

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 172

WEDNESDAY, 6 MAY 1987

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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 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:
5 May 1987—Message No. 423—Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) 1987.
 - 3 **SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—GENERAL BUSINESS ORDER OF THE DAY:** Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent order of the day No. 17, general business, being called on forthwith.
Question—put and passed.
 - 4 **PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGES 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.
Papers: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, presented the following papers:
Parliamentary privilege—House of Representatives—
Proposed resolutions.
Proposed resolutions—Explanatory notes.
Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Bowen, the Bill was read a third time.
 - 5 **STATES GRANTS (TERTIARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) 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—
Mr Shack addressing the House—
It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
 - 6 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
 - 7 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
Mr Free, Mr Hollis, Mr Hunt, Mr Lloyd and Mrs Mayer—from certain citizens praying that the pension discounting effect of the Superannuation and Other Benefits Legislation Amendment Act be limited to restore the

base level for pension adjustment and certain other action be taken in relation to the Commonwealth Occupational Superannuation Schemes.

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

Mrs Jakobsen, Mr McArthur, Ms McHugh and Mr Milton—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 Adermann, Mr Griffiths and Mr Hollis—from certain citizens praying that pension adjustments related to November and May CPI increases not be deferred but paid immediately.

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

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

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

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the capital gains tax be repealed.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that Veterans' Affairs pharmaceutical benefits be restored to war widows.

Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the assets test, capital gains tax, fringe benefits tax and tax on lump sum superannuation be repealed.

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 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 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 Keogh—from certain citizens praying that sand mining on Moreton Island be prevented and the island be declared a national park.

Mr Langmore—from certain citizens praying that Watson High School, ACT, remain open.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that funding be provided to improve the Pacific Highway between Port Macquarie and Woolgoolga, NSW.

Petitions received.

8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOUSING AND INTEREST RATE POLICIES: The House was informed that Mr Tuckey had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The devastating effect to the living standards of Australian families resulting from the Government's housing and high interest rate policies".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Tuckey addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

9 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER: Mr Conquest presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

265th Report—Response, including Finance Minute, to 232nd Report—Report of the Auditor-General—May 1983.

Ordered to be printed.

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

10 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY: Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 2 and 3, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

11 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1987: Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Hurford presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1987.

Bank Account Debits Tax Amendment Bill 1987.

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

12 BANK ACCOUNT DEBITS TAX AMENDMENT BILL 1987: Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Bank Account Debits Tax Act 1982*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

13 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR SERVICE OF THE YEAR 1987-88—INTERIM PROVISION—SUPPLY BILL (NO. 1) 1987-88: Message No. 242, dated 6 May 1987, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1988 for which interim provision is necessary; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1988, and for other purposes.

Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1988, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

14 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1987-88—INTERIM PROVISION—SUPPLY BILL (NO. 2) 1987-88: Message No. 243, dated 6 May 1987, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1988 for which interim provision is necessary; and

- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1988, and for other purposes.

Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1988, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

15 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED EXPENDITURE IN RELATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1987-88—INTERIM PROVISION—SUPPLY (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL 1987-88: Message No. 244, dated 6 May 1987, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced—

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1988, in relation to—

- (i) the Department of the Senate;
 - (ii) the Department of the House of Representatives;
 - (iii) the Department of the Parliamentary Reporting Staff;
 - (iv) the Department of the Parliamentary Library; and
 - (v) the Joint House Department,
- for which interim provision is necessary; and

- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure, in relation to the Parliamentary Departments, in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1988.

Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance) presented a Bill for an Act to make interim provision for the appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure, in relation to the Parliamentary Departments, in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1988.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

16 BOUNTY AND SUBSIDY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1987: Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend certain Acts providing for the payment of bounty or subsidy, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Jones presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

17 STATES GRANTS (TERTIARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) 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.

Mr Wright addressing the House—

18 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 7.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 7.46 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 6 May 1987:
Defence Act—Determination—1987—No. 35—Temporary Rental Allowance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Blanchard, Mr Coleman, Mr Dobie, Mr Fife, Mr P. S. Fisher, Mr Gayler, Mr Hand, Mr Hayden, Mr Hicks, Mr Jull, Mr Kent, Mr Kerin, Mr Uren and Mr Webster.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives