

2004-05-06-07

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 193

MONDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2007

-
-
- 1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable David Hawker) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER**
The Speaker presented the following document:
Australian Parliamentary Delegation to Canada and Germany (14 to 28 April 2007)—Report, September 2007—
and made a statement in connection with the report.
- 3 **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT—REFERENCE TO MAIN COMMITTEE**
Dr Washer (Chair) presented the following documents (sent to the Speaker on 6 September 2007, pursuant to standing order 247):
Environment and Heritage—Standing Committee—Sustainability for survival: Creating a climate for change—Inquiry into a sustainability charter—
Report, August 2007.
Minutes of proceedings.
Report ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.
Statements in connection with the report were made.
Dr Washer moved—That the House take note of the report.
In accordance with sessional order 39, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.
Dr Washer moved—That the order of the day be referred to the Main Committee for debate.
Question—put and passed.
- 4 **PROCEDURE COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT**
Mrs May (Chair) presented the following documents:
Procedure Committee—Making a difference: Petitioning the House of Representatives—
Report, August 2007.
Minutes of proceedings.
Report ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.
Statements in connection with the report were made.
Mrs May moved—That the House take note of the report.
In accordance with sessional order 39, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT—REFERENCE TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Baird (Chair) presented the following documents:

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia Annual Report 2006 (Second report)—

Report, September 2007.

Minutes of proceedings.

Report ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

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

In accordance with sessional order 39, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

Mr Baird moved—That the order of the day be referred to the Main Committee for debate.

Question—put and passed.

6 ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT—REFERENCE TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Baird (Chair) presented the following documents:

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Home loan lending: Inquiry into home loan lending practicing and the processes used to deal with people in financial difficulty—

Report, September 2007.

Minutes of proceedings.

Report ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

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

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

In accordance with sessional order 39, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

Mr Baird moved—That the order of the day be referred to the Main Committee for debate.

Question—put and passed.

7 ELECTORAL MATTERS—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mrs Mirabella presented the following document:

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee—Review of certain aspects of the administration of the Australian Electoral Commission—Report, September 2007.

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

8 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007

Ms K. M. Ellis, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the definition of a low-impact facility under the *Telecommunications Act 1997*, and for related purposes.

Ms K. M. Ellis 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 41.

9 SALT AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Mrs May, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) recognises that:
 - (a) high blood pressure is a major risk factor for coronary heart disease, stroke, heart failure, peripheral vascular disease and renal failure;
 - (b) cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death and disability in Australia, claiming the lives of 50,294 people in 2002, or 38 per cent of all deaths;
 - (c) around 3.67 million Australians are affected by heart, stroke and vascular diseases;
 - (d) 1.10 million Australians are disabled long-term by heart, stroke and vascular diseases;
 - (e) the prevalence of heart, stroke and vascular conditions increased by 18.2 per cent over the last decade; and
 - (f) the total burden of heart, stroke and vascular diseases is expected to increase over the coming decades;
- (2) also recognises that:
 - (a) salt appears to be the necessary cause of high blood pressure; and
 - (b) controlling one's salt intake plays a big role in controlling one's blood pressure, which in turn reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease;
- (3) calls on the Australian Government to:
 - (a) educate the Australian people on the dangers of a high salt diet; and
 - (b) follow the United Kingdom's example and label food with green lights, which identify at a glance the best foods on the market for salt content; and
- (4) on a bipartisan level, encourage Australians to reduce their salt intake and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

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

10 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made and petitions were presented.

11 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER (MR P. R. CLEELAND)

The Speaker informed the House of the death, on 16 September 2007, of Mr Peter Robert Cleeland, a Member of this House for the Division of McEwen from 1984 to 1990, and from 1993 to 1996.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

12 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Document

Ms Plibersek, by leave, presented the following document:

Malcolm Turnbull—Information for residents of Darlinghurst, Paddington, Potts Point and neighbouring suburbs.

Questions without notice continued.

13 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

14 ALIMTA AND MESOTHELIOMA

Ms Owens, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) that Australia has the highest reported rate of mesothelioma in the world;
 - (b) that there has been a four to five-fold increase in the rate of mesothelioma since the early 1980s and that it is estimated that this rate will continue to increase for the next five to 10 years;

- (c) the chemotherapy agent Alimta is the only treatment registered for use in mesothelioma, and in combination with Cisplatin, represents the ‘gold standard’ for mesothelioma treatment in Australia;
 - (d) treatment by Alimta can significantly increase a patient’s survival time as well as improve a patient’s quality of life in its final stages;
 - (e) Alimta is listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) for persons who have contracted lung cancer for smoking, but is not approved for patients with mesothelioma;
 - (f) access to Alimta for mesothelioma patients is currently inequitable across Australia, with some States and companies providing various schemes to compensate victims of asbestos exposure and some patients having to pay for Alimta privately at great expense; and
 - (g) the UK National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence recently approved the use of Alimta in the treatment of mesothelioma sufferers and the governments of France, Sweden and Japan subsidise the drug for sufferers in those countries; and
- (2) calls on the Government to take all necessary action to support the inclusion of Alimta on the PBS for the treatment of all mesothelioma sufferers.

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.

15 MISSING ISRAELI SOLDIERS

Mrs Mirabella, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) Palestinian terrorists infiltrated Israel’s sovereign border from the Gaza Strip on 25 June 2006, attacked an army post inside Israel’s sovereign territory and kidnapped Corporal Gilad Shalit into Gaza;
 - (b) on 12 July 2006—in a similar aggressive cross-border attack from southern Lebanon—Hizbollah terrorists infiltrated sovereign Israeli territory and kidnapped Israeli Defence Force Reservists Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev;
 - (c) there is no territorial dispute between Israel and Lebanon, since Israel withdrew from her security zone in May 2000, under the supervision of the United Nations; and
 - (d) these young soldiers were serving their active duty within Israel’s borders and now, for more than nine months, have been denied their basic human rights; and
- (2) urges the Government to exert pressure on the terrorist organisations, their supporters and financial backers in the Gaza Strip and southern Lebanon, so that the missing soldiers are returned unharmed to their families and the country of Israel.

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.

16 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 44, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

17 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:

14 September 2007—Message No. 344—

Therapeutic Goods Amendment 2007.

Northern Territory National Emergency Response Amendment (Alcohol) 2007.

18 QUARANTINE AMENDMENT (COMMISSION OF INQUIRY) BILL 2007

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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr G. M. O'Connor, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (1) and (2) together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr McGauran (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the bill was read a third time.

19 NATIONAL GREENHOUSE AND ENERGY REPORTING BILL 2007

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 Garrett, 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:

(1) notes that:

- (a) the bill was hastily drafted without any genuine consultation with stakeholders, including state governments, industry groups and environment groups;
- (b) the bill was hastily drafted and introduced so as to prevent due public and parliamentary scrutiny; and
- (c) significant government amendments were circulated less than 24 hours before the second reading debate so as to prevent due public and parliamentary scrutiny;

(2) is concerned that the bill does not reflect the urgent need to establish an effective emissions trading scheme; and

(3) therefore demands that the Government amend the legislation according to the unanimous recommendations of the Senate inquiry’s report”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the bill be now read a second time—put and passed—bill read a second time.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Document

Mr Turnbull (Minister for the Environment and Water Resources) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the bill.

On the motion of Mr Turnbull, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (11) were made together, after debate.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Turnbull, the bill was read a third time.

20 HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (MEDICARE DENTAL SERVICES) BILL 2007

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 B. P. O'Connor addressing the House—

21 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Document

Mr M. J. Ferguson, by leave, presented the following document:

Voting pattern in Victorian Parliament, 2006-07.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 9.30 p.m., adjourned until 2 p.m. tomorrow.

DOCUMENTS

The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 17 September 2007:

Aged Care Act—Principles under subsection 96-1 (1)—2007 Residential care subsidy amendment (No. 2) [F2007L03627].

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal—2007 No. 10.

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—Notice under section 45—Participation in formation of a company by the Commonwealth—Forest and Wood Products Australia Limited (FWPA) (ABN 75 127 114 185).

Defence Act—Order—2007 Report on utilisation of the Defence Force in accordance with section 51X of the *Defence Act 1903* in relation to Operation Deluge defensive counter-air support to the Sydney 2007 APEC meetings, 22 August.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—Instruments under—
paragraphs 303CA(9)(a), (b) and (c)—2 September 2007 [F2007L03587].
paragraph 303EC(1)(c)—5 September 2007 [F2007L03653].

Migration Act—Migration Regulations—Instruments—2007—

Exemptions to the English language requirement for the temporary business (long stay) visa, No. IMMI 07/069 [F2007L03570].

Minimum salary levels and occupations for the business long stay visa, No. IMMI 07/007 [F2007L03586].

National Health Act—

Amendment declaration under subsections 85(2), 85 (2A) and 85(2AA)—2007 No. PB 68 [F2007L03609].

Amendment determinations under—

section 84AF—2007 No. PB 70 [F2007L03613].

section 85B—2007 No. PB 71 [F2007L03618].

section 98C(1)(b)—2007 No. PB 77 [F2007L03626].

Determination under subsections 85AB(1) and 85AC(1)—2007 No. PB 75 [F2007L03632].

Navigation Act—Marine Orders—2007 No. 4 [F2007L03599].

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings—

2000—No. GSTR 13 (Addendum).

2007—

No. CR 83.

No. FTR 1.

Nos PR 78, PR 79, PR 80, PR 81.

Veterans' Entitlements Act and Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act—Instruments under subsection 196B—2007 Nos 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100 [F2007L03564],

[F2007L03565], [F2007L03566], [F2007L03567], [F2007L03568], [F2007L03569], [F2007L03577],
[F2007L03578], [F2007L03573], [F2007L03574], [F2007L03575], [F2007L03576].

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Andren, Ms George, Mr Hatton, Ms Hoare, Mr Hockey, Mr Jull, Mr Sercombe, Mr Snowdon and Mr Wilkie.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

2004-05-06-07

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 193

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

MONDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2007

1 The Main Committee met at 4 p.m.

2 HEALTH AND AGEING—STANDING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Somlyay—
That the House take note of the document (*presented on 9 August 2007*), viz.—

Health and Ageing—Standing Committee—The best start: Report on the inquiry into the health benefits of breastfeeding—Report, August 2007—

Debate resumed.

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

3 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Wakelin—
That the House take note of the document (*presented on 13 August 2007*), viz.—

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—Standing Committee—Indigenous Australians at work: Successful initiatives in Indigenous employment—Report, incorporating a minority report, June 2007—

Debate resumed.

Mr Wakelin, by leave, addressed the Main Committee without closing the debate.

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

4 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Ordered—That order of the day No. 3, committee and delegation reports, be postponed until a later hour this day.

5 ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Baird—
That the House take note of the document (*presented on 17 September 2007*), viz.—

Economics, Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Home loan lending: Inquiry into home loan lending practices and the processes used to deal with people in financial difficulty—
Report, September 2007—

Debate resumed.

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

6 ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE—STANDING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Dr Washer—That the House take note of the document (*presented on 17 September 2007*), viz.—

Environment and Heritage—Standing Committee—Sustainability for survival: Creating a climate for change—Inquiry into a sustainability charter—Report, August 2007—

Debate resumed.

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

7 FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mrs B. K. Bishop—That the House take note of the document (*presented on 13 September 2007*), viz.—

Family and Human Services—Standing Committee—The winnable war on drugs: The impact of illicit drug use on families—Report, incorporating a dissenting report, September 2007—

Debate resumed.

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

8 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Neville, the Main Committee adjourned at 6.01 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 19 September 2007 for the next meeting of the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee