

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 80

THURSDAY, 21 OCTOBER 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 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:

Customs Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1999; and

Customs (Tariff Concession System Validations) 1999.

Question—put and passed.

**3 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (TRADEX) BILL 1999 [NO. 2]**

Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1995* in relation to goods specified in tradex orders, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Entsch 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 TARIFF PROPOSALS**

Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) moved—Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (1999); and

Customs Tariff Proposal No. 6 (1999).

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

**5 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

**6 CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION FUNDS (CONSUMER PROTECTION) 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 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 condemns the Government for misleading consumers in pretending that this bill addresses consumer protection issues concerning choice of superannuation fund when in fact it does nothing of the kind”.

Debate continued.

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 Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), the Bill was read a third time.

**7 AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Kerr, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words:

“the House:

- (1) expresses its concern about:
  - (a) the level of accountability and transparency of decisions made under the command and employment powers of the Commissioner of Police under the provisions of the Bill;
  - (b) the lack of mechanisms in the Bill for scrutiny and review of dismissal and promotion decisions;
  - (c) the possible unfair operation of the Bill in relation to termination of employment;
  - (d) the repeal of provisions relating to promotional and advancement systems, and to maternity leave;
  - (e) the relationship between the command and employment powers of the Commissioner of Police under the Bill;
  - (f) the operation of the Bill in relation to entitlement to continuous employment;

- (g) clarification of the application of the Workplace Relations Act to the employment regime as established by the Bill; and
  - (h) the failure of the Government to support the establishment of a Parliamentary Joint Committee on Commonwealth law enforcement to provide a strategic view in respect of all Commonwealth law enforcement agencies; and
- (2) is of the opinion that the Bill should be referred to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs for consideration and advisory report, given the detailed matters raised in the Bill”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Kerr, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (1) to (3) together.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendments be agreed to—put.

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

AYES, 56

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

## NOES, 75

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

\* Tellers

*Pairs*

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Williams (Attorney-General), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**8 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—9TH REPORT**

Mr Lieberman (Chair) presented the following paper:

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE 9TH 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 30 September 1999, recommends that the following be printed:

Aboriginal Hostels Limited—Report for 1998-99.

Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report for 1998-99.

Aboriginals Benefit Reserve—Report for 1998-99.

Affirmative Action Agency—Report for 1998-99.

Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

- Army and Air Force Canteen Service Board of Management—Report for 1998-99.
- Australia Council—Report for 1998-99.
- Australia New Zealand Food Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Australia-Japan Foundation—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Broadcasting Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Broadcasting Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Communications Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Customs Service—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Dairy Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Federal Police—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Film Commission—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Film, Television and Radio School—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Industrial Relations Commission and the Australian Industrial Registry—Reports for 1998-99.
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Institute of Criminology and the Criminology Research Council—Reports for 1998-99.
- Australian Institute of Family Studies—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Landcare Council—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian National Maritime Museum—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian National Training Authority—
- Australia's vocational education and training system—Reports for 1998 Vols 1, 2, 3.  
Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Pork Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Prudential Regulation Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Safeguards Office and Non-Proliferation Office—Reports for 1998-99.
- Australian Securities and Investments Commission—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Sports Commission—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Statistics Advisory Council—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Tourist Commission—Report for 1998-99.

- Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation—Report for 1998-99.
- Centrelink—Report for 1998-99.
- Comcare Australia—Report, including the report of QWL Pty Limited for 1998-99.
- Commissioner for Superannuation—Reports, incorporating reports on the administration and operation of the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act and the Superannuation Act for 1998-99.
- Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report for 1998-99.
- Commonwealth Ombudsman and Defence Force Ombudsman—Reports for 1998-99.
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation—Report for 1998-99.
- Companies and Securities Advisory Committee—Report for 1998-99.
- Cotton Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation—Report for 1998-99.
- Crimes Act—Controlled operations—Report for 1998-99.
- CSS Board—Report for 1998-99.
- Dairy Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs—Report for 1998-99.
- Department of Family and Community Services—Report for 1998-99.
- Department of Finance and Administration—Report for 1998-99.
- Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Report, including a report on the Adult Migrant English Program, for 1998-99.
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet—Report for 1998-99.
- Department of Transport and Regional Services—Report for 1998-99.
- Dried Fruits Research and Development Council—Report for 1998-99.
- Employment Advocate—Report for 1998-99.
- Federal Airports Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Film Australia Limited—Report for 1998-99.
- Fisheries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Grains Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 1998-99.
- Health Insurance Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Higher Education Funding Act—Report detailing determinations made under the Act for 1998.

Indigenous Land Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security—Report for 1998-99.

Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

Military Superannuation and Benefits Board of Trustees No.1—Report for 1998-99.

National Archives of Australia and National Archives of Australia Advisory Council—Report for 1998-99.

National Capital Authority—Report for 1998-99.

National Competition Council—Report for 1998-99.

National Gallery of Australia—Report for 1998-99.

National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme—Report for 1998-99.

National Library of Australia—Report for 1998-99.

National Museum of Australia—Report for 1998-99.

National Occupational Health and Safety Commission—Report for 1998-99.

National Registration Authority for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals—Report for 1998-99.

Northern Land Council—Report for 1998-99.

Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General—Report for 1998-99.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority—Report for 1998-99.

Pig Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Report for 1998-99.

Productivity Commission—Report—No. 8—Impact of Competition Policy Reforms on Rural and Regional Australia: Inquiry Report, 8 September 1999.

PSS Board—Report for 1998-99.

Public Service Commissioner—Report, incorporating the report of the Merit Protection and Review Agency, for 1998-99.

Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 1998-99.

Repatriation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs and the National Treatment Monitoring Committee—Reports for 1998-99.

Repatriation Medical Authority—Report for 1998-99.

Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust—Report for 1998-99.

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

Rural Adjustment Scheme Advisory Council—Report, including a report on the Rural Adjustment Scheme for 1998-99.

Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)—Report for 1998-99.  
 Stevedoring Industry Finance Committee—Report for 1998-99.  
 Sugar Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.  
 Telstra Corporation Limited—Report for 1998-99.  
 Tobacco Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.  
 Torres Strait Regional Authority—Report for 1998-99.  
 Veterans' Review Board—Report for 1998-99.  
 Wet Tropics Management Authority—Report for 1998-99.  
 Wool International—Report for 1998-99.

LOU LIEBERMAN

Chair

21 October 1999

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

#### 9 BORDER PROTECTION 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 by Mr Kerr 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;

- (1) is of the opinion that it represents an inadequate and piecemeal response to the serious border control problems facing Australia; and
- (2) calls for the Government to consider establishing an Australian Coastguard service as a more appropriate means of addressing our increasing problems in relation to border control”.

Debate continued.

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.

#### 10 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper*

Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care) presented the following paper:

Magnetic Resonance Imaging—Copy of note—Meetings concerning MRI Services.

Questions without notice continued.

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*Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care)—Motion of censure*

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, moved—That this House censures the Minister for Health and Aged Care for:

- (1) overturning departmental advice that the most appropriate supply control method for MRI was to limit the proposed rebate to existing machines, with relocation grants to address regional maldistribution;
- (2) in overturning such advice, creating the environment for the MRI Scan Scam, and the resultant risk to the Commonwealth Budget;
- (3) negotiating with a major medical professional lobby without putting in place prudent and effective safeguards against the misuse of inside Budget knowledge and fraud against the Commonwealth Budget;
- (4) when provided with evidence of the MRI Scan Scam, obfuscating proper investigations and delaying remedial action over at least an eight month period;
- (5) attempting to narrow the scope of the Auditor-General's inquiry, once he belatedly and grudgingly commissioned one; and
- (6) misleading the Parliament on the issue of evidence of the misuse of inside Budget knowledge.

Debate ensued.

*Paper*

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), by leave, presented the following paper:

Magnetic Resonance Imaging—Eligibility of machines—Memorandum from A. S. Podger, Secretary, Department of Health and Aged Care, to Dr Wooldridge, 21 October 1999.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr J. N. Andrew, in the Chair)—

## AYES, 56

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

## NOES, 73

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

\* Tellers

*Pairs*

Mr Prosser                      Ms Burke

And so it was negatived.

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 Questions without notice concluded.

## 11 PAPERS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Department of the House of Representatives—Report for 1998-99.

Department of the Parliamentary Library—Report for 1998-99.

Joint House Department—Report for 1998-99.

## 12 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Greenhouse Office—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Heritage Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Law Reform Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Equal Employment Opportunity Program—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Security Intelligence Organization—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)—Report for 1998-99.

Australian War Memorial—Report for 1998-99.

Bureau of Meteorology—Report for 1998-99.

Classification Board and Classification Review Board—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Defence—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Report for 1998-99—

Volume 1—Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Volume 2—Australian Agency for International Development.

Department of Health and Aged Care—Report, including report on the administration and operation of the Therapeutic Goods Administration, for 1998-99.

Department of the Environment and Heritage—Report, including reports of the Supervising Scientist for the Alligator Rivers Region and on the operation of the Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act and the Ozone Protection Act, for 1998-99.

Department of the Treasury—Report for 1998-99.

Essendon Airport Limited—Report for 1998-99.

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

Family Court of Australia—Report for 1998-99.

Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal—Report for 1998-99.

Finance—Issues from the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 1999.

Horticultural Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.  
International Air Services Commission—Report for 1998-99.  
Medibank Private—Report for 1998-99.  
National Road Transport Commission—Report for 1998-99.  
National Standards Commission—Report for 1998-99.  
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions—Report for 1998-99.  
Privacy Commissioner—Report for 1998-99 (11th).  
Private Health Insurance Ombudsman—Report for 1998-99.  
Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Report—366—Review of Auditor-General's Reports 1997-98: Second quarter, March 1999—Government response.  
Social Security Appeals Tribunal—Report for 1998-99.  
Sydney Airports Corporation Limited—Report for 1998-99.  
War Crimes Act—Report for 1998-99.

### **13 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**

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

Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Health and Aged Care—Report for 1998-99.

Medibank Private—Report for 1998-99.

Private Health Insurance Ombudsman—Report for 1998-99.

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

### **14 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 22 November 1999, at 12.30 p.m., unless the Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

### **15 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

### **16 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate, 20 October 1999, were reported:

- (a) returning the Parliamentary Service Bill 1999 and acquainting the House that the Senate does not insist upon its amendment (2) disagreed to by the House of Representatives—Message No. 233;
- (b) returning the Public Service Bill 1999 and acquainting the House that the Senate does not insist upon its amendment (1) disagreed to by the House of Representatives—Message No. 234;
- (c) returning the States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Amendment Bill 1999 without amendment—Message No. 235; and
- (b) acquainting the House that Senator Stott Despoja had been appointed to the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties in place of Senator Bourne—Message No. 236.

#### **17 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOWARD MINISTRY**

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 need for the Prime Minister to honour his commitment of 26 February 1996 to remove non-performing and incompetent Ministers”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley rising to address the House—

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put and passed.

#### **18 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY**

Ordered—That order of the day No. 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

#### **19 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (INCOME TAX RATES) BILL (NO. 1) 1999**

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to implement the New Business Tax System by amending income tax rates, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Costello presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

#### **20 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (CAPITAL ALLOWANCES) BILL 1999**

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to implement the New Business Tax System by amending the law relating to taxation, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Costello presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**21 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (INTEGRITY AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 1999**

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to implement the New Business Tax System by amending the law relating to taxation, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Costello presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills: New Business Tax System (Integrity and Other Measures) 1999; and New Business Tax System (Former Subsidiary Tax Imposition) 1999.

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

**22 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (FORMER SUBSIDIARY TAX IMPOSITION) BILL 1999**

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to impose a tax on certain members of a wholly-owned company group.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**23 A NEW TAX SYSTEM (INDIRECT TAX AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 1999.**

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) presented a Bill for an Act to implement A New Tax System by amending legislation relating to indirect tax, and by amending other legislation consequential on indirect tax reform, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Slipper presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**24 CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**25 CUSTOMS (TARIFF CONCESSION SYSTEM VALIDATIONS) 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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**26 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—10TH REPORT**

Mr Lloyd presented the following paper:

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE 10TH REPORT**

The Publications Committee reports that it has met and considered documents presented to Parliament today, 21 October 1999, and recommends that the following be printed:

Australian Bureau of Statistics—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Greenhouse Office—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Heritage Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Law Reform Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Security Intelligence Organization—Report for 1998-99.

Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)—Report for 1998-99.

Australian War Memorial—Report for 1998-99.

Bureau of Meteorology—Report for 1998-99.

Classification Board and Classification Review Board—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Defence—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Report for 1998-99.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Reports for 1998-99—

Volume 1—Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Volume 2—Australian Agency for International Development.

Department of Health and Aged Care—Report, including report on the administration and operation of the Therapeutic Goods Administration Act, for 1998-99.

Department of the Environment and Heritage—Report, including reports of the Supervising Scientist for the Alligator Rivers Region and on the operation of the Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act and the Ozone Protection Act, for 1998-99.

Department of the Parliament Library—Report for 1998-99.

Department of the Treasury—Report for 1998-99.

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

Family Court of Australia—Report for 1998-99.

Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal—Report for 1998-99.

Horticultural Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1998-99.

International Air Services Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Joint House Department—Report for 1998-99.

Medibank Private—Report for 1998-99.

National Road Transport Commission—Report for 1998-99.

National Standards Commission—Report for 1998-99.

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions—Report for 1998-99.

Privacy Commissioner—Report for 1998-99 (11th).

Private Health Insurance Ombudsman—Report for 1998-99.

Social Security Appeals Tribunal—Report for 1998-99.

War Crimes Act—Report for 1998-99.

LOU LIEBERMAN

Chair

21 October 1999

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

**27 REFURBISHMENT OF 4 TREASURY PLACE, MELBOURNE—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: Refurbishment of 4 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.



**28 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate, 21 October 1999, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 239—International Tax Agreements Amendment 1999.

No. 240—Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment 1999.

**29 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1999**

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

21 October 1999—Message No. 241—Health Legislation Amendment (No. 3) 1999.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered at the next sitting.

**30 STEVEDORING LEVY (COLLECTION) 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.

**31 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FURTHER 1998 BUDGET MEASURES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SOCIAL SECURITY) BILL 1999**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the Further 1998 Budget Measures Legislation Amendment (Social Security) Bill 1999 and acquainting the House that the Senate does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the House of Representatives and had made an amendment in place thereof—Message No. 238, 21 October 1999.

Ordered—That the amendment be considered forthwith.

Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services) moved—That the amendment be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

*Closure*

Mr Anthony moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the amendment be agreed to—was accordingly put and passed.

**32 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

Message No. 137, 20 October 1999, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purpose of a request for

an amendment of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

**33 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 1999**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment:

20 October 1999—Message No. 237—Higher Education Funding Amendment 1999.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered forthwith. Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs) moved—That the requested amendment be made.

Debate ensued.

Mr Lee addressing the House—

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*Adjournment negatived*

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

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

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Mr Lee continued his speech.

Question—That the requested amendment be made—put and passed.

**34 CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT**

Mr Sercombe presented the following paper:

Corporations and Securities—Parliamentary Joint Committee—Matters arising from the *Company Law Review Act 1998*—

Report, incorporating a dissenting report, October 1999.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

**35 ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs Sullivan (Parliamentary Secretary (Foreign Affairs)) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

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*Suspension of standing and sessional orders*

Mrs Sullivan (Parliamentary Secretary (Foreign Affairs)), by leave, moved—  
That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would  
prevent the adjournment debate continuing until 6.06 p.m.

Question—put and passed.

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Debate continued.

The House continuing to sit until 6.06 p.m., the Speaker adjourned the House  
until Monday, 22 November 1999, at 12.30 p.m., in accordance with the  
resolution agreed to this day.

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**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 21 October 1999:

Aged Care Act—Principles under section 96-1—1999—

Certification Amendment (No. 1).

Records Amendment (No. 1).

Residential Care Subsidy Amendment (No. 2).

Fisheries Management Act—Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995  
Direction No. NPDF 29.

National Health Act—Declarations 1999 Nos. PB 12, PB 13, PB 14.

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act—  
Declarations—1999 Digital Data Service Provider (No. 1).

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Burke\*, Mrs  
Crosio, Dr Emerson, Ms Hall, Mr McLeay, Mr Prosser\* Dr Theophanous and  
Mr C. P. Thompson.

\* On leave

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-99

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

No. 80

**MAIN COMMITTEE****MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

THURSDAY, 21 OCTOBER 1999



1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

**2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

**3 CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1999**

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Mr Slipper presented a revised 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.

**4 CUSTOMS (TARIFF CONCESSION SYSTEM VALIDATIONS) BILL 1999**

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Mr Slipper 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.

**5 JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TREATIES—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 A. P. Thomson—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 27 September 1999*), viz.:

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties—Report 25—Treaties tabled on 11 August 1999—Final report, September 1999—

Debate resumed.

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

**6 JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mrs Gallus—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 27 September 1999*), viz.:

Joint Standing Committee on Migration—Report—Immigration Entry Arrangements for the Olympic and Paralympic Games—Final report, September 1999—

Debate resumed.

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

**7 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Somlyay moved—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

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*Suspension of sitting*

At 11.34 a.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

*Resumption of sitting*

At 11.44 a.m., the proceedings were resumed.

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Debate continued.

*Paper*

Mr Price, by leave, presented the following paper:

Badgery's Creek airport—Petition from students at Clairgate Primary School.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

At 12.09 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee.



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