

2004-05-06-07

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 169

TUESDAY, 22 MAY 2007



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—

Documents

Mr McClelland, by leave, presented the following documents:

Foreign policy—Extracts from the *Sunday Age*—

US power won't last: Labor, 13 May 2007.

Labor 'would downgrade US', 20 May 2007.

Questions without notice continuing—

Member directed to leave

At 3.19 p.m. the Member for Melbourne (Mr Tanner) 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.

Questions without notice continued.

3 DOCUMENT

Mr McClelland, by leave, during a personal explanation, presented the following document:

Response to *Sunday Age*—Media statement by Mr McClelland, 13 May 2007.

4 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS

The Speaker presented the following documents:

Auditor-General—Audit reports of 2006–2007—Performance audits—

No. 36—Management of the higher bandwidth incentive scheme and broadband connect stage 1: Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

Report.

Corrigendum.

No. 37—Administration of the health requirement of the *Migration Act 1958*.

Reports ordered to be made Parliamentary Papers.

5 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were presented:

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Quarterly report of the Chief Executive Officer for the period 1 July to 30 September 2006.

Employment, Workplace Relations and Workforce Participation—Standing Committee—Report—Working for Australia's future: Increasing participation in the workforce—Government response.

Productivity Commission—Report No. 37—Conservation of Australia's historic heritage places, 6 April 2006—Government response.

6 DOCUMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENTS

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

Employment, Workplace Relations and Workforce Participation—Standing Committee—Report—Working for Australia's future: Increasing participation in the workforce—Government response.

Productivity Commission—Report No. 37—Conservation of Australia's historic heritage places, 6 April 2006—Government response.

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

7 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—TIME FOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mr McGauran (Deputy Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That, for the sitting on Wednesday, 23 May 2007, so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent questions without notice being called on at 2.30 p.m.

Question—put and passed.

8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The House was informed that Ms Gillard (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's spending of significant public funds on industrial relations information and advertising campaigns while failing to protect fairness in Australian workplaces".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Ms Gillard addressing the House—

Member directed to leave

At 3.36 p.m. the Member for Hunter (Mr Fitzgibbon) 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.

Ms Gillard continued to address the House.

Discussion ensued.

The time allotted under sessional order No. 1 having expired, the discussion was interrupted.

9 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, 28 May 2007.

10 INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT—REFERENCE TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Jull (Chair) presented the following document:

Intelligence and Security—Parliamentary Joint Committee—Report—Review of the re-listing of Tanzim Qa'idat al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (the al-Zarqawi network) as a terrorist organisation, May 2007.

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

Mr Jull, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

Mr Jull moved—That the House take note of the report.

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

Mr Jull, by leave, moved—That the order of the day be referred to the Main Committee for debate.

Question—put and passed.

11 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Bartlett (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, at the adjournment of the House for this sitting the following bills stand referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Appropriation (No. 1) 2007-2008;
 Appropriation (No. 2) 2007-2008;
 Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) (No. 1) 2007-2008;
 Appropriation (No. 5) 2006-2007; and
 Appropriation (No. 6) 2006-2007.
 Question—put and passed.

12 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2007-2008—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 Tanner, 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 from surging demand from India and China and rising levels of taxation, the Government has failed to secure Australia’s long term economic fundamentals and should be condemned for its failure to:
 - (a) address Australia’s flagging productivity growth;
 - (b) stem the widening current account deficit and trade deficits;
 - (c) attend to the long term relative decline in education and training investment undercutting workplace productivity;
 - (d) provide national leadership on infrastructure including a high speed national broadband network for the whole country;
 - (e) expand and encourage research and development to move Australian industry and exports up the value-chain; and
 - (f) reform our health system to equip it for a future focused on prevention, early intervention and an ageing population;
- (2) the Government’s failure to address the damaging consequences of climate change is endangering Australia’s future economic prosperity;
- (3) 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
- (4) the Government’s Budget documents fail the test of transparency and accountability”—

Debate resumed.

Mr Melham addressing the House—

13 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 9.31 p.m.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

DOCUMENTS

The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 22 May 2007:

Private Health Insurance Act—Rules—2007 Protheses (No. 2) [F2007L01452].

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2007 No. 5.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Corcoran, Mr Edwards, Ms Hoare, Jackie Kelly, Mr Lindsay and Mr Sercombe.

**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives