

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 92

MONDAY, 6 MARCH 2000



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 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Nehl presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to Tonga, Cook Islands and the First Pacific Community Conference, French Polynesia, 27 November to 9 December 1999—Report, March 2000.

Mr Nehl, Mr Mossfield and Mr Lloyd made statements in connection with the report.

3 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Hollis presented the following papers:

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Visit to East Timor, 2 December 1999—

Report, December 1999.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Hollis, Mr Jull and Mr Nugent made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Hollis moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr Hollis 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.

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—29th report—Singapore's Use of Shoalwater Bay, Development Cooperation with PNG and Protection of New Varieties of Plants—

Report, December 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr A. P. Thomson, Mrs Elson and Mr Bartlett made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

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 RUGBY LEAGUE

Mr Baird, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House acknowledges Rugby League as one of Australia's national sports and congratulates the players, referees, fans and administrators of the game on:

- (1) the expansion of Rugby League into non-traditional geographic areas during recent years;
- (2) the establishment of a Rugby League Foundation which will provide additional funding to junior development in regional areas of NSW and Queensland;
- (3) the victory of the Melbourne Storm in the 1999 National Rugby League Grand Final in only its second year of operation;
- (4) a rise in average game attendances of 30% in 1999 with over 3 million Australians attending NRL games in 1999; and
- (5) the successful implementation of the 1997 peace plan between the Australian Rugby League and Super League which will see the NRL conduct a 14 team national competition in 2000.

Debate ensued.

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

6 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

7 DEATH OF HON. DAME ROMA FLINDERS MITCHELL

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) referred to the death on 5 March 2000, of the honourable Dame Roma Flinders Mitchell, AC, DBE, CVO, former Governor of South Australia and paid tribute to her memory.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) supported the remarks of the Prime Minister.

8 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR A. I. ALLAN)

The Speaker informed the House of the death, on 13 February 2000, of Archibald Ian Allan, a Member of this House for the Division of Gwydir from 1953 to 1969.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

9 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.08 p.m. the Member for Melbourne (Mr Tanner) 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 continuing—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.09 p.m. the Member for McMillan (Mr Zahra) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for raising a frivolous point of order, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.19 p.m. the Member for Fowler (Mrs Irwin) 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 she accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.22 p.m. the Member for Burke (Mr O'Keefe) 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.

10 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—TIME AND ROUTINE OF BUSINESS FOR NEXT SITTING

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That:

- (1) the House, at its rising, adjourn until tomorrow at 2.30 p.m.; and
- (2) so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the routine of business for the sitting tomorrow being as follows, unless otherwise ordered:
 1. Questions without notice.
 2. Presentation of papers.
 3. Ministerial statements, by leave.
 4. Matter of public importance.
 5. Notices and orders of the day, government business.

Question—put and passed.

11 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SEMINARS—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker made a statement concerning the application of the goods and services tax to seminars conducted by the Department of the House of Representatives.

Mr Crean (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by indulgence, referred to the matter.

12 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

13 TELEVISION ADVERTISEMENTS

Dr Emerson, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the irritation caused to television viewers by the broadcasting of advertisements at volumes or pitches greater than those of normal programs;
- (2) notes that neither the Broadcasting Services Act nor the Commercial Television Code of Practice requires television stations to broadcast advertisements at the same sound level as their programs;
- (3) notes that at present the only recourse for viewers unhappy about the volume of advertisements is to complain to the television stations or the advertisers; and
- (4) calls on the Government to amend the Broadcasting Services Act to empower the Australian Broadcasting Authority to regulate the volume and pitch of television advertisements.

Debate ensued.

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

14 OVINE JOHNE'S DISEASE

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

- (1) places on record concern about the continued activity of the NSW Government in relation to the control of Ovine Johne's Disease (OJD) in sheep being without precedent in animal disease control in Australia;
- (2) notes that as at April 1999 over 900 farms were identified as being affected or suspected of having OJD in rural NSW alone, with most of these properties being in quarantine;
- (3) further notes the serious economic and social problems being faced by sheep and wool producers because of a growing concern that employment of veterinarians is a greater factor in the current enthusiasm for control than concerns for the disease free status of the industry; and
- (4) calls on the Federal Government to freeze all funding under the National Ovine Johne's Disease program until such time as an investigation is undertaken into NSW Department of Agriculture procedures to ensure its actions are based on sound scientific and socio-economic grounds.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for private Members' business having expired, the debate was interrupted, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting, and Mr Gibbons was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

15 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.

16 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS

A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

29 February 2000—Message No. 164—

Ministers of State and Other Legislation Amendment 2000.

Privacy Amendment (Office of the Privacy Commissioner) 2000.

Import Processing Charges Amendment 2000.

Criminal Code Amendment (Application) 2000.

17 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

6 March 2000—Message No. 306—Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment 1999.

18 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Ruddock (Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr Ruddock presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate ensued.

Mr Sciacca was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

19 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SEMINARS—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker added to the statement he made earlier concerning the application of the goods and services tax to seminars conducted by the Department of the House of Representatives.

20 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

6 March 2000—Message No. 307—Employment, Education and Training Amendment 1999—

and requesting the concurrence of the House in a resolution relating to the Bill.

Legislative process—Statement by Deputy Speaker

The Deputy Speaker referred to the standing orders of both the Senate and the House of Representatives relating to the transmission of Bills and the communication of resolutions to the other House by message. The Deputy Speaker stated that the message sought to include, in the formal legislative process on a Bill, other matters not necessary for the enactment of the measure and accordingly he did not propose to call for a motion on the resolution.

21 MIGRATION 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.

22 ADJOURNMENT

It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—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 2.30 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to this sitting.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 6 March 2000:

Aged or Disabled Persons Care Act—Guidelines 2000 No. 9BG 1.

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Plan—Amendment No. 27.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Orders—2000—Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (Live Sheep Exports to Saudi Arabia) Amendment (No. 1).

Broadcasting Services Act—Declaration of designated body for the purposes of Part 5 of Schedule 5—NetAlert Limited.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Orders—

Amendments—

1999—Part 105—17(2), 22(3), 23 December.

2000—

Part 39-105—5, 6(2), 10, 11(6), 12(2), 13(11), 17(3), 18(6), 20(3), 24(2), 28(2), 29 January, 2, 7, 10(29), 11(6), 12, 14, 15(21) February.

Part 39-106—12(2) February.

Part 39-107—10, 13, 17, 20 January.

Exemptions 2000 No. CASA EX18.

Statutory Rules 2000 Nos 7, 8.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Utilities and Services Ordinance—Determinations 2000 Electricity Fees No. 1.

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—Notice under section 45—Acquisition of shares in a company by the Commonwealth—Commonwealth Residual Shareholding Company Pty Ltd.

Formation of a company by the Commonwealth—NetAlert Limited.

Currency Act—Determinations 2000 No. 2.

Customs Act—Notices 2000 No. 1.

Defence Act—

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations 2000 No. 2.

Determinations under section 58B 2000 Nos 4, 5.

Excise Act—Notices 2000 No. 1.

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—Export Meat Amendment Orders 2000 (No. 1).

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act—

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park—Far Northern Section Zoning Plan, 29 February 2000.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 Nos 5, 6.

Health Insurance Act—Declarations 2000 No. QAA 1.

Higher Education Funding Act—Determinations 2000 No. T6.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Statements under sub-section 40(3)—2000 15 February.

Statements under section 125—2000 15 February.

Migration Act—Certificate under section 502—13(2), 14 December 1999, 8 January 2000.

National Health and Medical Research Council Act—National Health and Medical Research Council—Guidelines under Section 95 of the *Privacy Act 1988*, March 2000.

Native Title Act—Determinations—2000—

Native Title (Approved Opal or Gem Mining Area—Lightning Ridge (Area 1), New South Wales).

Native Title (Approved Opal or Gem Mining Area—Lightning Ridge (Area 2), New South Wales).

Navigation Act—Marine Orders 2000 Nos 1, 2.

Primary Industries (Customs) Charges Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 3.

Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 4.

Radiocommunications Act—

Determinations—2000—Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Amateur Licence) Amendment (No. 1).

Instruments—2000—Multipoint Distribution System Frequency Band Plan.

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations 1999 Nos 16, 17.

Sales Tax Assessment Act—Rulings 2000 No. SST 18.

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensations 2000 No. 3.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings 2000 Nos PR 4, PR 5, PR 6, PR 7, TR 2, TR 3, TR 4.

Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Act—Determinations under paragraph 15(1)(d) 2000 No. 1.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hatton, Jackie Kelly* and Mr Quick.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives