

2002-03-04

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 159

MONDAY, 22 MARCH 2004

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 ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Hawker (Chair) presented the following papers:

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia *Annual Report 2003*—

Interim report, March 2004.

Minutes of proceedings.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

3 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Scott made a statement concerning the delegation to the General Conference of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, held in Jakarta between 7-9 December 2003, and presented a copy of his statement:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the General Conference of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, Jakarta, 7-9 December 2003—Copy of statement.

Mr Price also made a statement concerning the Conference.

4 WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

Mrs May, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

(1) recognises that:

- (a) poverty and hunger remain the most important challenges facing the international community;
- (b) the United Nation's World Food Program (WFP) remains the most effective way of alleviating world poverty; and
- (c) the WFP's mandate and mission are strongly relevant to Australia's overall humanitarian objectives;

(2) also recognises that:

- (a) the alleviation of poverty assists the building of political stability, aids in the provision of education and training, and lowers levels of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS;
- (b) the work of the WFP in its "Food for Work," program assists in the provision of much needed infrastructure in some of the world's poorest nations;
- (c) the "Food for Life" program is the quickest and most effective way of providing displaced persons and those affected by natural disaster with lifesaving food when their own nation state is unable to provide assistance; and
- (d) the "Food for Growth" program is a vital means of providing food to pregnant women, school children and babies who would not otherwise receive adequate food to aid their growth;

- (3) understands that the Federal Government:
 - (a) has a large financial commitment to the World Food Program on both an ongoing and an occasional basis; and
 - (b) has committed \$56.3 million since March 2002, including a contribution of \$12.8 million to help ease the food crisis in southern Africa and a contribution of \$1 million to assist the survivors of the Bam earthquake; and
- (4) congratulates:
 - (a) the Federal Government on its ongoing support of the World Food Program; and
 - (b) the World Food Program on 40 years of fighting hunger and poverty.

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 Quick 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.

5 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

6 TERRORIST ATTACKS, MADRID, SPAIN—STATEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister), by indulgence, made a statement on the terrorist attacks in Madrid, Spain.

Mr Latham (Leader of the Opposition), by indulgence, also made a statement on the matter.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Papers

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Superannuation reform—Copy of speech by Mr Latham, Leader of the Opposition, 15 March 2004.

Superannuation: Setting a Goal—Labor Policy Paper by Mr Latham, Leader of the Opposition and Senator Nick Sherry, Shadow Minister for Retirement Incomes and Savings, March 2004.

Questions without notice continuing—

Prime Minister—Motion of censure

Mr Latham (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, moved—That this House censures the Prime Minister for:

- (1) political interference in the work of the Australian Federal Police in an attempt to compromise the public standing and independence of its Commissioner;
- (2) failing to rule out further political interference with the Australian Federal Police in the future; and
- (3) jeopardising Australia's national security by playing politics with the Australian Federal Police rather than putting Australia's national security first.

Debate ensued.

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.31 p.m. the Member for Denison (Mr Kerr) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continually interjecting, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 59

Mr Adams	Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms Livermore	Mr Ripoll
Mr Albanese	Ms George	Mr McClelland	Ms Roxon
Mr Bevis	Mr Gibbons	Ms Macklin	Mr Rudd
Mr Brereton	Ms Gillard	Mr McLeay	Mr Sawford
Ms Burke	Ms Grierson	Mr McMullan	Mr Sciacca
Mr Byrne	Mr Griffin	Mr Melham	Mr Sercombe
Ms Corcoran	Ms Hall	Mr Mossfield	Mr Sidebottom
Mr Cox	Mr Hatton	Mr Murphy	Mr Snowdon
Mr Crean	Ms Hoare	Ms O'Byrne	Mr Swan
Mr Danby*	Mrs Irwin	Mr B. P. O'Connor	Mr Tanner
Mr Edwards	Ms Jackson	Mr G. M. O'Connor	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Emerson	Mr Jenkins	Mr Organ	Ms Vamvakinou
Mr Evans	Ms C. F. King	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Latham	Mr Price	Mr Zahra
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Quick*	

NOES, 75

Mr Abbott	Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Scott
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Dutton	Mr P. E. King	Mr Secker
Mr Anthony	Mrs Elson	Mrs Ley	Mr Slipper
Fran Bailey	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr A. D. H. Smith
Mr Baird	Mr Farmer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Somlyay
Mr Baldwin	Mr Forrest*	Mr McArthur*	Dr Southcott
Mr Barresi	Ms Gambaro	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Dr Stone
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gash	Mr McGauran	Mr Ticehurst
Mr Billson	Mr Georgiou	Mrs May	Mr Tollner
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Haase	Mrs Moylan	Mr Truss
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Nairn	Mr Tuckey
Mr Brough	Mr Hartsuyker	Dr Nelson	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cadman	Mr Hawker	Mr Neville	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Cameron	Mr Hockey	Ms Panopoulos	Mr Wakelin
Mr Causley	Mr Hunt	Mr Pearce	Dr Washer
Mr Charles	Mr Johnson	Mr Prosser	Mr Williams
Mr Ciobo	Mr Jull	Mr Pyne	Ms Worth
Mr Cobb	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Randall	

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Questions without notice concluded.

8 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS

Mr Latham (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That leave of absence for the remainder of the current period of sittings be given to Ms J. S. McFarlane and Mr Beazley on the ground of ill health.

Question—put and passed.

9 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

10 FEDERAL PARLIAMENTARY PRESS GALLERY

Mr Bevis, pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) the House, noting that all Members and Senators are required to make declarations of relevant interests and those of their spouses and dependent children, and believing that it would be in the public interest for members of the Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery (FPPG) (including broadcast and press journalists and those who write or present news and current affair items but not camera crew, sound technicians or other support staff) to make similar declarations, resolves that, within 28 days of being issued with a photographic pass enabling a person to have access to Parliament House as a member of the FPPG, the person must provide to the Serjeant-at-Arms a statement of:
 - (a) the person's registrable interests, and
 - (b) the registrable interests of which the person is aware of the person's spouse and of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the person for support, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the House and in a form determined by the Speaker from time to time, and shall also notify any alteration of those interests to the Serjeant-at-Arms within 28 days of that alteration occurring;
- (2) the statement of registrable interests to be provided by a person shall include the registrable interests of which the person is aware of the person's spouse and of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the person for support, and shall cover the following matters:
 - (a) shareholdings in public and private companies (including holding companies) indicating the name of the company or companies;
 - (b) family and business trusts and nominee companies—
 - (i) in which a beneficial interest is held, indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and beneficial interest, and
 - (ii) in which the person, the person's spouse, or a child who is wholly or mainly dependent on the person for support, is a trustee (but not including a trustee of an estate where no beneficial interest is held by the person, the person's spouse or dependent children), indicating the name of the trust, the nature of its operation and the beneficiary of the trust;
 - (c) real estate, including the location (suburb or area only) and the purpose for which it is owned;
 - (d) registered directorships of companies;
 - (e) partnerships indicating the nature of the interests and the activities of the partnership;
 - (f) liabilities indicating the nature of the liability and the creditor concerned;
 - (g) the nature of any bonds, debentures and like investments;
 - (h) saving or investment accounts, indicating their nature and the name of the bank or other institutions concerned;
 - (i) the nature of any other assets (excluding household and personal effects) each valued at over \$7500;
 - (j) the nature of any other substantial sources of income;
 - (k) gifts valued at more than \$750 received from official sources, or at more than \$300 where received from other than official sources provided that a gift received by the person, the person's spouse or dependant children from family members or personal friends in a purely personal capacity need not be registered unless the person judges that an appearance of conflict of interest may be seen to exist;
 - (l) any sponsored travel or hospitality received where the value of the sponsored travel or hospitality exceeds \$300;
 - (m) membership of any organisation where a conflict of interest with the person's duties could foreseeably arise or be seen to arise; and
 - (n) any other interests where a conflict of interest with the person's duties could foreseeably arise or be seen to arise;
- (3) the Speaker make arrangements for copies of declarations of interest made under this resolution to be made available for inspection by any interested person; and
- (4) a FPPG pecuniary interests committee (consisting of the Speaker or his nominee, who shall chair the committee, and one member of the House of Representatives nominated by the Chief

Government Whip, and one member of the House of Representatives nominated by the Chief Opposition whip, and two members of the FPPG selected by a ballot of those members of the FPPG to whom this motion applies) may order the cancellation of the Parliament House pass of a person to whom this resolution applies if that person has;

- (a) knowingly failed to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Serjeant-at-Arms by the due-date;
- (b) knowingly failed to notify any alteration of those interests to the Serjeant-at-Arms within 28 days of the change occurring, or
- (c) knowingly provided false or misleading information to the Serjeant-at-Arms.

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.

11 PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINE

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

- (1) notes the cost of providing pneumococcal vaccine would be approximately \$60 million per year;
- (2) notes that in 2002 there were 1,897 cases of pneumococcal across Australia and 168 deaths;
- (3) notes that to date the Government has only agreed to fund pneumococcal vaccine for a small proportion of children at risk;
- (4) notes that the cost of pneumococcal immunisation of around \$500 per child is prohibitive for many families; and
- (5) calls on the Government to act urgently upon the recommendations of the National Health and Medical Research Council to provide pneumococcal immunisations free to all children.

Debate ensued.

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

12 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.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

13 MESSAGES FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR—ASSENT TO BILLS

Messages from His Excellency the Administrator were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

10 March 2004—Message—

No. 225—

Aviation Transport Security 2004.

Aviation Transport Security (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) 2004.

No. 226—Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorist Organisations) 2004.

No. 229—Norfolk Island Amendment 2004.

11 March 2004—Message—

No. 227—

Workplace Relations Amendment (Transmission of Business) 2004.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Remedies for Unprotected Action) 2004.

No. 228—

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Amendment 2004.

Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title 2004.
 Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment (Rotterdam Convention) 2004.
 Industry Research and Development Amendment 2004.

14 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

10 March 2004—No. 435—Social Security Amendment (Further Simplification) 2003.

11 March 2004—

No. 437—Australian Sports Drug Agency Amendment 2004.

No. 438—Customs Legislation Amendment (Application of International Trade Modernisation and Other Measures) 2003.

No. 439—Import Processing Charges (Amendment and Repeal) Amendment 2003 (*without requests*).

No. 440—National Measurement Amendment 2003.

15 FISHERIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COMPLIANCE AND DETERRENCE MEASURES AND OTHER MATTERS) 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 Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

16 FISHERIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (HIGH SEAS FISHING ACTIVITIES AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2004—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 Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

17 DAIRY PRODUCE 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.

Paper

Mr Scott, by leave, presented the following paper:

Dairy access arrangements under the United States FTA—Table.

Debate continued.

18 ADJOURNMENT

It being 9 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 9.30 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 22 March 2004:

Australian Crime Commission Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 31.

Broadcasting Services Act—Broadcasting Services (Events) Notice No. 1 of 1994—Amendment 2004 No. 1.

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—Orders—2004 Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements for reporting periods ending on or after 30 June 2004).

Copyright Act—Declaration under paragraph 10A (1)(c), 8 March 2004.

Corporations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 36.

Currency Act—Determination—2004 Currency (Royal Australian Mint)—Amendment (No. 1).

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 32.

Defence Act—Determination under section 58B—2004 No. 8.

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—

Export Control (Fees) Amendment Orders—2004 (No. 1).

Prescribed Goods (General) Amendment Orders—2004 (No. 2).

Export Inspection (Establishment Registration Charges) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 29.

Export Inspection (Service Charge) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 30.

Financial Management and Accountability Act—Orders—2004 Financial Management and Accountability (Financial Statements for reporting periods ending on or after 30 June 2004).

Fisheries Management Act—Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995—Directions—Nos NPF 76, NPF 77, NPF 78, NPF 79, NPF 80.

Income Tax Assessment Act 1936—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 37.

Maritime Transport Security Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 34.

Motor Vehicle Standards Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 35.

National Handgun Buyback Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 33.

National Health Act—Determinations under subsection 5D(1)—2004 Nos AOS 3, AOS 4.

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations—2004 Nos 1, 2.

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2004 No. 4.

Taxation Administration Act—

Determination—2004 No. TD 3.

Rulings—2004 Nos CR 24, CR 25, CR 26, PR 28, PR 29, PR 30, PR 31.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley*, Mrs Draper, Ms Ellis*, Mrs Gallus, Mrs Hull, Mr Katter and Ms J. S. McFarlane*.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives