

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 150

TUESDAY, 4 MARCH 1980

1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

Mr Aldred, Mr Baillieu, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Falconer, Mr Fraser, Mr Howe, Mr L. K. Johnson, Mr McVeigh, Mr Martyr, Mr Nixon and Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be abolished.

Mr Jacobi and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that tax laws be reformed to allow joint incomes to be equally divided, for taxation purposes, between husband and wife.

Mr Scholes and Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that a humane policy be adopted to assist refugees to enter Australia.

Mr Baillieu—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council and its recommendations be supported.

Mr Goodluck—from certain citizens praying that residents of Dover and Southport, Tas., be charged the local telephone call rate for calls to Hobart.

Mr Hayden—from certain teachers of New South Wales praying that the Income Tax Assessment Act be amended to take into account differential conditions so as to minimize disadvantages to teachers serving in country areas.

Mr Martin—from certain citizens praying that the National Women's Advisory Council be maintained and Federal Government support for its activities be increased.

Sir William McMahan—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 Uren—from certain citizens praying that immediate steps be taken to abandon the mining and use of uranium.

Petitions received.

3 DISTINGUISHED VISITORS: Mr Speaker informed the House that the Honourable Dr J. D. M. Ferrari, O.B.E., Minister for Economic Development, Planning and Housing and the Honourable K. St Ange, Minister of Agriculture in the Government of the Seychelles, were present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a warm welcome.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR F. J. DAVIS): Mr Speaker informed the House of the death, on 28 February 1980, of Mr Francis John Davis, C.M.G., O.B.E., a Member of this House for the Division of Deakin from 1949 to 1966.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

- 6 PAPERS: The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:
- Parliament Act—Proposals, together with a site plan, for the construction within the Parliamentary zone of—
 - Bus shelter, together with a photograph.
 - High mast lighting, together with a design sketch.
- 7 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC EXPENDITURE—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr E. L. Robinson (Minister for Finance), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the report of the Standing Committee on Expenditure on Parliament and Public Expenditure, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
- Expenditure—Standing Committee—Report on Parliament and Public Expenditure—Government response—Ministerial statement, 4 March 1980.
- Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
- Debate ensued.
- Debate adjourned (Mr Bourchier), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 8 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:
- 1 March 1980—Message No. 229—
 - Acts Interpretation Amendment 1980.
 - Amendments Incorporation Amendment 1980.
 - Statutory Rules Publication Amendment 1980.
- 9 COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION—25TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE—REPORT OF DELEGATION FROM COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA BRANCH—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Lucock, by leave, presented the following paper:
- Commonwealth Parliamentary Association—25th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, New Zealand, November–December 1979—Report of Delegation from Commonwealth of Australia Branch—
 - and, by leave, moved—That the paper be printed.
- Question—put and passed.
- Mr Lucock, Mr James and Mr Bryant, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INTEREST RATES AND HOUSING: 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 Government's policies to prevent a rise in interest rates and the damaging effect a rise will have on low and middle income earners repaying home loans and on an unstable housing industry".
- The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 - Mr Uren addressed the House.
 - Discussion ensued.
 - Discussion concluded.
- 11 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

12 DEFENCE SERVICE HOMES 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 by Mr Uren who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill be withdrawn and re-drafted to provide for:

- (1) the strengthening of the Defence Service Homes Insurance Scheme as a viable Government agency to cover the homes of beneficiaries;
- (2) adequate funds to reduce the waiting period for applicants, and
- (3) a Government-backed guarantee so that mortgage loans can be acquired at reasonable rates”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Martin reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Adermann (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13 LOAN (WAR SERVICE LAND SETTLEMENT) BILL 1980: 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. 230, dated 22 February 1980, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of moneys for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Adermann (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

14 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.—*That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill be withdrawn and re-drafted to provide for:

- (1) specific adoption in judicially enforceable form of the rights specified in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights along the lines of the Human Rights Bill 1973;
- (2) application to the laws and practices of the States, and
- (3) expanded powers and functions for the Human Rights Commission, including effective means of enforcing its recommendations”—

Debate resumed.

Mr Uren addressing the House—

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

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr I. L. Robinson, in the Chair)—

AYES, 73

Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Aldred	Mr Drummond	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Baillieu	Dr Edwards	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Ellicott	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bourchier	Mr Falconer	Mr Lucock	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fisher	Mr Lynch	Mr Shipton
Mr Burns	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr Cadman	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr Calder	Mr Goodluck	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Street
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr Carlton	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodges*	Mr Martyr	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Yates
Mr Corbett*	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	
Mr Cotter	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil	
Mr Dean	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman	

NOES, 34

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Martin
Mr Bowen	Mr Fry	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Keating	Mr Wallis
Dr Cass	Mr Innes	Mr Kerin	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Jacobi	Dr Klugman	Mr Young
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr L. B. McLeay	
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr J. L. McMahon	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr I. L. Robinson, in the Chair)—

AYES, 72

Mr Adermann	Mr Dean	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman
Mr Baillieu	Mr Drummond	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baume	Dr Edwards	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Bourchier	Mr Ellicott	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Burns	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Shack
Mr Burr	Mr Garland	Mr Lynch	Mr Shipton
Mr Cadman	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Short
Mr Calder	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Simon
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Sinclair
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Graham	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Staley
Mr Carlton	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Chapman	Mr Haslem	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodges*	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr Corbett*	Mr Hodgman	Mr Millar	Mr Wilson
Mr Cotter	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr Yates

NOES, 32

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr J. L. McMahon
Mr Bowen	Mr Fry	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Martin
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Morris
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Keating	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr Innes	Mr Kerin	Mr Wallis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Dr Klugman	Mr West
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr L. B. McLeay	Mr Young

* 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.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 and 2, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr Bowen moved the following amendment: Page 2, sub-clause (1), lines 1—6, omit paragraph (b), substitute the following paragraph:

“(b) an act done or practice engaged in—

(i) by or on behalf of a State or a Territory or an authority of a State or Territory; or

(ii) within a State or Territory;”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the paragraph proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

The committee divided (the Chairman, Mr Millar, in the Chair)—

AYES, 72

Mr Adermann	Mr Dean	Mr Hyde	Mr Newman
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr Jarman	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Baillieu	Mr Drummond	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Dr Edwards	Mr Johnston	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Bouchier	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Burns	Mr Garland	Mr Lynch	Mr Shack
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr Cadman	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Short
Mr Calder	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Simon
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Graham	Mr J. E. McLeay	Mr Sinclair
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Groom	Sir William McMahon	Mr Staley
Mr Carlton	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Street
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodges*	Mr Macphee	Mr Thomson
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Martyr	Mr Viner
Mr Corbett*	Mr Howard	Mr Moore	Mr Wilson
Mr Cotter	Mr Hunt	Mr Neil	Mr Yates

NOES, 34

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr Martin
Mr Bowen	Mr Fry	Mr L. R. Johnson*	Mr Morris
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Uren
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Hurford	Mr Keating	Mr Wallis
Dr Cass	Mr Innes	Mr Kerin	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Jacobi	Dr Klugman	Mr Young
Mr Dawkins	Mr James	Mr L. B. McLeay	
Dr Everingham	Dr Jenkins	Mr J. L. McMahon	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Motion without notice—Leave to move not granted: Mr Sinclair asked leave to move a motion without notice.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

Mr Martyr moved the following amendment: Page 2, at the end of the definition of “Covenant” add “, as that Covenant would have effect if it were amended—

- (a) by adding after the words ‘human person’ in the second recital the words ‘from conception’;
- (b) by inserting in paragraph 1. of *Article 2* after the word ‘jurisdiction’ the words ‘from conception’;
- (c) by adding at the end of paragraph 1. of *Article 2* the words ‘, including mental and physical handicap’; and
- (d) by inserting after the word ‘life’ (first occurring) in paragraph 1. of *Article 6* the words ‘from conception’ ”.

Debate continued.

Mr Simon addressing the committee—
It being 10.30 p.m.—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Millar reported accordingly.

15 ADJOURNMENT: The question was accordingly proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.31 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 4 March 1980, pursuant to statute:

Crimes (Biological Weapons) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 32.

Defence Act—Determination—1980—No. 1—Submarine Service Allowance.

Defence Amendment Act—Interim Determination—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 30.

Navigation Act—Report by the Minister of cases in which the power of the Governor-General has been exercised under section 422A during 1979.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1980—

No. 2—Flammable Liquids (Amendment).

No. 3—First Offenders (Women) (Repeal).

Student Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 29.

Trade Practices Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1980, No. 31.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Birney, Dr Blewett, Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Bungey, Mr Cairns, Mr Howe, Mr Katter, Mr Killen, Mr Nixon, Mr Peacock and Mr Willis.

J. A. PETTIFER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives