

2004-05-06

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 88

WEDNESDAY, 1 MARCH 2006

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

2 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) AMENDMENT BILL 2006

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 immediately.

On the motion of Mr Ruddock (Attorney-General), the bill was read a third time.

3 SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE (LEARNING TOGETHER—ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2006

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 Ms Macklin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) 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:
 - (a) failing to deliver urgently-needed capital funds and literacy support in time for schools and students to achieve the benefits of those funds;
 - (b) failing to protect the integrity and probity of its program for tutorial literacy vouchers, especially in the appointment of brokers for the delivery of tutorial assistance in some states;
 - (c) approving capital funding under its ‘Investing in our schools’ program in an unfair and unequal way between schools and regions; and
 - (d) failing adequately to take into account the relative educational and financial needs of schools in the allocation of capital funding under the ‘Investing in our schools’ program; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) ensure that all programs are administered in ways that deliver maximum educational benefits for students;
 - (b) take steps to assure the educational integrity and probity of its tutorial assistance for students with literacy needs;
 - (c) direct some of the unspent funds for tutorial assistance for students with literacy needs for use by schools to develop appropriate programs for their students, in consultation with parents, and for the professional development of teachers to improve their literacy teaching skills; and
 - (d) support improved accountability provisions for funding under the capital grants and tutorial assistance programs”.

Debate continued.

It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 97, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

4 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Member directed to leave

At 2.25 p.m. the Member for Swan (Mr Wilkie) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member directed to leave

At 2.34 p.m. the Member for Melbourne (Mr Tanner) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Document

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

Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Information Sheet in Khmer language—Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member directed to leave

At 2.53 p.m. the Member for Oxley (Mr Ripoll) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member directed to leave

At 3.15 p.m. the Member for Gorton (Mr B. P. O'Connor) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

Suspension of standing and sessional orders moved

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition moving immediately—That this House censure the Foreign Minister and Minister for Trade for:

- (1) turning a blind eye to cables sent to his/their office(s) that contained hard evidence that bribes were being paid to the Iraqi regime; and
- (2) misleading this House on when he/they first had knowledge of the Wheat for Weapons scandal.

Debate ensued.

Document

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Deputy Prime Minister) presented the following document:

Economic and trading relationship with Iraq—Joint statement by Dr Ahmad Chalabi, Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq and Mr M. A. J. Vaile, Baghdad, 26 February 2006.

Debate continued.

The time allowed by standing order 1 for debate on the motion having expired—

Question—put.

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

AYES, 55

Mr Adams	Ms K. M. Ellis	Mr Hayes	Mr Price
Mr Albanese	Mr Emerson	Ms Hoare	Mr Ripoll
Mr Beazley	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mrs Irwin	Ms Roxon
Mr Bevis	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Kerr	Mr Rudd
Ms Bird	Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms King	Mr Sawford
Mr Bowen	Mr Garrett	Dr Lawrence	Mr Sercombe
Ms A. E. Burke	Mr Georganas	Ms Livermore	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr A. S. Burke	Ms George	Mr McClelland	Mr Snowden
Mr Byrne	Mr Gibbons	Ms Macklin	Mr Swan
Ms Corcoran	Ms Gillard	Mr McMullan	Mr Tanner
Mr Danby*	Ms Grierson	Mr Melham	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Edwards	Mr Griffin	Mr Murphy	Ms Vamvakinou
Mrs Elliot	Ms Hall*	Ms Owens	Mr Wilkie
Ms A. L. Ellis	Mr Hatton	Ms Plibersek	

NOES, 82

Mr Abbott	Mr Entsch	Mrs Ley	Mr Scott
Mr Anderson	Mr Fawcett	Mr Lindsay	Mr Secker
Mr Andrews	Mr M. D. Ferguson	Mr Lloyd	Mr Slipper
Fran Bailey	Mr Forrest*	Mr McArthur*	Mr A. D. H. Smith
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mr Macfarlane	Mr Somlyay
Mr Baker	Mrs Gash	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Baldwin	Mr Georgiou	Mrs Markus	Dr Stone
Mr Barresi	Mr Haase	Mrs May	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mr Bartlett	Mr Hardgrave	Mrs Moylan	Mr Ticehurst
Mr Billson	Mr Hartsuyker	Mr Nairn	Mr Tollner
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Henry	Dr Nelson	Mr Truss
Ms J. Bishop	Mr Howard	Mr Neville	Mr Tuckey
Mr Brough	Mrs Hull	Ms Panopoulos	Mr Turnbull
Mr Cadman	Mr Hunt	Mr Pearce	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Causley	Dr Jensen	Mr Prosser	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Ciobo	Mr Johnson	Mr Pyne	Mr Vasta
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Randall	Mr Wakelin
Mr Costello	Mr Keenan	Mr Richardson	Dr Washer
Mr Downer	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Robb	Mr Wood
Mr Dutton	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ruddock	
Mrs Elson	Mr Laming	Mr Schultz	

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Questions without notice concluded.

5 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Speaker presented the following document:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 31 of 2005–2006—Performance audit—Roads to Recovery: Department of Transport and Regional Services.

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

6 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were presented:

Australian Political Exchange Council—Report for 2004-05.

Commonwealth Grants Commission—State revenue sharing relativities—2006 update.

Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of detention arrangements—

Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's statements—014/05 and 016/05, 28 February 2006.

Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—

Personal identifier 014/05, 1 December 2005.

Personal identifier 016/05, 1 December 2005.

Treaties—List of multilateral treaty actions under negotiation, consideration or review by the Australian Government as at February 2006.

7 DOCUMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENTS

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following documents:

Australian Political Exchange Council—Report for 2004-05.

Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's statements—014/05 and 016/05, 28 February 2006.

Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—

Personal identifier 014/05, 1 December 2005.

Personal identifier 016/05, 1 December 2005.

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

8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TRADE SKILLS TRAINING VISA

The House was informed that Mr A. S. Burke had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's neglect of young Australians with the introduction of the Trade Skills Training Visa".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr A. S. Burke addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

9 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Ordered—That order of the day No. 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

10 ADDRESS BY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE TONY BLAIR MP, PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Ms Gambaro (Parliamentary Secretary—Foreign Affairs), for Mr Abbott (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) the House invite the Right Honourable Tony Blair MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, to attend and address the House, on 28 March 2006, at a time to be notified by the Speaker;
- (2) at this sitting of the House:
 - (a) the initial proceedings shall be welcoming remarks by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition and an address by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, after which the Speaker shall immediately suspend the sitting until the ringing of the bells; and
 - (b) the provisions of standing order 257(c) apply to the area of Members' seats as well as the galleries; and
- (3) a message be sent to the Senate inviting Senators to attend the House as guests for the welcoming remarks by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition and address by the Right Honourable Tony Blair MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—HMAS CAIRNS REDEVELOPMENT

Mr Nairn (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: HMAS Cairns redevelopment.

Question—put and passed.

12 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING FOR DEFENCE AT FAIRVIEW RISE, IPSWICH, QUEENSLAND

Mr Nairn (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: Construction of housing for Defence at Fairview Rise, Ipswich, Queensland.

Question—put and passed.

13 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, 1 March 2006, were reported returning the following bills without amendment:

No. 267—Offshore Petroleum 2005.

No. 268—Offshore Petroleum (Annual Fees) 2005.

No. 269—Offshore Petroleum (Registration Fees) 2005 (*without requests*).

No. 270—Offshore Petroleum (Royalty) 2005 (*without requests*).

No. 271—Offshore Petroleum (Repeals and Consequential Amendments) 2005.

No. 272—Offshore Petroleum (Safety Levies) Amendment 2005.

14 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2005

Message No. 273, 1 March 2006, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to the jurisdiction of the Federal Magistrates Court, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

15 FISHERIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COOPERATIVE FISHERIES ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2005—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 Gambaro (Parliamentary Secretary—Foreign Affairs), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

16 STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL (NO. 2) 2005—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 Gambaro (Parliamentary Secretary—Foreign Affairs), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

17 BANKRUPTCY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ANTI-AVOIDANCE) BILL 2005—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, No. 87, 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 Ms Gambaro (Parliamentary Secretary—Foreign Affairs), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

18 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT

Mr Slipper (Chair) presented the following documents:

Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Review of technological protection measures exceptions—

Report, February 2006.

Minutes of proceedings.

Report ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

Mr Slipper and Mr Kerr, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Slipper, by leave, moved—That the House take note of the report.

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

19 SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE (LEARNING TOGETHER—ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY) AMENDMENT BILL 2006

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) (see item No. 3, page 991)—*

Debate resumed.

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

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

AYES, 82

Mr Abbott	Mr Entsch	Jackie Kelly	Mr Schultz
Mr Anderson	Mr Farmer	Mr Laming	Mr Scott
Mr Andrews	Mr Fawcett	Mrs Ley	Mr Secker
Fran Bailey	Mr M. D. Ferguson	Mr Lindsay	Mr Slipper
Mr Baird	Mr Forrest*	Mr Lloyd	Mr A. D. H. Smith
Mr Baker	Ms Gambaro	Mr McArthur*	Dr Southcott
Mr Baldwin	Mrs Gash	Mr Macfarlane	Dr Stone
Mr Barresi	Mr Georgiou	Mr McGauran	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mr Bartlett	Mr Haase	Mrs Markus	Mr Ticehurst
Mr Billson	Mr Hardgrave	Mrs May	Mr Tollner
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hartsuyker	Mrs Moylan	Mr Truss
Ms J. Bishop	Mr Henry	Mr Nairn	Mr Tuckey
Mr Broadbent	Mr Hockey	Dr Nelson	Mr Turnbull
Mr Brough	Mrs Hull	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cadman	Mr Hunt	Mr Pearce	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Dr Jensen	Mr Prosser	Mr Vasta
Mr Ciobo	Mr Johnson	Mr Pyne	Dr Washer
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Randall	Mr Windsor
Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Richardson	Mr Wood
Mr Dutton	Mr Keenan	Mr Robb	
Mrs Elson	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Ruddock	

NOES, 55

Mr Adams	Mr Emerson	Ms Hoare	Mr Price
Mr Albanese	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mrs Irwin	Mr Ripoll
Mr Andren	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Kerr	Ms Roxon
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms King	Mr Rudd
Ms Bird	Mr Garrett	Dr Lawrence	Mr Sawford
Mr Bowen	Mr Georganas	Ms Livermore	Mr Sercombe
Ms A. E. Burke	Ms George	Mr McClelland	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr A. S. Burke	Mr Gibbons	Ms Macklin	Mr Snowdon
Mr Byrne	Ms Gillard	Mr McMullan	Mr Swan
Mr Danby*	Ms Grierson	Mr Melham	Mr Tanner
Mr Edwards	Mr Griffin	Mr Murphy	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mrs Elliot	Ms Hall*	Mr B. P. O'Connor	Ms Vamvakinou
Ms A. L. Ellis	Mr Hatton	Ms Owens	Mr Wilkie
Ms K. M. Ellis	Mr Hayes	Ms Plibersek	

* Tellers

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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 142, 13 February 2006, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Ms Macklin moved the Opposition amendment.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

AYES, 54

Mr Adams	Mr Emerson	Ms Hoare	Mr Ripoll
Mr Albanese	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mrs Irwin	Ms Roxon
Mr Andren	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Kerr	Mr Rudd
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms King	Mr Sawford
Ms Bird	Mr Garrett	Dr Lawrence	Mr Sercombe
Mr Bowen	Mr Georganas	Ms Livermore	Mr S. F. Smith
Ms A. E. Burke	Ms George	Mr McClelland	Mr Snowdon
Mr A. S. Burke	Mr Gibbons	Ms Macklin	Mr Swan
Mr Byrne	Ms Gillard	Mr McMullan	Mr Tanner
Mr Danby*	Ms Grierson	Mr Murphy	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Edwards	Mr Griffin	Mr B. P. O'Connor	Ms Vamvakinou
Mrs Elliot	Ms Hall*	Ms Owens	Mr Wilkie
Ms A. L. Ellis	Mr Hatton	Ms Plibersek	
Ms K. M. Ellis	Mr Hayes	Mr Price	

NOES, 80

Mr Abbott	Mr Fawcett	Mr Laming	Mr Schultz
Mr Anderson	Mr M. D. Ferguson	Mrs Ley	Mr Scott
Fran Bailey	Mr Forrest*	Mr Lindsay	Mr Secker
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mr Lloyd	Mr Slipper
Mr Baker	Mrs Gash	Mr McArthur*	Mr A. D. H. Smith
Mr Baldwin	Mr Georgiou	Mr Macfarlane	Mr Somlyay
Mr Barresi	Mr Haase	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Bartlett	Mr Hardgrave	Mrs Markus	Dr Stone
Mr Billson	Mr Hartsuyker	Mrs May	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Henry	Mrs Moylan	Mr Ticehurst
Ms J. Bishop	Mr Hockey	Mr Nairn	Mr Tollner
Mr Broadbent	Mrs Hull	Dr Nelson	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mr Hunt	Mr Neville	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Dr Jensen	Mr Pearce	Mr Turnbull
Mr Ciobo	Mr Johnson	Mr Prosser	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Pyne	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Dutton	Mr Katter	Mr Randall	Mr Vasta
Mrs Elson	Mr Keenan	Mr Richardson	Dr Washer
Mr Entsch	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Robb	Mr Windsor
Mr Farmer	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ruddock	Mr Wood

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Ms J. Bishop (Minister for Education, Science and Training), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

20 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2006 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2006

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.

21 ADJOURNMENT

It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 7.57 p.m., adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

DOCUMENTS

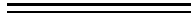
The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 1 March 2006:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal—2006 No. 1.

Disability Services Act—Guidelines—2006 Disability Services (Rehabilitation services) [F2006L00643].

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Crean, Mrs Draper, Mr Jenkins, Mr G. M. O'Connor and Mr Quick.



I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives

2004-05-06

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 88

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 1 MARCH 2006

1 The Main Committee met at 9.30 a.m.

2 **MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

3 **FAMILY LAW AMENDMENT (SHARED PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY) BILL 2005**

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 Roxon, 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:

- (1) notes that the first priority of family law should be to promote and secure the best interests of children and that this requires a focus on:
 - (a) the responsibility of parents to care for, love and provide security to children;
 - (b) the need to prevent children from being victims of, or exposed to, violence, abuse or neglect; and
 - (c) without compromising the above, the benefit to children of knowing and spending time with their parents;
- (2) notes that, despite this bill, the Howard Government has made shared parenting before and after separation more difficult through its constant attacks on Australian families, such as the recent industrial relations changes and its failure to meet the chronic child care shortage;
- (3) notes the risk that the Government is creating false expectations that this bill will create a right for parents spending equal time with their children, when the bill does not do this, in many cases this would not be appropriate and it shouldn't automatically be the starting point for negotiations;
- (4) notes that the Government has improved its bill by adopting Labor's ideas that:
 - (a) for parents intent on demanding parental 'rights', the Court will consider the extent to which parents have exercised their responsibilities as parents - recognising that parenting is a two-way street; and
 - (b) strengthened compliance measures should be coupled with costs for nuisance complainants, so that the right to seek a remedy cannot be used irresponsibly;
- (5) notes that the effectiveness of these reforms will fundamentally depend on the implementation of the Family Relationship Centres program, so that these centres can provide appropriate advice, counselling and referral as well as dispute resolution services and calls on the Government to commit to:
 - (a) providing adequate resources to Family Relationship Services and Centres;
 - (b) regular reappraisal of needs and funding to ensure free services;
 - (c) requiring that Family Relationship Centres focus on quality advice, not simply quantity of parenting plans;

- (d) equipping staff to detect the signs of family violence and child abuse and manage violent clients;
 - (e) ensuring that Family Relationship Centres do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, disability, gender or socio-economic disadvantage and are not used to advocate or encourage any particular political or religious agenda; and
 - (f) instituting a well-resourced and effective complaints process for people who have grievances with Family Relationship Centres or their staff;
- (6) demands that the Government immediately release accreditation and quality standards for Family Relationship Centres prior to mediation becoming compulsory;
- (7) notes that, while separating parents should be encouraged to settle their disputes without recourse to the Courts, litigation needs to be recognised and supported as a vital pathway for those cases involving family violence or abuse, entrenched conflict or intractable disputes;
- (8) notes that the Government needs to invest in and make public thorough, longitudinal research on:
- (a) the consequences of family law reform;
 - (b) interaction between violence and family law; and
 - (c) the need for a broad ranging parliamentary inquiry on violence in the community;
- (9) notes that the Government should, in the near future, conduct a review of how these changes work in practice, with particular consideration of the following issues:
- (a) the operation of the requirement to consult on ‘major long-term issues’ (compared to the original recommendation from the Every Picture Tells a Story report limited to location);
 - (b) the interaction of parenting plans and court orders; and
 - (c) the need to review Schedule 3 as soon as the assessment report of the Family Court’s pilot of the Children’s Cases Program is available, given that these changes are being made before that pilot is completed and evaluated; and
- (10) notes the Government’s failure to consider a National Commissioner for Children and Young People, who could provide a role developing expertise in supporting children in family law matters” —

Debate resumed.

Suspension of meeting

At 12.56 p.m., the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of meeting

At 4.03 p.m., the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

Debate continued.

Suspension of meeting

At 6.09 p.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of meeting

At 6.21 p.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

Suspension of meeting

At 6.31 p.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of meeting

At 6.43 p.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

Mrs Gash moved that further proceedings be conducted in the House.

Question—put and passed.

4 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mrs Gash, the Main Committee adjourned at 7.29 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed 9.30 a.m. tomorrow for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee