

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 28

MONDAY, 22 MARCH 1999



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

2 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr A. P. Thomson (Chair) presented the following papers:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—18th report—Multilateral Agreement on Investment—

Final report, 9 March 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr A. P. Thomson, Mr Adams and Mr Hardgrave made statements in connection with the report.

Mr A. P. Thomson moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr A. P. Thomson was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Nehl presented the following papers:

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee—Island to islands: Communications with Australia's external territories—

Report, 22 March 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Nehl, Mr Snowdon and Mr Neville made statements in connection with the report.

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

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

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

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Hawker (Chair) presented the following papers:

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Regional banking services: Money too far away—

Report, 5 March 1999.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Hawker, Mr Wilton, Ms Gambaro, Mr Albanese, Mr Pyne and Ms Burke made statements in connection with the report.

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

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

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 2.44 p.m. the Member for Burke (Mr O'Keefe) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a general warning had been given by the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

7 PRIVILEGE—COMPLAINT OF BREACH

Mr Martin raised, as a matter of privilege, the premature publication on the *AM* radio program and other media of the contents of the report of the Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration on regional banking services tabled earlier today.

The Speaker stated that he would consider the matter and report to the House at a later time.

8 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

9 ADELAIDE AIRPORT CURFEW BILL 1999

Mrs Gallus, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to impose a curfew and related restrictions on aircraft movements at Adelaide Airport, and for related purposes.

Mrs Gallus made a statement in relation to the Bill.

Paper

Mrs Gallus, by leave, presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill read a first time.

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

10 CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Mr Sidebottom, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House calls on the Government to add cystic fibrosis to the list of recognised disabilities contained in the Child Disability Assessment Determination 1998.

Debate ensued.

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

11 STUDENT UNIONS

Notice No. 3, private Members' business, having been called on—

Anticipation rule—Statement by Deputy Speaker

The Deputy Speaker made a statement concerning the anticipation rule (standing order 82) and the motion to be moved by Mr Pyne. The Deputy Speaker stated that the subject matter of the notice was also dealt with in the Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill 1999, a government business order of the day on the Notice Paper, and that the Bill was introduced on 11 March 1999 after the Selection Committee had met on 8 March when it allocated time to the notice.

The Deputy Speaker further stated that the Selection Committee could not have been aware of any issue concerning the anticipation rule and that as it appeared that all sides supported the debate taking place, he believed the discussion should be allowed to proceed.

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

- (1) condemns the inappropriate use of resources by some student unions;
- (2) opposes students being forced to fund student union political activity as a prerequisite for entry to university;
- (3) acknowledges that all citizens, including students, should be free to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union; and

- (4) notes the contribution that responsive and responsible student unions can make to university campuses.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for private Members' business having expired, the debate was interrupted, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting, and Mrs Gash was granted leave to continue her speech when the debate is resumed.

12 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.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

13 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 24 March 1999, at 10 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

14 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT AND FINANCE MINUTES—STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Mr Charles (Chairman) presented the following paper:

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Report 365—Annual report 1997-98, February 1999.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Charles, by leave, presented the following papers:

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Finance minutes on—

Report 355—Aboriginal Councils and Torres Strait Island Councils: Review of financial accountability requirements.

Report 357—The Jindalee Operational Radar Network Project.

Report 358—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1996-97: third quarter.

Report 359—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1996-97: fourth quarter.

Report 360—Internet commerce.

Report 361—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1997-98: first quarter.

Report 363—Asset management by Commonwealth agencies.

Mr Charles, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report and minutes.

15 TEXTILE, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROGRAM BILL 1999

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 McMullan who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “while not declining to give the bill a second reading, the House expresses its concern about the nature of the bill, in particular:

- (1) the lack of legislated detail about the TCF (Strategic Investment Program) Scheme;
- (2) the wide discretion given to the Minister to determine details of the Scheme;
- (3) the failure to require the Minister to formulate the Scheme by a specified date;
- (4) the failure to specify the size of the funding envelope for each of the grants contemplated under the Scheme;
- (5) the failure to specify the range of amounts available for individual grants under the Scheme; and
- (6) the failure to legislate the criteria for receiving grants under the Scheme”.

Debate continued.

16 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.59 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 22 March 1999:

Australian Communications Authority Act—Determinations 18 (2) February 1999.

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1999 No. 37.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Orders—Part 82—Amendment 8 March 1999.

Exemptions 1999 Nos. CASA 5, CASA 6, CASA 7, CASA 8.

Instrument 1999 No. CASA 69.

Corporations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1999 No. 38.

Endangered Species Protection Act—Declaration under section 18 19 January 1999.

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—Orders—Export Control (Grain, Plants and Plant Products) Amendment 1999 (No. 1).

Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1999 No. 20.

Migration Act—General direction under section 499 1998 No. 9.

Navigation Act—Marine Orders 1999 Nos. 7, 8.

Public Service Act—Determinations 1999 Nos. 1, LES 6, LES 7.

Radiocommunications Act—Declarations—Prohibited device—Mobile Telephone Jammer 4 March 1999.

Superannuation Act 1990—Declaration—Statutory Rules 1999 No. 36.

Taxation Administration Act—Ruling 1999 No. PR 9.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Downer and Mr Somlyay.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives