

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 25

THURSDAY, 6 JUNE 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 **NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS—BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2002**

Mr K. J. Andrews (Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to change the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr K. J. Andrews moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr K. J. Andrews presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

3 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS) BILL 2002**

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) presented a Bill for an Act relating to structured settlements, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Slipper presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

4 **BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE**

Mr Lloyd (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That, at the conclusion later today of the resumption of debate on the second reading of Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2002-2003, the following Bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Appropriation (No. 1) 2002-2003;

Appropriation (No. 2) 2002-2003; and

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) (No. 1) 2002-2003.

Question—put and passed.

5 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2002-2003—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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Ms Macklin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.—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) its failure to deliver a budget surplus in 2001-02 after a decade of growth;

- (2) its failure to deliver a budget surplus in 2002-03 without breaking previous commitments on defence, roads and working credits;
- (3) imposing the cost of a pre-election spending spree on families via higher interest rates and cuts in health and welfare spending;
- (4) falsely claiming that cuts to health and welfare payments are needed to fund the war against terrorism and border protection;
- (5) wasting \$5 billion of taxpayers money by gambling in foreign currency markets through cross currency derivatives;
- (6) wasting almost \$3.5 billion by failing to manage currency risk on defence spending despite warnings from the Auditor-General;
- (7) wasting \$31 million on maintenance services for 40 year old helicopters that are years overdue despite a \$800 million downpayment;
- (8) its failure to recognise the GST as a Commonwealth tax and this Government as the highest taxing of all time;
- (9) its failure to consider the fairer options put forward by the Opposition to offset the harsh measures it intends to impose on families, the sick and disabled; and
- (10) the failure of its Intergenerational Report to recognise that investment in education, research and development is critical to our future prosperity and our capacity to generate the revenue and wealth required to support an ageing population”—

Debate resumed.

It being 2.30 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with the resolution agreed to on 29 May 2002, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

6 ADDRESS OF CONGRATULATION TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN—GOLDEN JUBILEE

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) moved—That:

An Address of Congratulation be presented to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as follows:

YOUR MAJESTY

We, the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives, express to Your Majesty our warm congratulations at this time of celebration of the Golden Jubilee of your accession to the Throne.

We express our respect and regard for the dedication you have displayed in the service of the Commonwealth and your deep and abiding commitment to Australia and her people.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) presented the following paper:

MCG redevelopment—Copy of letter from Mr John Howard, Prime Minister to Mr Stephen Bracks, Premier of Victoria, 28 May 2002.

Questions without notice continued.

8 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 54 of 2001-2002—Performance audit—Drug detection in air and containerised sea cargo and small craft—Australian Customs Service.

Ordered to be printed.

9 PAPERS

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) presented the following papers:

Petitions (3) not in accord with standing orders of the House.

10 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 17 June 2002, at 12.30 p.m., unless the Speaker or, in the event of the Speaker being unavailable, the Deputy Speaker, fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

11 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—LIVING STANDARDS

The House was informed that Mr Emerson had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to invest in the future living standards of Australian families”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Emerson addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

12 PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) AMENDMENT BILL 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 Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (IMPUTATION) BILL 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 Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (OVER-FRANKING TAX) BILL 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 Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (FRANKING DEFICIT TAX) BILL 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 Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

16 STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL 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 Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

17 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2002-2003—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—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Ms Macklin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (see item No. 5, page 239)—*

Debate resumed.

18 ADJOURNMENT

It being 5.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 6 p.m., adjourned until Monday, 17 June 2002, in accordance with the resolution agreed to this sitting.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 6 June 2002:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act—Rules—2002 Regional Council Election Amendment (No. 3).

Admiralty Act—Rules—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 109.

Air Services Act—Direction under subsection 16(1), 14 May 2002.

Defence Act—Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—2002 No. 8.

Family Law Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 110.

Income Tax Assessment Act 1936—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 111.

Primary Industries (Customs) Charges Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 106.

Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 107.

Primary Industries Levies and Charges Collection Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 108.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instruments under section 196B—2002 Nos 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Albanese, Mr Bevis, Ms Burke*, Mrs Elson, Jackie Kelly*, Dr Kemp, Mr Kerr, Mr McArthur, Mr Sercombe and Mr Truss.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

2002

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 25

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, 6 JUNE 2002

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) 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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

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

4 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (IMPUTATION) 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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

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

5 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (OVER-FRANKING TAX) 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—

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.

6 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (FRANKING DEFICIT TAX) 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—

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.

7 STATUTE LAW REVISION 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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

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

8 ADJOURNMENT

Mrs D. M. Kelly moved—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

At 11.14 a.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until Monday, 17 June 2002, at 4 p.m.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee