

2002-03-04

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 170

MONDAY, 24 MAY 2004

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 PAPER**

Mrs Draper, by leave, during a personal explanation, presented the following paper:

Overseas travel—Study entitlement—Copy of letter to Mrs Draper, from Senator Abetz, Special Minister of State, 13 May 2004.

**3 AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mrs Elson (Chair) presented the following paper (sent to the Speaker on 5 May 2004, pursuant to standing order 353):

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Standing Committee—Inquiry into future water supplies for Australia's rural industries and communities—Interim report, incorporating a dissenting report, March 2004.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

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

Mrs Elson moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mrs Elson was granted leave to continue her 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 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

Mr Causley presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the Republic of Indonesia and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, 7-19 December 2003—Report, March 2004.

Mr Causley and Mr Jenkins made statements in connection with the report.

**5 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mr Price presented the following paper (sent to the Speaker on 6 May 2004, pursuant to standing order 360):

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Parliamentary Delegation to the Solomon Islands, 17-18 December 2003—Report, March 2004.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

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

Mrs May presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Observer Delegation to parliamentary elections in Indonesia—5 April 2004—Report, May 2004.

Mrs May made a statement in connection with the report.

#### 7 SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS (ENSURING EQUALITY) BILL 2004

Mr Organ, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to ensure people in same sex relationships receive the same rights as people in heterosexual relationships in all areas of the law, and for related purposes.

Mr Organ made a statement in relation 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.

#### 8 PHARMACY DEREGULATION

Mr Neville, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) commends the role of pharmacy as an integral sector of the Australian health system;
- (2) recognises the high professional standing of Australian pharmacists as the primary and responsible purveyors of dispensed and restricted medicinal and health aids;
- (3) calls on all governments to uphold the independent status of pharmacists and their professional advice to health consumers;
- (4) questions whether further deregulation of pharmacy is in the community interest; and
- (5) reiterates its view that pharmacy ownership should reside with duly trained and qualified pharmacists.

Debate ensued.

At 1.45 p.m., the time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106A, Ms Burke was granted leave to continue her speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

#### 9 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

#### 10 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper*

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

ALP in a muddle over family payment—Copy of article by Laura Tingle, *Australian Financial Review*, 21 May 2004.

Questions without notice continued.

#### 11 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

#### 12 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REFLECTION FOR RWANDA

Mr Danby, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
  - (a) this year is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rwandan genocide in 1994;
  - (b) around 800,000 Rwandans were killed in 100 days in April, May and June 1994 after President Juvenal Habyarimana's plane was shot down over Kigali;
  - (c) the United Nations has designated 7 April 2004 as International Day of Reflection for Rwanda and in 2004 hosted a conference on the prevention of genocide and a week of memorial services; and
  - (d) Rwandan officials asked all countries to hold a minute's silence on 7 April to mark the anniversary; and

- (2) calls on the Government to officially recognise 7 April as International Day of Reflection for Rwanda.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

### 13 THE ECONOMY

Mr Baird, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) commends the Government and the Treasurer on the strong performance of the Australian economy, in particular:
- (a) the strong rate of growth of the Australian economy which is currently running at 4%;
  - (b) the low rate of inflation, currently just 2.4%; and
  - (c) the low unemployment rate, currently just 5.7%;
- (2) recognises that the Government has, through careful economic management, given the Australian economy the strength to withstand:
- (a) the Asian Economic Crisis of 1997-1998; and
  - (b) the slowing of the world economy and the recession in the United States of America in 2001-2002; and
- (3) understands that the Government has, through effective government policies:
- (a) overseen the creation of more than 1.3 million jobs since this government came to office;
  - (b) achieved a massive reduction of mortgage interest rates, which were 17.1% under Labor and are currently just 6.5% under this government; and
  - (c) has achieved the repayment of more than \$67 billion of Labor's debt.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for private Members' business having expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

### 14 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.

*Papers*

Mr Danby, by leave, presented the following papers:

Alan Ramsay's Saturday column—Articles by Alan Ramsay, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 2001 to 2004 (5 folders).

Debate continued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

### 15 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2004-2005—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 Crean 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) condemns the Government for its cynical election driven spending spree which—while spending a record \$52 billion over the forward estimates—failed to deliver crucial services to Australians, including:
- (a) funding the pneumococcal vaccine for children;
  - (b) funding VET in schools so young Australians can either Earn or Learn;
  - (c) ensuring access to Higher Education without excessive fees or increasing student debt levels;

- (d) ensuring all Australians can access bulkbilling services; and
- (e) ensuring adequate measures to respond to Australia's skill shortage; and
- (2) also condemns the Government for failing to present a strategy to adequately address the long term fiscal challenges facing the nation".

Debate continued.

## 16 ADJOURNMENT

It being approximately 9 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 9.30 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

## PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 24 May 2004:

Aged Care Act—Determination under section 52-1—2004 No. ACA 1.

Broadcasting Services Act—Broadcasting Services (Events) Notice (No. 1) 2004.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—Airworthiness Directives—Part 39-105—2004 15 (2), 21, 27 (8), 28 (2), 29 (3), 30 (2) April.

Part 39-107—2004 15, 28 April.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 88.

Defence Act—Determination under subsection 52 (1)—2004 No. 2.

Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Orders—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 99.

Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Orders—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 100.

Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 96.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—Instruments under section 303DB—16, 28 April 2004.

Extradition Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 89.

Family Law (Superannuation) Regulations—

Approvals—2004 Family Law (Superannuation) (Methods and factors for valuing particular superannuation interests) Amendment (Nos 3, 4).

Determinations—2004—

Family Law (Superannuation) (Provision of information—Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme) Amendment (No. 1).

Family Law (Superannuation) (Provision of information—Defence Force Schemes).

Family Law (Superannuation) (Provision of information—Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme).

Family Law (Superannuation) (Provision of information—Public Sector Superannuation Scheme) Amendment (No. 1).

Federal Court of Australia Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 98.

Health Insurance Act—Biennial review of the Medicare provider number legislation, December 2003—Record of meeting convened by Medical Training Review Panel to discuss report of review, 27 February 2004.

International Air Services Commission Act—Instrument—Section 11—Policy statement (No. 5).

Law Officers Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 91.

Medical Indemnity (Prudential Supervision and Product Standards) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 87.

Migration Act—

Direction under section 499—2004 No. 35.

Regulations—Statutory Rules—2004 Nos 93, 94.

Military Superannuation and Benefits Act—Instrument—2004 Military Superannuation and Benefits Amendment Trust Deed (No. 1).

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 90.

National Workplace Relations Consultative Council Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 92.

Navigation Act—

Marine Orders—2004 Nos 1, 2.

Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 95.

Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 97.

*Superannuation Act 1922*—Orders—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 85.

*Superannuation Act 1976*—Orders—Statutory Rules 2004 No. 86.

*Superannuation Act 1990*—Twenty-first amending deed to the deed to establish an occupational superannuation scheme for Commonwealth employees and certain other persons, pursuant to section 5, 9 May 2004.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings—

1993 No. TD 2 (Withdrawal).

1996 No. TD 9 (Withdrawal).

2003 Nos PR 40 (Addendum), PR 46 (Withdrawal).

2004 Nos CR 45, CR 46, CR 47, PR 48 (Erratum), PR 49 (Erratum), PR 50 (Erratum), PR 54, PR 55, PR 56, PR 57, PR 58, PR 59, PR 60, PR 61, PR 62, PR 63, PR 64, PR 65, TD 16.

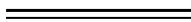
*Telecommunications Act 1997*—Variations—2004 Telecommunications Numbering Plan (Nos 1, 2).



#### ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Andren, Mr Charles, Ms Ellis\*, Mr Hartsuyker, Mrs D. M. Kelly and Ms J. S. McFarlane\*.

\* On leave



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives