

2002-03

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 103

MONDAY, 23 JUNE 2003

1 The House met, at 12.30 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Australian Parliamentary Delegation to Canada, 31 March to 3 April 2003, and the 108th Inter-Parliamentary Conference Santiago, Chile, 5 to 12 April 2003—Report, June 2003—

and made a statement in connection with the report.

Ms Vamvakinou also made a statement in connection with the report.

3 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Scott presented the following paper:

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—2003 New Zealand Parliamentary Committee Exchange, 6 to 11 April 2003—Report, June 2003.

Ordered to be printed.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Scott moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr Scott was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 ELECTORAL MATTERS—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Georgiou (Chair) presented the following papers:

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee—The 2001 Federal Election: Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2001 federal election, and matters related thereto—

Report, June 2003.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Georgiou moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr Georgiou was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 SCIENCE AND INNOVATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Nairn (Chair) presented the following papers:

Science and Innovation—Standing Committee—Riding the innovation wave: The case for increasing business investment in R&D—

Report, June 2003.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Statements in connection with the report were made.

The time allotted for making statements on the report having expired—

Mr Nairn moved—That the House take note of the report.

Mr Nairn was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

In accordance with standing order 102B, the debate was adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made and petitions were presented.

7 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr McGauran (Minister for Science), Dr Nelson (Minister for Education, Science and Training) would answer questions on his behalf.

8 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Member ordered to withdraw

At 2.18 p.m. the Member for Sydney (Ms Plibersek) 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 she accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

9 PETITIONS

Petitions lodged for presentation were announced.

10 IRAQ

Mrs Moylan, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the suffering and hardship experienced by the Iraqi people from years of neglect of essential services and the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein;
- (2) notes the grave consequences of this neglect to human health, contributing to the second highest infant and child mortality rates in a list of some of the poorest countries in the world;
- (3) notes the consequent poor state of essential services in Baghdad and other areas of Iraq and commends the efforts of the coalition, the United Nations and non-government organisations to provide emergency services to the people of Iraq;
- (4) notes the major ongoing challenges facing the people of Iraq including the need for continued rehabilitation of essential services such as sewerage and sanitation and notes that a major effort is underway to improve these services;
- (5) commends the Australian Government for the substantial contribution to humanitarian aid and reconstruction in Iraq, notably in relation to agriculture, where Australia is taking the lead with the United States;
- (6) notes that Australia's contribution of \$100 million is the 5th highest of the 15 main contributing countries; and

- (7) acknowledges the contribution of AusAid and Australian non-government organisations in the delivery of health services, water and sanitation work, co-ordination and logistics, food distribution, refugee preparedness and mine action and agriculture.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for the debate having expired, the debate was interrupted, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

11 AGED CARE

Ms Hall, pursuant to notice, moved—That this House:

- (1) recognises that Australia has an ageing population; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) address the chronic shortage of aged care beds;
 - (b) resolve the issues surrounding phantom beds;
 - (c) provide more community care packages;
 - (d) ensure that aged care resources are located in areas of greatest need; and
 - (e) provide positive initiatives to improve the quality of life of older Australians.

Debate ensued.

The time allotted for private Members' business having expired, the debate was interrupted, the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting, and Ms Jackson was granted leave to continue her speech when the debate is resumed.

12 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 106, the order of the day having been read—

Question proposed—That grievances be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

13 HIIH ROYAL COMMISSION (TRANSFER OF RECORDS) BILL 2003

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.

14 POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS

Ordered—That business intervening before order of the day No. 6, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

15 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003

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.

16 EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2003

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

17 NEW BUSINESS TAX SYSTEM (TAXATION OF FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS) BILL (NO. 1) 2003

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.

18 PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP (OIL) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2003

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. 142, 27 March 2003, 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 Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), the Bill was read a third time.

19 POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS

Ordered—That business intervening before order of the day No. 11, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

20 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 2003

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—

Mr Hatton seconded the amendment moved by Mr Cox on 19 June 2003, *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) condemns the Howard Government for its lack of fiscal control, having increased both outlays and tax substantially;
- (2) notes that the Government has also allowed the budget position to materially deteriorate by failing to deliver its own stated objective of a revenue neutral outcome on the Review of Business Taxation and its failure to confront major threats to the revenue through a growing tax avoidance industry including through the use of offshore tax havens; and
- (3) notes that, as a result of these failures, the Government lacks the capacity to enhance the international competitiveness of Australia’s taxation system, return the full value of bracket creep either through tax cuts or services, provide the health and education services needed by low and middle income Australians, and support the provision of retirement incomes for all Australians”.

Debate resumed.

Mr Emerson addressing the House—

21 ADJOURNMENT

It being 9 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

The House continuing to sit until 9.30 p.m.—The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 23 June 2003:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal—2003 No. 10.

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Act—Instrument fixing charges to be paid to APRA, 3 June 2003.

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—Airworthiness Directives—
Part 39-105—2003 6(3), 9(3), 20(3), 23(4), 26(2), 27(4), 28(8), 29(6), 30(8) May.

Part 39-106—2003 26(2), 28(2), 29 May.

Part 39-107—2003 28, 30(5) May.

Parliament Act—Parliamentary Zone—

Commonwealth Place—Approval of forecourt works.

Treasury Building—Approval of landscape and lighting works.

Taxation Administration Act—

Bulletin—2003 No. GSTB 2.

Rulings—

2001 No. PR 92 (Withdrawal).

2002 No. PR 73 (Withdrawal).

2003 Nos GSTR 3 (Erratum), GSTR 10, PR 43, PR 44, PR 45.

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Instrument under subsection 91(2)—2003 No. 2.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr I. E. Macfarlane*, Mr McGauran and Mr M. A. J. Vaile.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives