

2008-09

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 83

THURSDAY, 12 MARCH 2009

1 The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Acting Speaker (Ms A. E. Burke) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate, 11 March 2009, were reported returning the following bills without amendment:

No. 225—Tax Laws Amendment (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) 2008;

No. 226—Defence Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) 2008;

No. 227—Civil Aviation Amendment 2009;

No. 228—Transport Safety Investigation Amendment 2009; and

No. 229—Australian Energy Market Amendment (AEMO and Other Measures) 2009.

**3 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mr K. J. Thomson (Chair) presented the following documents:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—

Report 98: Treaties tabled on 26 November and 4 December 2008—Report, March 2009.

Report 99: Treaties tabled on 3 December 2008 and 3 February 2009—Report, March 2009.

Reports ordered to be made Parliamentary Papers.

Mr K. J. Thomson, by leave, made a statement in connection with the reports.

**4 BILL REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE**

Mr Price (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, at the adjournment of the House for this sitting, the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities, and Other Measures) Bill 2009 stand referred to the Main Committee for further consideration.

Question—put and passed.

**5 HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (STUDENT SERVICES AND AMENITIES, AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2009**

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 Gray—Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development and Northern Australia), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**6 AUSCHECK AMENDMENT BILL 2009**

Mr McClelland (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *AusCheck Act 2007*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr McClelland presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**7 CUSTOMS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (NAME CHANGE) BILL 2009**

Mr McClelland (Attorney-General), for Mr Debus (Minister for Home Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to change the name of the Australian Customs Service, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr McClelland presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**8 SOCIAL SECURITY AMENDMENT (LIQUID ASSETS WAITING PERIOD) BILL 2009**

Mr O'Connor (Minister for Employment Participation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to social security, and for other purposes.

*Document*

Mr O'Connor presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr O'Connor moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

**9 AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP BILL 2009**

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation), for Mr Swan (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the Australian Business Investment Partnership, and for other purposes.

*Documents*

Mr Tanner presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill and, by leave, presented a draft shareholders agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia, the Australia New Zealand Banking Group Limited, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia Limited, the National Australia Bank Limited, and the Westpac Banking Corporation.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**10 AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENT) BILL 2009**

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation), for Mr Swan (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to deal with a consequential matter in connection with the *Australian Business Investment Partnership Act 2009*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Tanner presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**11 COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL AMENDMENT (POLITICAL DONATIONS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2009**

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation), for Mr Bowen (Assistant Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Tanner presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

**12 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE**

The House was informed that the Chief Government Whip had nominated Mr Murphy to be a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties in place of Mrs Irwin.

Mr Byrne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister), by leave, moved—That Mrs Irwin be discharged from the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties and that, in her place, Mr Murphy be appointed a member of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

**13 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS AMENDMENT (COMMONWEALTH SENIORS HEALTH CARD) BILL 2009**

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 Neumann addressing the House—

It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 97, Mr Neumann was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**14 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mr Rudd (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence overseas of Mr Swan (Treasurer), Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation) would answer questions on his behalf.

**15 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Member directed to leave*

At 2.35 p.m. the Member for Sturt (Mr Pyne) 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.

**16 DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were presented:

*Medical Indemnity Act 2002*—Report by the Australian Government Actuary on the costs of the Australian Government's run-off cover scheme for medical indemnity insurers for 2007-08.

Treaties—

*Bilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis—

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Isle of Man for the allocation of taxing rights with respect to certain income of individuals and to establish a mutual agreement procedure in respect of transfer pricing adjustments, done at London on 29 January 2009.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Isle of Man on the exchange of information with respect to taxes, done at London on 29 January 2009.

*Multilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis—Convention on cluster munitions adopted at Dublin on 30 May 2008.

**17 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—UNEMPLOYMENT**

The House was informed that Mr Keenan had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of Government policy to address increasing unemployment”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Keenan addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Mr Butler addressing the House—

**18 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 Speaker adjourned the House until 12 noon on Monday, 16 March 2009.

**DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 12 March 2009:

Higher Education Support Act—Funding Agreements under section 30-25—

Australian Catholic University—2009, 2010 and 2011—15 December 2008.

Australian National University—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

Avondale College—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education—2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.

Central Queensland University—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

Charles Darwin University—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

Charles Sturt University—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

Christian Heritage College—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

Curtin University of Technology—2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.

Deakin University—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

Edith Cowan University—

2008—15 December 2008.

2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.

Flinders University of South Australia—2009, 2010 and 2011—15 December 2008.

Griffith University—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.

James Cook University—2008, 2009 and 2010—23 December 2008.

La Trobe University—2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.

Macquarie University—2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.

Monash University—2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.

Murdoch University—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.

Queensland University of Technology—2009, 2010 and 2011—15 December 2008.

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

Southern Cross University—2009, 2010 and 2011—15 December 2008.

Swinburne University of Technology—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

Tabor College Adelaide—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

Tabor College Victoria—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

University of Adelaide—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.

University of Ballarat—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.

University of Canberra—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.

University of Melbourne—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.

University of New England—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

University of New South Wales—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

University of Newcastle—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.

University of Notre Dame Australia—2009, 2010 and 2011—18 December 2008.  
University of Queensland—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.  
University of South Australia—2009, 2010 and 2011—12 December 2008.  
University of Southern Queensland—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.  
University of Sydney—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.  
University of Tasmania—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.  
University of Technology, Sydney—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.  
University of the Sunshine Coast—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.  
University of Western Australia—2008, 2009 and 2010—15 December 2008.  
University of Western Sydney—2008, 2009 and 2010—19 December 2008.  
University of Wollongong—2008, 2009 and 2010—12 December 2008.  
Victoria University—2008, 2009 and 2010—18 December 2008.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Baldwin, Mrs Gash, Mr McMullan, Mrs May, Dr Nelson, Ms Saffin, Mr Shorten and Mr Swan.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

2008-09

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

No. 83

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

THURSDAY, 12 MARCH 2009

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1 The Main Committee met at 9.30 a.m.

2 **MEMBERS' CONSTITUENCY STATEMENTS**

Members' constituency statements were made.

3 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 5) 2008-2009**

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.

*Document*

Mr Bidgood, by leave, presented the following document:

Mackay Trade Centre—Copy of article from *Daily Mercury*, 11 March 2009, pages 1 and 7.

Debate continued.

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

4 **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Snowden (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel) moved—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

At 12.59 p.m., the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until 4 p.m. on Monday, 16 March 2009.

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