

2002-03

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 135

THURSDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2003



1 The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Neil Andrew) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT BILL 2003

Mr K. J. Andrews (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to improve workplace relations practices in the building and construction industry, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr K. J. Andrews moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr K. J. Andrews presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

3 BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL) BILL 2003

Mr K. J. Andrews (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to deal with matters consequential on the enactment of the *Building and Construction Industry Improvement Act 2003*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr K. J. Andrews moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr K. J. Andrews presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

4 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]

Mr K. J. Andrews (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend laws relating to workplace relations, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr K. J. Andrews moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr K. J. Andrews presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

5 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (BETTER BARGAINING) BILL 2003

Mr K. J. Andrews (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr K. J. Andrews moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr K. J. Andrews presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

6 MEDICAL INDEMNITY AMENDMENT BILL 2003

Mr Abbott (Minister for Health and Ageing), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Medical Indemnity Act 2002*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Abbott presented an explanatory memorandum to the following Bills:

Medical Indemnity Amendment 2003; and

Medical Indemnity (IBNR Indemnity) Contribution Amendment 2003.

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

7 MEDICAL INDEMNITY (IBNR INDEMNITY) CONTRIBUTION AMENDMENT BILL 2003

Mr Abbott (Minister for Health and Ageing) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Medical Indemnity (IBNR Indemnity) Contribution Act 2002*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

8 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That the resolution of the House of 9 October 1984, as amended, setting out the requirements for the declaration of Members' Interests be amended as follows:

Paragraph (i) (other assets)—omit “\$5000”, substitute “\$7500”.

Paragraph (k) (gifts)—

omit “\$500”, substitute “\$750”,

omit “\$200”, substitute “\$300”.

Paragraph (l) (sponsored travel)—omit the paragraph, substitute:

“(l) any sponsored travel or hospitality received where the value of the sponsored travel or hospitality exceeds \$300”.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

9 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 24 November 2003, 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.

10 PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE—REPORT—REPORT ADOPTED

Mr Somlyay (Chair) presented the following paper:

Committee of Privileges—Report concerning an application from Mr I. D. S. Collie for the publication of a response to a reference made in the House of Representatives.

Mr Somlyay, by leave, moved—That the report be adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE—REPORT

Mr Randall (Chair) presented the following paper:

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Publications Committee reports that it has met and considered documents presented to the House of Representatives since 16 October 2003. The Committee recommends that the following be printed:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission—Report for 2002-03.

Administrative Appeals Tribunal—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Dairy Corporation—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Federal Police—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Government Solicitor—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Heritage Commission—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Institute of Family Studies—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Institute of Marine Science—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Law Reform Commission—Report No. 97—Report for 2002-03

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Research Council—Report for 2002-03—Corrigendum.

Australian Securities and Investments Commission—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Sports Drug Agency—Report for 2002-03.

Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation—Report for 2002-03.

Classification Board and Classification Review Board—Report for 2002-03.

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions—Report for 2002-03.

Commonwealth Ombudsman and Defence Force Ombudsman—Report for 2002-03.

Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Report for 2002-03.

Department of Defence—Report for 2002-03.

Department of Health and Ageing—Report for 2002-03.

Department of the Parliamentary Library—Report for 2002-03.

Department of the Parliamentary Reporting Staff—Report for 2002-03.

Family Court of Australia—Report for 2002-03.

Federal Court of Australia—Report for 2002-03.

Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal—Report for 2002-03.

Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2002-03.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 2002-03.

Health Insurance Commission—Report for 2002-03.

Health Services Australia—Report for 2002-03.

Indigenous Business Australia—Report for 2002-03.

Industrial Relations Court of Australia—Report for 2002-03.

Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security—Report for 2002-03.

Migration Review Tribunal—Report for 2002-03.

National Capital Authority—Report for 2002-03.

National Native Title Tribunal—Report for 2002-03.

National Oceans Office—Report for 2002-03.

National Office for the Information Economy—Report for 2002-03.
 National Standards Commission—Report for 2002-03.
 Office of Parliamentary Counsel—Report for 2002-03.
 Privacy Commissioner—Report for 2002-03.
 Private Health Insurance Ombudsman—Report for 2002-03.
 Professional Services Review—Report for 2002-03.
 Refugee Review Tribunal—Report for 2002-03.
 Sugar Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2002-03.
 Telstra Corporation Limited—Report for 2002-03.
 Veterans' Review Board—Report for 2002-03.

DON RANDALL

Chair

6 November 2003

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

12 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE

The House was informed that the Government Whip had nominated Mr Somlyay to be a member of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs in place of Ms J. I. Bishop.

Mr Pyne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Family and Community Services), by leave, moved—That Ms J. I. Bishop be discharged from the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs and that, in her place, Mr Somlyay be appointed a member of the committee.

Question—put and passed.

13 TRADE PRACTICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT 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 Cameron (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer), the Bill was read a third time.

14 AUSTRALIAN PROTECTIVE SERVICE AMENDMENT BILL 2003

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Pyne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Family and Community Services) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr Pyne presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Mr McClelland moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not denying to give the Bill a second reading, the House calls on the Government to:

- (1) establish a complaints mechanism for the Australian Protective Service comparable to the *Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act 1981*;
- (2) provide Australian Protective Service officers with appropriate training to exercise the powers under the proposed legislation;
- (3) upgrade security at regional airports; and
- (4) ensure that the risk management culture at privatised airports results in security services that are the best and not simply the cheapest”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

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.

Paper

Mr Ruddock (Attorney-General) presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

On the motion of Mr Ruddock, by leave, Government amendments (1) to (6) were made together, after debate.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Ruddock, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

15 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (CHOICE IN AWARD COVERAGE) BILL 2002

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.

16 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

17 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations—Report for 2002-03—Corrigendum.

Indigenous Education and Training—National report to Parliament, 2002.

Telstra Corporation Limited—Equal employment opportunity—Report for 2002-03.

18 PAPERS

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) presented the following papers:

Petitions not in accord with standing and sessional orders of the House.

19 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—BULK BILLING RATES

The House was informed that Ms Gillard had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The continuing fall in bulk billing rates and the consequent impact on families”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Ms Gillard addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

20 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (CHOICE IN AWARD COVERAGE) BILL 2002

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.

Mr Hunt addressing the House—

21 ADJOURNMENT

It being 4.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 4.59 p.m., adjourned until Monday, 24 November 2003, 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 6 November 2003:

Australian Land Transport Development Act—Determination under section 10—2002-03.

Currency Act—Determination—2003 Currency (Royal Australian Mint) No. 7.

Parliamentary Service Act—Determination under subsection 63(1)—2003 No. 1.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Albanese, Mr Anderson, Ms Gambaro, Jackie Kelly, Dr Lawrence, Ms Macklin, Mr McGauran and Mr Snowdon*.

* On leave

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives

2002-03

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 135

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2003

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 AGE DISCRIMINATION 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—*And on the amendment moved by Mr McClelland, 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 condemns the Government for failing to ensure that federal age discrimination legislation contains the best standards of protection of older Australians, a failure which is consistent with its neglect of the human rights of all Australians, as evidenced by its introduction of legislation to weaken the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and other actions to wind back protections for Australian citizens”—

Debate resumed.

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

4 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

At 1.01 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee until Wednesday, 26 November 2003, at 9.40 a.m.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee