

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 22

MONDAY, 3 JUNE 2002

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 U.S. STEEL TARIFFS

Ms George, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) condemns the decision of the Bush Administration to impose tariffs and quotas on Australian steel imports;
- (2) welcomes the recent backdown on the import of hot rolled coil;
- (3) recognises that the US decision makes a mockery of the Administration's free trade rhetoric; and
- (4) indicates deep concern about the impact of the decision on:
 - (a) employment levels within the steel industry and in the coal and iron ore sectors; and
 - (b) the dumping of increased volumes of surplus steel.

Debate ensued.

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

3 PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

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

- (1) registers its concern about the escalating cost of public liability insurance, especially for smaller non-profit community groups;
- (2) notes that a number of sporting and community groups indicate that further premium increases will curtail or end their activities in both urban and regional Australia; and
- (3) calls on the Government to co-ordinate with State Governments urgent measures to cap claims and act against the litigious culture that contributes to high insurance premiums.

Debate ensued.

At 1.45 p.m., the time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106A, Mr Andren was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

5 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Anderson (Minister for Transport and Regional Services), Mr Tuckey (Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government) would answer questions on his behalf.

Mr Howard also informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Dr Kemp (Minister for the Environment and Heritage), Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) would answer questions on his behalf.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

7 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

8 WORKING AND LIVING IN REMOTE AREAS

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

- (1) recognises and acknowledges the contribution made to the Australian economy by people working in remote areas of Australia;
- (2) recognises the disparity of services and increased cost of living faced by people working and living in remote areas of Australia;
- (3) encourages and compensates people choosing to live and work in remote areas of Australia by increasing the taxation zone rebate to an adequate level; and
- (4) discourages the practice of fly-in, fly-out employment by restricting the payment of taxation zone rebate to permanent residents in remote areas of Australia.

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.

9 MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

Ms J. I. Bishop, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) recognises the need for additional funding for the National Health and Medical Research Council to be allocated specifically for research into various forms of muscular dystrophy;
- (2) notes the various forms of muscular dystrophy include Duchenne, Becker, limb girdle, congenital, facioscapulohumeral, myotonic, oculopharyngeal, distal and Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophies;
- (3) acknowledges that Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is the most common lethal genetic disorder of childhood, characterised by a rapidly progressive muscle weakness which almost always results in death usually by 20 years of age, and affects approximately 1 in every 3500 boys worldwide;
- (4) acknowledges the urgency of the need for further research into Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; and
- (5) urges the Government to provide additional opportunities to enable medical scientists in Australia to undertake further research into muscular dystrophy.

Debate ensued.

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

10 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.

Photograph: Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources), by leave, presented a photograph of Sam Endres hearing his first sound as a result of a cochlear implant.

Debate continued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

11 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2002-2003—BUDGET DEBATE

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 Ms Macklin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), 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 the Government for:

- (1) its failure to deliver a budget surplus in 2001-02 after a decade of growth;
- (2) its failure to deliver a budget surplus in 2002-03 without breaking previous commitments on defence, roads and working credits;
- (3) imposing the cost of a pre-election spending spree on families via higher interest rates and cuts in health and welfare spending;
- (4) falsely claiming that cuts to health and welfare payments are needed to fund the war against terrorism and border protection;
- (5) wasting \$5 billion of taxpayers money by gambling in foreign currency markets through cross currency derivatives;
- (6) wasting almost \$3.5 billion by failing to manage currency risk on defence spending despite warnings from the Auditor-General;
- (7) wasting \$31 million on maintenance services for 40 years old helicopters that are years overdue despite a \$800 million downpayment;
- (8) its failure to recognise the GST as a Commonwealth tax and this Government as the highest taxing of all time;
- (9) its failure to consider the fairer options put forward by the Opposition to offset the harsh measures it intends to impose on families, the sick and disabled; and
- (10) the failure of its Intergenerational Report to recognise that investment in education, research and development is critical to our future prosperity and our capacity to generate the revenue and wealth required to support an ageing population”—

Debate resumed.

12 ADJOURNMENT

It being approximately 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 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 3 June 2002:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Airworthiness Directives—

Part 39-105—2002 11(4), 15, 18, 29(2), 30(2) April, 1(4), 3(8), 8(2), 16, 21 May.

Part 39-106—2002 12(2), 15(2) April, 1(5), 3(3) May.

Part 39-107—2002 10(2) April, 1(3), 3 May, 16 May.

Exemption—2002 No. CASA EX 11.

Instruments—2002 Nos CASA 255, CASA 300, CASA 301, CASA 311.

Commonwealth Places (Mirror Taxes) Act—Notice—2002 Commonwealth Places (Mirror Taxes) Modification of Applied Laws (Queensland) Amendment (No. 1).

Customs Act—Instruments of approval—2002 Nos 16, 17.

Defence Act—Determination under section 58B—2002 No. 12.

Fisheries Management Act and Fishing Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 104.

Higher Education Funding Act—Determination—2001 No. T35.

National Health Act—

Determinations under Schedule 1, paragraph (bj)—2002 Nos HSR 8, HSR 9, HSR 11.

Determination under subsection 5D(1)—2002 No. HSR 10.

Privacy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 105.

Superannuation Contributions Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act—Determination—2002 No. SCD 1.

Superannuation Contributions Tax Imposition Act—Determination—2002 No. SCD 4.

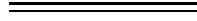
Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act—Determination—2002 No. SGD 1.

Taxation Administration Act—

Determinations—2002 Nos TD 11, TD 12, TD 13, TD 14.

Rulings—2002 Nos CR 3 (Addendum), CR 29, GSTR 1, PR 73, PR 74, PR 75, PR 76, PR 77.

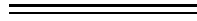
Termination Payments Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act—Determinations—2002 Nos SCD 2, SCD 3.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Albanese, Mr Anderson, Ms Burke*, Jackie Kelly*, Dr Kemp, Mr Kerr and Mrs May.

* On leave



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives