

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 16

MONDAY, 26 OCTOBER 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 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:

Australian Capital Territory—Pollution Control Authority—Report on the operations of the Air Pollution Ordinance and the Water Pollution Ordinance, for 1985-86.

Department of Territories—Report on the winding up of the Canberra Commercial Development Authority, including the financial statements of the Department operating as "The Belconnen Mall" on behalf of the Commonwealth and the Auditor-General's Report, for the period 28 February to 30 June 1986.

Parliament Act—Parliamentary zone—Proposals, together with site plans and design sketches for—

Construction of Heritage 200 plaques.

Installation of 12 high capacity fire hydrants at various locations.

4 **MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE:** Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

23 October 1987—Message—

No. 16—Occupational Superannuation Standards 1987.

No. 17—Insurance and Superannuation Commissioner 1987.

No. 18—Insurance and Superannuation Commissioner (Consequential Provisions) 1987.

5 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—VIDEO MATERIAL—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE:**

The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 19

Madam Speaker,

The Senate, having considered Message No. 8 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following Resolution in connection therewith:

(1) That the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 8 of the House of Representatives relating to the appointment of a joint select committee, subject to the following modifications:

(a) paragraph (1), after "joint select committee", insert ", to be known as the Joint Select Committee on Video Material,";

(b) paragraph (1), after "operation of", insert "the Customs (Cinematograph Films) Regulations,";

(c) sub-paragraph 1(a), leave out "by comparison with previous legislation purporting to govern", insert "to adequately control";

(d) sub-paragraph 1(c), leave out "X";

(e) after sub-paragraph 1(c), insert the following new sub-paragraph:

- “(ca) whether ‘R’ rated videos should be permitted to be displayed for sale or hire in the same area and side by side with ‘G’, ‘PG’ and ‘M’ rated videos and, if not, what restrictions should be imposed on the display of ‘R’ rated material;”;
- (f) after sub-paragraph 1(d), insert the following new sub-paragraph:  
“(da) examine the extent to which videotapes/discs containing pornographic and violent material are available to the community in general;”;
- (g) after sub-paragraph 1(f), insert the following sub-paragraph:  
“(fa) whether the sale, hire, distribution or exhibition of films and videotapes/discs that would, under existing laws, be accorded a classification above ‘R’ should be made unlawful;”;
- (h) paragraph (2), leave out the paragraph, insert the following paragraph:  
“(2) That the committee consist of 11 members, 4 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 1 Senator to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 2 Senators to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.”;
- (i) paragraph (6), leave out “4”, insert “5”; and
- (j) paragraph (10), leave out “Classification”, insert “Material”.
- (2) That the provisions of the Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

The Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives in the Senate’s modifications of the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by the House.

KERRY SIBRAA  
President

The Senate,  
Canberra, 23 October 1987.

Ordered—That the message be taken into consideration forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Young (Leader of the House), the modifications were agreed to.

**6 VIDEO MATERIAL—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE:** Madam Speaker informed the House of the following nominations of Members to be members of the Joint Select Committee on Video Material:

Mr Charles, Ms Crawford, Mrs Jakobsen and Dr Klugman had been nominated by the Government Whip, Mr Jull had been nominated by the Opposition Whip and Mr Adermann had been nominated by the National Party Whip.

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

Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Cobb, Mr Langmore, Mr Lavarch, Mr Moore, Mr Robinson, Mr Ruddock, Mr Sharp and Mr Snow—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 Beale, Mr I. M. D. Cameron, Mr Downer, Mr McArthur and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the circulation of X-rated

- videos be prevented and laws regarding obscenity in the media be revived and enforced.
- Mr Cadman, Mr Cobb and Dr H. R. Edwards—from certain citizens; and Mr Blunt and Mr Cowan—from certain residents of the Divisions of Richmond and Lyne, respectively, in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Dobie, Mr T. A. Fischer, Mr Porter, Mr Sharp and Mr White—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 Beale, Mr Jenkins, Mr Kent 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 Bilney, Mr Downer, Mr Porter and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that the Australia Card Bill be rejected.
- Mr Hawker, Mr Hunt, Mr Ruddock and Dr Wooldridge—from certain citizens praying that a referendum on the Australia Card Bill be held before the proposal is resubmitted to Parliament.
- Mr Cobb and Mr Sharp—from certain citizens praying that the problems which identification cards are intended to reduce be attacked by other methods.
- Mr Cobb and Dr Hewson—from certain citizens praying that any endeavour to introduce compulsory identification cards cease.
- Mr Downer and Mrs Sullivan—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.
- Ms Fatin and Mr Milton—from certain citizens praying that notice be given to terminate the lease of the US base at Pine Gap before October 1986.
- Mr Blanchard—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 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 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 citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.
- Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that plans to introduce time charges for local telephone calls not be implemented.
- Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that all action to close Telecom business offices cease immediately.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that Telecom not proceed with timing local telephone calls.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that no action be taken to legislate for the Australia Card.
- Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that the findings of the joint staffing review of the Department of Social Security be accepted and staffing levels of the Department be increased.
- Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that delays in processing applications for the Austudy allowance be minimised.
- Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that an anti-poverty level of income for all young people be established, educational opportunities be increased and a long-term job creation program be established.
- Mr Dobie—from certain citizens praying that the Kurnell peninsula, NSW, be rezoned.

Mrs Jakobsen—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.

Mrs Jakobsen—from certain citizens praying that the Joint Select Committee on Video Material release its recommendations, and that certain action be taken in relation to violent and damaging videos.

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

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.

Ms McHugh—from certain citizens praying that the eligibility for the sole parent pension be continued until the youngest child has completed full time education.

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

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

Petitions received.

#### 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY:

The House was informed that Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The urgent need to recognise the vulnerability of the Australian economy to sudden shifts of world economic sentiment".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Howard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

#### 9 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—TELEPHONE EXCHANGE BUILDING, CHARLOTTE STREET, BRISBANE: Mr West (Minister for Administrative Services), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: Construction of new telephone exchange building at Charlotte Street, Brisbane.

Mr West presented plans in connection with the proposed work.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

#### 10 FISHING INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT 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 Administrator:* Message No. 8, dated 15 September 1987, from His Excellency the Administrator 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 Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Resources), the Bill was read a third time.

11 **FISHING INDUSTRY RESEARCH 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 P. F. Morris (Minister for Resources), the Bill was read a third time.

12 **FISHING LEGISLATION 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 P. F. Morris (Minister for Resources), the Bill was read a third time.

13 **PRIMARY INDUSTRY BANK REPEAL 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—

*Paper:* Mr Humphreys (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) presented a replacement explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate resumed.

Dr Hewson addressing the House—

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

Mr Holding (Minister Assisting the Treasurer) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negated.

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Debate continued.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Holding, the Bill was read a third time.

14 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Holding (Minister for Employment Services and Youth Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Madam Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

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**PAPERS:** The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 26 October 1987:

Defence Act—Determination—1987—No. 71—Overseas Living Allowance and other allowances.

Public Service Act—Determinations—1987—Nos. 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101.

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—1987/10—Director, Australian Institute of Health and holders of public offices on other bodies.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Mr Cohen, Mr Hawke, Mr Jones, Mr Macphee, Mr Prosser and Mr Snowden.

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