

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES****VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 61

MONDAY, 30 AUGUST 1999



1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mr Somlyay presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to the Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 26-31 July 1999—  
Report, August 1999—

and made a statement in connection with the report.

**3 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Lieberman (Chair) presented the following papers:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—Standing Committee—  
Unlocking the Future: Inquiry into the Reeves review of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*—

Report, August 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Lieberman, Mr Melham and Mr Snowdon made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Lieberman moved—That the House take note of the report.

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

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**4 RETAILING SECTOR—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Baird (Chair) presented the following papers:

Retailing Sector—Joint Select Committee—Fair Market or Market Failure? Review of Australia's retailing sector—

Report, August 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Baird and Mr Jenkins made statements in connection with the report.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Baird moved—That the House take note of the report.

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

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**5 TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr A. P. Thomson (Chair) presented the following papers:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—24th report—A Seminar on the Role of Parliaments in Treaty Making—

Report, August 1999.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr A. P. Thomson and Mr Adams made statements in connection with the report.

The time for consideration of committee and delegation reports having expired—

Mr A. P. Thomson moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr A. P. Thomson was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**6 LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE BILL 1999**

Mr Kerr, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish a Parliamentary Joint Committee on Commonwealth Law Enforcement and for related purposes.

Mr Kerr made a statement in relation to the Bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting, in accordance with standing order 104A.

#### **7 FAIR PRICES AND BETTER ACCESS FOR ALL (PETROLEUM) BILL 1999**

Mr Fitzgibbon, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to allow franchisees in the petroleum sector to purchase fuels for re-sale from a variety of sources.

Mr Fitzgibbon made a statement in relation to the Bill.

*Paper*

Mr Fitzgibbon, by leave, presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting, in accordance with standing order 104A.

#### **8 HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH**

Ms J. I. Bishop, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) welcomes the report entitled “Final report of the Health and Medical Research Strategic Review Committee: The virtuous cycle—Working together for health and medical research” and its recommendations for implementation;
- (2) notes the important link between Australia’s health and medical research capability and the delivery of a cost-effective and equitable health care system;
- (3) recognises the excellent work and the high level of commitment among those working in the medical research field;
- (4) applauds the Federal Government’s specific commitment to increasing annual funding for health and medical research, through the National Health and Medical Research Council, by more than doubling funding of base research with an investment of a further \$614m over the next six years; and
- (5) urges the Federal Government to pursue reforms proposed in the final report.

Debate ensued.

At 1.45 p.m., the time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106A, Mr Murphy was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed, and the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for the next sitting.

#### **9 MEMBERS’ STATEMENTS**

Members’ statements were made.

#### **10 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

*Paper*

Mr McLeay, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment Services)—

Mr Abbott presented the following paper:

Work for the dole program—Letter from Karen Grice to Mr Brough, 3 August 1999.

Questions without notice continued.

*Paper*

Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services) presented the following paper:

More Intensive and Flexible Services Pilot Evaluation—Disability Policy Section, Disability and Carer Branch, Department of Social Security, May 1998.

Questions without notice continued.

**11 PAPER**

Mr Costello (Treasurer), by indulgence, added to an answer given during question time and presented the following paper:

Budget deficit—Table E1 (continued)—Underlying outlays, revenue and underlying deficit, 1989-90 to 2002-03.

**12 PETITIONS**

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

**13 REPUBLIC REFERENDUM**

Ms Roxon, pursuant to notice, moved—That the House:

- (1) notes the importance of the referendum on 6 November 1999 that goes to our identity as a nation and our system of government;
- (2) notes that our stable democracy will continue and be strengthened if this referendum question were to be approved by the people of Australia;
- (3) urges all Members of this House, whether they be monarchists, republicans or direct election supporters, to participate honestly in the referendum campaign; and
- (4) deplors misleading and mischievous scare campaigns on such an important national issue, such as:
  - (a) the misrepresentation of the current powers of the Prime Minister to dismiss a Governor-General;
  - (b) suggesting that the new constitutional arrangements would be unworkable or undemocratic;
  - (c) understating the significance of the public nomination process;
  - (d) mischaracterising the non-partisan role of the Commonwealth Parliament in appointing the President; and
  - (e) the use of the preamble issue to distract from the question of whether Australia should have an Australian Head of State.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**14 GRIEVANCE DEBATE**

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired—

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

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

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 Bills:

24 August 1999—Message No. 108—

Criminal Code Amendment (Slavery and Sexual Servitude) 1999.

Copyright Amendment (Computer Programs) 1999.

**16 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE**

Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, moved—That Mr Lawler be appointed a member of the Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services in place of Mrs D. M. Kelly .

Question—put and passed.

**17 SOCIAL SECURITY (ADMINISTRATION) 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.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mrs D. M. Kelly, in the Chair)—

## AYES, 72

Mr Abbott	Mr Downer	Mr Lawler	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mrs Draper	Mr Lieberman	Mr St Clair
Mr Andren	Mrs Elson	Mr Lindsay	Mr Schultz
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Entsch	Mr Lloyd	Mr Scott
Mr Anthony	Mr Fahey	Mr McArthur*	Mr Secker
Fran 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	Mrs Moylan	Dr Stone
Mr Billson	Mr Haase	Mr Nairn	Mrs Sullivan
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Nehl	Mr C. P. Thompson
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hawker	Dr Nelson	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mr Brough	Mr Hockey	Mr Neville	Mr Truss
Mr Cadman	Mrs Hull	Mr Nugent	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cameron	Mr Jull	Mr Prosser	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Mr Katter	Mr Pyne	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Jackie Kelly	Mr Reith	Dr Washer
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	Ms Worth

## NOES, 64

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

\* Tellers

*Pairs*

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr M. A. J. Vaile	Mr Tanner
Mr Fischer	Mr Breton

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

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 109, 4 June 1999, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services), by leave, moved Government amendments (1) to (28) together.

*Paper*

Mr Anthony presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Social Security (Administration) 1999;

Social Security (International Agreements) 1999; and

Social Security (Administration and International Agreements) (Consequential Amendments) 1999.

Debate continued.

Amendments agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Anthony, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**18 SOCIAL SECURITY (INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS) 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.

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 110, 4 June 1999, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services), the Government amendment was made, after debate.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Anthony, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**19 SOCIAL SECURITY (ADMINISTRATION AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS) (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) 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.

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services), by leave, Government amendments (1) to (14) were made, together.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Anthony, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

## 20 A NEW TAX SYSTEM (TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT) BILL (NO. 1) 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 Crean 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 calls on the Government not to proceed with the bill until:

- (1) the final report of the Ralph Committee, except for market sensitive information, has been released by the Government;
- (2) full consultations have been undertaken with relevant stakeholders regarding the report’s proposals; and
- (3) matters directly related to this legislation (namely the reporting requirements of PAYG withholders to the Taxation Office which are critical to the proper evaluation of this legislation and are to be included in subsequent legislation) are before the House, so that the House can evaluate the full effects of this bill.”

Debate continued.

Mr K. J. Thomson addressing the House—

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## 21 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed

And then the House, at 10.58 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

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## PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 30 August 1999:

Maritime College Act—Australian Maritime College Statutes—1999 Nos. 10, 11.

Migration Act—

Certificates under section 502, 17(2) August 1999.

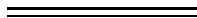
General direction under section 499, 1999 No. 18.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Brereton, Mr Fischer, Mr Tanner and Mr M. A. J. Vaile.



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives