

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 143

TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2000

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

**2 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), Mrs B. K. Bishop (Minister for Aged Care) would be Acting Minister for Health and Aged Care.

**3 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper*

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Copy of letter from Mr Ralph Willis (Minister for Finance) to prospective investors in the Commonwealth Bank, 24 September 1993.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Papers*

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

“Handle with care”—Extract from report prepared by the Australian Council of Trade Unions on employee financial participation.

Copy of memorandum from G. D. Fitton, Director of Remuneration Planning Corporation to Mr Mike Callaghan, Chief of Staff, Office of the Treasurer, 7 September 2000.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Member ordered to withdraw*

At 2.50 p.m. the Member for Burke (Mr O’Keefe) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for interjecting with an unparliamentary expression, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Member ordered to withdraw*

At 2.51 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 general warning had been given by the Chair, and she accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Member named and suspended*

The Speaker named the Member for Brisbane (Mr Bevis) for continuing to interject after a general warning had been given by the Chair.

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the Member for Brisbane be suspended from the service of the House.

Question—put.

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

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

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

\* Tellers

*Pairs*

Mr Anderson                      Mr Hollis

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The Member was, therefore, suspended at 3.01 p.m. for 24 hours under standing order 305, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

**4 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Australia Foundation for Culture and the Humanities—Financial report for 1999-2000.

Australian Film Finance Corporation Limited—Report for 1999-2000.

Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Report for 1999-2000.

Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office—Report for 1999-2000.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Report of the Black and Blue Marlin Working Group—Assessment of the black marlin and blue marlin in the Australian fishing zone, June 2000—Erratum.

Department of Transport and Regional Services—Report for 1999-2000.

Health Insurance Commission—Report for 1999-2000.

Indigenous Land Corporation—Report for 1999-2000.

National Australia Day Council—Financial statements for 1999-2000.

National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme—Report for 1999-2000.

National Science and Technology Centre (Questacon)—Report for 1999-2000.

NetAlert Limited—Report for the period 6 December 1999 to 30 June 2000.

Procedure—House of Representatives Standing Committee—Report—It's your House: Community involvement in the procedures and practices of the House of Representatives and its committees—Government response, October 2000.

Reserve Bank of Australia—Equal Employment Opportunity Program—Report for 1999-2000.

Treaties—

*Bilateral—Text, together with national interest analyses and regulation impact statements—*

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt regarding Cooperation on Protecting the Welfare of Children.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Russian Federation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Protocol, done at Canberra on 7 September 2000.

*Multilateral—Text, together with national interest analyses—*

Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, done at New York on 23 May 1997.

Amendments, done at Adelaide on 6 July 2000, to the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling of 2 December 1946.

Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks, done at Madrid on 27 June 1989.

Statute of the International Criminal Court, done at Rome on 17 July 1998.

Universal Postal Union: Fifth Additional Protocol to the Constitution of 10 July 1964, as amended; Convention, and Final Protocol; General Regulations; Postal Parcels Agreement, and Final Protocol, done at Seoul on 14 September 1994.

Universal Postal Union: Sixth Additional Protocol to the Constitution of 10 July 1964, as amended; Convention, and Final Protocol; General Regulations, done at Beijing on 15 September 1999.

## 5 PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

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

Health Insurance Commission—Report for 1999–2000.

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

**6 PAPER**

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Procedure—House of Representatives Standing Committee—Report—It’s your House: Community involvement in the procedures and practices of the House of Representatives and its committees, October 1999—Speaker’s response.

**7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—SCHOOL FUNDING**

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 undermining by the Government of public confidence in needs-based funding for non-Government schools and fair funding for Government schools”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**8 FIJI**

Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, moved—That this House:

- (1) recalls, on Fiji Day, the long-standing links of friendship between Australia and Fiji and all their people and their common commitment to democratic values and human dignity;
- (2) notes the widespread expressions of grave international concern, including by the Foreign Ministers of the South Pacific Forum and the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group, at the national impact and regional consequences of recent unlawful armed actions in Fiji;
- (3) condemns the forced removal from office of the democratically elected Government of Fiji;
- (4) deplores all those who resort to hostage taking and other forms of terrorism as a means of pursuing their political aims;
- (5) expresses its strong concern at calls from a few within Fiji for a new, blatantly discriminatory, constitution, and
- (6) calls for the earliest possible return of democratic rule in Fiji on the basis of a fair, balanced and democratic constitution.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 11 October 2000, at 9.40 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

**10 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:

Horticulture Marketing and Research and Development Services 2000; and  
Horticulture Marketing and Research and Development Services (Repeals and Consequential Provisions) 2000.

Question—put and passed.

**11 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT**

Mr Nehl (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business on Monday, 30 October 2000.

**12 COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL LEGISLATION (PROVISION OF INFORMATION) BILL 2000**

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.

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.

**13 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TALLIES AND PICNIC DAYS) BILL 2000**

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 Schultz addressing the House—

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**14 ADJOURNMENT**

At 6 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to on 16 August 2000, the question—That the House do now adjourn—was proposed.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 6.29 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 10 October 2000:

National Health Act—

Determinations—2000 No. PIB 24.

Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Standards—2000 Health Benefits Organizations—

Capital Adequacy.

Interpretation.

Solvency.

Radiocommunications Act—Declarations—2000 Radiocommunications (Spectrum Re-allocation)—Nos 2, 3.

Social Security Act—Determinations—2000—

Social Security (Declaration of Visa in a class of Visas—Newly arrived Resident's Waiting Period for Special Benefit).

Social Security (Declaration of Visa in a class of Visas—Qualifying Residence Exemption).



**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anderson, Mr Hollis\*, Dr Stone, Mr M. A. J. Vaile and Dr Wooldridge.

\* On leave



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives