

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 46

TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST 1981

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- 1 The House met at 1.45 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
  - 2 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Anthony (Deputy Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence through illness of Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), he was acting as Prime Minister.
  - 3 **DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (THE HONOURABLE R. T. POLLARD):** Mr Anthony (Acting Prime Minister) referred to the death of the Honourable R. T. Pollard, and moved—That this House expresses its deep regret at the death, on 24 August 1981, of the Honourable Reginald Thomas Pollard, a Member of this House for the Divisions of Ballarat, from 1937 to 1949, and Lalor, from 1949 to 1966, and Minister for Commerce and Agriculture from 1946 to 1949, places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious public service and tenders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement.  
And Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and Mr Speaker and other Members having addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen, in silence—  
Question—passed.
  - 4 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
    - Mr Charles, Mrs Child, Mr Cunningham, Mr Duffy, Mr Hawke, Mr Holding, Mr Innes, Dr Jenkins, Mr B. O. Jones, Mr Kent, Mr McLean, Mr Mildren, Mr Milton, Dr Theophanous and Mr Willis—from certain citizens praying that insulin syringes for diabetics be made available on the National Health Scheme and insulin prescriptions revert to 10 bottles.
    - Mrs Child, Mr Free, Mr Johnson, Mr Milton, Mr Morris, Mr Mountford and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to sell Trans Australia Airlines be rejected.
    - Mr Adermann, Mr I. M. D. Cameron and Mrs Darling—from certain members of Parents and Citizens Associations praying that the Schools Commission and Curriculum Development Centre be retained in their original form and certain funding proposals and schools improvement programs be retained.
    - Mr Cunningham, Mr Hicks and Mr Lloyd—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to prevent the Australian Postal Commission implementing any plan which will downgrade postal and mail services.
    - Mr Johnson, Mr Keating and Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that the Commonwealth funding of health services be continued at an improved level and the recommendations of the Committee of Review of Commonwealth Functions not be proceeded with.

- Mr Beazley and Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to re-introduce a system of health care based on ability to pay and that access to health care be based on medical need.
- Mr D. M. Cameron and Mr Moore—from certain citizens praying that requests for export permits covering mineral sand products from Moreton Island, Qld, be refused.
- Mrs Child and Mr Dawkins—from certain citizens praying that post-secondary tuition fees not be introduced, the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme be extended to meet the financial needs of students and certain other action be taken in relation to tertiary and adult education.
- Mr Hodgman and Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that the value of family allowances be restored and then indexed and the spouse rebate be increased to \$1,342 per year.
- Mr Spender and Mr Uren—from certain citizens praying that funds not be allocated for the development of roads or dams in South-West Tasmania but be provided instead for the preservation of the area.
- Mr Armitage—from certain residents of the Electoral Division of Chifley praying that the decision to introduce tuition fees for post-graduate study be reversed.
- Mr Dobie, Mr Kerin, Dr Klugman, Mr McLeay, Mr Morrison and Mr Mountford—from certain residents of the Electoral Divisions of Cook, Werriwa Prospect, Grayndler, St George and Banks, respectively, in the same terms as the last preceding petition.
- Mr Beazley—from certain citizens praying that Australian military participation in the proposed Sinai peacekeeping force not be ratified unless that force is fully controlled by the United Nations.
- Mr Burr—from certain residents and telephone subscribers of the Municipality of Glamorgan, Tas. praying that the towns of Swansea, Coles Bay and Cranbrook be included in the community access 80 scheme, to enable telephone calls to Hobart to be classed as local calls.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain residents of the Shire of Stanthorpe, Qld, praying that the grading of the Stanthorpe Post Office be restored to its former level and all post offices in the Stanthorpe Shire, and the post office at Dalveen, be attached to the Stanthorpe Post Office for operational purposes.
- Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant breeders' rights in Australia be rejected.
- Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying that all photocopying and video-recording used exclusively for education purposes be exempted from the provisions of the Copyright Act.
- Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that sanitary products for women be brought under the scrutiny of the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee and certain other actions be taken in regard to the possible threat posed to the health of women by toxic shock syndrome.
- Mr Dawkins—from certain citizens praying that the Commonwealth's constitutional and legislative powers be used to grant full land rights and self-management to the Aboriginal people of Queensland.
- Mr Dobie—from certain citizens praying that certain recommendations of the Law Reform Commission discussion paper on Privacy and Personal Information be rejected and some other means be found to protect children from the excessive abuse of some parents.
- Mr Duffy—from certain citizens praying that immediate and positive action be taken to avert any further effects of increases in interest rates on home mortgage loans.
- Mr Hodges—from certain citizens praying that funds be provided on a continuing basis for the rehabilitation of such countries as Kampuchea.
- Mr Hodgman—from certain citizens praying that the basic pension be increased to 30% of average weekly earnings and the rent allowance be increased to \$20 a week.

- Mr Howe—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to allow child-care expenses as a deductible item from taxpayers' assessable income.
- Mr Jarman—from certain citizens praying that ex-servicewomen who volunteered for service in the 1939–45 war but were not sent to war zones be considered eligible for defence service home loans.
- Mr Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Medibank be maintained, community health program funding and services be increased, the means test be abandoned and certain other action be taken in relation to the health care needs of the community.
- Mr Johnson—from certain residents of Tasmania praying that the Government maintain responsibility for the national women's refuge program by continuing funding on a 75% Federal/25% State basis.
- Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that small businessmen in the Belconnen Mall, A.C.T., be encouraged and assisted to own their premises in the Mall.
- Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to bring all family allowances and social security benefits up to levels which would make them equivalent in real monetary terms to the time when they were set.
- Mr Kerin—from certain citizens praying that interest rate relief be given by way of tax concessions or a subsidy on mortgage repayments.
- Mr Kerin—from certain residents of Hartley, S.A., praying that the Plant Variety Rights Bill not be passed by Parliament.
- Mr Lloyd—from certain citizens praying that the Community Youth Support Schemes be reinstated.
- Mr Lusher—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of pornographic material involving children.
- Sir Phillip Lynch—from certain citizens praying that hand copied or photocopied music used in schools for the instruction of music students be declared exempt from the provisions of the Copyright Act.
- Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that no support be given to the manufacture of the neutron bomb and Australia's defence spending be replaced by increased spending on social welfare.
- Mr Nixon—from certain citizens praying that immediate and positive action be taken to avert further poverty and suffering in the community by raising the level of all pensions and benefits to the poverty line and by reconsidering the recent Government decisions taken in relation to the health system.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that family allowances be indexed to cover future price rises and single-income families be helped by introducing optional income-splitting for taxation purposes.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that funds be provided to improve the standard of living of the Aboriginal people.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Aboriginal Community College and the wider Aboriginal community be consulted before any decision is reached on the future of the College and that control over the College remain in the hands of the Aboriginal community.
- Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that a maximum fixed interest rate on a first mortgage be established for the entire period for which the loan is taken out.
- Mr Uren—from certain citizens praying that a resources and wealth tax be imposed to meet national needs, pensions be increased and certain other action be taken to help the 2 million underprivileged aged, incapacitated and unemployed Australians.

Petitions received.

**5 QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

**6 PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—By-law admission of certain goods (thermal detectors; refractory furnace linings; electric motors; engines for walk-behind lawnmowers; ring binder fittings; welded steel pipe; rectifying assemblies; frozen strawberries), dated 29 June 1981 (No. 268).

Pursuant to statute:

Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Reports—

Basic research and national objectives, dated 8 May 1981.

Towards a marine sciences and technologies program for the 1980's, dated 21 May 1981.

National Gallery Act—Council of the Australian National Gallery—Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1979–80.

Public Service Act—Public Service Board—57th Annual Report for year 1980–81. Services Trust Funds Act—

Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—34th Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1980.

Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—33rd Annual Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1980.

Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report by the Trustees, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1980.

**7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—COMMUNITY YOUTH SUPPORT SCHEME:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Hawke had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The callous disregard for the plight of unemployed young Australians reflected in the Government's decision to abandon the Community Youth Support Scheme".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hawke addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

*Paper:* Mr Holding, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr N. A. Brown (Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs)—

Mr N. A. Brown laid upon the Table the following paper:

Employment and Youth Affairs Programs 1981–82.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

**8 EXCISE TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 3 (1981):** Mr Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Excise Tariff Proposals No. 3 (1981).

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hodgman—Minister for the Capital Territory), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**9 EXPORT GRANTS ACTS 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 McVeigh (Minister Assisting the Minister for Trade and Resources), the Bill was read a third time.

**10 SALES TAX AMENDMENT BILLS (NOS. 1A TO 9A) 1981:** Mr Howard (Treasurer) presented the following Bills:

- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 1) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 2) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 3) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 4) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 5) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 6) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 7) 1930*;
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 8) 1930*, and
- A Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Act (No. 9) 1930*.

Bills together read a first time.

Mr Howard moved—That the Bills be now read a second time.

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

**11 NORFOLK ISLAND 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 Wilson (Minister for Home Affairs and Environment), the Bill was read a third time.

**12 AUSTRALIAN APPLE AND PEAR CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 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 Nixon (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

**13 APPLE AND PEAR LEVY 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 and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Nixon (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

**14 APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT CHARGE 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 and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Nixon (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

**15 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1981-82—BUDGET DEBATE:** 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.

Mr Armitage addressing the House—

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16 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

*Debate extended:* It being 10.30 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr N. A. Brown (Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 10.39 p.m., Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 1.45 p.m.

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

Audit Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 230.

Christmas Island Act—Ordinances—1981—

No. 6—Penal Code.

No. 7—Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment).

Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 226.

Commonwealth Employees (Redeployment and Retirement) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 235.

Customs Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 225.

Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 229.

Judiciary Act—Rule of Court, dated 6 August 1981.

National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 232.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1981, Nos. 227, 228.

Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 233.

Public Service Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 234.

States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act—Amendments of the schedules to the subsidy schemes in relation to the States of New South Wales and Queensland, dated 4 August 1981, and South Australia and Western Australia, dated 31 July 1981.

Superannuation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1981, No. 231.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bungey, Mr Cohen and Mr Fraser.

**J. A. PETTIFER,**

Clerk of the House of Representatives