

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 138

MONDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 1986

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- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absences abroad of Mr Keating (Treasurer) and Mr Willis (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), Mr Hurford (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) was acting as Treasurer and Mr Young (Special Minister of State) was acting as Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations.
 - 3 **PRIVILEGE—COMPLAINT OF BREACH:** Mr Martin raised, as a matter of privilege, press reports relating to purported contents of the report of the Joint Select Committee on Telecommunications Interception which is yet to be presented to the House. Mr Martin produced copies of articles from *The Courier-Mail* and *The Sun News-Pictorial* of 17 November 1986.
Madam Speaker stated that she would examine the matter and advise the House in due course.
 - 4 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 5 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
Australian Capital Territory Corporate Affairs Commission—Report for 1985-86.
Public Service Act—Department of Industry, Technology and Commerce—Report for 1985-86.
Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Legal Aid Ordinance—Legal Aid Commission (ACT)—8th Report and financial statements, together with the auditor's report, for 1984-85.
 - 6 **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) presented the following paper:
Director of Public Prosecutions Act—Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions—Report for 1985-86.
Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
 - 7 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
Mr Beale, Mr Cadman, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker, Mr Howard, Mr Ruddock and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

- Mr Blunt, Mr Cadman, Mr Carlton, Mr Cohen, Mr Everingham and Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that the Anzac Rifle Range, Malabar, NSW, be retained.
- Mrs Jakobsen, Mr Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—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.
- Mr Jenkins, Mr Milton and Mr Tickner—from certain staff of the ABC and the SBS praying that certain action be taken in relation to the Staff Elected Director of the ABC following the ABC's amalgamation with the SBS.
- Mr Cadman and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the right of employees to select their own superannuation scheme be guaranteed and certain other action be taken in relation to superannuation.
- Mr Hawker and Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.
- Mr Blanchard—from certain residents of Western Australia praying that the decision to deny secondary allowances to Year 11 students under the age of 16 years be reversed and allowances not be made directly payable to students.
- Mr R. J. Brown—from certain citizens praying that the tropical rainforests of Queensland be nominated for World Heritage listing and that certain other action be taken in relation to conservation.
- Mr Cadman—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr Hawker and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain residents of the Division of Maranoa praying that the ABC's proposals to cease broadcasting certain country programs be reconsidered and that it not disregard its rural listeners.
- Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that there be more commitment in establishing peaceful relations with all people.
- Mr Drummond—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax be cancelled.
- 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 residents of Western Australia praying that the 20% sales tax on wine be cancelled.
- Mr Everingham—from certain residents of the Northern Territory praying that the Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act, the Fringe Benefits Tax Act, the Fringe Benefits Tax (Application to the Commonwealth) Act and the Fringe Benefits Tax (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act be rescinded.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be increased and proposed changes to the spouse rebate be rejected.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the commitment to the oil import parity pricing policy be honoured.
- 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 Hodges—from certain citizens praying that price controls be applied to food and certain other items.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decisions to cut the English as a second language and multicultural education programs, amalgamate the SBS with the ABC and abolish the Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs be reversed.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that Australia use its influence to establish a nuclear test moratorium and comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.

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 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 Lee—from certain citizens praying that the Summerland Point Post Office, NSW, be reopened.

Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that the US Government be urged to join the Soviet Union's nuclear test ban.

Mr Milton—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the decision to sell uranium to France be reversed.

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

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that an Australian republic be created on or before 1 January 1988.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that policies relating to overseas students which were contained in the 1986-87 Budget be reviewed.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that the export of kangaroo products be banned and action be taken to prohibit the commercial killing of kangaroos.

Mr Tickner—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that an additional nuclear reactor not be constructed at Lucas Heights.

Petitions received.

8 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

14 November 1986—Message No. 352—Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) 1986-87.

9 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PROPOSED IDENTITY CARD:** The House was informed that Mr Spender had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The hidden dangers and costs of the federal Labor Government's proposed identity card".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Spender addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

10 **ABC/SBS AMALGAMATION 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. 202, dated 30 October 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.

Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question—put.

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

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

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Mr Adermann	Mr Conquest	Mr Hodgman	Mr Reith
Mr Aldred	Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Robinson
Mr Andrew*	Mr Downer	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Beale	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Shack
Mr Blunt	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Everingham	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Slipper
Mr Cadman	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Smith
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Goodluck	Mr Macphee	Mr Spender
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Halverson	Mr Millar	Dr Watson
Mr Cobb	Mr Hawker	Mr Nehl	Mr Webster
Mr Coleman	Mr Hicks*	Mr Peacock	Mr White
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodges	Mr Porter	Mr Wilson

* Tellers

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

- 11 **BROADCASTING 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—

Statement by Minister and paper: Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), by leave, made a statement adding to his second reading speech on the Bill and, by leave, presented the following paper:

Regional commercial television—Government moves to create new markets—
Paper, dated November 1986.

Debate resumed by Mr Macphee 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 expresses its concern at the equalisation of regional television services by way of aggregation of viewing areas, especially the ‘one-in all-in’ trigger mechanism and believes that equalisation would best be achieved by the immediate issue of supplementary licences to existing licensees subject to specified conditions”.

Debate continued.

Mr Jull addressing the House—

12 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 10.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.58 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Bilney, Mrs Darling, Mr Dawkins, Mr Dobie, Mr Duncan, Mr P. S. Fisher, Mr Holding, Mr Jacobi*, Mr Keating, Mr Langmore, Mr McGauran, Mr Price, Dr Theophanous and Mr Willis.

*On leave

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives