

1993-94-95

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 177

MONDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 1995

1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Stephen Martin) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Cleeland (Chairman) presented the following papers:

National Crime Authority—Parliamentary Joint Committee—Organised criminal paedophile activity—

Report, November 1995.

Evidence received by the committee.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Cleeland and Mr Filing made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Cleeland moved—That the House take note of the report.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday, and Mr Cleeland was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

3 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Price (Chairman) presented the following papers:

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Australia's relations with Thailand—

Report, October 1995.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Price, Mr Halverson, Mr Ferguson, Mr Sinclair and Mr Hollis made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Price moved—That the House take note of the report.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday, and Mr Price was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

4 SYDNEY AIRPORT CURFEW AMENDMENT BILL 1995

Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995* so as to dispense more equitably the noise generated by the operation and use of aircraft landing at, or taking off from, Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport by increasing the use of the runway known as the east-west runway.

Mr Howard made a statement in relation to the Bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday, in accordance with standing order 104A.

5 PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS NOTICE

Upon notice No. 2, private Members' business, being called on, Mr McLeay (Chief Government Whip), in the absence of Mr Dodd, and at his request, fixed a later hour this day as the time for moving the motion.

6 NEWSAGENTS

Mr Atkinson, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) calls on the Trade Practices Commission to finalise its longwinded decisions which are currently affecting 4500 newsagents across Australia;
- (2) draws attention to the Trade Practices Commission that the goodwill built up by these family businesses is often their life savings; and
- (3) calls on the Trade Practices Commission to ensure that its recommendations will not reduce the service provided by these family businesses.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

7 COUNTRY DOCTORS

Mr Cobb, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Parliament:

- (1) acknowledges that many country towns have either no doctor or an inadequate number of doctors to service their needs despite making every effort to attract doctors to their towns;
- (2) believes that, despite initiatives undertaken to make rural medicine more attractive to both undergraduates and graduates, the acute shortage of country doctors remains and will continue for at least some years;
- (3) recognises that Australian citizens who have been trained overseas and who meet the necessary Australian qualifications and examination standards be given preference to be registered to practise in country areas where already registered Australian doctors cannot be attracted to fill positions of shortage;

- (4) recommends that in normal circumstances no overseas doctors be given temporary residence permits to fill positions of doctor shortage in Australia in preference to willing Australian citizens who have appropriate qualifications; and
- (5) calls on the Government to re-examine and renegotiate the arrangement whereby unlimited numbers of surplus New Zealand doctors are registered to work in Australia unless they are prepared to work in areas of shortage, especially while Australian university entrance numbers have to be cut to accommodate this inflow.

Debate ensued.

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

8 AUSTRALIAN CORPORATIONS OPERATING OVERSEAS

Mr Dodd, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) calls on the Commonwealth Government to initiate a code of conduct for Australian corporations operating overseas, especially in developing countries;
- (2) is concerned with the continuing pollution of the Ok Tedi and Fly Rivers and the potential pollution of the waters of Torres Strait;
- (3) urges the Commonwealth Government to put the maximum pressure on BHP to take all the necessary steps to prevent future pollution of PNG waters and the Torres Strait;
- (4) notes that the continuance of uncontaminated waters is essential to the health and lifestyle of the people of the Torres Strait; and
- (5) calls for the continuing monitoring of pollution and contamination of sea life in the Torres Strait.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting Monday.

9 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

10 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Beazley (Acting Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Keating (Prime Minister), he would answer questions on behalf of Mr Keating.

Mr Beazley also informed the House that, during the absence of Mr Tickner (Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs), Mr Baldwin (Minister for Social Security) would answer questions on behalf of Mr Tickner.

11 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

12 PETITIONS

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

Mrs Easson, Mr Fischer and Mr Hicks, from 5, 61 and 36 petitioners, respectively, praying that the exclusiveness of marriage as being between one male and one female be preserved and that the Marriage Act be amended to prohibit certain marriages.

Mr Beale, from 40 petitioners, praying for certain changes to the Family Law Act and the Child Support Scheme.

Mr Cameron, from 5231 residents of Western Australia, praying that action be taken to stop the practice in China of extracting bile from caged bears for medical purposes.

Mr Cameron, from 18 petitioners, praying that the recommendations of the Prices Surveillance Authority be effected to allow parallel importing of compact discs to reduce costs to consumers.

Mr Duncan, from 3683 residents of South Australia, praying that the transfer of Australian control of its water system be prevented.

Mr Lee, from 1470 petitioners, praying that a post office agency be installed in the Killarney Vale Pharmacy, Killarney Vale, NSW.

Mr Moore, from 7 residents of Queensland, praying that ABC Television be caused to continue the Queensland State-based *7.30 Report*.

Mr P. F. Morris, from 2130 electors of the Division of Shortland, praying that the Health Insurance Commission re-establish a Medicare/Medibank service in Toukley, NSW.

Mr Neville, from 1472 petitioners, praying that the high cost of private health insurance cover be addressed.

Mr L. J. Scott, from 335 petitioners, praying that certain action be taken to support the banning of landmines and anti-personnel mines.

Mr Sharp, from 1669 electors of the Division of Richmond, praying that urgent consideration be given to funding the completion of the Chinderah Bypass and approaches to Barney's Point Bridge at Banora Point, NSW.

Mr Snow, from 8 petitioners, praying that a classification system be applied to all audio tapes and compact discs and that certain items be restricted from sale to minors.

Petitions received.

13 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

14 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS—PUBLICATION OF PAPERS

The Second Deputy Speaker presented the following papers:

Audit Act—Auditor-General—Audit reports of 1995-96—

No. 7—Performance audit—Financial management: Department of Veterans' Affairs.

No. 8—Performance follow-up audit—Explosive ordnance: Department of Defence.

Mr Bilney (Minister for Development Co-operation and Pacific Island Affairs), by leave, moved—That:

- (1) this House authorises the publication of the Auditor-General's audit reports Nos. 7 and 8 of 1995-96; and
- (2) the reports be printed.

Question—put and passed.

15 PAPERS

The Second Deputy Speaker presented the following papers:

Commonwealth Banks Act—

Commonwealth Bank of Australia and controlled entities—Report for 1994-95.

Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia—Financial statements for 1994-95.

16 MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS

Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

2 November 1995—Message—

No. 333—

Governor-General Amendment 1995.

States Grants (General Purposes) Amendment 1995.

Ozone Protection Amendment 1995.

Ozone Protection (Licence Fees—Manufacture) 1995.

Ozone Protection (Licence Fees—Imports) 1995.

No. 334—Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Amendment 1995.

14 November 1995—Message No. 335—

International Tax Agreements Amendment 1995.

Veterans' Affairs (1995-96 Budget Measures) Legislation Amendment 1995.

Vocational Education and Training Funding Amendment 1995.

Health and Other Services (Compensation) 1995.

Health and Other Services (Compensation) Care Charges 1995.

Health and Other Services (Compensation) (Consequential Amendments) 1995.

Primary Industries and Energy Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 1995.

17 MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR—ASSENT TO BILL

A message from His Excellency the Administrator was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:

25 October 1995—Message No. 332—Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 1) 1995.

18 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

15 November 1995—Message No. 571—Sydney Airport Curfew 1995.

19 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1995

Message No. 569, dated 26 October 1995, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to amend various Acts relating to matters dealt with within the portfolio of the Prime Minister, and for related purposes*".

Bill read a first time.

Paper: Mr Bilney (Minister for Development Co-operation and Pacific Island Affairs) presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

20 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Second Deputy Speaker reported that the Deputy Speaker had fixed Tuesday, 21 November 1995, at 1 p.m., for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

21 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr McLeay (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following Bills be referred to the Main Committee for consideration:

Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Legislation Amendment 1995;

Corporations Law Amendment 1995;

Development Allowance Authority Amendment 1995;

Student and Youth Assistance Amendment (Youth Training Allowance) (No. 2) 1995;

Student and Youth Assistance Amendment (Youth Training Allowance) (No. 3) 1995;

Student and Youth Assistance Amendment (Budget Measures) 1995; and

Prime Minister and Cabinet (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1995.

Question—put and passed.

22 NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA COUNCIL

Mr Bilney (Minister for Development Co-operation and Pacific Island Affairs), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *National Library Act 1960*, this House elects Mr Langmore to be a member of the Council of the National Library of Australia and to continue as a member for a period of 3 years from and including 4 December 1995.

Question—put and passed.

23 CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr S. F. Smith (Chairman) presented the following papers:

Corporations and Securities—Parliamentary Joint Committee—Report on derivatives—

Report, 20 November 1995.

Evidence received by the committee.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr S. F. Smith and Mr Sinclair, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

24 SOCIAL SECURITY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CARER PENSION AND OTHER MEASURES) 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—

Debate resumed.

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

25 ADJOURNMENT

Mrs Crosio (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Security) 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 12.30 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 20 November 1995:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act—Rules—Regional Council Election (Amendment) (No. 3) 1995.

Aged or Disabled Persons Care Act—Determination No. 1995-96/acc09.

Audit Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 327.

Australian Federal Police Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 324.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Orders—

Exemptions Nos. 80/FRS/92/1995, 81/FRS/93/1995, 82/FRS/94/1995, 83/FRS/95/1995, 86/FRS/98/1995, 87/FRS/99/1995, 88/FRS/100/1995, 89/FRS/101/1995, 90/FRS/102/1995.

Parts—

20—Amendment 15 November 1995.

95—Amendment 26 October 1995.

105—Amendments 1995, 18, 20(2), 23, 26(6), 27(9), 31(5) October.

106—Amendments 1995, 25, 26, 27, 31(2) October.

107—Amendments 1995, 26(2), 27 October.

108—Amendment 7 November 1995.

Exemptions 1995 Nos. CASA 10/95, CASA 11/95, CASA 12/95.

Instruments 1995 Nos. CASA 90/1995, CASA 93/1995, CASA 94/1995, CASA 100/95, CASA 101/95.

Commonwealth Electoral Act and Referendum (Machinery Provisions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 322.

Competition Policy Reform Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 331.

Corporations Act—Accounting standards—AASB 1018 (10/95).

- Crimes (Aviation) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 335.
- Currency Act—Determination 1995 No. 5.
- Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 313, 321.
- Dairy Produce Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 310.
- Deer Slaughter Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 309.
- Defence Act—Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations 1995 Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27.
- Dried Fruits Levy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 338.
- Excise Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 314.
- Export Inspection (Service Charge) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 312.
- Export Market Development Grants Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 315.
- Family Law Act—
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 296, 297, 334.
- Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 319.
- Fisheries Management Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 295.
- Freedom of Information Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 326.
- Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 298, 299, 300, 301.
- Horticultural Levy Act and Horticultural Export Charge Act—
Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 339.
- Horticultural Research and Development Corporation Act—Horticultural
Research and Development Corporation Regulations—Orders 1995 No. 1.
- Immigration (Education) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 303.
- Immigration (Education) Charge Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995
No. 304.
- Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 316.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Statement under section 40.
- Life Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 317.
- Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act—Regulations—Statutory
Rules 1995 No. 329.
- Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Orders Nos. M73/95, MQ65/95.
- Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 302.
- Mutual Assistance in Business Regulation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules
1995 No. 323.
- National Health Act—
Determination No. 24SH 3/95.
- Instrument for the purposes of section 40AA, 9 October 1995.
- Nursing homes financial arrangements principles—Amendment 1995 No. 5.

National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act—Australian Nature Conservation Agency—Ningaloo Marine Park (Commonwealth waters)—

Plan of management.

Comments on representations on the proposed plan of management.

National Residue Survey Administration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 308, 311.

Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 337.

Pig Industry Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 305.

Prices Surveillance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 332.

Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 306.

Primary Industries Levies and Charges Collection Act, Horticultural Levy Act and Horticultural Export Charge Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 340.

Primary Industries Levies and Charges Collection Act and National Residue Survey Administration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 307.

Proceeds of Crime Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 325.

Proclamations by His Excellency the Administrator fixing the dates on which the following Acts and provisions of Acts shall come into operation—

Customs, Excise and Bounty Legislation Amendment Act 1995—Items 7 to 9, 46 to 48 and 54, 55 and 62 of Schedule 4—9 November 1995.

Immigration (Education) Charge Amendment Act 1995—1 November 1995.

Migration Agents Registration (Application) Levy Amendment Act 1995—1 November 1995.

Migration Agents Registration (Renewal) Levy Amendment Act 1995—1 November 1995.

Migration Legislation Amendment Act (No. 1) 1995—Schedule 2—1 November 1995.

Public Service Act—Determinations 1995 Nos. 142, 143, 144, 154, 155, 156, 157, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, LES 29.

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act—Notice of declaration, 26 October 1995.

Superannuation (Resolution of Complaints) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 318.

Superannuation Act 1976—

Determination under section 238 No. 12.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 336.

Taxation Administration Act—Determinations 1995 Nos. TD95/56, TD95/57.

Telecommunications Act 1991—Determination under section 121, 9 November 1995.

Therapeutic Goods Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 320, 328.

Trade Marks Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 No. 341.

Trade Practices Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1995 Nos. 330, 333.
Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instrument 1995 No. 9.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Brereton, Mr Crean, Mr Johns, Mr Jones, Mr Jull*, Mr Katter, Mr Keating, Mr Lee, Mr McLachlan, Mr Sciacca, Mr Tickner, Mr Walker and Mr Willis.

*On leave

L. M. BARLIN

Clerk of the House of Representatives