

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 17

WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH 1981

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- 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 Child, Mr Free and Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that funding of children's services be restored to at least the real value of funding allocated in the 1975-76 Budget and future allocations be spent in full for the purposes designated.
  - Mr Cunningham, Mr Duffy and Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that insulin syringes for diabetics be made available on the National Health Scheme and insulin prescriptions revert to 10 bottles.
  - Mr Charles—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Isaacs praying that the Family Law Act be amended to abolish the maintenance and alimony system.
  - Mr Free—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Macquarie praying that Telecom Australia be directed to provide an adequate service to subscribers and users in the 047 telephone zone.
  - Mr Goodluck—from certain citizens praying that air fares to Tasmania not be increased.
  - Mr Hall—from certain pharmaceutical chemists of South Australia praying that the remuneration paid to pharmacists for dispensing pharmaceutical benefit prescriptions be increased and professional fees be restored to at least the equivalent of that applicable in 1977-78.
  - Mr Holding—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.
  - Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that Service Pensions be extended to all merchant seamen who served in theatres of war.
  - Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that legislation be introduced to require labelling of perfumes, cosmetics and toilet preparations to indicate any use of animal ingredients during manufacture.
  - Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that requests for export permits covering mineral sand products from Moreton Island, Qld, be refused.
  - Mr Hurford—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to close the Norwood North Post Office, S.A., be abandoned.
  - Mr B. O. Jones—from certain citizens praying that carcass trade be promoted and that exports of live animals for slaughter be banned.
  - Mr McLean—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that steps be taken to formulate an airline policy providing for greater competition so that prices and service are determined by free market forces.
  - Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to sell Trans-Australia Airlines be rejected.
  - Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.

Mr West—from certain citizens praying that the morning sickness drug *Debendox* be removed immediately from sale and Commonwealth laboratories be set up to test and evaluate drugs imported into Australia.

Petitions received.

3 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

4 AUSTRALIA'S DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS—REVIEW—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS: Mr Macphee (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to demographic trends and their implications for the Australian community, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Australia's demographic trends—Review—

Ministerial statement, 25 March 1981.

Report by Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, dated February 1981.

Mr Fife (Minister for Education) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

Debate ensued.

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

5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—MINERAL PROJECTS—FOREIGN INVESTMENT: Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Keating had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The failure of the Fraser Government and the Foreign Investment Review Board to protect the national interest by not involving itself in the initial equity arrangements for mineral projects at the authority to prospect stage as evidenced by the present controversial decision by the Queensland Government when awarding the Winchester South coal lease to a consortium headed by British Petroleum Ltd".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Keating addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

6 AUSTRALIAN TOURIST COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1981: 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 Hodgman (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce), the Bill was read a third time.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION BILL 1981: 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 Bowen (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: "the Bill be withdrawn and re-drafted to provide for—

- (a) its application to the laws and practices of the States and the Northern Territory;
- (b) the full application, without the reservations and declarations embodied in Australia's ratification, of the rights contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- (c) the specific adoption in judicially enforceable form (along the lines of the Human Rights Bill 1973) of the rights contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- (d) the extension of the Commission's jurisdiction to enable it to investigate and report upon possible breaches of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (which includes guarantees of the rights to form and

- join trade unions, social security, and adequate standards of living, work, physical and mental health, education and to take part in cultural life);
- (e) the extension of the Commission's jurisdiction to enable it to enforce the rights contained in the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
- (f) the expansion of the powers and functions of the Commission to give it a more effective enforcement role, especially in relation to civil and political rights, and
- (g) in relation to racial discrimination matters, the retention of the independent status and functions, and especially the power to report directly to Parliament, of the Commissioner for Community Relations”.

Debate continued.

*Adjournment negatived:* It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

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

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

AYES, 60

Mr Adermann	Mr Cowan	Mr Howard	Mr Nixon
Mr Baume	Mr Dobie	Mr Hunt	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Birney	Mr Drummond	Mr Hyde	Mr Peacock
Mr Bourchier	Dr Edwards	Mr Jull	Mr Porter
Mr Bradfield	Mr Falconer	Mr Katter	Mr Robinson
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr Lloyd	Mr Rocher
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lusher	Mr Ruddock
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Shack
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKellar	Mr Shipton
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Groom	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Sinclair
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr McLean	Mr Street
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr McVeigh	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks	Mr Macphee	Mr Viner
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodges*	Mr Moore	Mr White
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Newman	Mr Wilson

NOES, 44

Mr Armitage	Mr Cunningham	Mr Johnson*	Mr Milton
Mr Beazley	Mrs Darling	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Morris
Dr Blewett	Mr Dawkins	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Morrison
Mr Bowen	Dr Everingham	Mr Keating	Mr Mountford
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Free	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scholes
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Hawke	Mr Kent	Mr Scott
Mr Campbell	Mr Holding	Mr Kerin	Mr Uren
Mr Charles	Mr Humphreys*	Dr Klugman	Mr Wallis
Mrs Child	Mr Hurford	Mr McLeay	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Dr Jenkins	Mr Mildren	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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Viner, the Bill was read a third time.

8 RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL 1981: 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.

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

AYES, 62

Mr Adermann	Mr Dobie	Mr Hyde	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Robinson
Mr Birney	Dr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr Rocher
Mr Bouchier	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Ruddock
Mr Bradfield	Mr Fife	Mr Lusher	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fisher*	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Shipton
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Street
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr McVeigh	Mr Tambling
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr Macphee	Mr Tuckey
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hicks	Mr Moore	Mr Viner
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges*	Mr Newman	Mr White
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Nixon	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr O'Keefe	
Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Peacock	

NOES, 45

Mr Armitage	Mrs Darling	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Morrison
Mr Beazley	Mr Dawkins	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Mountford
Dr Blewett	Mr Duffy	Mr Keating	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Dr Everingham	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scott
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Free	Mr Kent	Mr Uren
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Hawke	Mr Kerin	Mr Wallis
Mr Campbell	Mr Holding	Dr Klugman	Mr West
Mr Charles	Mr Humphreys*	Mr McLeay	Mr Willis
Mrs Child	Mr Hurford	Mr J. L. McMahon	Mr Young
Mr Cohen	Mr Innes	Mr Mildren	
Mr Cross	Dr Jenkins	Mr Milton	
Mr Cunningham	Mr Johnson*	Mr Morris	

\*Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister representing the Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

9 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 March 1981, pursuant to statute:

Audit Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 41.

Bankruptcy Act—Rules—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 40.

Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 45.

National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 43.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 44.

Quarantine Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 42.

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 39.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1981—No. 5—Land Rent and Rates (Deferment and Remission) (Amendment).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr Bungey, Mr Dean, Mr Howe and Mr Thomson.

J. A. PETTIFER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives