

1998-1999-2000-2001

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 204

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST 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 INNOVATION AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2001

Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Dr Kemp presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

3 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Charles (Chair) presented the following paper:

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Report 384—Review of Coastwatch, incorporating a dissenting report, August 2001.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Charles, Mr Cox and Mr Lindsay, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Charles, by leave, moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Mr Charles 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 the next sitting.

4 WORKPLACE RELATIONS (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS) 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 Bevis, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words:

“the House:

- (1) condemns the Government for further entrenching unfairness and bias in the industrial relations system;
- (2) condemns the Government for excising provisions of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* and placing them into a separate Act; and
- (3) calls upon the Government to withdraw the Bill and redraft it to provide for:
 - (a) the retention of provisions concerning registered organisations in the one Act together with all other industrial relations matters and including necessary improvements; and
 - (b) improvements to be reflected in amendments to be moved by the Member for Brisbane during the consideration of the Bill in detail”—

Debate resumed.

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

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

AYES, 74

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 Georgiou	Mrs Moylan	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Billson	Mr Haase	Mr Nairn	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Nehl	Mr A. P. Thomson
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hawker	Dr Nelson	Mr Tuckey
Mr Brough	Mr Hockey	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cadman	Mrs Hull	Mr Pearce	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Causley	Mr Katter	Mr Pyne	Dr Washer
Mr Charles	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	Mr Williams
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ronaldson	Dr Wooldridge
Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock	
Mrs Elson	Mr Lawler	Mr St Clair	

NOES, 61

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Ms Worth	Mr Swan

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.

Debate adjourned (Mr Abbott—Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

5 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Ordered—That order of the day No. 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

6 COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL 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—

Debate resumed.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 73

Mr Abbott	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr Anderson	Mr Fahey	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	Mr Nehl	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Dr Nelson	Mr Truss
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hockey	Mr Neville	Mr Tuckey
Mr Brough	Mrs Hull	Mr Pearce	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Prosser	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Mr Katter	Mr Pyne	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	Dr Washer
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ronaldson	Mr Williams
Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock	
Mrs Draper	Mr Lawler	Mr St Clair	
Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr Schultz	

NOES, 60

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Ms Worth	Mr Swan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 344, 15 August 2001, 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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

7 GENERAL INSURANCE REFORM 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—

Debate having been resumed by Mr K. J. Thomson—

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.

8 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Leader of the Opposition—Motion of censure

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

- (1) for the way in which he has misled the Australian people about health policy in general and access to public hospitals in Western Australia;
- (2) for his failure to show any leadership in preventing members of his Caucus from also deliberately misleading the public about his recent experience with the public hospital system in Western Australia; and
- (3) for undermining the Australian people's faith in receiving quality care when presenting with serious health problems at accident and emergency departments around the country and undermining the essential work done by health professionals in these accident and emergency departments, who save the lives of thousands of Australians every year.

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “this House censures the Minister for Health and Aged Care:

- (1) for his dishonest fabrication regarding the Leader of the Opposition this morning, when the Minister claimed the Leader had ‘lied about his family circumstances’;
- (2) for his gross misrepresentation of the facts related to patient treatment in Australia's hard-pressed public hospital system, as evidenced by his dishonest fabrication this morning about the facts and circumstances of the treatment of the daughter of the Leader of the Opposition;

- (3) for his refusal to address the resource strains our public hospitals are facing and his denial that citizens are being forced to wait in pain for treatment;
- (4) for his gross misrepresentation of Labor's cancer policy including hysterical, shrill and deceitful claims about the possible death of women; and
- (5) for his incompetent, uncaring and arrogant administration of one of the most critical Commonwealth portfolios which affect the welfare of Australians".

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3 p.m. the Member for Makin (Mrs Draper) 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.

Debate continued.

Mr Crean (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) rising to address the House—

Closure

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 76

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

NOES, 62

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Ms Worth Mr Swan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 76

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

NOES, 62

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Ms Worth Mr Swan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

Questions without notice concluded.

9 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation—Report for 1999-2000.

Finance—Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration—
Statements for May and June 2001.

Supporting applications for issues from the Advance during May and June
2001.

Departmental items—Adjustments and borrowings for June 2001.

Supporting applications for issues from Departmental items—Adjustments and
borrowings during June 2001.

Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs—
National report on schooling in Australia 1999.

10 PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

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

Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation—Report for 1999-2000.

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

11 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE— AUSTRALIA'S HEALTH SYSTEM

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 failure of the Government to provide adequate resources for Australia’s health system, including its public hospitals”.

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.

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

AYES, 75

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

NOES, 62

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Ms Worth Mr Swan

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

12 RECONCILIATION AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2001—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The 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 Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13 HEALTH AND AGED CARE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL 2001—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The 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 Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL (NO. 2) 2001—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. 5, 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 Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15 TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL (NO. 3) 2001—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. 6, 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 Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

16 GENERAL INSURANCE REFORM 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—

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:

- (1) condemns the Government for its slow and disinterested handling of the process of reforming the general insurance prudential regulatory regime;
- (2) condemns the Government for its failure to satisfactorily deal with the collapse of HIH Insurance;
- (3) condemns the Government for the delay in commencing the Royal Commission into HIH, and for the inadequacy of its terms of reference; and
- (4) calls on the Government to adopt the Opposition’s policy on medical indemnity insurance and structured settlements in order to deal with the insurance problems now facing obstetricians and rural practitioners in particular”.

Debate continuing—

Absence of quorum

Mr M. J. Ferguson called the attention of the Deputy Speaker to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present.

The bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time, the Deputy Speaker at 5.28 p.m., in accordance with standing order 45, announced that the Chair would be resumed at 5.43 p.m.

At 5.43 p.m., the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and a quorum of Members was present.

Debate continued.

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 K. J. Thomson moved Opposition amendment (1).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

On the motion of Mr K. J. Thomson, Opposition amendment (2) was made, after debate.

Mr K. J. Thomson moved Opposition amendment (3).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

On the motion of Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), by leave, Government amendments (1) to (65) were made together, after debate.

Paper

Mr Hockey presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

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

17 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ALCOHOL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION ACCOUNT BILL 2001

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

22 August 2001—Message No. 679—Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Account 2001.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered at the next sitting.

18 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIA'S UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Message No. 678, 21 August 2001, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House that the Senate had agreed to a resolution that, in the opinion of the Senate, the following was a matter of urgency:

The crisis in Australia's university system as a result of the Commonwealth Government's funding cuts, as well as the Government's intemperate attacks on those Vice Chancellors with the temerity to point this out.

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

19 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (IMMIGRATION DETAINEES) BILL (NO. 2) 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—

Debate resumed.

Ms Gambaro addressing the House—

20 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 approximately 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 22 August 2001:

Fuel Quality Standards Act—Determinations—2001—

Fuel Standard (Diesel).

Fuel Standard (Petrol).

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments under section 196B—2001 Nos 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Corcoran, Mr Rudd, Mr Snowden, Mr Swan* and Ms Worth.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-1999-2000-2001

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 204

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST 2001

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

**3 RECONCILIATION AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE)
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—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of sitting

At 10.28 a.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of sitting

At 10.40 a.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

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 HEALTH AND AGED CARE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) 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—

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.

5 TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL (NO. 2) 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—

Debate resumed.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Paper

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr Hockey, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (3) were made together.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

6 TREASURY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (APPLICATION OF CRIMINAL CODE) BILL (NO. 3) 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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Paper

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr Hockey, by leave, Government amendments (1) and (2) were made together.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

7 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), the Main Committee adjourned at 1.03 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