

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 124

THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER 1986

- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DAYS AND HOURS OF MEETING:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, the House shall—
- (1) at its rising on Friday, 10 October 1986, adjourn until Tuesday next at 2 p.m., and
 - (2) then meet for the despatch of business in accordance with the normal 2-weekly cycle as set down in the sessional orders.
- Question—put and passed.
- 3 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—ROUTINE OF BUSINESS AND ADJOURNMENT FOR 15 OCTOBER 1986:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), having amended, by leave, notice No. 2, government business, moved—That so much of the standing orders, as amended by sessional orders, be suspended as would prevent on Wednesday, 15 October 1986—
- (1) the routine of business being as follows, unless otherwise ordered: 1. Notices and orders of the day. 2. Questions without notice (at 3.15 p.m.). 3. Presentation of papers. 4. Ministerial statements, by leave. 5. Presentation of petitions. 6. Matter of public importance. 7. Notices and orders of the day, and
 - (2) (a) the Speaker proposing the question—That the House do now adjourn—at 10.15 p.m.; (b) the Speaker interrupting the debate at 11 p.m., and (c) a Minister requiring that the debate be extended until 11.10 p.m.
- Question—put and passed.
- 4 **STATES (WORKS AND HOUSING) ASSISTANCE AMENDMENT 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 by Mr Beale who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the provisions of the Bill, the House condemns the Government for pursuing incompetent economic and tax policies which—
- (a) have resulted in a continuing high level of interest rates, and
 - (b) have reduced the incentive for private investors to put funds into the private rental market by the imposition of the iniquitous capital gains tax and the removal of negative gearing provisions”.
- Debate continued.
- Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mrs Darling, in the Chair)—

AYES, 68

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

NOES, 47

Mr Aldred	Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Porter
Mr Andrew*	Mr Conquest	Mr Jull	Mr Reith
Mr Beale	Mr Cowan	Mr Katter	Mr Robinson
Mr Blunt	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Rocher
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Drummond	Mr McArthur	Mr Ruddock
Mr N. A. Brown	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Sharp
Mr Burr	Mr Fife	Mr McVeigh	Mr Shipton
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Macphee	Mr Spender
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Halverson	Mr Millar	Dr Watson
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks*	Mr Nehl	Mr Webster
Mr Cobb	Mr Hodges	Mr Peacock	

* 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 182, dated 20 August 1986, 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.

Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

The debate having been closed by the reply of Mr West—

Mr R. J. Brown, by leave, addressed the House.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a third time.

5 SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT (RECIPROCITY WITH ITALY) 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 having been resumed by Mr Blunt—

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.

6 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.

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

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

Australian Agricultural Council—Resolutions—124th meeting, Adelaide, 30 July 1986.

Australian Fisheries Council—Resolutions—16th meeting, Adelaide, 30 July 1986.

Broadcasting and Television Act—Australian Broadcasting Tribunal—4th report to the Minister for Communications of the inquiry into remote commercial television services (Central Region), dated August 1986.

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

Mr Blunt, Mr Cobb, Mr Coleman, Mr Cowan, Mr Dobie, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hicks, Mr Howard, Mr Hunt, Ms McHugh, Mr Ruddock, Mr Sinclair, Mr Snow and Mr West—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.

Mr Andrew, Mr Beale, Mr Bilney, Mr Braithwaite, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Cobb, Mr Drummond, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker, Mr Milton, Mr Nehl, Mr Ruddock and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

Mr Kent, Ms McHugh, Mr Milton, Mr Scott and Dr Theophanous—from certain citizens praying that importation of cobalt 60 and other radioactive substances be banned and regulations permitting irradiation of food in Australia be disallowed.

Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker, Mr Reith and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

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

Mr Downer, Mr Hawker and Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.

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

Mr Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that the principles of social justice, equity and redistribution of wealth be upheld.

Mr Braithwaite and Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.

Mr Andrew and Mr Sinclair—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Downer and Mr Howard—from certain citizens praying that the members of the Film Censorship Board be replaced.

Mr Hawker and Mr Reith—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.

Mr Beale—from certain citizens praying that any capital gains tax legislation be repealed.

Mr Reith—from certain citizens; and Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that capital funding be provided for the Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education.

Mr J. J. Brown—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs improve services at major ports of entry into Australia.

Mr Coleman—from certain citizens praying that funding be restored to the English as a second language and multicultural education programs.

- Dr Theophanous—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the Extradition (Foreign States) Act be amended to protect the rights of accused persons.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax be cancelled.
- Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens; and Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain residents of the Division of Maranoa praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Gorman—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be opposed and certain other action be taken in relation to the Bill.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the assets test on pensions be repealed.
- Mr Hawker—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the proposed capital gains tax legislation be introduced without delay and that it be rejected.
- Mr Hicks—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that SBS television continue to be made available to citizens in rural areas by means of the Aussat satellite.
- Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that full funding be restored to the English as a second language program.
- Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that announcers on the Albanian program on radio 3EA be replaced with community representatives.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the US Government be urged to join the Soviet Union's nuclear test ban.
- Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that all prescribed medicines be provided to pensioners free of charge.
- Mr Kent—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 McGauran—from certain residents of the Division of McMillan praying that tertiary education remain free to all students.
- Ms McHugh—from certain citizens praying that decisions affecting multiculturalism, education and certain other areas contained in the 1986-87 Budget be reconsidered.
- Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that funding for the Toowoomba Education Centre be retained at its present level.
- Mr Millar—from certain citizens praying that essential medications not be dropped from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- Mr Milton—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the decision to sell uranium to France be reversed.
- Mr Nehl—from certain citizens; and from certain electors of the Division of Cowper 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 Reith—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

Mr Reith—from certain citizens praying that pony clubs be given tax exempt status.

Mr Saunderson—from certain citizens praying that Jervis Bay be entered on the Register of the National Estate and that a national park and marine reserve system be declared.

Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that scholarships be provided for Namibian and South African students and certain other action be taken in support of the students.

Mr Shipton—from certain residents of Victoria praying that certain action be taken in relation to child care services.

Dr Theophanous—from certain citizens praying that the amalgamation of the ABC and the SBS be opposed.

Petitions received.

10 **MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE:** Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

8 October 1986—Message—

No. 331—Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Amendment 1986.

No. 332—Sales Tax Laws Amendment 1986.

No. 333—Sales Tax Acts Amendment 1986.

11 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAX ON COUNTRY AUSTRALIA:** 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 damage and high cost of the Government's tax regime on country Australia, especially the farm and small business sectors".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Hunt addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Blanchard, by leave, presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to New Zealand, 8-19 June 1986—Report.

Mr Blanchard and Mr McVeigh, by leave, made statements in connection with the paper.

13 **SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT (RECIPROCITY WITH ITALY) 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.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 183, dated 20 August 1986, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security), the Bill was read a third time.

14 **BANKING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT 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 by Mr Carlton 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 the Bill a second reading, the House is concerned that the Government has not made alternative arrangements for replacing the funds normally generated for rural research from the activities, now to be phased out, of the Rural Credits Department of the Reserve Bank".

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 Hurford (Acting Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

15 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1986-87—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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Carlton, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the passage of this Bill, the House condemns the Government for—

- (1) the failure of the Budget to tackle Australia’s fundamental economic problems, namely—
 - (a) the record and rising level of overseas debt;
 - (b) excessively high levels of government spending and taxation;
 - (c) an inflation rate 4 times the average of our major trading partners;
 - (d) interest rates once again approaching 20%;
 - (e) a wages policy that does not take account of the capacity of individual enterprises to pay, and
 - (f) the pernicious effects of the anti-business, anti-investment taxes such as the capital gains tax and the fringe benefits tax, and
- (2) the loss of Australia’s AAA international credit rating following the failure of the Budget”—

Debate resumed.

Closure: Mr Hurford (Acting Treasurer) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

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 Rocher, in the Chair)—

AYES, 67

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duffy	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr P. F. Morris
Mr Beazley	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mountford
Mr Beddall	Ms Fatin	Mrs Kelly	Mr O’Keefe
Mr Bilney	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kent	Mr O’Neil
Mr Blanchard	Mr Free	Mr Keogh	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scott
Mr Bowen	Mr Gear	Mr Langmore	Mr Simmons
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Grace	Mr Lindsay	Mr Staples
Mr Brumby	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Dr Theophanous
Mr Campbell	Mr Hand	Mr McLeay	Mr Tickner
Mr Charles	Mr Hayden	Mr Maher	Mr Uren
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Hollis	Mrs Mayer	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Mr Howe	Mr Mildren	Mr Wright
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Milton	Mr Young
Mrs Darling	Mr Hurford	Mr A. A. Morris	

NOES, 49

Mr Aldred	Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Robinson
Mr Andrew*	Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Beale	Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Sharp
Mr Blunt	Mr Drummond	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr Sinclair
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Everingham	Mr McGauran	Mr Slipper
Mr Burr	Mr Fife	Mr McVeigh	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Macphee	Mrs Sullivan
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Miles	Dr Watson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Mr Webster
Mr Carlton	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	
Mr Cobb	Mr Hicks*	Mr Porter	
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodges	Mr Reith	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr D. M. Cameron continuing the debate on the question for the second reading—

Closure: Mr Hurford 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)—

AYES, 67

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duffy	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr P. F. Morris
Mr Beazley	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mountford
Mr Beddall	Ms Fatin	Mrs Kelly	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Bilney	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kent	Mr O'Neil
Mr Blanchard	Mr Free	Mr Keogh	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scott
Mr Bowen	Mr Gear	Mr Langmore	Mr Simmons
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Gorman	Mr Lee	Mr Snow
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Grace	Mr Lindsay	Mr Staples
Mr Brumby	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Dr Theophanous
Mr Campbell	Mr Hand	Mr McLeay	Mr Tickner
Mr Charles	Mr Hayden	Mr Maher	Mr Uren
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Hollis	Mrs Mayer	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Mr Howe	Mr Mildren	Mr Wright
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Milton	Mr Young
Mrs Darling	Mr Hurford	Mr A. A. Morris	

NOES, 50

Mr Aldred	Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Robinson
Mr Andrew*	Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Beale	Mr Downer	Mr Katter	Mr Sharp
Mr Blunt	Mr Drummond	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr Sinclair
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Everingham	Mr McGauran	Mr Slipper
Mr Burr	Mr Fife	Mr McVeigh	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Macphee	Mrs Sullivan
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Miles	Dr Watson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Mr Webster
Mr Carlton	Mr Halverson	Mr Nehl	Mr White
Mr Cobb	Mr Hicks*	Mr Porter	
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodges	Mr Reith	

* 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

Schedule 3—

Ordered—That the proposed expenditures for the purposes and services in the Schedule be considered in the following order, either separately or together, as shown:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and
Department of the Special Minister of State | } | together. |
| Department of Transport, and
Department of Aviation | } | together. |
| Department of Community Services,
Department of Social Security,
Department of Health, and
Department of Veterans' Affairs | } | together. |
| Department of the Treasury,
Department of Finance, and
Advance to the Minister for Finance | } | together. |
| Department of Employment and Industrial Relations, and
Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce | } | together. |
| Attorney-General's Department. | | |
| Department of Defence, and
Department of Foreign Affairs | } | together. |
| Department of Trade,
Department of Resources and Energy, and
Department of Primary Industry | } | together. |
| Department of Education,
Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, and
Department of Aboriginal Affairs | } | together. |
| Department of Housing and Construction, and
Department of Local Government and Administrative Services | } | together. |
| Department of Arts, Heritage and Environment,
Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism, and
Department of Territories | } | together. |
| Department of Communications, and
Department of Science | } | together. |

Proposed expenditures—

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$130,872,000—

Department of the Special Minister of State, \$278,939,000—

together debated.

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

The House resumed; Mrs Darling 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 Adermann, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Dr Charlesworth, Mr Cleeland, Mr Coleman, Mr Dubois, Mr Duncan, Mr Hawker, Mr Jacobi*, Mr Jones, Mr Keating, Mr Lamb, Mr MacKellar, Mr Moore, Mr Punch, Mr Shack, Mr Smith and Mr Wilson.

*On leave

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives