

2004-05-06

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 126

THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2006

**1** The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable David Hawker) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM OF THE CHILD SUPPORT SCHEME—NEW FORMULA AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006**

Mr Brough (Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to child support, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Brough presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Brough moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**3 CORPORATIONS (ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER) CONSEQUENTIAL, TRANSITIONAL AND OTHER MEASURES BILL 2006**

Mr Brough (Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to deal with transitional and consequential matters relating to the enactment of the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* and to amend the *Native Title Act 1993*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Brough presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Brough moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**4 CORPORATIONS AMENDMENT (ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CORPORATIONS) BILL 2006**

Mr Brough (Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Corporations Act 2001*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Brough presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Brough moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**5 FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2006 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2006**

Mr Brough (Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to social security, veterans' entitlements, family assistance, student assistance, aged care and child support, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Brough presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Brough moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**6 DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2006**

Mr Billson (Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to defence, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Billson presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Billson moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**7 AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPANTS IN BRITISH NUCLEAR TESTS (TREATMENT) BILL 2006**

Mr Billson (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for testing for and treatment of malignant neoplasia in Australian participants in British nuclear tests, and for other purposes.

*Document*

Mr Billson presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Billson moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**8 AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPANTS IN BRITISH NUCLEAR TESTS (TREATMENT) (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2006**

Mr Billson (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend laws, and to deal with transitional matters, in connection with the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Billson presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Billson moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**9 COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ENFORCEMENT POWERS) BILL 2006**

Mrs D. M. Kelly (Parliamentary Secretary—Trade), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to communications, and for other purposes.

*Document*

Mrs D. M. Kelly presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs D. M. Kelly moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**10 TELEVISION LICENCE FEES AMENDMENT BILL 2006**

Mrs D. M. Kelly (Parliamentary Secretary—Trade) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Television Licence Fees Act 1964*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mrs D. M. Kelly presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs D. M. Kelly moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**11 FACILITIES UPGRADE TO SHOALWATER BAY TRAINING AREA, ROCKHAMPTON, QLD—APPROVAL OF WORK**

Mr Billson (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), for Mr Nairn (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Facilities upgrade to Shoalwater Bay training area, Rockhampton, Qld.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**12 FACILITIES FOR TROOP LIFT HELICOPTER, RAAF BASE, TOWNSVILLE, QLD—APPROVAL OF WORK**

Mr Billson (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), for Mr Nairn (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Facilities for troop lift helicopter, RAAF Base, Townsville, Qld.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**13 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—PROPOSED EXTENSION AND ACCOMMODATION UPGRADE TO THE EXISTING CHANCERY OF THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN BEIJING, CHINA**

Mr Billson (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), for Mr Nairn (Special Minister of State), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: Proposed extension and accommodation upgrade to the existing Chancery of the Australian Embassy in Beijing, China.

Question—put and passed.

**14 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (2007 HARMONIZED SYSTEM CHANGES) BILL 2006**

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 immediately.

On the motion of Mr Pyne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing), the bill was read a third time.

**15 CUSTOMS AMENDMENT (2007 HARMONIZED SYSTEM CHANGES) BILL 2006**

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 immediately.

On the motion of Mr Pyne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing), the bill was read a third time.

**16 HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2006 BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006**

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) jeopardising Australia’s future prosperity by reducing public investment in tertiary education, as the rest of the world increases their investment;
- (2) failing to invest in education, training, distribution and retention measures to ensure that all of Australia has enough doctors, nurses and other health care professionals to meet current and future health care needs;
- (3) massively increasing the cost of HECS, forcing students to pay up to \$30,000 more for their degree;
- (4) creating an American style higher education system, where students pay more and more, with some full fee degrees costing more than \$200,000 and nearly 100 full fee degrees costing more than \$100,000;
- (5) massively increasing the debt burden on students with total HELP debt now over \$13 billion and projected to rise to \$18.8 billion in 2009;
- (6) failing to address serious concerns about standards and quality in the higher education system, putting at risk Australia’s high educational reputation and fourth largest export industry; and
- (7) an inadequate and incoherent policy response to the needs of the university system to diversify, innovate and meet Australia’s higher education needs”—

Debate resumed.

*Document*

Mr Windsor, by leave, presented the following document:

Dental health services in the electorate of New England—Copy of letter from Dr Christopher R. Cole to Mr Windsor, 5 August 2006.

Debate continued.

It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 97, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**17 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Member directed to leave*

At 3.07 p.m. the Member for Oxley (Mr Ripoll) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

**18 DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were presented:

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Live-stock mortalities for exports by sea—Report for the period 1 January to 30 June 2006.

Australian War Memorial—Report for 2005-06.

Family and Human Services—House of Representatives Standing Committee—Report—Overseas adoption in Australia: Report on the inquiry into adoption of children from overseas—Government response.

*Surveillance Devices Act 2004*—Commonwealth Ombudsman's report on inspection of surveillance device records for the period 1 January to 30 June 2006 (Australian Crime Commission).

Western Australian Fisheries Joint Authority—Report for 2003-04.

**19 DOCUMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENTS**

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

Family and Human Services—House of Representatives Standing Committee—Report—Overseas adoption in Australia: Report on the inquiry into adoption of children from overseas—Government response.

*Surveillance Devices Act 2004*—Commonwealth Ombudsman's report on inspection of surveillance device records for the period 1 January to 30 June 2006 (Australian Crime Commission).

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

**20 DOCUMENTS**

Mr McGauran (Deputy Leader of the House) presented the following documents:

Petitions not in accord with standing and sessional orders of the House.

**21 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT**

Mr McGauran (Deputy Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until 12.30 p.m. on Monday, 9 October 2006, 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.

**22 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WHEAT SALES TO IRAQ**

The House was informed that Mr Rudd had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's negligence in responding to 33 separate warnings on the \$300 million wheat for weapons scandal, its attempted cover-up of this scandal and its impact on the Australian wheat industry".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Rudd addressed the House.

*Member directed to leave*

At 3.33 p.m. the Member for Corio (Mr G. M. O'Connor) 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 he accordingly left the Chamber.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**23 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

Message No. 371, 13 September 2006, from the Senate was reported returning the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Security Plans and Other Measures) Bill 2006 without amendment.

**24 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FINANCIAL TRANSACTION REPORTS AMENDMENT BILL 2006**

Message No. 370, 13 September 2006, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for an Act to amend the *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**25 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—REPORT**

Mrs Draper (Chair) presented the following document:

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Publications Committee reports that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the Senate. Having considered documents presented to the Parliament since 17 August, it recommends that the following be made Parliamentary Papers:

Australian Law Reform Commission—Report No. 104—Fighting words: A review of sedition laws in Australia, July 2006.

*Housing Assistance Act 1996*—Report for 2004-05.

Reserve Bank of Australia—Report for 2005-06.

*Witness Protection Act 1994*—Report for 2005-06 on the operation of the National Witness Protection Program.

Trish Draper MP

Chair

14 September 2006

On the motion of Mrs Draper, by leave, the report was agreed to.

**26 SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE (LEARNING TOGETHER—ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2006—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, a Governor-General's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the bill had been agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Lloyd (Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

**27 HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2006 BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006**

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. 16, page 1426)*—

Debate resumed.

Mr Snowdon addressing the House—

**28 ADJOURNMENT**

It being 4.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 5 p.m.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until 12.30 p.m. on Monday, 9 October 2006, in accordance with the resolution agreed to this sitting.

**DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 14 September 2006:

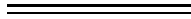
Australian Research Council Act—Determination—2006 No. 31.

Currency Act—Determination—Currency (Perth Mint) 2006 (No. 3) [F2006L03036].

Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act—Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Regulations—Instrument—2006 Welfare of children: Offices that are authorities (Regulation 4) No. IMMI 06/051 [F2006L03067].

Judiciary Act—Rules of Court—5 September 2006 [F2005L03007].

Navigation Act—Marine Orders—2006 No. 11 [F2006L03051].



**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anderson, Mr Baird, Ms Corcoran, Mr Danby, Ms K. M. Ellis, Mr Kerr\*, Mrs Mirabella, Mr Secker, Mr Slipper and Ms Vamvakinou.

\* On leave



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

2004-05-06

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 126

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2006

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1 The Main Committee met at 9.30 a.m.

**2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

**3 SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE (LEARNING TOGETHER—ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2006**

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.

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 204, 5 September 2006, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

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

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

**4 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Barresi moved—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

At 1.03 p.m., the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until 4 p.m. on Monday, 9 October 2006.

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**B. C. WRIGHT**  
Clerk of the Main Committee