

2002-03-04

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 189

TUESDAY, 10 AUGUST 2004

1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper*

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Tax breaks don't lift R&D—Copy of article by Mr Latham, Federal Labor MP, *Financial Review*, 27 November 2000.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Papers*

Mr Crean, by leave, presented the following papers:

Goods and services tax and retirement villages—Copies of letters from Mr Cameron, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, to Ms Gambaro, Member for Petrie—  
24 December 2003.

4 June 2004.

Questions without notice continued.

**3 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT**

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 7 of 2004–2005—Performance audit—Administration of taxation rulings—Follow-up audit: Australian Taxation Office.

Ordered to be printed.

**4 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Productivity Commission—Reports—

No. 29—Impacts of native vegetation and biodiversity regulations, 8 April 2004.

No. 31—Review of the gas access regime, 11 June 2004.

**5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HEALTH AND VACCINES FOR CHILDREN**

The House was informed that Ms Gillard had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The Government’s failures on health and particularly its failure to properly fund vaccines for all Australian children”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Ms Gillard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

*Papers*

Mr Abbott (Minister for Health and Ageing) presented the following papers:

Infant pneumococcal vaccination—

Copy of email from Roger Falconer-Flint, Business Unit Manager, Bio-Pharma, Wyeth Australia Pty Ltd, to Sharon Tuffin, Department of Health, 6 February 2004 and Budget related document, 7 January 2004.

Copy of letter from Erica Mann, Managing Director, Wyeth Australia & New Zealand, to John Howard, Prime Minister, 3 May 2004.

Copy of letter from John Howard, Prime Minister, to Erica Mann, Managing Director, Wyeth Australia & New Zealand, 6 May 2004.

Copy of letter from Ken McLennan, Marketing Director, Wyeth Vaccines, Australia & New Zealand, to Kellie Bisset, Editor, Medical Observer, MediMedia Australia Pty Ltd, 18 February 2004.

Labor to fund recommended vaccines for children—

ALP Policy Statement by Julia Gillard, Shadow Minister for Health and Mark Latham, Leader of the Opposition, 13 May 2004.

Transcript of press conference with Julia Gillard, Parliament House, Canberra, 13 May 2004.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

## 6 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT

Mr Causley (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business on Monday, 30 August 2004.

## 7 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Bartlett (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following Bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Broadcasting Services Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) 2004; and

Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) 2004.

Question—put and passed.

## 8 HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 2004

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 Ms Macklin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) 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) increasing the debt burden on Australian students by nearly doubling the average HECS fee since 1996, resulting in student debt increasing from less than \$4 billion to more than \$10 billion;
- (2) allowing Australians with lower marks to buy an undergraduate university place ahead of better qualified students by paying full fees of up to \$100,000 or more;
- (3) cutting \$5 billion in public investment from Australian universities;
- (4) allowing student to teaching staff ratios to blow out by more than a third;
- (5) failing to provide enough HECS places in Australian universities, resulting in around 20,000 qualified Australians being turned away every year; and
- (6) allowing universities to increase HECS by a further 25 per cent from next year and increasing the number of full fee paying undergraduate Australian students to more than a third”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Ms Corcoran, in the Chair)—

## AYES, 77

Mr Abbott	Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Slipper
Mr Anderson	Mr Dutton	Mrs Ley	Mr A. D. H. Smith
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mrs Elson	Mr Lindsay	Mr Somlyay
Mr Anthony	Mr Entsch	Mr Lloyd	Dr Southcott
Fran Bailey	Mr Farmer	Mr McArthur*	Dr Stone
Mr Baird	Mr Forrest*	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mr Baldwin	Mrs Gallus	Mrs May	Mr Ticehurst
Mr Barresi	Ms Gambaro	Mrs Moylan	Mr Tollner
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gash	Mr Nairn	Mr Truss
Mr Billson	Mr Georgiou	Dr Nelson	Mr Tuckey
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Haase	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Ms Panopoulos	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Brough	Mr Hartsuyker	Mr Pearce	Mr Wakelin
Mr Cadman	Mrs Hull	Mr Prosser	Dr Washer
Mr Cameron	Mr Hunt	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Causley	Mr Johnson	Mr Randall	Mr Windsor
Mr Charles	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock	Ms Worth
Mr Ciobo	Mr Katter	Mr Schultz	
Mr Cobb	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Scott	
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Secker	

## NOES, 62

Mr Adams	Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms Livermore	Mr Ripoll
Mr Beazley	Ms George	Mr McClelland	Ms Roxon
Mr Bevis	Mr Gibbons	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Mr Rudd
Mr Brereton	Ms Gillard	Ms Macklin	Mr Sciacca
Ms Burke	Ms Grierson	Mr McLeay	Mr Sercombe
Mr Byrne	Mr Griffin	Mr McMullan	Mr Sidebottom
Mr Cox	Ms Hall	Mr Melham	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Crean	Mr Hatton	Mr Mossfield	Mr Snowdon
Mrs Crosio	Ms Hoare	Mr Murphy	Mr Swan
Mr Danby*	Mrs Irwin	Ms O'Byrne	Mr Tanner
Mr Edwards	Ms Jackson	Mr B. P. O'Connor	Mr K. J. Thomson
Ms Ellis	Mr Jenkins	Mr G. M. O'Connor	Ms Vamvakinou
Mr Emerson	Mr Kerr	Mr Organ	Mr Wilkie
Mr Evans	Ms C. F. King	Ms Plibersek	Mr Zahra
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Latham	Mr Price	
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Quick*	

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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. 298, 3 August 2004, 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 Dr Nelson (Minister for Education, Science and Training), the Bill was read a third time.

**9 ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT (PRISONER VOTING AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2004**

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.

#### 10 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 2004

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 Ms Livermore 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 failing to:

- (1) finalise the ANTA agreement;
- (2) adequately index funding for Vocational Education and Training to reflect real increases;
- (3) meet skill shortages in critical industry areas;
- (4) guarantee young Australians a secure future; and
- (5) assist older workers upgrade or retrain”.

Debate continued.

#### 11 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 9.30 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9 a.m.

#### PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 10 August 2004:

Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (More Help for Families—One-off Payments) Act—Scheme—2004 Family Assistance (One-off Payments to Families and Carers).

Social Security Act—Determination—2004 Social Security (Assurances of Support).

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2004 No. 8.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings—

2003—No. PR 8 (Withdrawal).

2004—Nos CR 81, CR 82, PR 80.

#### ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Hawker and Mr Sawford.

**I. C. HARRIS**  
Clerk of the House of Representatives