

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 130

THURSDAY, 17 AUGUST 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 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 Deputy Leader of the Opposition moving—That order of the day No. 42, Government business, be called on and debated forthwith in view of:

- (1) soaring petrol prices, especially in regional Australia, largely caused by the increase in tax on every litre of petrol due to the GST;
- (2) the failure of the Government to honour its promise to cut the petrol excise by an equivalent amount to the GST, leaving at least 1.5 cents more excise per litre;
- (3) the further indexation in petrol tax on 1 August which was driven by GST price increases in housing and insurance and on pre-emptive price increases before the GST commenced;
- (4) the cascading effect of the GST which is imposed on the excise indexation increase, meaning that the GST is a tax on a tax thereby further lifting petrol prices; and
- (5) the Government deliberately misleading the Australian public on the effect of the GST on petrol taxation, and that it is planning to increase the level of petrol tax by around a further 2 cents in February 2001 due to the indexation of petrol excise due to the direct inflation effect of the GST.

*Closure of Member*

Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) moved—That the Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

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

## AYES, 73

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

## NOES, 61

Mr Adams	Ms Gillard	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Mr Rudd
Mr Albanese	Mr Griffin	Ms Macklin	Mr Sawford*
Mr Bevis	Ms Hall	Mr McLeay	Mr Sciacca
Mr Brereton	Mr Hatton	Mr McMullan	Mr Sercombe*
Ms Burke	Ms Hoare	Dr Martin	Mr Sidebottom
Mr Cox	Mr Hollis	Mr Melham	Mr Smith
Mr Crean	Mr Horne	Mr Morris	Mr Snowdon
Mrs Crosio	Mrs Irwin	Mr Mossfield	Mr Swan
Mr Danby	Mr Jenkins	Mr Murphy	Mr Tanner
Mr Edwards	Ms Kernot	Ms O'Byrne	Dr Theophanus
Mr Emerson	Mr Kerr	Mr O'Keefe	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Price	Mr Zahra
Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Lee	Mr Quick	
Ms Gerick	Ms Livermore	Mr Ripoll	
Mr Gibbons	Mr McClelland	Ms Roxon	

\* Tellers

*Pairs*

Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Reith	Mr O'Connor
Mr Moore	Ms Ellis
Mrs Draper	Mr Byrne

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr McMullan (second) addressing the House—

*Closure of Member*

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

Question—put.

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

AYES, 73

Mr Abbott	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Slipper
Mr Anderson	Mr Fahey	Mr Lloyd	Mr Somlyay
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Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Dr Nelson	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hawker	Mr Neville	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Brough	Mr Hockey	Mr Nugent	Mr Wakelin
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Mr Crean	Mr Horne	Mr Morris	Mr Snowdon
Mrs Crosio	Mrs Irwin	Mr Mossfield	Mr Swan
Mr Danby	Mr Jenkins	Mr Murphy	Mr Tanner
Mr Edwards	Ms Kernot	Ms O'Byrne	Dr Theophanous
Mr Emerson	Mr Kerr	Mr O'Keefe	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
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\* Tellers

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Mr Howard	Mr Beazley
Mr Reith	Mr O'Connor
Mr Moore	Ms Ellis
Mrs Draper	Mr Byrne

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion for the suspension of standing and sessional orders be agreed to—put.

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

## AYES, 61

Mr Adams	Ms Gillard	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Mr Rudd
Mr Albanese	Mr Griffin	Ms Macklin	Mr Sawford*
Mr Bevis	Ms Hall	Mr McLeay	Mr Sciacca
Mr Brereton	Mr Hatton	Mr McMullan	Mr Sercombe*
Ms Burke	Ms Hoare	Dr Martin	Mr Sidebottom
Mr Cox	Mr Hollis	Mr Melham	Mr Smith
Mr Crean	Mr Horne	Mr Morris	Mr Snowdon
Mrs Crosio	Mrs Irwin	Mr Mossfield	Mr Swan
Mr Danby	Mr Jenkins	Mr Murphy	Mr Tanner
Mr Edwards	Ms Kernot	Ms O'Byrne	Dr Theophanous
Mr Emerson	Mr Kerr	Mr O'Keefe	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Latham	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
Mr M. J. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Price	Mr Zahra
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Mr Reith	Mr O'Connor
Mr Moore	Ms Ellis
Mrs Draper	Mr Byrne

And so it was negatived.

### 3 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PRIVATE TRUSTS AND PRIVATE COMPANIES—INTEGRITY OF MEANS TESTING) BILL 2000

Mr Anthony (Minister for Community Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* and the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Anthony presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**4 SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2000**

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984*.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Williams presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**5 TOBACCO ADVERTISING PROHIBITION AMENDMENT 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.

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

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Swan the Opposition amendment was agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

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.

**6 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 7) 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.

**7 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES**

Ordered—That notices Nos 3 and 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

**8 FAMILY LAW 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.

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 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), Mrs B. K. Bishop (Minister for Aged Care) would be Acting Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.

#### 10 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper*

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

Goods and services tax—Survey and covering letter to residents from Senator Rosemary Crowley.

Questions without notice continued.

#### 11 PAPER

Mr Edwards, by leave, presented the following paper:

Vietnam National Order awards—Copy of letter from Charles Tran Van Lam to Lieutenant Colonel Harry Smith QC, 8 October 1999.

#### 12 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Export Markets Development Grant Act—Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)—Review of the Export Market Development Grants Scheme—30 June 2000

Petition not in accord with standing and sessional orders of the House—Calls on the Prime Minister to exempt the RSPCA from the Goods and Services Tax (Mr Hatton, 3970 petitioners).

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—Report 23—Amendments proposed to the International Whaling Convention—Government response, August 2000

#### 13 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Mr McGauran (Acting Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 28 August 2000, at 12.30 p.m., unless the Speaker or, in the event of the Speaker being unavailable, the Deputy Speaker, fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

#### 14 PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker made a statement concerning requests for information from the Parliamentary Library.

Mr Albanese, by indulgence, spoke to the matter.

**15 QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER**

The Speaker made a statement concerning standing order 142.

**16 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—TELSTRA PRIVATISATION**

The House was informed that Mr Smith had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The Government’s continuing push to fully privatise Telstra irrespective of the needs of rural and regional Australia”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Smith addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**17 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

Messages from the Senate, 17 August 2000, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 445—Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment (No. 3) 2000.

No. 446—Defence Legislation Amendment (Flexible Career Practices) 2000.

**18 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (DIGITAL AGENDA) BILL 2000**

Message No. 444, 17 August 2000, from the Senate was reported returning the Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Bill 2000 with amendments.

Ordered—That the amendments be considered forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Williams (Attorney-General), the amendments were agreed to, after debate.

**19 SELECTION COMMITTEE—AMENDED REPORT**

Mr Nehl (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Amended report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members’ business on Monday, 28 August 2000—

and, by leave, moved—That the report be adopted in lieu of the report presented on 15 August 2000.

Question—put and passed.

**20 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—18th REPORT**

Mr Lieberman (Chair) presented the following paper:

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE 18TH REPORT**

Energy Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1 July to 15 December 1999.



Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Reports—

No. 10—Inquiry into a complaint of acts or practices inconsistent with or contrary to human rights in an immigration detention centre.

No. 8—Inquiry into complaints of discrimination in employment and occupation: Age discrimination in the Australian Defence Force.

No. 9—Inquiry into complaints of discrimination in employment and occupation: Discrimination on the ground of trade union activity.

Judge Advocate General—Report for 1999.

LOU LIEBERMAN

Chair

17 August 2000

On the motion of Mr Lieberman, by leave, the report was agreed to.

**21 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (2000 BUDGET AND RELATED MEASURES) BILL 2000—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, a Governor-General's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**22 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—DEVELOPMENT OF RANGE SUPPORT FACILITIES, DELAMERE RANGE AND RAAF BASE TINDAL, NT**

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: Development of Range Support Facilities, Delamere Range and RAAF Base Tindal, NT.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**23 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—REMEDIATION OF DEFENCE LAND AT NEUTRAL BAY, SYDNEY**

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: Remediation of Defence land at Neutral Bay, Sydney.

Question—put and passed.

**24 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

Message No. 447, 17 August 2000, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House of the appointment of Senator Hutchins to the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

**25 FAMILY LAW 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.

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

**26 ADJOURNMENT**

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) 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, 28 August 2000, at 12.30 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to this sitting.

**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 17 August 2000:

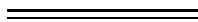
Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 2000 No. 10.

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Order 2000—Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (High Quality Beef Export to the European Union).

Taxation Administration Act—Ruling 2000 No. PR 91.

**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mrs Draper, Ms Ellis, Dr Kemp, Mr Moore, Mr O'Connor and Mr Reith.



**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-1999-2000

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 130

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**THURSDAY, 17 AUGUST 2000**

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1 Due to divisions having been called in the House the Main Committee met at 9.54 a.m.

2 **MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Members' statements were made.

3 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (2000 BUDGET AND RELATED 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.

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

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 229, 20 June 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

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 **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs Elson moved—That the Main Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

At 12.59 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until a date and time to be fixed.

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**B. C. WRIGHT**  
Clerk of the Main Committee