

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

No. 76

WEDNESDAY, 10 MARCH 1982

- 1 The House met, at 3.20 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DISTINGUISHED VISITOR:** Mr Speaker informed the House that the Honourable H. C. Templeton, M.P., New Zealand Minister for Trade and Industry and Minister for Customs, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitor a very warm welcome.
- 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice being asked—
Papers: Mr McLeay, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory)—
 Mr Hodgman laid upon the Table the following paper:
 Daylight saving—Press statement by the Minister for the Capital Territory, dated 17 February 1982.
 Mr Hodgman, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
 Daylight saving—Telex from Mr Peter Anderson, New South Wales Minister for Services to Mr Hodgman, dated 18 February 1982.
 Questions without notice continued.
Paper: Mr Armitage, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Viner (Minister for Industrial Relations)—
 Mr Viner laid upon the Table the following paper:
 Storeman and Packers (General Stores) Award—Application to Conciliation and Arbitration Commission to vary award, dated 10 February 1982.
 Questions without notice continued.
- 4 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
 By Mr Speaker:
 Efficiency Audit—Auditor-General's Office—Report of Independent Auditor, dated 5 March 1982.
 Pursuant to statute:
 Australian Overseas Projects Corporation Act—Australian Overseas Projects Corporation—3rd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1980-81.
 Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—Medical research in Australia, dated 30 November 1981—
 Part 1—Report.
 Part 2—Appendices.
- 5 **DEATH OF DR NEIL AGGETT—REPLY TO RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE:** Mr Speaker informed the House that he had received a cablegram containing the text of a letter from Mrs Joy Aggett, mother of Dr Neil Aggett, expressing her appreciation for the expression of sympathy agreed to by the House on 17 February 1982.

- 6 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:
4 March 1982—Message No. 122—
Domicile 1982.
Domicile (Consequential Amendments) 1982.
- 7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—BUSINESS CONFIDENCE:** Mr Speaker informed the House that Mr Hurford had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The deterioration of business confidence as a result of Fraser Government policies".
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Hurford addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Discussion concluded.
- 8 PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
- Dr Cass, Mrs Child, Mr Coleman, Mr Connolly, Mrs Darling, Mr Duffy, Mr Howard, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Street and Mr Viner—from certain citizens praying that the proposed sales tax on books, magazines and newspapers be withdrawn from the Budget proposals.
 - Mr Dean and Mr Moore—from certain electors of the Electoral Division of Herbert and certain residents of Queensland, respectively, in similar terms.
 - Dr Blewett, Mr R. J. Brown, Mrs Child, Mr Duffy, Dr Everingham, Mr Johnson, Mr Keating and Dr Theophanous—from certain residents of Australia praying that urgent steps be taken to formulate and approve a social security agreement with the Italian Government and that certain questions related to pensions of Italian immigrants be urgently resolved within such an agreement.
 - Mr Cross, Mr Dean, Mr Howard, Dr Jenkins, Mr Katter and Mr Peacock—from certain citizens praying that the Senate's requested amendments to the Sales Tax Bills be supported.
 - Mrs Child, Mr Coleman, Mrs Kelly and Mr Spender—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill 1981 be passed.
 - Mr Howard, Mr MacKellar, Mr Sinclair and Mr Spender—from certain citizens praying that funding of children's services be restored to at least 1975-76 levels, budget allocations for children's services be spent in full for the purposes designated and a means test not be imposed on the users of child care services.
 - Mr Bowen, Mr Coleman and Mr MacKenzie—from certain citizens praying that all provisions of the Heritage Act and the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act be fully complied with in respect of national estate areas.
 - Mr Duffy, Mr Kent and Sir Phillip Lynch—from certain citizens praying that additional funds be provided under the Youth Accommodation Services Program to prevent the possible closure of the Westernport Youth Refuge, Vic.
 - Mr Howard, Dr Jenkins and Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that certain proposed sales tax legislation not be enacted and existing sales tax on all household goods be removed.
 - Mrs Darling and Mr Jull—from certain citizens praying that Family Radio Limited's application for a broadcasting licence be supported and more category "S" F.M. licences be made available in Brisbane.
 - Mr Fife and Mrs Kelly—from certain citizens praying that the annual registration fee for periodicals be reviewed with a view to exempting smaller clubs and organisations from its requirements.
 - Mr Beazley—from certain citizens praying that a curfew be implemented and a parallel runway constructed at Perth Airport and legislation be introduced to allow payment for injurious affection.
 - Mr Bowen—from certain citizens praying that adequate funds be provided for all children's services including vacation programs.

- Mr Bowen—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 Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that Australia Day be celebrated on 26 January each year and that a public holiday be declared on that day, regardless of which day of the week it falls.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain residents of north Queensland praying that sufficient expenditure be allocated to raise the standard of the national highway in north Queensland to Department of Transport standards.
- Mr Carlton—from certain citizens praying that the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence investigate alleged genocidal activities of the Romanian Government against native born Hungarians and, if such allegations are established, to call upon the United Nations to take appropriate action.
- Dr Cass—from certain citizens praying that lot 40, Melrose Drive, which is bounded by Melbourne Airport, be purchased by the Commonwealth to increase the buffer zone and also provide public open space.
- Mrs Child—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for an increase in tobacco excise be rejected.
- Mrs Child—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—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 Cross—from certain citizens praying that the Government's sales tax legislation be withdrawn or repealed.
- Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Pensioners League and other pensioner groups be consulted in order to arrive at just and equitable legislation in relation to pensioners' non-interest bearing accounts.
- Mr Cross—from certain residents of Queensland praying that any attempt to impose a sales tax on all essential goods be rejected.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that the mining and export of uranium be stopped, development of uranium enrichment and the testing of nuclear weapons be opposed and research into alternative energy sources be increased significantly.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that a more equitable distribution of funding to ethnic broadcasting be provided by legislative enactment.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that telephone installation and rental charges be brought in line with those in North America and fees for local calls be abolished.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that post-secondary tuition fees not be re-introduced and visa charges upon private overseas students be removed immediately.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that no approval be given to the application of Trans Australia Airlines or any other airline for a relaxation or withdrawal of the curfew at Eagle Farm Airport, Qld.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that telegram services be retained at a standard and cost that will not disadvantage the ordinary citizen.
- Mrs Darling—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to establish a ceiling on the allowable amount of savings in pensioners' non-interest bearing accounts not be proceeded with.
- Mr Duffy—from certain members of the Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union praying that action be taken to seek the resignation or dismissal of the Minister for Communications because of the effects of staff ceilings imposed at his direction.
- Mr Harris—from certain citizens praying that the time allowed for the community consultation Task Force to examine the Community Youth Support Scheme be

extended to May 1982 and certain other action be taken to facilitate the consultation.

Mr Howard—from certain citizens praying that funding be increased for the program of aids for disabled people scheme.

Mr Jacobi—from certain citizens praying that a suitable site be purchased for an international airport outside the Adelaide metropolitan area and planning for the new airport begin as a matter of urgency.

Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that steps be taken to prevent the Australian Postal Commission implementing any plan which will downgrade postal and mail services.

Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the means test for pensions be increased to the same relative level as applied in 1972.

Dr Jenkins—from certain citizens praying that the latest increase in taxes be stopped and a referendum be held on taxes and interest rates.

Dr Jenkins—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 Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the national roads construction program not be subjected to the tendering system.

Mr Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the Community Youth Support Scheme be continued.

Mr Johnson—from certain residents of the Electoral Division of Hughes praying that the decision to introduce tuition fees for post-graduate study be reversed.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the present children's services program be maintained and no recommendations of the Spender report be implemented without full consultation with community groups.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to sell Trans Australia Airlines be rejected.

Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that their concern for Marie-France Claude and their wish that she be released from prison be passed on to the Haitian Government.

Sir Phillip Lynch—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the Institute of Early Childhood Development be allowed to continue operating as an independent and autonomous institution.

Mr MacKellar—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 MacKellar—from certain citizens praying that funding for family day care be increased to 1976 levels.

Mr Millar—from certain citizens praying that funds continue to be provided for the Nambour Lions Club Emergency Centre and Shelter, Qld.

Mr Morris—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to legislate for the establishment of plant variety rights in Australia be rejected.

Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that disabled people be recognised as citizens who should have equal rights and that certain actions be taken to enable adequate planning of services needed by partially or totally disabled people to be undertaken.

Mr Peacock—from certain citizens praying that sales tax legislation on clothing, shelter, information or other essential items not be implemented.

Mr Spender—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of export of livestock for the purpose of slaughter overseas.

Mr Tambling—from certain citizens praying that funding of children's services be restored to at least 1975-76 levels, a means test not be imposed on the users of child care services and only those child care services run by community bodies and instrumentalities on a non-profit basis receive government funding.

Mr Willis—from certain citizens praying that the 1981 Budget amendments to sales tax legislation be repealed and the Sales Tax Amendment Bills be withdrawn.

Petitions received.

9 **SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1981 [NO. 2]:** Mr Hunt (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Social Services Act 1947*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

10 **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** Mr Hodgman (Minister for the Capital Territory), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Capital Territory Electricity Supply Act 1962*.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

11 **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (SHARE INCREASE) BILL 1982:** 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 123, dated 18 February 1982, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue and moneys for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Fife (Minister for Education), the Bill was read a third time.

12 **CUSTOMS TARIFF (COAL EXPORT DUTY) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** 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 Keating who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give this Bill a second reading, the House is of the opinion that the existing coal export levies are indiscriminate and calls upon the Government to introduce legislation to abolish the coal export duty and replace it with a resource rent tax which takes into account the real level of costs and profits”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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 Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

13 **STATES (TAX SHARING AND HEALTH GRANTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** 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 Tambling addressing the House—

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.29 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 10 March 1982, pursuant to statute:

- Canning—Fruit Charge Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 64.
- Commonwealth Employees (Redeployment and Retirement) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 62.
- Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 44.
- Dairy Industry Stabilization Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 48.
- Defence Act—Determinations—1982—
 - No. 9—Payments in lieu of Recreation Leave, etc.
 - No. 10—Band Allowance.
 - No. 11—Higher Duties Allowance and other Allowances; Recreation Leave and other Leave.
- Defence Amendment Act—Interim Determinations—Statutory Rules 1982, Nos. 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58.
- Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 46.
- Ombudsman Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 63.
- Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1982, Nos. 45, 54, 61.
- Quarantine Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1982, No. 60.
- Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances—1982—
 - No. 2—Court of Petty Sessions (Amendment).
 - No. 3—Court of Petty Sessions (Amendment) (No. 2).
 - No. 4—Standard Time and Summer Time (Amendment).
 - No. 5—Fuels Control (Amendment).
- Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1982, Nos. 43, 59.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Campbell, Mrs Darling, Mr Goodluck, Mr MacKellar, Mr Macphee, Dr Theophanous and Mr Young.

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