

1996-97-98

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 171

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 1998

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1 The House met, at 9.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Right Honourable Ian Sinclair) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998**

Mr Reith (Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Navigation Act 1912*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Reith moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Mr Reith presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr L. D. T. Ferguson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1998**

Dr Kemp (Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 1996*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Dr Kemp moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Dr Kemp presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr L. D. T. Ferguson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**4 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PAYMENT PROCESSING) BILL 1998**

Mr Ruddock (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* and the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Ruddock moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Mr Ruddock presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr L. D. T. Ferguson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**5 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998**

Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (General Purposes) Act 1994*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Miles moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

*Paper*

Mr Miles presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr L. D. T. Ferguson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**6 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—FINANCE MINUTES—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mr Charles (Chairman), by leave, presented the following papers:

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Finance minutes on—

Report 349—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1995-96.

Report 350—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1996-97: First quarter.

Report 352—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1996-97: Second quarter.

Mr Charles, by leave, made a statement in connection with the minutes.

**7 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Charles (Chairman) presented the following paper:

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Report 361—Review of Auditor-General's reports 1997-98: First quarter, 3 June 1998.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Charles, Mr Griffin and Mrs Stone, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Charles, by leave, moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Mr Charles was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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

**8 FISHERIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1998**

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 forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Abbott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs), the Bill was read a third time.

**9 HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998**

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.

It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**10 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Member ordered to withdraw*

At 2.41 p.m. the Member for Prospect (Mrs Crosio) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and she accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continuing—

*Paper*

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Tax reform—Question time brief.

Questions without notice continued.

**11 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT**

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Auditor-General Act—Auditor-General—Audit report No. 50 of 1997-98—Performance audit—Restructuring of meat and livestock statutory organisations.

Ordered to be printed.

**12 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act—Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Report—Australia’s health 1998.

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Act—Nuclear Safety Bureau—Report—NSB.QRM 41, 1 October to 31 December 1997.

Committee reports—Government responses to parliamentary committee reports—Response to the schedule tabled on 3 December 1997.

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

Requests for the Federal Government to review all jet routes from Kingsford-Smith Airport and conduct comprehensive community consultation, fast track a new airport outside the Sydney basin and establish a permanent Sydney Airports Commission (Mr A. P. Thomson, 503 petitioners).

Requests for the Federal Government to review all jet routes from Kingsford-Smith Airport and conduct comprehensive community consultation, fast track a new airport outside the Sydney basin (Mr A. P. Thomson, 176 petitioners).

Approval for the Federal Government’s proposal to privatise Telstra (Mr Andren, 8 petitioners).

Opposition to the Federal Government’s proposal to privatise Telstra (Mr Andren, 75 petitioners)

Concern about the Federal Government’s cuts to child care (Mr McMullan, 172 petitioners).

United Nations—

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination—Communication No. 7/1995—Decisions: Paul Babaro v. Australia (CERD/C/51/D/7/1995).

Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment—Outlines of communications 1998 Nos. 102, 106.

Human Rights Committee under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Communications—

No. 560/1993—Views: A v. Australia (CCPR/C/59/D/560/1993) together with Australian government response.

No. 579/1994—Decisions: Klaus Werenbeck v. Australia (CCPR/C/59/D/579/1994).

No. 692/1996—Views: A. R. J. v. Australia (CCPR/C/60/D/692/1996).

No. 706/1996—Views: Mrs G. T. v. Australia (CCPR/C/61/D/706/1996).

Outlines of communications 1997 Nos. 737, 762, 772, 776 and 1998 No. 802.

**13 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PRIME MINISTER’S LEADERSHIP**

The House was informed that Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The need for the Prime Minister to provide the leadership necessary to ensure that Australia remains a cohesive society”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**14 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

Message No. 516, 25 June 1998, from the Senate was reported transmitting a resolution agreed to by the Senate approving, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the following proposals:

- (a) establishment of an international flag display in the parliamentary zone;
- (b) interim landscape works, Constitution Place, Parkes;
- (c) introduction of parking restrictions along the West Block western car park access road; and
- (d) introduction of parking restrictions at East Block car park.

**15 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL**

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 Bill:

23 June 1998—Message No. 285—Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 3) 1998.

**16 MANAGED INVESTMENTS BILL 1997—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS**

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Senate—

On the motion of Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister), Senate amendments (1) to (6) and (8) were agreed to, after debate.

On the motion of Mr Miles, an amendment to Senate amendment (7) was made, after debate.

Amendment, as amended, agreed to.

**17 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—COMPANY LAW REVIEW BILL 1997**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with amendments:

25 June 1998—Message No. 517—Company Law Review 1997.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Miles (Parliamentary Secretary (Cabinet) to the Prime Minister), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

**18 HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998**

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.

Ms Macklin addressing the House—

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#### 19 ADJOURNMENT

It being 5.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

*Debate extended*

It being 6 p.m., the debate was interrupted.

Mr Abbott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs) required the debate to be extended.

*Paper*

Mr Abbott presented the following paper:

One Nation Party—Copy of facsimile from Terry Sharples to Mr Abbott, 25 June 1998.

The debate continuing until 6.09 p.m., the Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 12.30 p.m.

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#### PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 25 June 1998:

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Plan—Amendment No. 21.

Child Care Act—Determination 1998 Child Care (High Need Regions).

Child Care Payments Act—Guidelines Vaccination Schedules No. VS/18/98/1.

Export Market Development Grants Act—Determination 1998 No. 1/IPCA.

Parliament Act—Parliamentary Zone—

Proposal to—

Construct pedestrian and cycle access, Commonwealth Avenue Bridge and Kings Avenue Bridge approaches.

Demolish old Parliament House Annex.

Refurbish of old Parliament House Library external works.

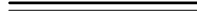
Revised proposal to undertake minor roadworks in front of old Parliament House.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings 1998 Nos. TR 98/10, TR 98/11.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Albanese, Ms Hanson, Mr Jenkins, Mr Lindsay, Mr McGauran, Mr McLachlan and Mr A. C. Smith.



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1996-97-98

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

No. 171

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 1998

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1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 **MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

3 **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1996-97—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 9 March 1998*), viz.:

Financial Institutions and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Report, March 1998—Review of the Australian Competition Consumer Commission annual report 1996-97—

Debate resumed.

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

4 **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Debate ensued.

At 10.58 a.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee.

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