

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 68

THURSDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 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 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS MOVED

Mr Crean (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Treasurer being required to attend the chamber forthwith to explain, before he goes overseas tomorrow:

- (a) his leadership challenge in today's *Australian Financial Review*;
- (b) why he has chosen to set the clock ticking on the Prime Minister's leadership; and
- (c) his own timetable for and claim on leadership of the Coalition.

Closure of Member

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) moved—That the Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr J. N. Andrew, in the Chair)—

AYES, 74

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

NOES, 59

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke
Mr Hardgrave	Mr G. J. Evans
Mr Brough	Mr Wilkie

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr McMullan (second) addressing the House—

Closure of Member

Mr Hockey moved—That the Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr J. N. Andrew, in the Chair)—

AYES, 75

Mr Abbott	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr Anderson	Mr Fahey	Mr Lloyd	Mr Secker
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fischer	Mr McArthur*	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mr Forrest*	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr Somlyay
Fran Bailey	Mrs Gallus	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mrs May	Dr 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 Hawker	Mr Nehl	Mr Truss
Ms J. I. Bishop	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 Pyne	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	Dr Washer
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ronaldson	Mr Williams
Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock	Dr Wooldridge
Mrs Draper	Mr Lawler	Mr St Clair	Ms Worth
Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr Schultz	

NOES, 59

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke
Mr Hardgrave	Mr G. J. Evans
Mr Brough	Mr Wilkie

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr Melham rising to address the House—

Closure

Mr Hockey moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr J. N. Andrew, in the Chair)—

AYES, 75

Mr Abbott	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr Anderson	Mr Fahey	Mr Lloyd	Mr Secker
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fischer	Mr McArthur*	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mr Forrest*	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Mr Somlyay
Fran Bailey	Mrs Gallus	Mr McGauran	Dr Southcott
Mr Baird	Ms Gambaro	Mrs May	Dr 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 Hawker	Mr Nehl	Mr Truss
Ms J. I. Bishop	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 Pyne	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	Dr Washer
Mr Costello	Jackie Kelly	Mr Ronaldson	Mr Williams
Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock	Dr Wooldridge
Mrs Draper	Mr Lawler	Mr St Clair	Ms Worth
Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr Schultz	

NOES, 59

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke
Mr Hardgrave	Mr G. J. Evans
Mr Brough	Mr Wilkie

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion for the suspension of standing and sessional orders be agreed to—being accordingly put—

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr J. N. Andrew, in the Chair)—

AYES, 59

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

NOES, 74

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke
Mr Hardgrave	Mr G. J. Evans
Mr Brough	Mr Wilkie

And so it was negatived.

3 DIESEL AND ALTERNATIVE FUELS GRANTS SCHEME (ADMINISTRATION AND COMPLIANCE) BILL 1999

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Diesel and Alternative Fuels Grants Scheme Act 1999*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Hockey presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

4 CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION FUNDS (CONSUMER PROTECTION) BILL 1999

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the conduct of, and the disclosure of

information by, life companies, life brokers and life insurance advisers, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Hockey presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

5 INTERNATIONAL TAX AGREEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL 1999

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *International Tax Agreements Act 1953*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Slipper presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

6 SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

7 HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING 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 M. J. Evans, viz.*—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:

- (1) notes that the quality of Australian education institutions is of prime importance to our future, both economically and culturally; and
- (2) condemns the Government for damaging the quality of Australian education by:
 - (a) punitive cuts to universities;
 - (b) a lack of commitment to equity issues; and
 - (c) mismanagement of the education export industry”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

Messages from the Governor-General

The following messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced:

No. 118, 16 July 1999, recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill; and

No. 119, 27 August 1999, recommending an appropriation for the purposes of amendments to the Bill.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr M. J. Evans, by leave, Opposition amendments 1 and 2 were made together, after debate.

On the motion of Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), by leave, Government amendments 1 to 5 were made together, after debate.

Paper

Ms Worth presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Ms Worth, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

8 FINANCIAL SECTOR REFORM (AMENDMENTS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) 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 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, this House condemns the Government for:

- (1) watering down the provisions which would enable the Treasurer to fully restore workers’ superannuation entitlements which are lost through theft or fraud; and
- (2) its continued failure to protect the accrued employee entitlements for working Australians”—

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

AYES, 71

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

NOES, 59

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Prosser	Ms Burke
Mr Hardgrave	Mr G. J. Evans
Mr Brough	Mr Wilkie

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr K. J. Thomson, by leave, moved Opposition amendments 1 to 5 together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) moved the Government amendment.

On the motion of Mr K. J. Thomson, an amendment to the Government amendment was made, after debate.

Question—That the amendment, as amended, be agreed to—put and passed.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

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

9 AUTHORISED NON-OPERATING HOLDING COMPANIES SUPERVISORY LEVY DETERMINATION VALIDATION 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 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:

- (1) its sloppy administration in relation to the setting of the levy limits;
- (2) the lack of transparency displayed in the determination of the levy; and
- (3) its failure to adequately consult with industry participants”.

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 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.

10 GENERAL INSURANCE SUPERVISORY LEVY DETERMINATION VALIDATION 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 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.

11 LIFE INSURANCE SUPERVISORY LEVY DETERMINATION VALIDATION 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 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.

12 RETIREMENT SAVINGS ACCOUNT PROVIDERS SUPERVISORY LEVY DETERMINATION VALIDATION 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 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 SUPERANNUATION SUPERVISORY LEVY DETERMINATION VALIDATION 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 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 HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 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 Williams (Attorney-General), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

15 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 9) 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:

- (1) the Prime Minister for attempting to deceive the Australian public by announcing a policy concerning diesel fuel rebate for the timber industry in his media release of 31 May 1999 and then reneging on that policy commitment less than three months later;
- (2) the Deputy Prime Minister for claiming in the House on 28 June 1999 that the cut in the diesel fuel rebate was as a result of the deal with the Democrats when the Government now claims that that decision was a mistake; and
- (3) the Minister for Forestry and Conservation for not protecting the interests of the timber industry and allowing its access to the diesel fuel rebate scheme to be traded off with the Democrats in securing the deal to pass the GST”.

Debate continued.

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.

16 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

17 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Second quarterly report of the Chief Executive Officer, for period 1 April to 30 June 1999.

East Timor—Report—Official Australian Delegation, 26 August–1 September 1999.

Employment Services Regulatory Authority—
Report for 1997-98.

Ministerial response.

Finance—Final budget outcome 1998-99.

Public Lending Right Committee—Report for 1998-99.

18 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

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

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Second quarterly report of the Chief Executive Officer, for period 1 April to 30 June 1999.

Finance—Final budget outcome 1998-99.

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

19 PAPER

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) presented the following paper:

Petition not in accord with standing and sessional orders of the House—The widespread community support for the Australian Government to help ensure safe and fair consultation in East Timor and a free and fair United Nations supervised act of self-determination (Mr Albanese, 134 petitioners).

20 VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA AND THE MEETINGS OF THE CAIRNS GROUP AND APEC—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Trade), by leave, made a ministerial statement on his visit to South America and the meetings of the Cairns Group and APEC and presented the following papers:

Visit to South America and the meetings of the Cairns Group and APEC—Ministerial statement.

APEC—Australia's individual action plan, 1999.

Mr McMullan, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism) moved—That the House take note of the papers.

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

21 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE IN EAST TIMOR

The House was informed that Mr Martin had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The need for the Minister for Defence to ensure that the Australian Defence Force can sustain its deployment in East Timor as part of the Multinational Force".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Martin addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

22 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 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 Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

23 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT PARAP GROVE, DARWIN

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, 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: Housing Development at Parap Grove, Darwin.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

24 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 9) 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 K. J. Thomson (see item No. 15, page 885)—*

Debate resumed.

Amendment negatived.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Tuckey (Minister for Forestry and Conservation), the Bill was read a third time.

25 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Deputy Speaker reported that Monday, 27 September 1999, at 4 p.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

26 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:

22 September 1999—Message No. 120—

Coal Mining Legislation Amendment (Oakdale Collieries and others) 1999.

Social Security (Family Allowance and Related Matters) Legislation Amendment 1999.

Ministers of State Amendment 1999.

Defence Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1999.

Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 7) 1999.

Statute Stocktake 1999.

Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Youth Employment) 1999.

27 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, 23 September 1999, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 197—Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 2) 1999.

No. 198—Law and Justice Legislation Amendment 1999.

No. 199—Superannuation (Unclaimed Money and Lost Members) 1999.

No. 200—Superannuation (Unclaimed Money and Lost Members) Consequential and Transitional 1999.

No. 201—Crimes Amendment (Fine Enforcement) 1999.

No. 202—Television Licence Fees Amendment 1999.

No. 203—Broadcasting Services Amendment (No. 2) 1999.

No. 204—States Grants (General Purposes) Amendment 1999.

28 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AUSTRALIAN TOURIST COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1999

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

23 September 1999—Message No. 205—Australian Tourist Commission Amendment 1999.

Ordered—That the amendment be considered at the next sitting.

29 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—WAR CRIMES AMENDMENT BILL 1999

Message No. 196, 23 September 1999, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for an Act to amend the *War Crimes Act 1945*.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

30 INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (SUPPLEMENTARY ASSISTANCE) 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—

Debate resumed by Mr M. J. Evans 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:

- (1) notes that indigenous Australians are the most educationally disadvantaged group in the country;
- (2) condemns the Government for:
 - (a) failing to release the findings of the 1997-98 review of ABSTUDY; and
 - (b) cutting ABSTUDY payments to some categories of indigenous students; and
- (3) calls on the Government to legislate to re-direct savings from its ABSTUDY changes into indigenous education”.

Debate continued.

Mr C. P. Thompson addressing the House—

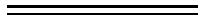
31 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 5.59 p.m., adjourned until Monday next at 12.30 p.m.

**PAPERS**

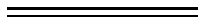
The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 23 September 1999:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—Instrument 1999 No. CASA 979.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1999 Nos. 216, 217.

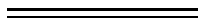
Telecommunications Act 1997—Instrument 1999 Telecommunications Labelling (Customer Equipment and Customer Cabling) Amendment Notice (No. 1).

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instrument under section 5JA 1999 No. 5.

**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Brough, Ms Burke*, Mr G. J. Evans, Mr Hardgrave, Mr Latham, Mr Lee, Mr Prosser*, Mr Snowdon and Mr Wilkie.

* On leave



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-99

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 68

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 1999

1 The Main Committee met at 9.55 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION 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.

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.

4 EAST TIMOR—UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL—RESOLUTION 1264, 15 SEPTEMBER 1999—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 Reith (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 21 September, 1999*), viz.:

East Timor—United Nations Security Council—Resolution 1264, 15 September 1999—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of sitting

At 12.01 p.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of sitting

At 12.13 p.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

Adjournment negatived

It being 12.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the Committee do now adjourn.

Mr Neville requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

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

5 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Somlyay moved—That the Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until Wednesday, 27 September 1999, at 9.40 a.m. unless an alternative day or hour is fixed.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee