

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 4

THURSDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 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 **NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Mr Young (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a joint standing committee be appointed to act for and represent the Parliament, as the client for the new Parliament House, in all matters concerned with the planning, design and construction of the new Parliament House and all matters incidental thereto.
- (2) That the committee consider and approve the developed design for the building which, in conjunction with the revised brief for Parliament House, dated August 1980, shall be used as the basis for the design and construction of the new Parliament House, unless both Houses resolve to vary any section of the brief or have any section reconsidered by the committee.
- (3) That the committee determine user requirements for approved non-building items and consider other issues relevant to ensuring that the requirements of Parliament are fully met when transferring to the new building.
- (4) That the committee also consider and report on matters coming within the terms of section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974* as may be referred to it by—
 - (a) resolution of either House of the Parliament, or
 - (b) the Minister responsible for administering the *National Capital Development Commission Act 1957*.
- (5) That the committee consist of—
 - (a) the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (b) the Minister responsible for administering the *Parliament House Construction Authority Act 1979*;
 - (c) 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips and 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips, and
 - (d) 3 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and 3 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate or by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.
- (6) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (7) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint standing committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.

- (8) That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives be joint chairmen of the committee.
- (9) That in matters of procedure, each of the chairmen, whether or not occupying the chair, have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, the chairman occupying the chair have a casting vote.
- (10) That in matters other than those of procedure, each of the chairmen, whether or not occupying the chair, have a deliberative vote only.
- (11) That 5 members of the committee, one of whom is the President or the Speaker, constitute a quorum of the committee.
- (12) That the committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (13) That the committee appoint the chairman of each sub-committee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chairman of a sub-committee is not present at a meeting of the sub-committee the members of the sub-committee present shall elect another member of that sub-committee to act as chairman at that meeting.
- (14) That the quorum of a sub-committee be a majority of the members of that sub-committee.
- (15) That members of the committee who are not members of a sub-committee may participate in the proceedings of that sub-committee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (16) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (17) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to move from place to place.
- (18) That a sub-committee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- (19) That a sub-committee have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it and any document presented to it.
- (20) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
- (21) That the committee or any sub-committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Standing Committee on the New Parliament House appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (22) That the committee be authorised to provide, on behalf of the Parliament, all necessary information concerning the functional requirements for the new Parliament House and matters incidental thereto direct to the Parliament House Construction Authority as the authority responsible to Parliament to undertake or arrange for the planning, design and construction of the new Parliament House.
- (23) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (24) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

- 3 MINISTERS OF STATE AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1987:** The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Matters) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Porter), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 4 ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BILL 1987:** The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Matters) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Porter), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 5 **MINISTERS OF STATE 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—

Debate resumed.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 75

Mr Baldwin	Mr Dubois	Mr Johns	Mr O'Neil
Mr Beazley	Mr Duncan	Mrs Kelly	Mr Price
Mr Beddall	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Kent	Mr Punch
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Kerin	Mr Saunderson
Mr Blanchard	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kerr	Mr Scholes
Dr Blewett	Mr Free	Dr Klugman	Mr Sciacca
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Gayler	Mr Lamb*	Mr Scott
Mr Brumby	Mr Gear	Mr Langmore	Mr Simmons
Mr Campbell	Mr Gorman	Mr Lavarch	Mr Snow
Mr Charles	Mr Grace	Mr Lee	Mr Snowdon
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lindsay	Mr Staples
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hand	Ms McHugh	Dr Theophanous
Mr Cleeland	Mrs Harvey	Mr McLeay	Mr Tickner
Mr Courtice	Mr Hollis	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Ms Crawford	Mr Howe	Mr Mildren	Mr West
Mr Cross	Mr Humphreys	Mr Milton	Mr Willis
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Hurford	Mr P. F. Morris	Mr Wright
Mrs Darling	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr Mountford	Mr Young
Mr Dawkins	Mr Jenkins	Mr O'Keefe	

NOES, 49

Mr Aldred	Mr Downer	Mr McArthur	Mr Sharp
Mr Andrew*	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Sinclair
Mr Beale	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Smith
Mr Blunt	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Miles	Mr Spender
Mr Braithwaite	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Millar	Mr Tuckey
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Goodluck	Mr Moore	Mr Webster
Mr Burr	Mr Hall	Mr Nehl	Mr White
Mr Cadman	Mr Halverson	Mr Porter	Mr Wilson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hawker	Mr Prosser	Dr Woods
Mr E. C. Cameron	Dr Hewson	Mr Reith	Dr Wooldridge
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hicks*	Mr Robinson	
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Rocher	
Mr Cowan	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shack	

* 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 Mr Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Matters), the Bill was read a third time.

- 6 **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS 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 Willis (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Public Service Matters), the Bill was read a third time.

- 7 **PRIVACY 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.

Mr Reith was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

8 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Paper: Mr Dawkins (Minister for Employment, Education and Training) presented the following paper:

Proposed establishment of Claremont College, Hobart—Copy of letter from Mr Dawkins to the Hon. P. E. Rae, MHA, Minister for Education, Tasmania.

Questions without notice continued.

9 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 16 September 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—September 1987, and

(2) That the paper be printed.

Question—put and passed.

10 PAPER: The following paper was presented:

Loans Bill 1987—Explanatory memorandum.

11 AUSTRALIAN POSTAL COMMISSION—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Duncan (Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Communications) presented the following paper:

Australian Postal Commission—Service and business review and outlook, dated September 1987.

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper. Debate adjourned (Mr Fife), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

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

Mr Kent, Mr McArthur, Mr Milton, Mr Saunderson, Mr Scott, Dr Theophanous, Mr Tickner and Mr Uren—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 Wright—from certain citizens in similar terms.

Mr E. C. Cameron, Mr Hawker, Mr Jull, Mr Miles, Mr Peacock, Mr Rocher and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that a referendum on the Australia Card Bill be held before the proposal is resubmitted to Parliament.

Mr Brumby, Mr Cowan, Mr Dobie, Mr Hawker, Mr Reith and Mr Shack—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.

Mr Cobb, Dr H. R. Edwards, Mr Millar, Mr Shack and Mr Webster—from certain citizens; and Mr Cowan from certain residents of the Division of Lyne praying that the proposal for an identification card be rejected.

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

Mr Cowan, Mr Dobie, Dr H. R. Edwards and Mr Fitzgibbon—from certain citizens praying that the major recommendations of the Senate Select Committee on the Human Embryo Experimentation Bill 1985 be implemented without delay.

Mr Cobb, Mr Reith and Mr Webster—from certain citizens praying that the problems which identification cards are intended to reduce be attacked by other methods.

Mr Prosser, Mr Rocher and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the Australia Card Bill be withdrawn and, if reintroduced, be rejected.

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

Mr Fife and Mr Tickner—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 McVeigh and Mr Reith—from certain citizens praying that no action be taken to change the national flag.

Mr Rocher and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the importation and possession of child pornography be made a criminal offence and certain other action be taken in relation to pornography in the ACT.

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

Mr Baldwin—from certain residents of northern New South Wales praying that the agreement between the US and Australia concerning Pine Gap be terminated on 19 October 1987.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the Industrial Relations Bill be rejected.

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

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that items covering the treatment of sun-damaged skin and warts by specialists be reinstated on the medical benefits schedule.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that amendments to ACT legislation and customs regulations which permit the distribution of pornographic material be reversed.

Mr Cowan—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill be amended to prevent inconsistencies with the principles of justice and equality and that a conscience vote on the Bill be permitted to all Members of Parliament.

Mr Dobie—from certain citizens praying that the Kurnell peninsula, NSW, be rezoned.

Ms Fatin—from certain citizens praying that all action to close Telecom business offices cease immediately.

Mr O'Neil—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Ms Fatin—from certain citizens praying that all child pornography entering or being produced in Australia be banned.

Mr P. S. Fisher—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the Australia Card be opposed.

Mr Hicks—from certain citizens praying that the proposed introduction of a \$2 coin not proceed.

Mr Lee—from certain citizens praying that telephone rental charges be abolished.

Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken to prevent the implementation of the Australia Card legislation.

Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that legislation for any type of national identity system be abandoned.

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

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

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

Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.

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

Mr Saunderson—from certain citizens praying that amendments recognising parental rights be made to the Family Law Act and that the plight of Mr John Zabaneh be considered.

Mr Shack—from certain citizens praying that the decision to withdraw landing rights for South African Airways be revoked.

Mr Smith—from certain citizens praying that foreign aid be increased in the 1987 Budget and that a commitment be made to increase foreign aid to an equivalent of 0.7% of the gross national product.

Mr Tickner—from certain citizens praying that the Lucas Heights nuclear reactor, NSW, be closed down and no new reactors built.

Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the Australia Card legislation be withdrawn.

Petitions received.

- 13 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TAXATION AND THE 1987 BUDGET:** The House was informed that Mr Moore had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The increased tax burden on Australian individuals, families and businesses resulting from the 1987 Budget".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Moore addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 14 PRIVACY 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.

Mr Lamb was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

- 15 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That order of the day No. 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 16 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Debate resumed.

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

- 17 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1987-88—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—

Debate resumed.

Mr Rocher addressing the House—

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

Debate ensued.

Debate extended: It being 11 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Staples (Minister for Consumer Affairs) required the debate to be extended.

The debate continuing until 11.06 p.m., Madam 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 Bowen, Mr R. J. Brown, Mr Cohen, Mr Duffy, Mr Hayden, Mr Macphee, Mr A. A. Morris and Mrs Sullivan.

A. R. BROWNING

Clerk of the House of Representatives