

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 21

TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 1999

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

2 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Tax reform—Senate set to pass Democrat motion for tax inquiry—Media release by Senator Lees, 24 November 1998.

Questions without notice continued.

3 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Australian Antarctic Foundation—Report for 1997-98.

National Environment Protection Council—Report for 1997-98.

Refugee Review Tribunal—Report for 1997-98.

Stevedoring Levy (Collection) Act—Report for period 1 November to 31 December 1998.

Treaties—*Bilateral*—Text of, together with national interest analyses—

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand concerning the Status of their Forces, done at Melbourne on 29 October 1998.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America concerning Acquisition and Cross Servicing, done at Canberra on 9 December 1998.

Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Australia concerning Defense Communications Services, done at Arlington on 14 October 1998 and at Washington on 30 October 1998.

Between Australia and Sweden on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, done at Stockholm on 18 December 1998.

Between Australia and the Republic of South Africa on Extradition, done at Canberra on 9 December 1998.

4 DEATHS OF AUSTRALIAN-BASED JOURNALISTS IN EAST TIMOR IN 1975—PAPERS AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs) presented the following papers:

Deaths of Australian-based journalists in East Timor in 1975—

Letter from Mr Downer to His Excellency Mr Ali Alatas, Indonesian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Second report, January 1999—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the report.

Mr Brereton, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

5 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

The House was informed that Mr Swan had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Prime Minister to take any action on the imposition of the full 10 per cent GST on Australian families and the elderly who purchase pre-paid funeral services”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Swan addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

6 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 17 February 1999, at 10 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

7 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 40, 15 February 1999, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House that Senators Forshaw and Schacht had been appointed members of the Joint Select Committee on the Retailing Sector.

8 BILL REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Ronaldson (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the Year 2000 Information Disclosure Bill 1999 be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration.

Question—put and passed.

9 SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION FUNDS) BILL 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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr K. J. Thomson moved Opposition amendment (1), as circulated.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Hollis, in the Chair)—

AYES, 63

Mr Adams	Mr Gibbons	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Ms Roxon
Mr Albanese	Ms Gillard	Ms Macklin	Mr Rudd
Mr Bevis	Mr Griffin	Mr McLeay	Mr Sawford*
Ms Burke	Ms Hall	Mr McMullan	Mr Sciacca
Mr Cox	Mr Hatton	Mr Martin	Mr Sercombe*
Mr Crean	Ms Hoare	Mr Melham	Mr Sidebottom
Mrs Crosio	Mr Horne	Mr Morris	Mr Smith
Mr Danby	Mrs Irwin	Mr Mossfield	Mr Snowdon
Ms Ellis	Mr Jenkins	Mr Murphy	Mr Swan
Dr Emerson	Ms Kernot	Ms O'Byrne	Mr Tanner
Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Kerr	Mr O'Connor	Dr Theophanous
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr O'Keefe	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Lee	Mr Price	Mr Wilton
Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms Livermore	Mr Quick	Mr Zahra
Ms Gerick	Mr McClelland	Mr Ripoll	

NOES, 76

Mr Abbott	Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr St Clair
Mr Anderson	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Schultz
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fahey	Mr Lloyd	Mr Scott
Mr Anthony	Mr Fischer	Mr McArthur*	Mr Secker
Ms Bailey	Mr Forrest*	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr Slipper
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mr McGauran	Mr Somlyay
Mr Barresi	Mrs Gash	Mrs May	Dr Southcott
Mr Bartlett	Mr Georgiou	Mr Moore	Mrs Stone
Mr Billson	Mr Haase	Mrs Moylan	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Nairn	Mr A. P. Thomson
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hawker	Mr Nehl	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mr Hockey	Dr Nelson	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mrs Hull	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Nugent	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Mr Katter	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Pyne	Dr Washer
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Reith	Mr Williams
Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	Dr Wooldridge
Mrs Draper	Mr Lawler	Mr Ruddock	Ms Worth

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Mr K. J. Thomson, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (2) to (15) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendments be agreed to—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Hollis, in the Chair)—

AYES, 62

Mr Adams	Ms Gillard	Ms Macklin	Mr Rudd
Mr Albanese	Mr Griffin	Mr McLeay	Mr Sawford*
Ms Burke	Ms Hall	Mr McMullan	Mr Sciacca
Mr Cox	Mr Hatton	Mr Martin	Mr Sercombe*
Mr Crean	Ms Hoare	Mr Melham	Mr Sidebottom
Mrs Crosio	Mr Horne	Mr Morris	Mr Smith
Mr Danby	Mrs Irwin	Mr Mossfield	Mr Snowdon
Ms Ellis	Mr Jenkins	Mr Murphy	Mr Swan
Dr Emerson	Ms Kernot	Ms O'Byrne	Mr Tanner
Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Kerr	Mr O'Connor	Dr Theophanous
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr O'Keefe	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Lee	Mr Price	Mr Wilton
Mr Fitzgibbon	Ms Livermore	Mr Quick	Mr Zahra
Ms Gerick	Mr McClelland	Mr Ripoll	
Mr Gibbons	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Ms Roxon	

NOES, 76

Mr Abbott	Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr St Clair
Mr Anderson	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Schultz
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fahey	Mr Lloyd	Mr Scott
Mr Anthony	Mr Fischer	Mr McArthur*	Mr Secker
Ms Bailey	Mr Forrest*	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr Slipper
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mr McGauran	Mr Somlyay
Mr Barresi	Mrs Gash	Mrs May	Dr Southcott
Mr Bartlett	Mr Georgiou	Mr Moore	Mrs Stone
Mr Billson	Mr Haase	Mrs Moylan	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Nairn	Mr A. P. Thomson
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hawker	Mr Nehl	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mr Hockey	Dr Nelson	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mrs Hull	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Nugent	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Mr Katter	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Pyne	Dr Washer
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Reith	Mr Williams
Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	Dr Wooldridge
Mrs Draper	Mr Lawler	Mr Ruddock	Ms Worth

* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT

Mr Nehl (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business on Monday, 8 March 1999.

11 SALES TAX 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.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr K. J. Thomson moved the Opposition amendment, as circulated.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

12 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 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 Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), the Bill was read a third time.

13 GENERAL INTEREST CHARGE (IMPOSITION) BILL 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—

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), the Bill was read a third time.

14 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Ordered—That order of the day No. 5, government business, be postponed until the next sitting.

15 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1998-99

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 O'Byrne addressing the House—

16 ADJOURNMENT

It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

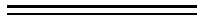
The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 16 February 1999:

Acts Interpretation Act—Statement relating to extension of time for presentation of periodic report—Migration Agents Registration Authority—Report for period 21 March to 30 June 1998.

Higher Education Funding Act—Determination 1999 No. T2.

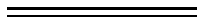
Migration Act—Statements (93) under section 417.

Therapeutic Goods Act—Therapeutic Goods Order No. 63.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Edwards, Mrs Gallus and Mrs Sullivan.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives