

1998-1999-2000

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 148

WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 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 WOOL SERVICES PRIVATISATION 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. 249, 4 September 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the Bill was read a third time.

3 AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL 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 Lee 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) cutting Commonwealth Government investment in higher education by a billion dollars;
- (2) proposing new arrangements for higher education research which:
 - (a) reduce the number of Commonwealth-funded research training places, particularly hurting newer, smaller and regional universities; and
 - (b) fail to address the need for increased research funding;

- (3) abolishing the National Board of Employment, Education and Training and thereby removing a significant source of corporate knowledge and independent advice; and
- (4) seeking to reduce the independence of the Australian Research Council, by removing its ability to initiate advice”.

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.

4 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

Member ordered to withdraw

At 3.24 p.m. the Member for Grayndler (Mr Albanese) was ordered, under standing order 304A, to withdraw from the House for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

5 DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND SMALL BUSINESS—REPORT FOR 1999-2000—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That the House take note of the following paper:

Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Report for 1999-2000.

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

6 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commercial Development Corporation—Report for 1999-2000.

Airservices Australia—National Equity and Diversity Program 1998-2001—Progress Report for 1999-2000.

Australian Industry Development Corporation—Report for 1999-2000.

ComLand Limited—Report for 1999-2000.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report—Pregnant and productive—Government response.

Maritime Industry Finance Company Limited—Report for 1999-2000.

Members of Parliament (Staff) Act—Report on consultants engaged under section 4 for 1999-2000.

Office of Asset Sales and IT Outsourcing—Report for 1999-2000.

7 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—EMPLOYMENT NATIONAL

The House was informed that Ms Kernot had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to properly manage the affairs of Employment National”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Ms Kernot addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

8 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1999

Message No. 473, 31 October 2000, from the Senate was reported returning the Health Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 4) 1999 and advising the House that the Senate had considered the bill and had divided the bill and made certain amendments. The message returned the bill as divided and amended, and requested the concurrence of the House in the action taken by the Senate and in the amendments made by the Senate. The message also informed the House that the Senate had taken other action in respect of part of the bill originally transmitted by the House.

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

9 HORTICULTURE MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BILL 2000—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, Governor-General’s messages recommending appropriations had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to with amendments (*see item No. 2, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of amendments.

Amendments made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

10 HORTICULTURE MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (REPEALS AND CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2000—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, Governor-General’s messages recommending appropriations had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to with amendments (*see item No. 3, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of amendments.

Amendments made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

11 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Charles (Chair) presented the following paper:

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Committee—Report 378—Defence acquisition projects; Debt management; Plasma fractionation: Review of Auditor-General's reports 1999-2000—Second quarter, 11 October 2000.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Charles, Mr Cox and Mr Georgiou, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

Mr Charles, by leave, moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Mr Charles 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.

12 PROPOSED CSIRO ENERGY CENTRE AT STEEL RIVER, NEWCASTLE, NSW—APPROVAL OF WORK

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*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Proposed CSIRO Energy Centre at Steel River, Newcastle, NSW.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

13 AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL 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 Lee (see item No. 3, page 1841)*—

Debate resumed.

Mr Hatton addressing the House—

14 ADJOURNMENT

At 7 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to on 31 October 2000, the question—That the House do now adjourn—was proposed.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 7.30 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 1 November 2000:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 2000 No. 14.

Defence Act—Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determination 2000 No. 20.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Adams, Mr Hollis*, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Price, Mrs Sullivan and Dr Theophanous.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998-1999-2000

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 148

MAIN COMMITTEE**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2000



1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 HORTICULTURE MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES 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 O'Connor 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 failing to provide key documents detailing how the new company Horticulture Australia Limited is to be held accountable for public moneys provided for research and development in a timely manner”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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

Messages from the Governor-General

Message No. 250, 31 October 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Message No. 251, 31 October 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced 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 Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), by leave, Government amendments (1) to (4) were made together.

Paper

Mr Truss presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

3 HORTICULTURE MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (REPEALS AND CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) 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.

Messages from the Governor-General

Message No. 252, 5 October 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Message No. 253, 31 October 2000, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced 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 Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), by leave, Government amendments (1) and (2) were made together.

Paper

Mr Truss presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with amendments.

4 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Truss (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the Main Committee adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 9.40 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee