

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 163

TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 1987

1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

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

3 **EFFICIENCY AUDIT—REPORT OF AUDITOR-GENERAL—PUBLICATION OF PAPER:**
 Madam Speaker presented the following paper:

Efficiency audit—Australian Telecommunications Commission: vehicle fleet management—Report of the Auditor-General, dated 30 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, dated 30 March 1987, upon an efficiency audit of the Australian Telecommunications Commission: vehicle fleet management, and
- (2) That the report be printed.

Question—put and passed.

4 **PAPER:** The following paper was presented:

Aboriginal Development Commission Act—Aboriginal Development Commission—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.

5 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General) presented the following paper:

Australian Security Intelligence Organization—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.

6 **NATIONAL AGENDA FOR WOMEN—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) presented the following paper:

National Agenda for Women—Setting the Agenda—Report by Office of the Status of Women on consultations in 1986.

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report.

Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement in connection with the report.

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

Mrs Jakobsen, Mr Kent, Mr Milton, Mr Scott, Mr Staples 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.

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

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

Mr P. S. Fisher, Mr Robinson and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.

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

Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.

Mr Kent and 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 Cadman—from certain citizens 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 Cadman—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 Cadman—from certain residents of New South Wales praying that the Western Sydney State University be established in conjunction with the NSW Government.

Mr P. S. Fisher—from certain citizens praying that any act which would desecrate the Australian War Memorial be prevented.

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 national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

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

Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens praying that all education funding be restored to levels that existed prior to the 1986 Budget.

Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens of Whyalla, SA, praying that multicultural television be implemented in Whyalla and other country areas.

Mr Smith—from certain citizens praying that the Launceston office of the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs be re-opened.

Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the "Star Wars" plans be condemned and Australia not be associated with these plans.

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

Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the agreement with the US Government regarding the facilities at Pine Gap be renewed only if the US Government agrees to take up the phased nuclear disarmament plan put forward by the Soviet Union.

Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that protests be made to the French Government against nuclear weapons testing in the South Pacific and proposed testing in French possessions to the south and west of Australia.

Mr Staples—from certain residents of the Division of Jagajaga praying that tertiary education remain free to all students.

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

Dr Watson—from certain citizens praying that the findings of the Senate Select Committee on Animal Welfare on the export of live sheep from Australia be accepted.

Petitions received.

8 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: 25 March 1987—Message No. 232—Liquid Fuel Emergency Amendment 1987.

9 HOUSE COMMITTEE: Mr Hurford (Minister for Community Services), by leave, moved—That Mr E. C. Cameron be discharged from attendance on the House Committee, and that, in his place, Mr Halverson be appointed a member of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—ECONOMIC 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 total failure of the Government’s economic policies, causing record interest rates, rising prices and falling living standards”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

11 EXCISE TARIFF PROPOSALS NO. 5 (1987): Mr Jones (Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) moved Excise Tariff Proposals No. 5 (1987).

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

12 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Price presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts: 269th Report—Response, including Finance Minute, to 247th Report—Expenditure from the Advance to the Minister for Finance (Appropriation Acts 1984-85) Report.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Price, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

13 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION 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.

Ordered—That Mr Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment) be granted an extension of time.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 73

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

NOES, 63

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

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.
The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Cohen, by leave, the following amendments were made together, after debate:

New clauses—

Page 1, after clause 2 insert the following new clauses:

Interpretation

“2A. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended:

(a) by inserting after the definition of ‘interest’ in sub-section (1) the following definition:

‘‘Kakadu National Park’’ means the area for the time being declared under section 7 to be the park of that name; and

(b) by omitting from sub-section (1) the definition of ‘operations for the recovery of minerals’.

“2B. After section 3 of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:

Operations for the recovery of minerals

‘3A. (1) In this Act, subject to sub-section (2), ‘operations for the recovery of minerals’ means any operations or activities for or in connection with, or incidental to, the mining (whether by underground or surface working) or

recovery of minerals or the production of material from minerals and, in particular, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes:

- (a) prospecting and exploration for minerals, the milling, refining, treatment and processing of minerals and the handling, transportation, storage and disposal of minerals and of material produced from minerals; and
- (b) the construction and use of towns, camps, dams, pipelines, power lines or other structures, and the performance of any other work, for the purposes of any such operations or activities.

'(2) In this Act, "operations for the recovery of minerals" does not include:

- (a) anything done for the purposes of building or construction, or the supply of water, in a park or reserve, unless those purposes are connected with, or incidental to, operations for the recovery of minerals;
- (b) the transportation of anything in the Kakadu National Park along routes (including air routes) prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph;
- (c) the construction and use of pipelines and power lines in Kakadu National Park along routes prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph; or
- (d) prescribed activities carried on in Kakadu National Park in connection with, or incidental to, operations for the recovery of minerals carried on outside Kakadu National Park.'".

Amendment—

Clause 4, page 2, line 12, omit "8D".

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr McLeay reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Cohen, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION 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 Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment), the Bill was read a third time.

15 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (ALLIGATOR RIVERS REGION) 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—

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment), the Bill was read a third time.

16 ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY) 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 Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment), the Bill was read a third time.

17 LANDS ACQUISITION 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—

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Cohen (Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment), the Bill was read a third time.

18 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 10.59 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 31 March 1987:

Defence Act—Determinations—1987—

No. 19—Disturbance Allowance.

No. 20—Amendments.

No. 21—Expense of Office Allowance and Recreation Leave.

No. 22—Temporary Accommodation Allowance.

Proclamations by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing the dates on which the following Acts and sections of Acts shall come into operation—

Australian Stock Exchange and National Guarantee Fund Act 1987—Parts II, III, IV, V and VI—1 April 1987.

Health Legislation Amendment Act (No. 2) 1986—Subsections 4 (2) and 17 (2) and sections 20, 22 and 29—1 April 1987.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation (Safeguards) Act 1987—Provisions, other than sections 1, 2, 23, 24, 25 and 26 and Division 2 of Part III—31 March 1987.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Simmons.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives