

1993-94-95

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 155

WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST 1995

1 The House met, at 9.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Stephen Martin) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **PUBLIC ORDER (PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY) AMENDMENT BILL 1995**

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Tickner (Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

3 **HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1995**

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Dr Theophanous (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Human Services and Health) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Dr Wooldridge 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 condemns the Labor government for the ad hoc and piecemeal measures contained in this Bill, particularly the harsh changes to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme general safety net, which will strike at Australians with chronic illnesses, Australians on low incomes with young families and retired Australians on fixed incomes”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 297, dated 2 August 1995, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Dr Theophanous, the Bill was read a third time.

4 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1995

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mrs Bishop 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 condemns the Government for:

- (1) its continuing mismanagement of Commonwealth-State relations; and
- (2) its threat to recoup from any State funds paid to that State as a result of the Parliament of that State repealing laws which prescribe compulsory student unionism at universities”.

Debate continued.

It being 3 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

5 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR R. H. WHITTORN)

The Speaker informed the House of the death, on Thursday, 10 August 1995, of Mr Raymond Harold Whittorn, CBE, a Member of this House for the Division of Balaclava from 1960 to 1974.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

7 PAPER

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Reserve Bank Act—Reserve Bank of Australia—Report for 1994-95.

8 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Department of Industrial Relations—Status of ILO conventions in Australia 1994.

National Health and Medical Research Council Act—National Health and Medical Research Council—Strategic plan for the period June 1995 to December 1996.

9 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

Mr Beazley (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following papers:

Department of Industrial Relations—Status of ILO conventions in Australia 1994.

National Health and Medical Research Council Act—National Health and Medical Research Council—Strategic plan for the period June 1995 to December 1996.

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

10 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—MARKS ROYAL COMMISSION

The House was informed that Mrs Bishop had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The decision by the Government to fund the legal action taken by the federal Minister for Human Services and Health, Dr Carmen Lawrence, in relation to the Marks Royal Commission, particularly in view of the fact that the Royal Commission and the legal action taken by Dr Lawrence are not directly related to the exercise of Dr Lawrence’s parliamentary or ministerial responsibility”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mrs Bishop addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

11 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1995

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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mrs Bishop, viz.*—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 condemns the Government for:

- (1) its continuing mismanagement of Commonwealth-State relations; and
- (2) its threat to recoup from any State funds paid to that State as a result of the Parliament of that State repealing laws which prescribe compulsory student unionism at universities”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 298, dated 23 June 1995, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Elliott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

12 VETERANS’ AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT AND REPEAL BILL 1995

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Sciacca (Minister for Veterans’ Affairs) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr Sciacca addressing the House—

Adjournment negatived: It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Sciacca requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—
Question—put and negatived.

Mr Sciacca continued his speech.

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

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 299, dated 21 August 1995, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

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

13 PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE

Mr Sciacca (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), by leave, moved—That during the consideration of the matter referred to the Committee of Privileges on 16 August 1995, Mr Hicks be appointed to the committee in place of Mr McGauran.

Question—put and passed.

14 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES— PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REFERENCE

The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 515

Mr Speaker,

The Senate acquaints the House of Representatives of the following resolution agreed to by the Senate this day, pursuant to paragraph 243(c) of the *Australian Securities Commission Act 1989*:

That items 1 to 4, inclusive, of Schedule 4 of the First Corporate Law Simplification Bill 1995 be referred to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities for inquiry and report on or before Tuesday, 29 August 1995.

MICHAEL BEAHAN
President

The Senate

Canberra, 23 August 1995

15 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Sciacca (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 23 August 1995:
Acts Interpretation Act—Statement relating to failure to furnish report within specified period—National Health and Medical Research Council—Strategic plan for the period June 1995 to December 1996.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 1995 No. 19.

Customs Act—Notice 1995 No. 2.

Employment Services Act—Determinations under section—

25—1995 No. 2.

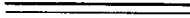
26—1995 No. 2.

National Health Act—Nursing Homes Financial Arrangements Principles (Amendment 1995 No. 4).



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr R. D. C. Evans, Mr Gear, Mr Gorman, Mr Horne, Mr Howe, Mr Keating, Mr Lavarch, Dr Lawrence, Mr Punch and Mr Willis.



L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1993-94-95

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 155

MAIN COMMITTEE**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS****WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST 1995**

- 1 The Main Committee met at 10 a.m.
- 2 **AUSTRALIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Beazley (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented on 28 March 1995*), viz.:

Australia's Development Cooperation Program—New directions in Australia's overseas aid program—

Ministerial policy paper and 5th annual report, February 1995.

Ministerial statement by Mr Bilney (Minister for Development Cooperation and Pacific Island Affairs), 2 March 1995—

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hawker), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 3 **JUSTICE STATEMENT AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Beazley (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented on 30 May 1995*), viz.:

Justice statement, May 1995 and Government responses to—

Access to Justice Advisory Committee—Report—Access to justice: An action plan, 2 May 1994.

Administrative Review Council—Report No. 34—Access to administrative review by members of Australia's ethnic communities.

Law Reform Commission Act—Law Reform Commission—Reports—

No. 57—Multiculturalism and the law.

No. 67 (interim)—Equality before the law: Women's access to the legal system—Access to justice recommendations of the report.

No. 68—Compliance with the *Trade Practices Act 1974*.

Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Senate Standing Committee—Reports—

Gender bias and the judiciary, May 1994.

The cost of justice—Second report—Checks and imbalances—The role of parliament and the executive, August 1993.

Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Reports—

Clearer Commonwealth law: Inquiry into legislative drafting by the Commonwealth, 21 July 1993.

Law reform: The challenge continues—Inquiry into the role and function of the Law Reform Commission of Australia, 30 May 1994—

Debate resumed.

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

4 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr O'Keefe (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport), the Main Committee adjourned at 1.01 p.m.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the Main Committee