

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 20

WEDNESDAY, 29 MAY 2002

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

2 AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002

Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to agriculture, fisheries and forestry, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Truss moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr Truss presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

3 TARIFF PROPOSALS

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—

Excise Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2002); and

Customs Tariff Proposals No. 1 (2002).

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

4 AUSTRALIAN PROTECTIVE SERVICE AMENDMENT BILL 2002

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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Williams (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

5 DIESEL FUEL REBATE SCHEME AMENDMENT BILL 2002

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 Emerson 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 condemns the Government for:

- (1) failing to deliver on their commitment to develop an Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme to replace both the Diesel and Alternative Fuel Grants Scheme and the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme;
- (2) failing to prioritise support for the accelerated uptake of renewable electricity generation as a viable alternative to diesel rather than extend the diesel rebate that would lead to long term greenhouse gas reductions; and

- (3) conducting the Fuel Taxation Inquiry only for cynical and expensive election purposes with no intention of a genuine review of fuel taxation issues”.

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. 27, 23 May 2002, 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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

6 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (CONSOLIDATION) BILL (NO. 1) 2002

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.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Papers

Mr Ruddock (Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs) presented the following papers:

Boat arrivals by processing stage—DIMIA client services system 17 May 2002—

Pie chart.

Bar graph.

Questions without notice continuing—

Paper

Mr Crean (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, presented the following paper:

Securing Australia's Future—Higgins News, Official Newsletter of Peter Costello MP, Federal Member for Higgins.

Questions without notice continuing—

Papers

Mr Hockey (Minister for Small Business and Tourism) presented the following papers:

Public liability insurance—

Summary of the preliminary advice.

New insurance scheme to save thousands of community groups—Media release from the Victorian Minister for Finance, 28 May 2002.

Questions without notice continued.

8 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 53 of 2001-2002—Assurance and control assessment audit—Goods and services tax administration by Commonwealth organisations.

Ordered to be printed.

9 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Australian Maritime College—Report for 2001.

CrimTrac Agency—Report for 2000-01—Corrigenda.

10 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—TIME FOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That, for the sitting tomorrow and the sitting on Thursday, 6 June 2002, so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent questions without notice being called on at 2.30 p.m.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

The House was informed that both Mr McMullan and Mr Windsor had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, the Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr McMullan, namely, “The failure of the Government to come up with a coherent strategy to respond to the crisis in public liability insurance”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr McMullan addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mr Ripoll, by leave, presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the 10th annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum, Honolulu, United States of America, 6 to 9 January 2002—Report, May 2002.

Mr Ripoll and Mr Byrne, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

13 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE

The House was informed that the Chief Government Whip and the Chief Opposition Whip had nominated Members to be supplementary members of the Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs for the purpose of the committee’s inquiry into substance abuse in Australian communities.

Mrs D. S. Vale (Minister for Veterans’ Affairs), by leave, moved—That Mr Wakelin and Mr Quick be appointed supplementary members of the Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs for the purpose of the committee’s inquiry into substance abuse in Australian communities.

Question—put and passed.

14 INTERNATIONAL TAX AGREEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002—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 Mrs D. S. Vale (Minister for Veterans’ Affairs), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (CONSOLIDATION) BILL (NO. 1) 2002

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.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

16 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (AUSTRALIANS WORKING TOGETHER AND OTHER 2001 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2002

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.

Mrs Irwin addressing the House—

17 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.

PAPER

The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 29 May 2002:

Health Insurance Act—Determination under paragraph 3GC(3)(a), 15 April 2002.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Albanese, Mr Beazley, Ms Burke*, Jackie Kelly*, Mr Schultz, Mr Snowdon, Dr Stone and Mr M. A. J. Vaile.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

2002

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 20

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 29 MAY 2002

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made and a petition was presented.

3 INTERNATIONAL TAX AGREEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2002

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.

Leave granted for the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

4 EAST TIMOR—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr I. E. Macfarlane (Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 15 May 2002*), viz.:

East Timor—Ministerial Statement—

Debate resumed.

Mr Ripoll, by leave, again addressed the Main Committee.

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

5 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Jull, the Main Committee adjourned at 11.36 a.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