

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 56

WEDNESDAY, 27 APRIL 1988

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—STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1988:** Message No. 144, dated 26 April 1988, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to make various amendments of the statute law of the Commonwealth, and for related purposes*".

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

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

26 April 1988—Message—

No. 146—International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (Share Increase) 1988.

No. 147—Commonwealth Borrowing Levy Amendment 1988 (*without requests*).

4 **CIVIL AVIATION BILL 1988:** 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 R. F. Edwards, in the Chair)—

AYES, 65

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Mr Baldwin | Mr Dawkins | Mr Jenkins | Mr Price |
| Mr Beazley | Mr Dubois | Mr Johns | Mr Punch |
| Mr Beddall | Mr Duffy | Mrs Kelly | Mr Sawford |
| Mr Bilney | Mr Duncan | Mr Kent | Mr Scholes |
| Mr Blanchard | Ms Fatin | Mr Kerin | Mr Sciacca |
| Dr Blewett | Mr Fitzgibbon | Mr Lamb* | Mr Scott |
| Mr R. J. Brown | Mr Free | Mr Lavarch | Mr Simmons |
| Mr Campbell | Mr Gear | Mr Lee | Mr Snow |
| Mr Charles | Mr Gorman | Mr Lindsay | Mr Snowdon |
| Dr Charlesworth | Mr Griffiths | Ms McHugh | Dr Theophanous |
| Mr Chynoweth | Mr Hand | Mr Martin | Mr Tickner |
| Mr Cleland | Mrs Harvey | Mr Mildren | Mr West |
| Mr Cohen | Mr Hayden | Mr Milton | Mr Willis |
| Mr Courtice | Mr Hollis | Mr A. A. Morris | Mr Wright |
| Ms Crawford | Mr Howe | Mr Mountford | |
| Mr Cross | Mr Humphreys | Mr O'Keefe | |
| Mr Cunningham* | Mrs Jakobsen | Mr O'Neil | |

NOES, 49

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Mr Adermann | Mr Dobie | Mr McArthur | Mr Sinclair |
| Mr Aldred | Mr Downer | Mr McGauran | Mr Smith |
| Mr Andrew* | Dr H. R. Edwards | Mr MacKellar | Mr Spender |
| Mr Blunt | Mr Fife | Mr Miles | Mrs Sullivan |
| Mr Braithwaite | Mr T. A. Fischer | Mr Millar | Mr Taylor |
| Mr N. A. Brown | Mr P. S. Fisher | Mr Moore | Mr Tuckey |
| Mr Cadman | Mr Hall | Mr Peacock | Mr Webster |
| Mr D. M. Cameron | Mr Halverson | Mr Porter | Mr Wilson |
| Mr E. C. Cameron | Mr Hawker | Mr Pratt | Dr Woods |
| Mr I. M. D. Cameron | Dr Hewson | Mr Prosser | Dr Wooldridge |
| Mr Carlton | Mr Hicks* | Mr Reith | |
| Mr Cobb | Mr Hunt | Mr Robinson | |
| Mr Connolly | Mr Jull | Mr Shipton | |

* Tellers

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

Mr Duncan (Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Communications) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

- 5 **SUPERANNUATION BENEFIT (INTERIM ARRANGEMENT) BILL 1988:** 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 by Mr Connolly who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House deplores the Government’s failure to develop consistent superannuation policies without imposing additional taxes and its reliance for over 3 years on ‘legislation’ by press release causing confusion and lack of confidence in superannuation for those planning their retirement”.

Mr Price 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 **MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport and Communications Support), Senator Evans (Minister for Transport and Communications) would perform Mr Morris’s duties and would be represented in this House by Mr Duncan (Minister for Employment and Education Services).

- 7 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

- 8 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:

Advisory Group on Australian Airlines—Report, dated March 1988.

Airlines Agreement Act—

Ansett Transport Industries Limited—Financial statements, including the auditor’s report, for the year ended 27 June 1987.

Australian National Airlines Commission (Australian Airlines) and subsidiaries—Financial statements, including the Auditor-General’s Report, for 1986-87.

Joint reports by the Australian National Airlines Commission (Australian Airlines) and Ansett Transport Industries Limited on consultations held during 1987 on airfares and passenger revenue load factors and aircraft utilisation.

- 9 **CONSULAR RELATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hayden (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the extent and limitations of the assistance available to Australians travelling overseas from Australian consular officers.

Mr Spender, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

- 10 HAMILTON REPORT—IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Mrs Kelly (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the implementation of the recommendations of the Hamilton Report into the problems facing spouses of service personnel, and presented the following paper:
 Hamilton Report—Implementation of recommendations—Ministerial statement, 27 April 1988.
 Mr Beazley (Minister for Defence) moved—That the House take note of the paper.
Suspension of standing orders—Extended time for speech: Mr Beazley, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr White speaking for a period not exceeding 20 minutes.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr White addressed the House.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Lindsay), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
- 11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without requests:
 27 April 1988—Message No. 148—Customs Tariff (Uranium Concentrate Export Duty) Amendment 1988.
- 12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—FUTURE ECONOMIC POLICY:** 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 confusion created within the business community by conflicting statements from Government Ministers on future economic policy”.
 The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Moore addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 13 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:** Mr Hand (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning the establishment of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.
 Mr Miles, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.
- 14 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER:** Mr Hollis (Chairman) presented the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:
 Report relating to the construction of radio and orchestra facilities for the ABC and SBS at Ultimo, NSW (6th report of 1988).
 Ordered to be printed.
 Mr Hollis, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.
- 15 HAMILTON REPORT—IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPER NOTED:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Beazley (Minister for Defence)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented this day*), viz.:
 Hamilton Report—Implementation of recommendations—Ministerial statement, 27 April 1988—
 Debate resumed.
 Question—put and passed.
- 16 POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS:** Ordered—That order of the day No. 3 and notice No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 17 **STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1988:** Mr Duncan (Minister for Employment and Education Services), for Mr Dawkins (Minister for Employment, Education and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act 1984*.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Duncan moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Paper: Mr Duncan presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.
Debate adjourned (Mr Miles), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 **STATES GRANTS (TERTIARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1988:** Mr Duncan (Minister for Employment and Education Services), for Mr Dawkins (Minister for Employment, Education and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1987*, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Duncan moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Paper: Mr Duncan presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.
Debate adjourned (Mr Miles), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 19 **COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES' REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION BILL 1988:** Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the rehabilitation of Commonwealth employees and to workers' compensation for those employees and certain other persons, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Howe moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Paper: Mr Howe 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.
- 20 **UNITED STATES NAVAL COMMUNICATION STATION (CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES) BILL 1988:** Mr Howe (Minister for Social Security), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the rehabilitation of certain civilian employees employed in connection with the United States Naval Communication Station in Australia and to workers' compensation for those employees, and for related purposes.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Howe moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
Paper: Mr Howe 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.
- 21 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1988:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science, Customs and Small Business) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1987*, and for other 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.
- 22 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1988:** Mr Jones (Minister for Science, Customs and Small Business) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1987*.
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.

23 **PAPER:** Mr Hand (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) presented the following paper: Aboriginal Development Commission Act—Directions pursuant to section 11, dated 27 April 1988.

24 **DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1988:** Mr Beazley (Minister for Defence), for Mrs Kelly (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend certain Acts relating to Defence. Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Beazley 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.

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

26 **SUPPLY BILL (NO. 1) 1988-89:** 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 by Mr Peacock (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House notes:

- (1) Australia’s \$86.77 billion net foreign debt at the end of December 1987 and its continuing balance of payments deficit on the current account which increased by \$1185 million during March 1988;
- (2) the Government’s inappropriate response, which has been to increase taxation revenue collections to the highest levels in post-war Australia; and
- (3) the urgent need to reduce public sector outlays as the major element of a Government policy response to Australia’s current economic difficulties”.

Debate continued.

Mr Braithwaite addressing the House—

Adjournment negatived: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Staples (Minister for Housing and Aged Care) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

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

27 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Humphreys (Minister for Veterans’ Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11.34 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 27 April 1988: Lands Acquisition Act—Statement of lands acquired by agreement authorised under subsection 7 (1).

Public Service Act—Determinations—1988—Nos. 42, 49, 50, 52, 55, 56, 59, 60.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Determination—1988—No. 6—Charge for the supply of water for purposes of Building and Services Ordinance and amendment to determination, dated 9 September 1987.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Cowan, Mrs Darling, Mr Gayler, Mr Grace, Mr Holding, Mr Katter, Mr Langmore, Mr Lloyd, Mr McLeay, Mr P. F. Morris, Mr Ruddock and Mr Shack.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives