

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 152

WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2000

1 ABSENCE OF SPEAKER

The Clerk having informed the House that the Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) was absent until later this day, the Deputy Speaker (Mr Nehl) took the Chair as Acting Speaker, and read Prayers.

2 PRIVACY AMENDMENT (PRIVATE SECTOR) BILL 2000

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 and passed—Bill read a second time.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (1).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (2).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (3), (4), (11) and (12) together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (5).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (6).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (7).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (8) and (9) together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (10).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (13).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (14).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (15).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (16).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr McClelland, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (17), (18), (19) and (25) together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr McClelland, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (20) to (23) together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (24).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Paper

Mr Williams (Attorney-General) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr Williams, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (5) and (7) were made together, after debate.

Debate continued.

Amendments agreed to.

Mr Williams moved Government amendment (6).

Mr McClelland moved Opposition amendment (1) to proposed Government amendment (6).

Opposition amendment (1) to proposed Government amendment (6) negatived.

Government amendment (6) agreed to.

Mr Williams moved Government amendment (8).

Mr McClelland, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (2) and (3) to proposed Government amendment (8) together.

Debate continued.

Opposition amendments (2) and (3) to proposed Government amendment (8) negatived.

Government amendment (8) agreed to.

Mr Williams moved Government amendment (9).

Mr McClelland, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (4) and (5) to proposed Government amendment (9) together.

Debate continued.

Opposition amendments (4) and (5) to proposed Government amendment (9) negatived.

Government amendment (9) agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Williams, by leave, Government amendments (10) to (23) were made together, after debate.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Williams, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

3 JURISDICTION OF COURTS (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 2000

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 (Ms Worth—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 BILL REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), by leave, moved—That the Jurisdiction of Courts (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2000 be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration.

Question—put and passed.

5 NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (IMPROVED MONITORING OF ENTITLEMENTS TO PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS) BILL 2000

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.

It being 2 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.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Labor exposed in GST cover-up—Article published in *Herald Sun*, 20 July 2000.

Cheryl Kernot's Dickson Report—Copy of newsletter, Issue 4 2000.

Questions without notice continued.

Member ordered to withdraw

At 2.30 p.m. the Member for Hindmarsh (Mrs Gallus) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and she accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

7 PRIVILEGE—COMPLAINT OF BREACH

Mr Price raised, as a matter of privilege, alleged intimidation or interference with Corporal Craig Smith following his involvement in an inquiry of the Defence subcommittee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade concerning the conduct of military justice.

Papers

Mr Price presented the following papers:

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—

Terms of Reference—Examination of Department of Defence Annual Report by Defence subcommittee, 28 August 2000.

Minutes of Proceedings No. 48—Defence subcommittee, 3 October 2000.

Submission No. 1—Examination of the Annual Report of the Department of Defence—Corporal Craig Smith, August 2000.

Transcript of meeting—Corporal Craig Stephen Smith, 6 October 2000.

Defence force vows to protect whistleblowers—Copy of transcript of *The World Today* broadcast, 7 November 2000.

Copy of transcripts—

ABC AM broadcast and *News Online*, 7 November 2000.

Lateline broadcast, 6 November 2000.

Extract from *House of Representatives Practice*, pp 667–669.

The Speaker stated that he would consider the matter and report to the House at a later time and that the matter should be considered by the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

8 PRIVILEGE—COMPLAINT OF BREACH

Mr Cox raised, as a matter of privilege, alleged unauthorised disclosure of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit deliberations on IT outsourcing.

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

9 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Australia Post—Equal Employment Opportunity Program—Report for 1999-2000.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research—Report for 1999-2000.

Australian Communications Authority—National relay service provider performance—Report for 1999-2000.

Australian Government Solicitor—Report for 1999-2000.

Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Report—Implementation and operation of the Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) complimentary licence scheme.

Department of Finance and Administration—Service charters in the Australian Public Service—Report for 1999-2000.

Payments System Board—Report for 1999-2000.

Wet Tropics Management Authority—Report for 1999-2000.

10 PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following paper:

Department of Finance and Administration—Service charters in the Australian Public Service—Report for 1999-2000.

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

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The House was informed that Mr Tanner had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The Government’s failure to prudently manage the Commonwealth’s finances”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Tanner addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2000—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13 FARM HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT AMENDMENT BILL 2000—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, a Governor-General's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to with amendments (*see item No. 4, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of amendments.

Amendments made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2000

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with amendments:

7 November 2000—Message No. 484—Child Support Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 2000.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered at the next sitting.

15 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 485, 7 November 2000, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House of the following resolution agreed to by the Senate:

That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the Senate approves the proposal by the National Capital Authority for capital works within the Parliamentary Zone, being a garbage hopper enclosure at West Block.

16 PROPOSED FITOUT OF NEW LEASED PREMISES FOR THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS, BELCONNEN, ACT—APPROVAL OF WORK

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing

Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Proposed fitout of new leased premises for the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Belconnen, ACT.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

17 NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (IMPROVED MONITORING OF ENTITLEMENTS TO PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS) BILL 2000

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 and passed—Bill read a second time.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Paper

Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (5) were made together, after debate.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

18 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 487, 8 November 2000, from the Senate was reported returning the Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2000 and acquainting the House that the Senate does not insist upon its amendments Nos 1 and 2 disagreed to by the House and has agreed to the amendments made by the House in place of those amendments.

19 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FAMILY LAW AMENDMENT BILL 2000

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with amendments:

8 November 2000—Message No. 486—Family Law Amendment 2000.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered at the next sitting.

20 EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS BILL 2000

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 Lee 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:

(1) notes:

- (a) the cultural and economic value to Australia of its \$3 billion a year education export industry;
 - (b) the numerous problems in this industry identified by the Opposition, including dishonest providers, lack of financial integrity in certain sections of the industry, and lack of protection for students against provider collapse; and
 - (c) that this Bill does not adequately address the identified problems; and
- (2) condemns the Government for failing to act on these matters for the last two years”.

Debate continued.

Mr Macfarlane addressing the House—

21 ADJOURNMENT

It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—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 8 November 2000:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 2000 No. 15.

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination 2000 No. 12.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings 2000 Nos PR 109, PR 111.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instrument 2000 Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (Updating of Incorporated Documents) No. 24.

Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act—Declaration under section 9—

Amendment to Schedules 1, 2 and 2A, 30 July 2000.

Amendment to Schedules 1 and 2, 4 November 2000.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hollis*, Mr Latham, Mr O'Keefe and Dr Theophanous.

* On leave



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-1999-2000

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 152

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2000

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2000

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Papers

Mr Slipper presented an explanatory memorandum and a correction to the explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate ensued.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment.

4 FARM HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT AMENDMENT BILL 2000

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 and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 259, 4 September 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Paper

Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr Truss, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (4) were made together.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

5 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the Main Committee adjourned at 12.55 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 9.40 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee