

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 111

MONDAY, 29 MAY 2000



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 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mr Hardgrave presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the 45th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Trinidad and Tobago, September 1999—Report, May 2000—
and made a statement in connection with the report.

3 **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—32nd report—Six treaties tabled on 7 March 2000—

Report, May 2000 (sent to the Speaker on 15 May 2000, pursuant to standing order 360).

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr A. P. Thomson, Mr Adams, Mr Baird and Mr Bartlett 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.

4 AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY AND THE GST

Dr Southcott, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) recognises that one quarter of all wholesale sales tax revenue is raised from cars and component parts;
- (2) recalls the submissions made to the Industry Commission's Inquiry into Assistance for the Automotive Industry which called for the introduction of a broad based consumption tax;
- (3) welcomes the abolition of the 22% wholesale sales tax on cars and the introduction of a 10% GST;
- (4) recognises that a 10% GST will increase the affordability of motor vehicles and will improve the international competitiveness of the automotive industry; and
- (5) supports the \$12 billion in income tax cuts which will increase households' disposable income.

Debate ensued.

Dr Southcott, by leave, again addressed the House without closing the debate.

At 1.45 p.m., the time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106A, 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 were asked.

7 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

8 RECONCILIATION WEEK

Ms Hoare, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) supports Reconciliation Week and the reconciliation process;
- (2) congratulates Evelyn Scott and the members of the Council for Reconciliation for their work and commitment to the reconciliation process; and
- (3) further commits the House to continue to foster true reconciliation between Australians.

Debate ensued.

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

9 INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Mr St Clair, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) notes the crucial importance of international trade to the ongoing growth of the Australian economy, particularly in rural regions;
- (2) commends the Government for the ongoing development of bilateral trade with more and more countries;
- (3) urges the Government to continue its efforts to use sanitary and phytosanitary protocols to gain increased access of Australian agricultural and horticultural products to Korea, Taiwan and China; and
- (4) commends Australian agricultural producers for their ongoing efforts to secure such market opportunities.

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

10 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.

11 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2000-2001—BUDGET DEBATE

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.

Mr Tanner 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 its:

- (1) failure to address the significant investment needs in the areas of education, health and the provision of social services in the 2000-2001 Budget;
- (2) wasteful and profligate spending on poor quality programs to buy Democrat support for its unfair GST;
- (3) misuse of over \$360 million of taxpayers' money on its politically partisan GST advertising campaign;
- (4) reduction of a potential Budget cash surplus in 2000-2001 of \$11 billion, to a real Budget deficit of \$2.1 billion;

- (5) use of creative accounting techniques in an attempt to deceive the Australian public on the true state of the Budget;
- (6) mishandling of the move to accrual accounting by providing complex, confusing and uninformative budget documents;
- (7) failure to identify in the Budget papers the cost of GST collection and implementation; and
- (8) failure to put in place arrangements that deliver its guarantee that no Australian will be worse off as a result of the GST package”.

Debate continued.

Mrs Elson addressing the House—

12 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 29 May 2000:

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 77.

Aged Care Act—Principles under section 96-1—2000—

Residential Care Subsidy Amendment (No. 1).

User Rights Amendment (No. 1).

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals 2000 No. 8.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Orders—2000—Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (Live Sheep Exports to Saudi Arabia) Amendment (No. 2).

Australian Postal Corporation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 76.

Banking Act—Guidelines—2000—Banking (Demutualisation of ADIs—Disclosure of Information).

Child Support (Assessment) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 79.

Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 80.

Civil Aviation Act—

Civil Aviation Regulations—Civil Aviation Orders—
Amendments 2000—

Part 39-105—10, 27(5) April, 2(5), 5(19), 8(2), 17(3), 22 May.
Part 39-106—2, 5 May.
Part 39-107—2, 5(2) May.
Part 40—No. 5.
Part 82—No. 6.
Exemption—2000 No. CASA EX27.
Instruments—2000 Nos CASA 6, CASA 184, CASA 193, CASA 213.
Corporations Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 78.
Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 Nos 74, 75.
Dairy Produce Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 68.
Defence Act—
Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations—2000—No. 3.
Determinations under section 58B—2000—Nos 10, 11, 12.
Family Law Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 81.
Income Tax Assessment Act 1936—
Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 72.
RHQ Company Determination—2000 No. 1.
Lands Acquisition Act—
Statements under sub-section 40(3)—2000—10 May.
Statements under section 125—2000—10 May.
Migration Act—Statements under section 33(2), 16 and 29 September 1999.
Native Title Act—Recognition of Representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait
Islander Body—2000 Nos 6, 7, 8, 9.
Nuclear Non-Proliferation (Safeguards) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules
2000 No. 69.
Sales Tax Assessment Act—Rulings—2000 No. SST 19.
Superannuation Contributions Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act—
Determinations—2000 No. SCD 1.
Superannuation Contributions Tax Imposition Act—Determinations—2000 No.
SCD 4.
Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act—Determinations—2000 No.
SGD 1.
Taxation Administration Act—
Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 73.
Rulings—2000 Nos GSTR 10, GSTR 11, PR 55, PR 56, PR 57, PR 58, PR 59,
PR 60, PR 61, PR 62, TD 23, TR 97/17 (Addendum).
Termination Payments Tax (Assessment and Collection) Act—
Determinations—2000 No. SCD 3.
Termination Payments Tax Imposition Act—Determinations—2000 No. SCD 2.
Textile, Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Act—Textile,
Clothing and Footwear Strategic Investment Program Scheme—2000
Amendment (No. 1).

Therapeutic Goods (Charges) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 71.

Therapeutic Goods Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2000 No. 70.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Determinations—2000 Nos 1, 2, 3, 5, 6.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms J. I. Bishop, Mr Fitzgibbon, Mr Hollis, Ms Kernot, Mr Schultz, Dr Theophanous and Mr Wilton.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives