

2008

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 43

TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2008

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

2 **LEADERSHIP OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA**

Mr Turnbull, as Leader of the Opposition, informed the House that the Parliamentary Liberal Party had elected him as its Leader. The Member for Curtin would continue in her role as Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and details of the Opposition frontbench would be advised at a later time.

Mr Rudd (Prime Minister) congratulated Mr Turnbull.

3 **QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

4 **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 2008.

Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002—Report pursuant to section 47C—Report on the feasibility of establishing a national legislative or regulatory approach for effective governance of non-blood human tissue based therapies.

Treaties—

Bilateral—Text, together with national interest analysis—

Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Finland on Social Security done at Helsinki, 10 September 2008.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization [WIPO] in relation to the functioning of the Australian Patent Office as an International Searching Authority and International Preliminary Examining Authority under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, to be done at Geneva during December 2008.

*Multilateral—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—*Partial revision of the 2004 Radio Regulations, as incorporated in the International Telecommunications Union Final Acts of the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07), done at Geneva on 16 November 2007.

5 **AUSTRALIA'S GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES POTENTIAL—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

Mr M. J. Ferguson (Minister for Resources and Energy), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to Australia's geothermal resources potential.

Suspension of standing and sessional orders—Time for speech

Mr M. J. Ferguson, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Macfarlane speaking for a period not exceeding thirteen minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Mr Macfarlane addressed the House.

6 PROGRESS ON HOUSING AFFORDABILITY PROGRAMS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Ms Plibersek (Minister for Housing), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to housing affordability programs.

Suspension of standing and sessional orders—Time for speech

Ms Plibersek, by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent Ms Ley speaking for a period not exceeding nine minutes.

Question—put and passed.

Ms Ley addressed the House.

7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TRADE POLICY

The House was informed that Mr Macfarlane had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to develop a comprehensive trade policy agenda that provides Australian exporters with certainty in decision-making and support”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Macfarlane addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

8 FIRST HOME SAVER ACCOUNTS (FURTHER PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2008

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.

Debate adjourned (Mr Dreyfus), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

9 BILL REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Price (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the Australian Research Council Amendment Bill 2008 be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration.

Question—put and passed.

10 FIRST HOME SAVER ACCOUNTS (FURTHER PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL 2008

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 Turnour addressing the House—

11 ADJOURNMENT

It being 8.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

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

DOCUMENTS

The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 16 September 2008:

Census and Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Statement—2008 No. 2.

Defence Act—Determinations under section 58B—2008 Nos 43, 44.

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2008 No. 10.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Andrews, Mr Butler, Mrs Gash*, Mr Laming, Mr McMullan, Mrs Mirabella*, Mr Shorten and Mr Windsor.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 43

MAIN COMMITTEE**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2008

1 The Main Committee met at 4.01 p.m.

2 **MEMBERS' CONSTITUENCY STATEMENTS**

Members' constituency statements were made.

3 **AUSLINK (NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORT) AMENDMENT BILL 2008**

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.

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

4 **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr Marles, the Main Committee adjourned at 6.37 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed 9.30 a.m. tomorrow for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee