

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 156

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH 1987

1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **DEFENCE POLICY—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Mr Beazley (Minister for Defence) presented the following paper:

Defence of Australia—A policy information paper, dated March 1987.

Mr Beazley, by leave, made a ministerial statement outlining Government policies for the defence of Australia and presented the following paper:

Defence of Australia—A policy information paper—Ministerial statement, 19 March 1987.

Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

3 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH BILL 1987:** 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—That the Bill be now read a second time—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr McLeay, in the Chair)—

AYES, 73

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

## NOES, 49

Mr Adermann	Mr Coleman	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Aldred	Mr Connolly	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr Andrew*	Mr Conquest	Mr McArthur	Mr Shipton
Mr Beale	Mr Cowan	Mr McGauran	Mr Smith
Mr Blunt	Mr Downer	Mr MacKellar	Mr Spender
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Everingham	Mr McVeigh	Mrs Sullivan
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Macphee	Dr Watson
Mr Burr	Mr Hall	Mr Miles	Mr Webster
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Moore	Mr White
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Peacock	Mr Wilson
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Hodges	Mr Porter	
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodgman	Mr Reith	
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Rocher	

## \* Tellers

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Dr Blewett (Minister for Health), the Bill was read a third time.

- 4 **NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** 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.

Mrs Darling addressing the House—

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 **AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER:** Madam Speaker presented the following paper:

Audit Act—Report of the Auditor-General on audits, examinations and inspections under the Audit and other Acts, dated 18 March 1987.

Mr Young (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—

- (1) That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1908*, authorises the publication of the Report of the Auditor-General upon audits, examinations and inspections under the Audit and other Acts—March 1987, and

- (2) That the paper be printed,

Question—put and passed.

- 8 **FEDERAL POLICE DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) presented the following paper:

Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act—Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal—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.

9 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

National Gallery Act—Council of the Australian National Gallery—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

National Library Act—Council of the National Library of Australia—26th Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

National Museum of Australia Act—National Museum of Australia—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

10 PAPERS: Mr Dawkins (Minister for Trade), during a personal explanation, presented the following papers:

Trade Development Council/Australian Council of Trade Unions Study Mission to Western Europe—

Comments and responses to specific points in *Sunday Telegraph* article.

Government trade delegations—Reply to Question No. 3832, House of Representatives *Hansard*, 19 August 1986, page 198.

Expenditure—Statement of travelling allowance, airfares and miscellaneous expenses.

Media releases by Mr Dawkins, Minister for Trade, dated—

17 June 1986—TDC/ACTU study mission on tripartite co-operation.

21 August 1986—Top level mission leaves tomorrow.

9 October 1986—Minister receives first report from TDC/ACTU mission on tripartite co-operation.

Participants and departmental officers—List.

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

Mr Cadman, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker, Mr Rocher and Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

Mr Conquest, Mr Fife, Mr Nehl, Mr Robinson and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.

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 Cadman, Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Grace—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.

Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Reith and Mr Saunderson—from certain citizens praying that the Flags Amendment Bill receive a speedy passage.

Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Hawker and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens; and Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.

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

Mr Cadman and Mr Rocher—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 Conquest and Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying that any act which would desecrate the Australian War Memorial be prevented.

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

Mr Blanchard—from certain citizens praying that the States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Bill does not include any form of fees or charges for education or administration.

- Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the capital gains tax be repealed.
- Mr Braithwaite—from certain residents of the Division of Dawson praying that transmission anomalies be rectified to allow listeners in the Mackay region to receive ABC FM radio.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens; and Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the proposal for an identification card be rejected.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr Rocher—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken within the Australian Taxation Office and other departments to counter tax evasion and fraudulent practices.
- Mr Halverson—from certain citizens praying that continued assistance be provided to the footwear industry.
- Mr Halverson—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be withdrawn.
- 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 the assets test on pensions be repealed.
- 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 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 Langmore—from certain citizens praying that landscaping for the new Parliament House be reinstated according to the original plans and certain action be taken to ensure this can be achieved.
- Mrs Mayer—from certain citizens praying that all assets and financial interests of ex-President Marcos, his wife and their associates held in Australia be repatriated to the control of the Philippines' Government.
- Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that funding be provided to improve the Pacific Highway between Port Macquarie and Woolgoolga, NSW.
- Mr O'Neil—from certain residents of Whyalla, SA, praying that multicultural television be implemented in Whyalla and other country areas.
- Mr Price—from certain citizens praying that the Australia Card Bill be supported.
- Mr Reith—from certain citizens praying that the Telecom service to The Gurdies, Vic., be updated.
- Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that Australia use its influence to establish a nuclear test moratorium and comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty.
- Mr Slipper—from certain citizens praying that any attempt to deem any small business entrepreneur in the road transport industry to be an employee be rejected.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland praying that the fringe benefits tax be abandoned.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher 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 the Division of Fisher praying that public funding for projects which are undesirable or of dubious worth be halted.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to reverse the decision to hand Ayers Rock over to an Aboriginal Land Council.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the capital gains tax proposal be abandoned.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that home loan interest rates be tax deductible.

Dr Watson—from certain citizens praying that tax free deposit investment funds to assist the housing industry be implemented.

Petitions received.

- 12 **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:  
17 March 1987—Message No. 226—Nuclear Non-Proliferation (Safeguards) 1987.

- 13 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS MOVED:** Mr N. A. Brown (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent notice No. 1, general business, for the presentation of the Plumbers Union (Cancellation of Registration) Bill being called on forthwith and, after the adjournment of the debate on the motion for the second reading of that Bill, notice No. 2, general business, for the presentation of the Plumbers Union (Cancellation of Registration—Consequential Provisions) Bill being called on.

Debate ensued.

The time allowed by standing order 91 for debate on the motion having expired—  
Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr McLeay, in the Chair)—

AYES, 61

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

## NOES, 77

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duffy	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beazley	Mr Duncan	Mr Jones	Mr O'Neil
Mr Beddall	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Kelly	Mr Price
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Kent	Mr Punch
Mr Blanchard	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Keogh	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gear	Mr Lamb	Mr Simmons
Mr Brumby	Mr Gorman	Mr Langmore	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace	Mr Lee	Mr Staples
Mr Charles	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lindsay	Dr Theophanous
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Hand	Ms McHugh	Mr Tickner
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hayden	Mr Maher	Mr Uren
Mr Cleeland	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	
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Dubois	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Mountford	

\* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

**14 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INTEREST RATE AND TAXATION POLICIES:** The House was informed that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The devastating effect on home owners, buyers and tenants of the Hawke Government's high interest rate and high taxation policies".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton rising to address the House—

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr McLeay, in the Chair)—

## AYES, 77

Mr Baldwin	Mr Duffy	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beazley	Mr Duncan	Mr Jones	Mr O'Neil
Mr Beddall	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mrs Kelly	Mr Price
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Kent	Mr Punch
Mr Blanchard	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Keogh	Mr Saunderson
Dr Blewett	Mr Free	Mr Kerin	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Gayler	Dr Klugman	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gear	Mr Lamb	Mr Simmons
Mr Brumby	Mr Gorman	Mr Langmore	Mr Snow
Mr Campbell	Mr Grace	Mr Lee	Mr Staples
Mr Charles	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lindsay	Dr Theophanous
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Hand	Ms McHugh	Mr Tickner
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hayden	Mr Maher	Mr Uren
Mr Cleeland	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	
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jacobi	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Dubois	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Mountford	

## NOES, 60

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

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

**15 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mr Tickner (Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

264th Report—The Public Accounts Committee and the Senate.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Tickner and Mr Ruddock, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

**16 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGES BILL 1987:**

Message No. 412, dated 17 March 1987, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to declare the powers, privileges and immunities of each House of the Parliament and of the members and committees of each House, and for related purposes*".

Bill read a first time.

Madam Speaker moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Papers:* Madam Speaker presented the following papers:

Explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Parliamentary privilege—Evidence of parliamentary proceedings in courts—

Documents presented to the Senate by Senator D. McClelland, President of the Senate, 7 October 1986.

Reasons for judgment by Mr Justice Carruthers in *R. v. R. F. Jackson and others*, dated 27 February 1987.

Parliamentary Privileges Bill—

Opinion of Mr C. K. Comans, QC, Consultant Draftsman to the Senate, dated 4 February 1987.

Statement by Madam Speaker, House of Representatives, *Hansard*, 4 June 1986.

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

**17 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES) BILL**

**1987:** Mr Willis (Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to require certain Commonwealth authorities to promote equal opportunity in employment for women and persons in designated groups and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper:* Mr Willis presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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.

- 18 **NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** 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. 227, dated 24 February 1987, 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 Dr Blewett (Minister for Health), the Bill was read a third time.

- 19 **RADIO LICENCE FEES AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** 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 Duffy (Minister for Communications), the Bill was read a third time.

- 20 **TELEVISION LICENCE FEES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1987:** 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 Duffy (Minister for Communications), the Bill was read a third time.

- 21 **BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1987:** 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 Duffy (Minister for Communications), the Bill was read a third time.

- 22 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

---

*Statement by Madam Speaker:* Madam Speaker informed the House that, following representations from the ABC, the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings had agreed to the delay of the re-broadcast of question time in Western Australia on 23 and 24 March 1987 to allow the broadcast of the Sheffield Shield cricket final.

---



Debate ensued.

*Paper:* Mr Cunningham, by leave, presented the following paper:

Commodities and finance—Copy of extract from *National Farmer*, 18 March 1987, page 30.

Debate continued.

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

---

---

**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 19 March 1987:

Public Service Act—Determinations—1987—Nos. 11, 12.

---

---

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr J. J. Brown and Mr Tuckey.

---

---

**A. R. BROWNING**  
Clerk of the House of Representatives