

1998-1999-2000-2001

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 171

WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH 2001

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 **CRIMES AMENDMENT (AGE DETERMINATION) BILL 2001**

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 *Crimes Act 1914* to facilitate the determination of the age of persons suspected of committing, or charged with, Commonwealth offences, 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 Bevis), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 **ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2001**

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to elections and referendums, and for related 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 Bevis), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TALLIES AND PICNIC DAYS) BILL 2000 [WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TALLIES) BILL 2000]—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Senate—

Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business) moved—That the amendments be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 73

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

NOES, 59

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Fahey	Ms O'Byrne

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

5 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2001

Message No. 564, 6 March 2001, from the Senate was reported returning the Health Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2001 with amendments.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

6 AIRCRAFT NOISE LEVY COLLECTION AMENDMENT BILL 2001

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, 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) condemns the Government for its incompetent administration of the aircraft noise levy, in failing to declare Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport a ‘leviable’ airport for the period from 1 July 1996 to 21 February 2001;
- (2) condemns the Government for collecting in excess of \$150m from aircraft operators without due legal authority as a result; and
- (3) condemns the Government for giving priority to the GST at the expense of other important taxation matters”—

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.

7 PIG INDUSTRY 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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 284, 29 November 2000, 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 Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the Bill was read a third time.

8 CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT AND REPEAL (INTERNATIONAL TRADE MODERNISATION) 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.

Ms J. I. Bishop addressing the House—

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.

9 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Standard Variable Mortgage Interest Rates—January 1970 to March 2001.

Questions without notice continued.

10 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 30 of 2000-2001—Performance audit—Management of the Work for the Dole Programme—Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.

Ordered to be printed.

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY

The House was informed that Mr K. J. Thomson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The adverse impact of the Government’s policies on the Australian economy, including through the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr K. J. Thomson addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 565, 7 March 2001, from the Senate was reported transmitting a resolution of the Senate authorising Senators Bourne, Calvert, Ferguson, Gibbs, Hutchins, Sandy Macdonald and Schacht, as members of the Defence Subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, to appear before the House of Representatives Committee of Privileges, subject to the rule, applied in the Senate by rulings of the President, that one House of the Parliament may not inquire into or adjudge the conduct of a member of the other House.

13 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY

Ordered—That orders of the day Nos 5 and 6, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

14 REMEDIATION OF DEFENCE LAND AT NEUTRAL BAY, NSW—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: Remediation of Defence land at Neutral Bay, NSW.

Question—put and passed.

15 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, 7 March 2001, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 566—Defence Legislation Amendment (Enhancement of the Reserves and Modernisation) 2000.

No. 567—Defence Reserve Service (Protection) 2000.

16 CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT AND REPEAL (INTERNATIONAL TRADE MODERNISATION) 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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Paper

Mr Williams (Attorney-General) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr Williams, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (43) were made together.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Williams, the Bill was read a third time.

17 IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES 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—

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

18 CUSTOMS DEPOT LICENSING CHARGES AMENDMENT 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—

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

19 BROADCASTING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2001

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Smith 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:

- (a) condemns the Government and the Australian Democrats for colluding in the Senate to delay consideration of ABC and SBS unrestricted multi channelling until August 6 2001; and
- (b) calls on the Government:
- (i) to suspend the auction of datacasting spectrum until the Parliament has completed its consideration of the bill while still allowing the auction process to be completed this financial year; and
 - (ii) to rectify its failure to adequately resource the ABC to effect the national public broadcaster's transition to the digital world".

Paper

Mr Scott presented a revised explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate continued.

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

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

AYES, 70

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

NOES, 58

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Fahey	Ms O'Byrne
Mr Truss	Ms Plibersek

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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Smith moved Opposition amendment (1).

Amendment negated.

Mr Smith, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (2) and (3) together.

Amendments negated.

Mr Smith, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (4) to (7) together.

Amendments negated.

Mr Smith moved Opposition amendment (8).

Amendment negated.

Mr Smith, by leave, moved further Opposition amendments (1) and (2) together.

Amendments negated.

Paper

Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr McGauran the Government amendment was made.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr McGauran, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

20 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2000-2001—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 McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

21 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2000-2001—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 McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

22 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 2000-2001—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 McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

23 REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL AMENDMENT BILL 2000—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 McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

24 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2000—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 McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

25 THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 2000

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr McGauran presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Mr Griffin addressing the House—

26 ADJOURNMENT

It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 7 March 2001:

Defence Act—Determinations under section 58B—2001 Nos 5, 6.

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—2001 No. 1.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instrument under section 90—2001 No. 2.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Emerson, Mr Fahey*, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Ms O'Byrne* and Ms Plibersek*.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-1999-2000-2001

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 171

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH 2001

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2000-2001

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 Tanner, 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 condemns this Government for its:

- (1) failure to address the significant investment needs in the areas of education and health and the provision of social and employment services since coming to Government;
- (2) blowout in the cost of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the threat this presents to the sustainability of Australia's subsidised medicines scheme;
- (3) belated and inadequate attempts to remedy the chronic underfunding of research and innovation;
- (4) mismanagement of the Defence Budget;
- (5) refusal to remove the effects of the sale of the rest of Telstra from the Budget aggregates consistent with the resolution of the Senate of 16 March 2000, the findings of the Besley report and the wishes of the Leader of the National Party;
- (6) mishandling of the move to accrual accounting by providing complex, confusing and uninformative budget documents;
- (7) wasteful and profligate spending on poor quality programs to buy Democrat support for its unfair GST;

- (8) failure to identify in the Budget papers the full cost of GST collection and implementation;
- (9) failure to put in place arrangements that deliver its guarantee that no Australian will be worse off as a result of the GST package; and
- (10) bungling of the Business Activity Statement which has sent many small businesses to the wall”—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of sitting

At 10.10 a.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of sitting

At 10.22 a.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

Suspension of sitting

At 1 p.m., the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of sitting

At 4.30 p.m., the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

4 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2000-2001

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

5 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 2000-2001

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

6 REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL AMENDMENT 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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

7 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2000

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time—

Paper

Dr Stone 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.

8 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr McArthur, the Main Committee adjourned at 6.29 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 9.40 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee