

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 84

THURSDAY, 10 APRIL 1986

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- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **MIGRATION PROGRAM FOR 1986-87—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Hurford (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's migration program for 1986-87 and presented the following paper:
Migration program for 1986-87—Statement by Mr Hurford, Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, together with attachments.
Mr Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Debate ensued.
Debate adjourned (Dr Theophanous), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 3 **PARLIAMENTARY ZONE—NATIONAL BICENTENNIAL SCIENCE CENTRE—APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL:** Mr Scholes (Minister for Territories), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the House approves the following proposal contained in the report of the Joint Standing Committee on the New Parliament House presented to the House on 8 April 1986, namely: The construction of the National Bicentennial Science Centre at Section 28, Parkes, which is within the Parliamentary zone.
Question—put and passed.
 - 4 **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION (EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN) BILL 1986:** 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.
It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 106A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
 - 5 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE:** Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, as amended by sessional order, the order of the day having been read—
Question proposed—That grievances be noted.
Debate ensued.
It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106, as amended by sessional order.
Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.
 - 6 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

7 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

Australian Agricultural Council—Resolutions—123rd meeting, Hobart, 10 February 1986.

Australian Soil Conservation Council—Resolutions—1st meeting, Hobart, 11 February 1986.

National Measurement Act—National Standards Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1984-85.

8 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE—NATIONAL INQUIRY—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Uren (Minister for Local Government and Administrative Services), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's response to the National Inquiry into Local Government Finance.

Mr Moore, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

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

Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Connolly, Mr Reith and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.

Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Lloyd, Mr McArthur and Mr Reith—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

Mr Drummond—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Cowan, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr McLeay and Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that the standard pension be raised to 25% of average weekly earnings and certain other action be taken to assist pensioners and low income earners.

Mr Bilney, Mr O'Neil and Mr Young—from certain residents of South Australia praying for a delay in the new funding arrangements for subsidised child care centres planned for April 1986 and that certain other action be taken in relation to children's services.

Mr Free, Mr Grace and Mr Price—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.

Mr Grace, Mr Price and Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the Government of Sri Lanka be persuaded to pursue a political solution to allow the Tamils to live in peace and dignity and certain other action be taken to aid the Tamils.

Mr Blunt and Mr Robinson—from certain residents of the Divisions of Richmond and Page, respectively, praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Braithwaite and Mr Slipper—from certain electors of the Division of Dawson and from certain residents of Queensland, respectively, praying that the capital gains tax proposal be abandoned.

Mr Cobb and Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Divisions of Parkes and Fisher, respectively, praying that the right to work be acknowledged and protected and that certain other action be taken to protect workers.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland in the same terms as the last preceding petition.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the superannuation claim of the trade union movement be rejected and superannuation be allowed to develop without trade union domination.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain electors of the Division of Dawson praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill not be passed.

- Mr P. S. Fisher—from certain residents of the Division of Mallee praying that the proposed capital gains tax legislation be introduced without delay and that it be rejected.
- Mr Halverson—from certain residents of Victoria praying that there be no changes to current funding arrangements of the children's services program until a full review takes place.
- Mr McLeay—from certain citizens praying that community language resources centres be instituted and certain other action be taken to implement the teaching of community languages in schools.
- Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill and associated bills be rejected, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission be abolished and ratification of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights be withdrawn.
- Mr Hunt and Mr Nehl—from certain electors of the Divisions of Gwydir and Cowper, respectively, in the same terms as the last preceding petition.
- Mr Reith—from certain citizens praying that the rights of private enterprise be protected and any inequitable additional taxes be rejected.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that measures be taken to reduce the burden of imposed costs and regulation on Australian horticultural growers.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be restored to their former level.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the 1985 tax proposals outlined in the Government's White Paper be rejected.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the assets test be reconsidered.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that home loan interest rates be tax deductible.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to prevent Ayers Rock being handed over to an Aboriginal Land Council.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland praying that the total ban on entertainment expenses be abandoned and tax deductibility be allowed for legitimate and necessary expenses.
- Mr Smith—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill 1984 be presented to the House of Representatives at the earliest possible time.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that all federal funding to children's services be restored.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that there be no increase in State aid to private schools and that the primary obligation to government schools be reaffirmed.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the introduction of a compulsory identification card be rejected.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that any moves to enact plant variety rights legislation be rejected.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that a national park be set aside for wild horses and action be taken to ensure that killing of feral animals be undertaken in a humane manner.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the Government support the stand taken by the New Zealand Government on nuclear vessels and that the policy of developing zones of peace and nuclear free zones in the Indian and Pacific Oceans be implemented.
- Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that Australia use its influence to establish a nuclear test moratorium and comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that new initiatives be taken to encourage all member states of the United Nations to conclude a treaty banning all nuclear weapons tests and that certain other action be taken in relation to nuclear weapons tests.

Mr Tickner—from certain residents of Sutherland Shire, NSW, praying that an additional nuclear reactor not be constructed at Lucas Heights.

Mr White—from certain electors of the Division of McPherson praying that any proposal to introduce a national superannuation scheme be reviewed and members of the Australian small business community be consulted.

Mr Young—from certain citizens praying that all possible measures be taken to ensure that Australia's first Arid Lands Botanic Garden is established at Port Augusta, SA.

Mr Young—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill 1985 be rejected.

Petitions received.

- 10 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—RURAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CRISIS:** The House was informed that Mr Hunt (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The need for positive and constructive actions to overcome the economic and social crisis facing rural Australia".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hunt addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 11 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL:** 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 Bill:
10 April 1986—Message No. 126—Social Security (Proportional Portability of Pensions) Amendment 1986.

- 12 **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Millar (Vice-Chairman) presented the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to the construction of a new telephone exchange building for Telecom Australia at Dalley Street, Sydney (1st report of 1986)—
and, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

- 13 **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION (EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN) BILL 1986:** 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.

Debate adjourned (Mrs Mayer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 14 **EXCISE TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 2 (1986):** Mr Jones (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) moved Excise Tariff Proposals No. 2 (1986).

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

- 15 **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION (EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN) BILL 1986:** 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 Miles rising to address the House—

Closure: Mr Young (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 Rocher, in the Chair)—

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Mr Baldwin	Ms Fatin	Mr Kent	Mr Price
Mr Beddall	Mr Free	Mr Keogh	Mr Punch
Mr Blanchard	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerin	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Gear	Dr Klugman	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Gorman	Mr Lamb	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Grace	Mr Langmore	Mr Simons
Mr Campbell	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr Charles	Mr Hand	Mr Lindsay	Mr Staples
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Holding	Ms McHugh	Dr Theophanous
Mr Cleeland	Mr Hollis	Mr Maher	Mr Tickner
Mr Cohen	Mr Howe	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Cross	Mr Humphreys*	Mrs Mayer	Mr West
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Hurford	Mr Mildren	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Wright
Mr Dubois	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Young
Mr Duffy	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mountford	
Mr Duncan	Mr Jones	Mr O'Keefe	
Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Kelly	Mr O'Neil	

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Mr Adermann	Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Shack
Mr Aldred	Mr Drummond	Mr McArthur	Mr Sharp
Mr Andrew*	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Shipton
Mr Beale	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Blunt	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Macphee	Mr Slipper
Mr Braithwaite	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Mr Tuckey
Mr Burr	Mr Halverson	Mr Moore	Dr Watson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hawker	Mr Nehl	Mr Webster
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hicks*	Mr Peacock	Mr White
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges	Mr Porter	
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodgman	Mr Reith	
Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Ruddock	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—was put accordingly, and passed—Bill read a second time.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clause 1—

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the National Party of Australia) moved the following amendment: Omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

Short title

"1. This Act may be cited as the *Equal Opportunity in Employment Act 1986*."

Debate continued.

Mr Rocher addressing the committee—

It being 10.15 p.m.—Progress to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr Blanchard reported accordingly.

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bilney, Mr Cowan, Mrs Darling, Mr Fitzgibbon, Mr Jull, Mr Keating, Mr McVeigh, Mr Milton and Mr Wilson.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives