

AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 102

THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER 1975

1 The House met, at ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable G. G. D. Scholes) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr K. M. Cairns, Mr Cope, Mr Kerin, Mr Lamb, Mr Martin, Mr Mathews, Mr Mulder and Mr Oldmeadow—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House ensure that the Government (1) prohibit the export of mineral sands from Fraser Island and (2) assist the Queensland Government and other bodies to conserve the natural environment of Fraser Island for the benefit of the people of Australia.

Mr Adermann, Mr Mathews and Mr E. L. Robinson—from certain citizens of Australia praying that (1) the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and (2) the Government take urgent steps to cause the traditional and familiar units to be restored in those areas where the greatest inconveniences and distress are occurring.

Mr Adermann and Mr McLeay—from certain citizens of Australia praying that no further measures be taken which will make home ownership unattractive to those who have a home and unachievable for those who have not.

Mr L. R. Johnson (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the people of Wreck Bay be granted the 96 hectares claimed by them.

Mr Fraser (Leader of the Opposition)—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with existing television program standards or to permit easier entry into Australia, or production in Australia, of pornographic material.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government remove or substantially increase the \$300 limit on income tax deductibility on personal residential land and water rates.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House reject the Australian Government Insurance Office Bill.

Mr Macphee—from certain employees and agents of the Australian insurance industry in terms similar to the last preceding petition.

Mr Kerin—from certain citizens of Australia praying that all current woodchip export licences be cancelled, more funds be provided for research into the recycling of used packaged material and future applications for woodchip leases be preceded by an environmental inquiry.

Mr Lamb—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the Government (1) suspend sales of uranium to any country engaged in violent conflict, (2) suspend the mining of uranium except that used for medical purposes and (3) encourage research into safer sources of energy.

Mr Martin—from certain citizens of Australia praying that (1) pensions be related to average weekly earnings and (2) no charge be made for the installation or rental of telephones for pensioners.

Mr Mathews—from certain citizens of Australia praying that pensions be adjusted to 25 per cent of average weekly earnings and thereafter adjusted twice yearly to maintain this figure.

Mr Millar—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the House either decrease or reject proposed increases in postal and telephone charges.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens of Australia praying that the present system of uniform personal taxation be retained.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Member named and suspended: Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the National Country Party of Australia) having raised a point of order which was ruled upon by the Chair and not having resumed his seat when directed by the Chair to do so, Mr Speaker named the honourable Member for New England (Mr Sinclair) for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member for New England be suspended from the service of the House.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 60

Mr Armitage	Mr Cross	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Riordan
Mr Beazley	Mr Daly	Mr Jones	Mr Sherry
Mr Bennett	Mr Davies	Mr Keating	Mr Stewart
Mr Berinson	Mr Dawkins	Mr Keogh	Mr Thorburn
Mr Bowen	Mr Duthie	Mr Kerin	Mr Uren
Mr Bryant	Mr Enderby	Dr Klugman	Mr Wallis
Dr J. F. Cairns	Dr Everingham	Mr Lamb	Mr Whan
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr McKenzie	Mr Whitlam
Dr Cass	Mr Fulton	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mrs Child	Mr Garrick	Mr Mathews	Mr Young
Mr Clayton	Dr Gun	Mr Morris	
Mr Coates	Mr Hayden	Mr Mulder	
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Oldmeadow	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Collard	Mr Jacobi	Dr Patterson	Mr James
Mr Cope	Dr Jenkins	Mr Reynolds	Mr Nicholls
Mr Crean	Mr L. K. Johnson		

NOES, 53

Mr Adermann	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bonnett	Dr Forbes	Mr Lynch	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fraser	Mr MacKellar	Mr Snedden
Mr Bungey	Mr Garland	Mr McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodges	Mr McMahon	Mr Street
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Howard	Mr McVeigh	Mr Sullivan
Mr Calder	Mr Hunt	Mr Macphee	Mr Wentworth
Mr Chipp	Mr Hyde	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Drummond	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	
Mr Drury	Mr Katter	Mr Nixon	
Dr Edwards	Mr Kelly	Mr O'Keefe	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr Peacock	Mr Corbett
Mr Erwin	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson	Mr Viner

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The honourable Member was, therefore, suspended at twenty-nine minutes to eleven o'clock a.m. for twenty-four hours under standing order 305, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

4 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Darwin Cyclone Tracy Relief Trust Fund—Report for July 1975.

Education Commissions—Funds for 1976—Statement by Mr Beazley (Minister for Education), dated October 1975.

- 5 GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICE: Upon notice No. 1, general business, being called on, Mr Nixon, in the absence of Mr Sinclair (Deputy Leader of the National Country Party of Australia), and at his request, fixed the next sitting as the day for moving the motion.
- 6 MINERALS EXPLORATION: Mr Katter moved, pursuant to notice—That this House condemns the failure of the Government to encourage exploration activity to extend Australia's known minerals and energy resources.

Debate ensued.

Mr Fairbairn rising to address the House—

Closure: Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 59

Mr Armitage	Mr Crean	Dr Jenkins	Mr Oldmeadow
Mr Beazley	Mr Cross	Mr L. K. Johnson	Dr Patterson
Mr Bennett	Mr Daly	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Reynolds
Mr Berinson	Mr Davies	Mr Jones	Mr Riordan
Mr Bowen	Mr Dawkins	Mr Keating	Mr Sherry
Mr Bryant	Mr Duthie	Mr Keogh	Mr Stewart
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Enderby	Mr Kerin	Mr Thorburn
Mr C. R. Cameron	Dr Everingham	Dr Klugman	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Lamb	Mr Wallis
Mrs Child	Mr Fulton	Mr McKenzie	Mr Whan
Mr Clayton	Mr Garrick	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mr Coates	Dr Gun	Mr Mathews	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Hayden	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Collard	Mr Innes	Mr Morrison	Mr James
Mr Cope	Mr Jacobi	Mr Mulder	Mr Nicholls

NOES, 53

Mr Adermann	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Anthony	Mr Erwin	Mr King	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Snedden
Mr Bungey	Dr Forbes	Mr Lynch	Mr Staley
Mr Cadman	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Street
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hewson	Mr McLeay	Mr Sullivan
Mr Calder	Mr Hodges	Mr McMahan	Mr Wentworth
Mr Chipp	Mr Howard	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr Macphee	
Mr Corbett	Mr Hyde	Mr Millar	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Drummond	Mr Jarman	Mr Newman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Drury	Mr Katter	Mr Nixon	Mr Viner
Dr Edwards	Mr Kelly	Mr Peacock	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 54

Mr Adermann	Mr Ellicott	Mr Killen	Mr Peacock
Mr Anthony	Mr Erwin	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fairbairn	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier	Mr Fisher	Mr Lucock	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bungey	Dr Forbes	Mr Lusher	Mr Snedden
Mr Cadman	Mr Garland	Mr Lynch	Mr Staley
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Hewson	Mr MacKellar	Mr Street
Mr Calder	Mr Hodges	Mr McLeay	Mr Sullivan
Mr Chipp	Mr Howard	Mr McMahan	Mr Wentworth
Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wilson
Mr Corbett	Mr Hyde	Mr Macphee	
Mr Drummond	Mr Jarman	Mr Millar	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Drury	Mr Katter	Mr Newman	Mr O'Keefe
Dr Edwards	Mr Kelly	Mr Nixon	Mr Viner

NOES, 59

Mr Armitage	Mr Crean	Dr Jenkins	Mr Oldmeadow
Mr Beazley	Mr Cross	Mr L. K. Johnson	Dr Patterson
Mr Bennett	Mr Daly	Mr L. R. Johnson	Mr Reynolds
Mr Berinson	Mr Davies	Mr Jones	Mr Riordan
Mr Bowen	Mr Dawkins	Mr Keating	Mr Sherry
Mr Bryant	Mr Duthie	Mr Keogh	Mr Stewart
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Enderby	Mr Kerin	Mr Thorburn
Mr C. R. Cameron	Dr Everingham	Dr Klugman	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Lamb	Mr Wallis
Mrs Child	Mr Fulton	Mr McKenzie	Mr Whan
Mr Clayton	Mr Garrick	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mr Coates	Dr Gun	Mr Mathews	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Hayden	Mr Morris	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Collard	Mr Innes	Mr Morrison	Mr James
Mr Cope	Mr Jacobi	Mr Mulder	Mr Nicholls

And so it was negated.

It being more than two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, consideration of general business notices was interrupted in accordance with standing order 109.

- 7 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS NOTICES:** Mr Daly (Leader of the House) moved, by leave—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the consideration of general business notices being extended until one o'clock p.m.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 **MEDIBANK:** Dr Klugman moved, pursuant to notice—That this House notes with satisfaction higher standards of health insurance cover provided for all Australians through the introduction of Medibank.

Mr Chipp moved, as an amendment—That all words after “House” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “views with concern the fact that Medibank will provide a lesser health service at a greater cost and believes that reforms should be enacted immediately to overcome its weaknesses”.

Debate continued.

The extended time allotted for the consideration of general business notices having expired, the debate was interrupted, Mr Coates 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.

- 9 **DEFENCE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Morrison (Minister for Defence), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Defence arrangements between Australia and Papua New Guinea—

Joint statement by Sir Maori Kiki, M.B.E., M.H.A., Papua New Guinea Minister for Defence, Foreign Relations and Trade, and Mr Morrison (Minister for Defence) on interim defence arrangements.

Exchange of letters, dated 10 September (with annexes) and 15 September 1975, between Mr Morrison and Sir Maori Kiki.

Mr Riordan (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

- 10 **INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1975:** Mr Hayden (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Law relating to Income Tax.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 11 INCOME TAX BILL 1975: Mr Hayden (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to impose a Tax upon Incomes.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Hayden moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Adermann), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 12 INCOME TAX (INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS) BILL 1975: Mr Hayden (Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Income Tax (International Agreements) Act 1953–1974*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Hayden moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Adermann), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 13 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—WATER RESOURCES CENTRE, DARWIN—RESCISSION OF RESOLUTION: Mr Riordan (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved, pursuant to notice given on 2 October 1975—That the resolution of the House of Representatives of 28 November 1974 referring the construction of the proposed water resources centre, Darwin, to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be rescinded.
 Question—put and passed.
- 14 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—CENTRAL LABORATORY FACILITIES, CASUARINA, N.T.—RESCISSION OF RESOLUTION: Mr Riordan (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved, pursuant to notice given on 2 October 1975—That the resolution of the House of Representatives of 5 December 1974 referring the construction of the proposed central laboratory facilities, Casuarina, N.T., to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be rescinded.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.
- 15 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—DEFENCE ESTABLISHMENT, ZETLAND, N.S.W.: Mr Riordan (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969–1974*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for investigation and report: Development of a navy supply centre and army workshop facility at defence establishment, Zetland, N.S.W.
 Mr Riordan presented plans in connection with the proposed work.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.
- 16 SADADEEN HIGH SCHOOL, ALICE SPRINGS, N.T.—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr Riordan (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved, pursuant to notice—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969–1974*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Construction of Sadadeen high school, Alice Springs, N.T.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.
- 17 CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (INTER-CHANGE OF POWERS) BILL 1975: 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.
 The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clause 1—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Dr Jenkins reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said committee.

18 LEGAL AID BILL 1975: 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 Howard who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill be referred to a joint select committee of both Houses to inquire into and report upon:

- (a) the adequacy of existing legal aid services in Australia;
- (b) whether the provision made in the Bill is the most effective, efficient and economical method of providing legal advice and assistance;
- (c) which persons should be entitled to legal aid and what should be the basis on which advice and assistance are provided;
- (d) whether proper protection of the individual’s right to obtain independent and confidential legal advice and assistance is provided for in existing legal aid arrangements and under the Bill;
- (e) the extent of duplication in the provision of legal advice and assistance throughout Australia and the means by which unnecessary duplication can be avoided;
- (f) the likely cost of providing legal aid services in Australia over the next five years and subsequently, and
- (g) the clauses of the Bill”.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Young), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

19 AUSTRALIA-PAPUA NEW GUINEA BORDER—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Whitlam (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the Australia-Papua New Guinea border.

Mr Peacock, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

20 LEGAL AID BILL 1975: 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 Howard, viz.*—That all words after “That ” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill be referred to a joint select committee of both Houses to inquire into and report upon:

- (a) the adequacy of existing legal aid services in Australia;
- (b) whether the provision made in the Bill is the most effective, efficient and economical method of providing legal advice and assistance;
- (c) which persons should be entitled to legal aid and what should be the basis on which advice and assistance are provided;
- (d) whether proper protection of the individual’s right to obtain independent and confidential legal advice and assistance is provided for in existing legal aid arrangements and under the Bill;
- (e) the extent of duplication in the provision of legal advice and assistance throughout Australia and the means by which unnecessary duplication can be avoided;
- (f) the likely cost of providing legal aid services in Australia over the next five years and subsequently, and
- (g) the clauses of the Bill”—

Debate resumed.

Mr Ruddock addressing the House—

21 ADJOURNMENT: It being half-past ten o’clock p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until eleven o'clock p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday next at fifteen minutes past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Connor, Mr England, Mr Giles, Mr Graham, Mr Hurford and Mr Luchetti.

N. J. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives