

2004-05-06

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 98

TUESDAY, 23 MAY 2006

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

2 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Member directed to leave

At 3.18 p.m. the Member for Gellibrand (Ms Roxon) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and she accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

3 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Speaker presented the following document:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 40 of 2005–2006—Performance audit—Procurement of explosive ordnance for the Australian Defence Force (Army)—Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation.

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

4 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were presented:

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)—Australia's individual action plan—2006.

Australian Electoral Commission—Redistribution into electoral divisions—2005—Australian Capital Territory.

Australian Livestock Export Corporation (LiveCorp)—Report for 2004-05.

Australian National Maritime Museum—Strategic plan for 2006-2009.

Interactive Gambling Act—Prohibition on interactive gambling advertisements—Report for 2005.

Migration Act 1958—

Section 91Y—Protection visa processing taking more than 90 days—Report for the period 1 November 2005 to 28 February 2006.

Section 440A—Conduct of Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) reviews not completed within 90 days—Report for the period 1 November 2005 to 28 February 2006.

5 DOCUMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENTS

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following documents:

Australian Electoral Commission—Redistribution into electoral divisions—2005—Australian Capital Territory.

Migration Act 1958—

Section 91Y—Protection visa processing taking more than 90 days—Report for the period 1 November 2005 to 28 February 2006.

Section 440A—Conduct of Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) reviews not completed within 90 days—
Report for the period 1 November 2005 to 28 February 2006.

Debate adjourned (Ms Gillard), and the resumption of each debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—MIGRATION VISAS

The House was informed that Mr A. S. Burke had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “the Government’s decision to provide migration visas for unskilled foreign apprentices”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr A. S. Burke addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Member directed to leave

At 3.50 p.m. the Member for Fowler (Mrs Irwin) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and she accordingly left the Chamber.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

7 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT

Mr Causley (Chair) presented the following document:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members’ business on Monday, 29 May 2006.

8 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Bartlett (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That:

(a) the following bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) (Consequential Amendments) 2006; and

Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 2) 2006; and

(b) at the adjournment of the House for this sitting, the following bills stand referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Appropriation (No. 1) 2006-2007;

Appropriation (No. 2) 2006-2007;

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) (No. 1) 2006-2007;

Appropriation (No. 5) 2005-2006; and

Appropriation (No. 6) 2005-2006.

Question—put and passed.

9 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS

A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:

22 May 2006—Message No. 166—

Social Security and Veterans’ Entitlements Legislation Amendment (One-off Payments to Increase Assistance for Older Australians and Carers and Other Measures) 2006.

General Insurance Supervisory Levy Imposition Amendment 2006.

Health and Other Services (Compensation) Amendment 2006.

Protection of the Sea (Powers of Intervention) Amendment 2006.

Defence Housing Authority Amendment 2006.

Family Law Amendment (Shared Parental Responsibility) 2006.

Student Assistance Legislation Amendment 2006.

10 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2006-2007—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 Mr Swan, 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 is of the view that:

- (1) despite record high commodity prices and rising levels of taxation the Government has failed to secure Australia’s long term economic fundamentals and that it should be condemned for its failure to:
 - (a) stem the widening current account deficit and trade deficits;
 - (b) reverse the reduction in public education and training investment;
 - (c) provide national leadership in infrastructure including high speed broadband for the whole country;
 - (d) further reduce effective marginal tax rates to meet the intergenerational challenge of greater workforce participation;
 - (e) provide accessible and affordable long-day childcare for working families;
 - (f) fundamentally reform our health system to equip it for a future focused on prevention, early intervention and an ageing population;
 - (g) expand and encourage research and development to move Australian industry and exports up the value-chain;
 - (h) provide for the economic, social and environmental sustainability of our region, and
 - (i) address falling levels of workplace productivity; and that
- (2) the Government’s extreme industrial relations laws will lower wages and conditions for many workers and do nothing to enhance productivity, participation or economic growth; and that
- (3) the Government’s Budget documents fail the test of transparency and accountability”—

Debate resumed.

Mr K. J. Thomson addressing the House—

11 ADJOURNMENT

It being 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 9 a.m. tomorrow.

DOCUMENT

The following document was deemed to have been presented on 23 May 2006:

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2006 No. 4.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Billson, Mr Howard, Ms Livermore*, Mr Schultz, Mr Tanner and Mr M. A. J. Vaile.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives