

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 122

THURSDAY, 22 JUNE 2000



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 PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP (OIL) BILL 2000

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for grants for the recycling of oils, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Dr Stone presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Product Stewardship (Oil) 2000;

Customs Tariff Amendment (Product Stewardship for Waste Oil) 2000;

Excise Tariff Amendment (Product Stewardship for Waste Oil) 2000; and

Product Stewardship (Oil) (Consequential Amendments) 2000.

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

4 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP FOR WASTE OIL) BILL 2000

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1995*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

5 EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP FOR WASTE OIL) BILL 2000

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Excise Tariff Act 1921*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

6 PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP (OIL) (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2000

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make consequential amendments in connection with the enactment of the *Product Stewardship (Oil) Act 2000*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

7 RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) BILL 2000

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) presented a Bill for an Act for the establishment and administration of a scheme to encourage additional electricity generation from renewable energy sources, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Dr Stone presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills: Renewable Energy (Electricity) 2000; and Renewable Energy (Electricity) (Charge) 2000.

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

8 RENEWABLE ENERGY (ELECTRICITY) (CHARGE) BILL 2000

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) presented a Bill for an Act to impose renewable energy certificate charge, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

9 PAPER

Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) presented the following paper:

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Report—Australia’s health 2000.

10 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (CONSUMER PROTECTION AND SERVICE STANDARDS) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000

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 Smith, 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, recognising the fundamental importance of high quality and reliable telecommunications services to all Australians now and in the future:

- (1) condemns the Government for its continuing push towards the full privatisation of Telstra which will inevitably lead to a decline in services to rural and regional Australia;
- (2) recognises the importance of the Universal Service Obligation to the delivery of minimum communications services to rural and regional Australia;
- (3) notes that while the Government is holding up competitive tendering as the solution to rural and regional service delivery difficulties and as a justification of the full privatisation of Telstra:
 - (a) its plan is limited to two pilot projects in undefined areas the results of which will not be known for a number of years; and
 - (b) its decision to require Telstra to remain as a safety net provider of last resort in the areas to be covered by the pilot projects acknowledges the unique role of Telstra in the delivery of services to rural and regional Australia and the folly of pursuing full privatisation;
- (4) recognises that the Universal Service Obligation will need to encompass minimum digital data services in future; and
- (5) notes the wide Ministerial discretion given with respect to the calculation of the cost of the Universal Service Obligation, and the need for this to be on the basis of Australian Communication Authority advice”—

Debate resumed.

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

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

AYES, 73

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

NOES, 61

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

* Tellers

Pairs

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mrs Elson	Ms Macklin

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, and agreed to, after debate.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Trade), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

11 EXCISE AMENDMENT (COMPLIANCE IMPROVEMENT) BILL 2000

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) this fresh demonstration of the Government’s administrative style of drift followed by mad panic; and
- (2) its failure to tackle tobacco excise compliance, and now contemptuously giving the House of Representatives and the public a mere 24 hours to consider this Bill before debating it”.

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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

12 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS’ ENTITLEMENTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS) BILL 2000

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with a request for an amendment and informing the House that the amendments indicated by schedule B annexed had been made by the Senate:

21 June 2000—Message No. 397—Social Security and Veterans’ Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Matters) 2000.

Ordered—That the amendment requested by the Senate be considered forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the requested amendment was not made, after debate.

13 INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES—STANDING COMMITTEE

The House was informed that the Government Whip had nominated Mr I. E. Macfarlane to be a member of the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Resources in place of Mr Lawler.

Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, moved—That Mr Lawler be discharged from the Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Resources and that, in his place, Mr I. E. Macfarlane be appointed a member of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

14 INTERNATIONAL TAX AGREEMENTS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000

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 Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), the Bill was read a third time.

15 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mrs Moylan (Chair) presented the following paper:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Report relating to Defence Science and Technology Organisation Rationalisation Project, Melbourne (5th report of 2000).

Ordered to be printed.

Mrs Moylan, Mrs Crosio and Ms Roxon, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

16 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PARENTS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2000

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 Sciacca who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words:

“the bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide for an increase in the quota for parent visas based on:

- (1) a fair contribution by parents or their sponsors towards the costs to be met by Medicare for parents’ general health care;
- (2) any health contributions to be used to offset the increased costs for Medicare and public hospital services; and
- (3) the size of any contribution not being such as to exclude access to visas by parents of Australian families with limited means”.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

17 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2000-2001—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 Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

18 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 2000-2001—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 Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

19 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 1) 2000-2001—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 Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

20 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PARENTS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2000

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 Sciacca (see item No. 16, page 1562)—*

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.

21 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Costello (Treasurer), Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration) would be Acting Treasurer.

Mr Howard also informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Reith (Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business and Leader of the House), Mr Abbott (Minister for Employment Services) would be Acting Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business and Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) would be Acting Leader of the House.

22 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

23 PAPERS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister), by indulgence, adding to an answer to a question without notice given earlier, presented the following papers:

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act—Determinations 2000—
GST-free Supply (Drugs and Medicinal Preparations).
GST-free Supply (Health Goods).

24 SECRET MEETINGS OF HOUSE—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker made a statement in response to a question from Mr McLeay concerning secret meetings of the House during the Second World War.

25 PAPER

The following paper was presented:

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—Report—26th—An Agreement to extend the period of operation of the Joint Defence Facility at Pine Gap—Government response.

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

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 responsibility of the Government for the administrative chaos surrounding the GST”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

27 GENE TECHNOLOGY BILL 2000

Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to regulate activities involving gene technology, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Dr Wooldridge presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

28 GENE TECHNOLOGY (LICENCE CHARGES) BILL 2000

Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care) presented a Bill for an Act to impose charges on licences issued under the *Gene Technology Act 2000*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Dr Wooldridge presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

29 GENE TECHNOLOGY (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2000

Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to deal with consequential matters arising from the enactment of the *Gene Technology Act 2000*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Dr Wooldridge presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

30 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PARENTS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2000

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 Sciacca (see item No. 16, page 1562)—*

Debate resumed.

Dr Washer 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.

31 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 398, 22 June 2000, from the Senate was reported returning the Youth Allowance Consolidation Bill 1999 and acquainting the House that the Senate does not press its requests for amendments Nos 1 and 2 which the House has not made and agrees to the amendment made by the House in place of the

Senate's request for amendment No. 1, requests the House to amend the Bill further as indicated by schedule C and informs the House that the amendments indicated by schedule D have been made by the Senate.

Ordered—That the further amendments requested by the Senate be considered at the next sitting.

32 **MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate, 22 June 2000, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 399—Financial Management and Accountability Amendment 2000.

No. 400—Taxation Laws Amendment (No. 6) 2000.

No. 401—Petroleum (Submerged Lands) Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 2000.

No. 402—Transport Legislation Amendment 2000.

No. 403—National Health Amendment (No. 1) 2000.

33 **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Ruddock (Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 6 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until Monday next at 12.30 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 22 June 2000:

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act—Determination—2000 A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) (Adult and Community Education Courses).

Defence Act—Determination under section 58B—2000 No. 19.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings—2000 Nos GSTD 2, GSTD 3, GSTD 4, GSTD 5, GSTD 6, GSTR 19, GSTR 20, PR 74, PR 75, PR 76, PR 77, PR 78, PR 79, PR 80, PR 81, PR 82, PR 83, TD 26, TD 27.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Costello, Mrs Elson, Ms O'Byrne, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Reith, Mr Schultz and Mr Wilkie.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-1999-2000

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 122

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, 22 JUNE 2000

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2000-2001—BUDGET DEBATE

The order of the day having been read for the further consideration in detail of the Bill—

Consideration in detail

Schedule—

Proposed expenditures—

Department of Transport and Regional Services, \$508 145 000—debated.

Suspension of sitting

At 10.57 a.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of sitting

At 11.08 a.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Proposed expenditure agreed to.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, \$407 565 000—debated and agreed to.

Department of Family and Community Services, \$2 752 049 000—debated and agreed to.

Department of Health and Aged Care, \$2 422 762 000—debated.

Mr Lawler addressing the Committee—

Adjournment negatived

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

Mr Brough (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Proposed expenditure agreed to.

Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, \$899 171 000—debated and agreed to.

Remainder of Schedule, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

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

4 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 2000-2001

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.

5 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 1) 2000-2001

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 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

At 1.30 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT

Clerk of the Main Committee