

2002-03-04

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 149

WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2004

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

**2 GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AMENDMENT BILL 2004**

Dr Kemp (Minister for the Environment and Heritage), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, 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 G. M. O'Connor), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**3 TEXTILE, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENT BILL 2004**

Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Textile, Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Act 1999*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Entsch moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Mr Entsch presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr G. M. O'Connor), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**4 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT) AMENDMENT (ROTTERDAM CONVENTION) BILL 2004**

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 Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing), the Bill was read a third time.

**5 AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY CHEMICALS (ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2004**

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 Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing), the Bill was read a third time.

#### 6 MILITARY REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION 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 by Mr Edwards who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “while not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House:

- (1) believes it contains a number of serious flaws which, if confirmed by the inquiry of the Senate Foreign Affairs, Trade and Defence Legislation Committee, will require substantial amendment; and
- (2) protests at the unseemly haste with which this legislation has been prepared after years of inaction, and at the inadequate consultation with serving Members ADF who are likely to be affected”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 213, 25 November 2003, 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 Mrs D. S. Vale (Minister for Veterans’ Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

#### 7 MILITARY REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION (CONSEQUENTIAL 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.

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 214, 25 November 2003, 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 Mrs D. S. Vale (Minister for Veterans’ Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

#### 8 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2003-2004

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 McMullan, 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 its budget waste and mismanagement, and wrong priorities which have resulted in:

- (1) a costly Medicare ‘safety net’ which does not protect families from increasing health costs and declining levels of bulk billing;
- (2) inadequate funding and higher fees for students seeking access to higher education;
- (3) a growing number of families who are financially squeezed and trying to balance work and family; and
- (4) 500,000 Australians waiting up to five years to get their teeth fixed”—

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 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

*Papers*

Mr McMullan, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for documents quoted from by Mr Brough (Minister for Employment Services)—

Mr Brough presented the following papers:

Job network services—

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations—Request for tender: Employment Services Contract 2003-2006 for job network services new enterprise incentive scheme—Indicative business levels 2002.

Flow and point in time data—Internet extract from [www.workplace.gov.au](http://www.workplace.gov.au) dated 18 February 2004.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Papers*

Mr Albanese, by leave, presented the following papers:

Job network services—Copy of emails from—

Robert Williams, Job Seeker Services, to Nick Hartland, Family and Community Services, 25 July 2003.

Nick Hartland, Family and Community Services, to Barry Sandison and Peta Winzar, Family and Community Services, and Robert Williams, Job Seeker Services, 25 July 2003.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Paper*

Mr Abbott (Minister for Health and Ageing) presented the following paper:

Illawarra Health's financial records—Copy of letter from Dr Liz Gale, Chief Executive Officer, Illawarra Area Health Service, to Mr Ken Barker, Chief Financial Officer, NSW Health, 9 January 2004.

Questions without notice continued.

**10 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Stevedoring Industry Finance Committee—Report for 2002-03.

Stevedoring Levy (Collection) Act—Report for 2003.

**11 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 Government's administration of employment services policy, particularly its design and management of the Job Network".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Albanese addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

*Member ordered to withdraw*

At 3.35 p.m. the Member for Batman (Mr M. J. Ferguson) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

**12 PAPER**

Ms Irwin, by leave, presented the following paper:

Family and Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Every picture tells a story: Report on the inquiry into child custody arrangements in the event of family separation—Minutes of proceedings.

**13 POSTAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, an Administrator's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Ms J. I. Bishop (Minister for Ageing), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**14 INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT 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 Ms J. I. Bishop (Minister for Ageing), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**15 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2003-2004**

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 McMullan (see item No. 8, page 1440)*—

Debate resumed.

*Photographs:* Mr Byrne, by leave, presented 2 photographs of an abuse victim.

Debate continued.

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

**16 MATTERS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE**

Mr Lloyd (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following orders of the day, committee and delegation reports, be referred to the Main Committee for debate:

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Parliamentary Committee—Report—ATM fee structure—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate; and

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Parliamentary Committee—Report—Money matters in the bush—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate.

Question—put and passed.

**17 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2003-2004**

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 McMullan (see item No. 8, page 1440)*—

Debate resumed.

Ms Burke addressing the House—

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**18 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 a.m.

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**PAPER**

The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 18 February 2004:

Workplace Relations Act—Rules—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 6.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mrs Hull.



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

2002-03-04

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

No. 149

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2004

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1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

**2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

**3 POSTAL SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Ms O'Byrne, viz.*—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not denying the Bill a second reading, the House expresses its concern with respect to:

- (1) the Government's on-going agenda to deregulate Australia Post's services, which threatens Australia Post's longer term ability to provide all Australians with basic postal services, as evidenced by the proposals to legitimise the business practices of document exchanges and aggregation services in this Bill;
- (2) the Government's proposal to transfer the monitoring role of Australia Post's services from the independent Auditor-General to the Australian Communications Authority; and
- (3) the Government's failure thus far to implement a Postal Industry Ombudsman scheme as promised at the last election"—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

*Message from the Administrator*

Message No. 212, 10 June 2003, from His Excellency the Administrator was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

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 INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT 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 by Mr Emerson 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 notes the importance of research as a driver of economic growth and the Government's failure to stimulate private sector investment in R&D and to invest in public R&D".

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mrs Hull—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 11 February 2004*), viz.:

Family and Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Every picture tells a story: Report on the inquiry into child custody in the event of family separation, December 2003—

Debate resumed.

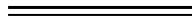
Mrs Hull, by leave, addressed the Main Committee without closing the debate.

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

**6 ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr Neville, the Main Committee adjourned at 12.06 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