
Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Mr Rudd	

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Costello	Mr McLeay
Mr Downer	Mr Brereton
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke

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.

Messages from the Governor-General

The following messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced:

No. 124, 16 July 1999, recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill; and

No. 125, 27 August 1999, recommending an appropriation for the purposes of amendments to the Bill.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), by leave, Government amendments (1) and (2) were made together.

Paper

Ms Worth presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Ms Worth, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

8 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (1999 BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) 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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 126, 27 August 1999, 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 Anthony (Minister for Community Services), the Bill was read a third time.

9 REDEVELOPMENT OF DARWIN NAVAL BASE PROJECT—APPROVAL OF WORK

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the 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: Redevelopment of Darwin Naval Base Project.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

10 PAPER

Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services) presented the following paper:
Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (1999 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 1999—Replacement explanatory memorandum.

11 RAAF BASE TOWNSVILLE REDEVELOPMENT STAGE 1—APPROVAL OF WORK

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the 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: RAAF Base Townsville Redevelopment Stage 1.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

12 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Mrs Moylan (Chair) presented the following papers:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Reports—

CSIRO Riverside Corporate Park, North Ryde, NSW—Joint Research Complex for CSIRO Molecular Science and Food Science Australia (8th report of 1999).

CSIRO Division of Building Construction and Engineering Development Works at Riverside Corporate Park, North Ryde, NSW (9th report of 1999).

Severally ordered to be printed.

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

13 A NEW TAX SYSTEM (TAX ADMINISTRATION) 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.

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.

14 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

15 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Medibank Private—Statement of corporate intent 1999/2000–2001/02.

Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—Report for 1998–99.

16 PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following paper:

Medibank Private—Statement of corporate intent 1999/2000–2001/02.

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

17 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—FOREIGN POLICY

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 daily damage being done to Australia’s international reputation and national interests by the misconduct of foreign policy by the Government”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

18 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—8TH REPORT

Mr Lieberman (Chair) presented the following paper:

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE 8TH REPORT

The Publications Committee reports that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate.

The Committee, having considered documents presented to Parliament since 2 September 1999, recommends that the following be printed:

Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report and recommendations to the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs and to the Administrator of the Northern Territory—No. 56—Roper Valley (Kewulyi) land claim No. 163.

Medical Training Review Panel—Report for 1998-99 [3rd].

Public Lending Right Committee—Report for 1998-99.

National Health and Medical Research Council—Grants—1999—Corrigendum.

LOU LIEBERMAN

Chair

30 September 1999

On the motion of Mr Lieberman, by leave, the report was agreed to.

19 ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS 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 (*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 Mr Reith (Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

20 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 11 October 1999, at 12.30 p.m., unless the Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.

Debate ensued.

Adjournment negatived

It being 5.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mrs Sullivan (Parliamentary Secretary (Foreign Affairs)) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Question—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 11 October 1999, at 12.30 p.m., unless the Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting—put and passed.

21 HOLT ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT

The Speaker informed the House that, subject to receipt of a letter from the Hon. G. J. Evans resigning his seat as the Member for the electoral division of Holt, it was his intention to issue a writ on Friday, 1 October 1999 for the election of a Member to serve for the electoral division of Holt, in the State of Victoria, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation. The dates in connection with the election would be fixed as follows:

Close of roll..... Friday, 8 October 1999.

Date of nominations..... Wednesday, 13 October 1999.

Date of polling Saturday, 6 November 1999.

Return of writ..... On or before Sunday, 9 January 2000.

22 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 6.01 p.m., adjourned until Monday, 11 October 1999, at 12.30 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to this sitting.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 30 September 1999:

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 30 September 1999:

Christmas Island Act—

List of Western Australian Acts for period 20 March 1999 to 24 September 1999.

Utilities and Services Ordinance—Determination of Fees for Electricity No. 1 of 1999.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—List of Western Australian Acts for period 20 March 1999 to 24 September 1999.

Defence Act—Determinations under section 58B 1999 Nos. 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.

Public Service Act—Determinations—1999—

Australian Agency for International Development No. 3.

Defence No. 6.

Social Security Act—Asset-test Exempt Income Stream (Lifetime Income Stream Guidelines) Amendment Determination 1999 No. 1.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bevis, Mr Brereton, Ms Burke*, Mr Costello, Mrs Crosio, Mr Downer, Mr Georgiou, Mr Lee, Mr Prosser* Mr Tanner and Mr Truss.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-99

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 72

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 1999

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS 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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Williams (Attorney-General) moved Government amendments (1) and (2) together.

Paper

Mr Williams 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.

**4 COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND MICROECONOMIC REFORM—
STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION
TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Reith (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 31 August 1999*), viz.:

Communications, Transport and Microeconomic Reform—Standing Committee—Report on Australian Maritime Safety Authority annual report for 1996-97—Government response, September 1999—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of sitting

At 11.19 a.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of sitting

At 11.33 a.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

Ms J. S. McFarlane addressing the Main Committee—

5 ADJOURNMENT

It being 12.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

At 12.58 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee