

2002-03

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 110

THURSDAY, 14 AUGUST 2003

1 The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

## 2 PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

The Speaker, pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with section 54 of the *Parliamentary Service Act 1999*, the House of Representatives resolves that:

- (1) (a) the Joint House Department, Department of the Parliamentary Library and Department of the Parliamentary Reporting Staff are abolished with effect from 31 January 2004; and
  - (b) a new joint service department, to be called the ‘Department of Parliamentary Services’ be established from 1 February 2004 to fulfil all the functions of the former joint departments; and supports the Presiding Officers in the following endeavours:
    - (c) to reinforce the independence of the Parliamentary Library by strengthening the current role of the Library committees of both Houses of Parliament;
    - (d) to bring forward amendments to the *Parliamentary Service Act 1999* to provide for a statutory position of Parliamentary Librarian within the new joint service department and conferring on the Parliamentary Librarian direct reporting responsibilities to the Presiding Officers and to the Library committees of both Houses of Parliament;
    - (e) to ensure that the resources and services to be provided to the Parliamentary Library in the new joint service department be specified in an annual agreement between the Departmental Secretary and the Parliamentary Librarian, approved by the Presiding Officers following consideration by the Library committees of both Houses of Parliament; and
    - (f) to consider, after the establishment of the joint service department, that department providing human resources and financial transaction-processing activities for all the Parliamentary departments, subject to such an arrangement being proven to be both cost-effective and efficient; and
- (2) the text of this resolution be transmitted to the Senate for its information.

Debate ensued.

Mr Latham moved, as an amendment—That the following paragraph be inserted:

- (1A) any savings achieved by the amalgamation may be used to offset increases in costs of security measures approved by the Presiding Officers for Parliament House, but if those increases in costs exceed those savings, the appropriations for the parliamentary departments are to be supplemented for the excess; and”

Debate continued.

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

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

## 3 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2003

Dr Nelson (Minister for Education, Science and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian National Training Authority Act 1992*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Dr Nelson presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**4 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TRANSMISSION OF BUSINESS) BILL 2002**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with amendments:

13 August 2003—Message No. 309—Workplace Relations Amendment (Transmission of Business) 2002.

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

**5 TELSTRA (TRANSITION TO FULL PRIVATE OWNERSHIP) BILL 2003**

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.

Debate adjourned (Mr Entsch—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**6 NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMISSION BILL 2003—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 Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**7 NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMISSION (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2003—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 Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**8 TELSTRA (TRANSITION TO FULL PRIVATE OWNERSHIP) BILL 2003**

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.

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 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mr Anderson (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Howard (Prime Minister), he would answer questions on his behalf.

**10 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper*

Mr Albanese, by leave, presented the following paper:

First impressions exercise.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Papers*

Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations) presented the following papers:

Ethanol fuel industry—

Bounty allocations to boost ethanol industry—Media release by David Beddall, Minister for Resources, 31 August 1995.

Extract from address by Mr Simon Crean, Minister for Primary Industries and Energy, to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Long Term Strategies Alternative Energy Seminar, Melbourne, 28 September 1992.

Letter from Mr Simon Crean, Minister for Primary Industries and Energy, to Mr J. T. Honan, Chairman, Manildra Group, 7 May 1993.

Letter from Mr Simon Crean, Minister for Primary Industries and Energy, to Mr Peter Knott, Member for Gilmore, 30 November 1993.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Papers*

Mr Crean (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, presented the following papers:

Ethanol fuel industry—

Draft letter from Mr J. T. Honan, Manildra Group, to Mr John Howard, Prime Minister.

Emails from Mr J. T. Honan, Manildra Group, to Ms Robyn Bain, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2).

Letter from Mr J. T. Honan, Manildra Group, to Mr Mark Vaile, Minister for Trade, 23 August 2002.

Reform could help sugar farms compete—Copy of article, *The Australian*, 22 August 2002.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Paper*

Mr Crean, by leave, presented the following paper:

Ethanol fuel industry—Letter from Mr Paul H. Moreton, Chief Executive Officer, Neumann Petroleum, to Mr John Howard, Prime Minister, 18 September 2002.

Questions without notice continued.

**11 PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr McGauran (Deputy Leader of the House) presented the following paper:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—49th Report—Timor Sea Treaty—Government response—  
and moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

**12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—JOB NETWORK**

The House was informed that Mr Albanese had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The difficulties being faced by Australia’s unemployed under the Government’s Job Network Mark 3”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Albanese addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

It being 4.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 5 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 12.30 p.m.



**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 14 August 2003:

Federal Court of Australia Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 2003 No. 206.

Health Care (Appropriation) Act—Statement under subsection 4(5), 11 August 2003.

Higher Education Funding Act—Determination 2003 No. T15.

Medical Indemnity Act—Determinations—2003—

Medical Indemnity (Non-participating MDOs).

Medical Indemnity (Unfunded IBNR factor—United Medical Protection Limited).

Motor Vehicle Standards Act—Determination 2003—Motor Vehicle Standards (Road Vehicles).

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation 2003 No. 6.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings 2003 Nos CR 66, CR 67, CR 68, PR 28, TR 10.

**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Brereton, Mr Forrest, Mr Howard, Mr I. E. Macfarlane\* and Mrs Moylan.

\* On leave



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

2002-03

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 110

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**THURSDAY, 14 AUGUST 2003**

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1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

**2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

**3 NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMISSION BILL 2003**

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.

**4 NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMISSION (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2003**

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 SOLOMON ISLANDS—MOTION BY PRIME MINISTER—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 12 August 2003*), viz.:

Copy of the Prime Minister's motion on the Solomon Islands—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Ms J. I. Bishop), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**6 ADJOURNMENT**

Ms J. I. Bishop moved—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

*Papers*

Mr Fitzgibbon, by leave, presented the following papers:

Further Nardell Funding—Email from Paul's OzEmail Account to John Sherrell and Geoff Crowe, 20 December 2002.

Nardell Confidentiality Deed—Allens Arthur Robinson, 2003.

Question—put and passed.

At 12.55 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until Wednesday 20 August 2003, at 9.40 a.m.



**B. C. WRIGHT**  
Clerk of the Main Committee