

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 36

WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY 1999

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

2 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES

Ordered—That notices Nos. 1 and 2, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

3 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—CSIRO CLAYTON (EASTERN PRECINCT) DEVELOPMENT WORKS, VIC.

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: CSIRO Clayton (Eastern Precinct) Development Works, Vic.

Question—put and passed.

4 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (SOFTWARE DEPRECIATION) BILL 1999—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 Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

5 HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999

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by Mr Lee, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide for removal of the items which seek to impose voluntary student unionism, which will damage the interests of students, communities and the nation as a whole by:

- (1) undermining the independence of universities by imposing political conditions on Commonwealth grants;
- (2) reducing student representation in an attempt to silence opposition to higher education funding cuts;
- (3) slashing services available to students, such as child care, legal and employment advice, cafeterias and sporting facilities;
- (4) placing a further financial burden on universities; and
- (5) putting at risk community services, facilities and employment, particularly in regional areas”—

Debate resumed.

Closure

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

AYES, 74

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

NOES, 64

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Ms Bailey	Mr Melham

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

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

AYES, 74

Mr Abbott	Mr Fahey	Mr Lindsay	Mr Schultz
Mr Anderson	Mr Fischer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Secker
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Forrest*	Mr McArthur*	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mrs Gallus	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr Somlyay
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Barresi	Mrs Gash	Mrs May	Mrs Stone
Mr Bartlett	Mr Georgiou	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
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 Downer	Jackie Kelly	Mr Reith	Mr Williams
Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	Ms Worth
Mrs Elson	Mr Lawler	Mr Ruddock	
Mr Entsch	Mr Lieberman	Mr St Clair	

NOES, 64

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Ms Bailey	Mr Melham

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put.

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

AYES, 74

Mr Abbott	Mr Fahey	Mr Lindsay	Mr Schultz
Mr Anderson	Mr Fischer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Secker
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Forrest*	Mr McArthur*	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mrs Gallus	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr Somlyay
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Barresi	Mrs Gash	Mrs May	Mrs Stone
Mr Bartlett	Mr Georgiou	Mr Moore	Mrs Sullivan
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 Downer	Jackie Kelly	Mr Reith	Mr Williams
Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	Ms Worth
Mrs Elson	Mr Lawler	Mr Ruddock	
Mr Entsch	Mr Lieberman	Mr St Clair	

NOES, 64

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Ms Bailey	Mr Melham

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Lee, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (1) to (3) together.

Debate continued.

Closure

Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the amendments be agreed to—was put accordingly, and negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Dr Kemp, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 48A

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That standing order 48A (adjournment and next meeting) be suspended for the sitting on Thursday, 13 May 1999.

Question—put and passed.

7 RETAILING SECTOR—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME FOR ADVISORY REPORT

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That the time for presenting the report of the Joint Select Committee on the Retailing Sector on the degree of industry concentration within the retailing sector in Australia be extended to 30 August 1999.

Question—put and passed.

8 WOOL INTERNATIONAL PRIVATISATION BILL 1999

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.

9 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

10 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Australian Maritime College—Report for 1998.

Australian National University—Report for 1998.

Finance—Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration—Statements for February 1999.

Supporting applications of issues from the Advance during February 1999.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner—

Native title report, 1997-98.

Social justice report, 1997-98.

Industry Commission—Report No. 61—Telecommunications equipment, systems and services, 9 April 1998.

11 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following papers:

Finance—Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration—Statements for February 1999.

Supporting applications of issues from the Advance during February 1999.

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

12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—BUDGET

The House was informed that Mr Crean (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government’s Budget to address the real priorities of the nation”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Crean addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

13 CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14 IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT BILL 1999—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15 TRADESMEN’S RIGHTS REGULATION REPEAL BILL 1999—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

16 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 85, 11 May 1999, from the Senate was reported transmitting a resolution agreed to by the Senate extending the time for the presentation of the report of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities on the provisions of the Corporate Law Economic Reform Program Bill 1998 to 12 May 1999.

17 CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Sercombe presented the following paper:

Corporations and Securities—Parliamentary Joint Committee—Corporate Law Economic Reform Program Bill 1998—Report, incorporating dissenting reports, May 1999.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Sercombe, by leave, made a statement in connection with the report.

Mr Sercombe, by leave, moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr Sercombe 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.

18 WOOL INTERNATIONAL PRIVATISATION BILL 1999

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 M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the Bill was read a third time.

19 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS—ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration moving an amendment to Schedule 1 of the Electoral and Referendum Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1998 during the consideration of amendments made by the Senate to the Bill.

Question—put and passed.

20 ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998—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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), Senate amendments (1) to (20), (22) to (25) and (27) to (34) were agreed to, after debate.

On the motion of Mr Slipper, Senate amendment (21) was disagreed to and Government amendments (1) and (4) were made in place of it, after debate.

On the motion of Mr Slipper, Senate amendment (26) was disagreed to and Government amendment (2) was made in place of it.

On the motion of Mr Slipper, Government amendment (3) to Schedule 1 was made.

Papers

Mr Slipper presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum and a further supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Mr Slipper moved—That in the message returning the Bill to the Senate, the Senate be requested to reconsider the Bill in respect of amendment (3) made by the House of Representatives to Schedule 1.

Question—put and passed.

21 SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1999

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 by Mr K. J. Thomson who moved, as an amendment—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 condemns the Government for the financial uncertainty and hardship it has caused *Do It Yourself* superannuation fund trustees and fund members, many of which are operated by small businesses, in taking nearly 12 months since it announced its changes to introduce and debate this legislation”.

Ms J. I. Bishop addressing the House—

22 ADJOURNMENT

It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPER

The following paper was deemed to have been presented on 12 May 1999:
Defence Act—Determination under section 58B 1999 No. 11.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Bailey and Mr Latham.

**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-99

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 36

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY 1999

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY

Ordered—That order of the day No. 1, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

4 CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

5 IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT BILL 1999

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

6 TRADESMEN'S RIGHTS REGULATION REPEAL BILL 1999

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 by Mr M. J. Ferguson who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill not be proceeded with until details of transitional mechanisms are provided which guarantee a smooth transfer from the existing arrangements to the new system”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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

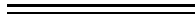
Leave granted for the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

7 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Reith (Leader of the House), the Main Committee adjourned at 12.08 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 9.40 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee