

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 113

THURSDAY, 23 AUGUST 1979

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- 1 The House met, at 10.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:** Mr Speaker informed the House that a Parliamentary delegation from the Solomon Islands, led by the Honourable Dr Francis Kikolo, M.P., Minister for Home Affairs, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.
 - 3 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
 - Mr Aldred, Mr Bouchier, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Falconer, Mr Hodgman, Mr Jarman, Dr Jenkins, Mr B. O. Jones, Mr Porter, Mr Simon and Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
 - Mr Anthony, Mr Keating and Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the 1980 level of education expenditure to Government schools be restored and increased in real terms.
 - Mr Falconer and Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.
 - Mr N. A. Brown—from certain citizens praying that no measures be taken to implement those recommendations of the Royal Commission on Human Relationships that will further undermine and weaken marriage, child-care or the family.
 - Mr Howe—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.
 - Mr Howe—from certain citizens praying that the House take steps to create employment opportunities.
 - Mr Howe—from certain members of the Uniting Church of Australia praying that the advertising of alcohol on radio and television be banned and that Federal grants to sporting and cultural bodies be conditional on those bodies not accepting support from manufacturers and retailers of alcohol.
 - Mr Hunt—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Health directive to charge Community Health Centre patients be rescinded.
 - Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that pensions be increased twice yearly in line with rises in the consumer price index and that certain other social security benefits be granted.
 - Mr MacKellar—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to admit 2 000 Cambodian refugees immediately, provide financial assistance to the Thai government to establish emergency island camps, and release the family reunion criteria.

Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.

Mr Martyr—from certain citizens praying that the National Health Scheme patient contribution rate not be increased.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that pension payments be restored to twice-yearly adjustments and that pensions and unemployment benefits be raised to 30% of average weekly earnings.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the allowable private income level earned by sheltered workshop invalid pensioners be doubled to \$40 per week and then indexed.

Mr Wallis—from certain citizens praying that subsidies to pre-schools be increased.
Petitions received.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet—Report for year 1978–79.

Pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Special Report 1979 on financial assistance for local government, dated 28 May 1979.

Export Market Development Grants Act and Export Expansion Grants Act—Export Development Grants Board—4th Annual Report, for year 1978–79.

Pig Meat Promotion Act—Pig Meat Promotion Advisory Committee—3rd Annual Report, for year 1977–78.

6 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.

It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

7 NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS—PAPERS AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Nuclear Safeguards Agreements between—

Australia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning nuclear transfers between Australia and the United Kingdom, done at London on 24 July 1979, together with an agreed minute and an exchange of letters, dated 24 July 1979.

Australia and the United States of America concerning peaceful uses of nuclear energy, done at Canberra on 5 July 1979, together with an agreed minute—and, by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the agreements.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement relating to the agreements.

8 DEFENCE EXPENDITURE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED: Mr Killen (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of budgetary measures concerning defence expenditure, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Defence expenditure—Ministerial statement, 23 August 1979.

Mr Scholes, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

Mr Newman (Minister for National Development) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

- 9 SOIL CONSERVATION—COMMONWEALTH/STATES COLLABORATIVE STUDY—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Newman (Minister for National Development), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the report of the Commonwealth/States Collaborative Soil Conservation Study.

Mr Keating, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOUSING NEEDS: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Uren had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Australian Government to meet the housing needs of low and middle income earners".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Uren addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) BILL 1979 [No. 2]: Message No. 294, dated 23 August 1979, a.m., from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to prohibit the interception of telecommunications except where specially authorized in the interests of security or in connection with inquiries related to narcotics offences, and for related purposes*".

Bill read a first time.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and, by leave, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 12 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—TELECOMMUNICATIONS AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Message No. 295, dated 23 August 1979, a.m., from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Telecommunications Act 1975'*".

Bill read a first time.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and, by leave, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 13 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2) 1979: Message No. 296, dated 23 August 1979, a.m., from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Customs Act 1901'*".

Bill read a first time.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Bowen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and, by leave, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 14 STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT—REPORT OF STUDY GROUP—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Lynch (Minister for Industry and Commerce), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of budgetary measures concerning Australian manufacturing industry in response to the Report of the Study Group on Structural Adjustment (Crawford Report), and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Structural Adjustment—Report of Study Group—

Government response to recommendations.

Ministerial statement, 23 August 1979.

Mr Hurford, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

Mr Staley (Minister for Post and Telecommunications) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

- 15 STATES GRANTS (CAPITAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1979: Mr MacKellar (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), for Mr Howard (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to grant financial assistance to the States in connection with expenditure of a capital nature and to authorize the borrowing of certain moneys by the Commonwealth.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 16 REMUNERATION AND ALLOWANCES BILL 1979: Mr J. E. McLeay (Minister for Administrative Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to certain remuneration and allowances.

Bill read a first time.

Mr J. E. McLeay moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 17 MINISTERS OF STATE AMENDMENT BILL 1979: Mr J. E. McLeay (Minister for Administrative Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Ministers of State Act 1952*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr J. E. McLeay moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 18 REMUNERATION TRIBUNALS AMENDMENT BILL (No. 3) 1979: Mr J. E. McLeay (Minister for Administrative Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Remuneration Tribunals Act 1973*.

Bill read a first time.

Mr J. E. McLeay moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

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

- 19 PAPER: Mr Speaker, pursuant to statute, presented:

Reserve Bank Act—Reserve Bank of Australia—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1978–79.

- 20 LUSAKA—COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement reporting to the House on the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia, from 1 to 7 August 1979, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:
Lusaka—Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting—

Final communique.

Ministerial statement, 23 August 1979.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Sinclair, by leave, moved—

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) speaking for a period not exceeding 23 minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Debate ensued.

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

- 21 NAVIGATION AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

- 22 LIGHTHOUSES AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.
- 23 POLLUTION OF THE SEA BY OIL (SHIPPING LEVY COLLECTION) AMENDMENT BILL 1979:
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 Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.
- 24 SEA-CARRIAGE OF GOODS AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.
- 25 SEAMEN'S COMPENSATION AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.
- 26 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY: Ordered—That order of the day No. 7, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.
- 27 NORTHERN TERRITORY SUPREME COURT (REPEAL) BILL 1979: 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 Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 28 JUDICIARY AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 29 FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 30 JUDGES' PENSIONS AMENDMENT BILL 1979: 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 Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.
- 31 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Ellicott (Minister for Home Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

Debate extended: It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Newman (Minister for National Development) required the debate to be extended. The debate continuing until 11.03 p.m., Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Tuesday next at 2.15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr C. R. Cameron, Dr Cass, Mr FitzPatrick, Mr Hodges, Mr Jull, Mr Katter, Mr McLean and Mr J. L. McMahon.

J. A. PETTIFER,
Clerk of the House of Representatives