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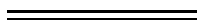
THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 132

TUESDAY, 29 AUGUST 2000



1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence of Senator Newman (Minister for Family and Community Services), Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs) would be Acting Minister for Family and Community Services.

**3 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

**4 PAPER**

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

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Bill 2000—Media Release by the National Catholic Education Commission, 23 August 2000.

**5 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS**

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Auditor-General—Audit reports of 2000-2001—Performance audits—

No. 5—Fraud control arrangements in the Department of Industry, Science and Resources—Department of Industry, Science and Resources.

No. 6—Fraud control arrangements in the Department of Health and Aged Care—Department of Health and Aged Care.

No. 7—The Australian Taxation Office's use of AUSTRAC data—The Australian Taxation Office.

Severally ordered to be printed.

**6 PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

Australian Communications Authority—National Relay Service Provider Performance—Report for 1998-99.

Export Market Development Grants—List of grant recipients—1999-2000.

Torres Strait Protected Zone Joint Authority—Report for 1998-99.

**7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

The House was informed that Mr M. J. Evans had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to address the crisis arising from our declining national R & D effort and to take Australia forward as a knowledge nation”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr M. J. Evans addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**8 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING**

The Deputy Speaker reported that Wednesday, 30 August 2000, at 9.40 a.m., had been fixed for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

**9 MATTER REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE**

Mr Ronaldson (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following order of the day, committee and delegation reports, be referred to the Main Committee for debate:

Employment, Education and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee—Report—Age counts: Issues specific to mature-age workers—Motion to take note of paper: Resumption of debate.

Question—put and passed.

**10 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT**

Mr Nehl (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members’ business on Monday, 4 September 2000.

**11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

28 August 2000—Message No. 448—Excise Amendment (Compliance Improvement) 2000.

**12 GENE TECHNOLOGY 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.

Debate adjourned (Mr Entsch—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

### 13 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

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### PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 29 August 2000:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 2000 No. 13.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Amendment Order—2000 No. 8.

Exemption—2000 No. CASA EX38.

Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act—

Guidelines for the Classification of Films and Videotapes—2000 Amendment No. 3.

National Classification Code—2000 Amendment No. 2.

Customs Act—

Instruments of approval—2000 Nos CEO 33, CEO 34, CEO 35, CEO 36, CEO 37, CEO 38, CEO 39, CEO 40, CEO 41, CEO 42, CEO 43, CEO 44, CEO 45, CEO 46, CEO 47, CEO 48, CEO 49.

Motor Vehicle Standards Act—Road Vehicle (National Standards) Determination—2000 No. 2.

Taxation Administration Act—Rulings—2000 Nos PR 92, PR 93.

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### ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Byrne, Mr Hollis, Mr Horne, Mr O'Connor, Mr Pyne, Mr Quick, Dr Stone, Mr M. A. J. Vaile and Mr Wilkie.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives