

2002-03-04

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 152

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH 2004

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

2 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were asked.

3 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Auditor-General—Audit reports of 2003–2004—

No. 29—Performance audit—Governance of the National Health and Medical Research Council: National Health and Medical Research Council, Department of Health and Ageing.

No. 30—Performance audit—Quality internet services for Government clients—Monitoring and evaluation by Government agencies.

No. 31—Business support process audit—The Senate Order for Departmental and Agency Contracts (Financial year 2002-2003 compliance).

No. 32—Performance audit—'Wedgetail' airborne early warning and control aircraft—Project management: Department of Defence.

Reports ordered to be printed.

4 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2002-03—Errata.

Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Report on the operations of the Registered Health Benefits Organisations for 2002-03—Errata.

Treaties—

Bilateral—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—

Consular agreement between Australia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Hanoi, 29 July 2003).

Multilateral—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—

Amendments, made at Marrakesh 2002, to the constitution and convention of the International Telecommunication Union (Geneva 1992) as amended by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Kyoto 1994) and by the Plenipotentiary Conference (Minneapolis 1998).

Withdrawal from the agreement establishing the international fund for agricultural development (Rome, 13 June 1976).

World Tourism Organization (WTO) statutes (Mexico City, 27 September 1970).

5 PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Abbott (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following paper:

Treaties—*Multilateral—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—*Withdrawal from the agreement establishing the international fund for agricultural development (Rome, 13 June 1976).

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

6 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—IRAQI WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION THREAT

The House was informed that Mr Rudd had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The Government’s public exaggeration of the Iraqi WMD threat as demonstrated by the conclusions of the parliamentary joint committee on intelligence report”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Rudd addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

7 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 412, 1 March 2004, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House that Senator O’Brien had been discharged from attendance on the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, and Senator Marshall had been appointed a member of the committee.

8 SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT

Mr Causley (Chair) presented the following paper:

Selection Committee—Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members’ business on Monday, 8 March 2004.

9 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Lloyd (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following Bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:

Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title 2004;

Privacy Amendment 2003;

Fisheries Legislation Amendment (Compliance and Deterrence Measures and Other Matters) 2003;

Fisheries Legislation Amendment (High Seas Fishing Activities and Other Matters) 2004; and

Customs Legislation Amendment (Application of International Trade Modernisation and Other Measures) 2003.

Question—put and passed.

10 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003

A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill with amendments:

1 March 2004—Message No. 414—Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment (No. 2) 2003.

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

11 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TRANSMISSION OF BUSINESS) BILL 2002

Message No. 413, 1 March 2004, from the Senate was reported returning the Workplace Relations Amendment (Transmission of Business) Bill 2002 and acquainting the House that the Senate has considered message No. 368 of the House relating to the Bill, does not insist on its amendments disagreed to by the House and has made amendments in place of those amendments. The Senate requests the concurrence of the House in the amendments made by the Senate in place of the amendments disagreed to by the House.

Ordered—That the amendments made by the Senate in place of the amendments disagreed to by the House be considered forthwith.

Mr K. J. Andrews (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations) moved—That the amendments made by the Senate in place of the amendments disagreed to by the House be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Deputy Speaker, Mr Jenkins, in the Chair)—

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Mr Abbott	Mr Dutton	Mrs Ley	Mr Secker
Mr Anderson	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Slipper
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Farmer	Mr Lloyd	Mr A. D. H. Smith
Mr Anthony	Mr Forrest*	Mr McArthur*	Mr Somlyay
Mr Baird	Mrs Gallus	Mr I. E. Macfarlane	Dr Southcott
Mr Baldwin	Ms Gambaro	Mr McGauran	Dr Stone
Mr Barresi	Mrs Gash	Mrs May	Mr C. P. Thompson
Mr Bartlett	Mr Georgiou	Mrs Moylan	Mr Ticehurst
Mrs B. K. Bishop	Mr Haase	Mr Nairn	Mr Tollner
Ms J. I. Bishop	Mr Hardgrave	Dr Nelson	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mr Hartsuyker	Mr Neville	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mr Hawker	Ms Panopoulos	Mr M. A. J. Vaile
Mr Cameron	Mr Hockey	Mr Pearce	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Mr Hunt	Mr Prosser	Dr Washer
Mr Charles	Mr Johnson	Mr Pyne	Mr Williams
Mr Ciobo	Mr Jull	Mr Randall	Mr Windsor
Mr Cobb	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Ruddock	Ms Worth
Mr Costello	Dr Kemp	Mr Schultz	
Mrs Draper	Mr P. E. King	Mr Scott	

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Mr Adams	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Ms Livermore	Mr Ripoll
Mr Albanese	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr McClelland	Ms Roxon
Mr Andren	Ms George	Ms J. S. McFarlane	Mr Rudd
Mr Bevis	Mr Gibbons	Ms Macklin	Mr Sawford
Mr Brereton	Ms Gillard	Mr McLeay	Mr Sciacca
Ms Burke	Ms Grierson	Mr McMullan	Mr Sercombe
Mr Byrne	Mr Griffin	Mr Melham	Mr Sidebottom
Ms Corcoran	Ms Hall	Mr Mossfield	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Cox	Mr Hatton	Mr Murphy	Mr Snowdon
Mr Crean	Ms Hoare	Ms O'Byrne	Mr Swan
Mrs Crosio	Mrs Irwin	Mr B. P. O'Connor	Mr Tanner
Mr Danby*	Ms Jackson	Mr G. M. O'Connor	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Edwards	Mr Katter	Mr Organ	Ms Vamvakinou
Mr Emerson	Mr Kerr	Ms Plibersek	Mr Wilkie
Mr Evans	Ms C. F. King	Mr Price	Mr Zahra
Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Quick*	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

12 MEDICAL INDEMNITY AMENDMENT BILL 2004

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 Ms Gillard 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) failing to act to prevent the medical indemnity crisis and engaging in a series of political fixes not long term solutions to the medical indemnity crisis; and
- (2) allowing a health crisis to develop including medical indemnity and insurance arrangements”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 218, 19 February 2004, 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 Abbott (Minister for Health and Ageing), the Bill was read a third time.

13 MEDICAL INDEMNITY (IBNR INDEMNITY) CONTRIBUTION AMENDMENT BILL 2004

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 Abbott (Minister for Health and Ageing), the Bill was read a third time.

14 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (PARAQUAT DICHLORIDE) BILL 2004

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.

15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until approximately 9.30 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 2 March 2004:

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—Order—2004 Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry (High quality beef export to the European Union).

Defence Act—Determination under section 52—2004 No. 1.

Higher Education Support Act—Guidelines for Commonwealth scholarships.

Lands Acquisition Act—Declaration under sub-section 41(1), 28 January 2004.

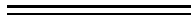
National Health Act—Declaration—2004 No. PB 4.

Social Security Act—Determination—2004 Social Security (Threshold Rates) (No. 1).

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation—2004 No. 3.

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Beazley, Ms Ellis, Mrs Elson, Mrs Hull and Jackie Kelly.



I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives

2002-03-04

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 152

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH 2004

1 The Main Committee met at 4.05 p.m.

2 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2003-2004**

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 McMullan, 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 its budget waste and mismanagement, and wrong priorities which have resulted in:

- (1) a costly Medicare ‘safety net’ which does not protect families from increasing health costs and declining levels of bulk billing;
- (2) inadequate funding and higher fees for students seeking access to higher education;
- (3) a growing number of families who are financially squeezed and trying to balance work and family; and
- (4) 500,000 Australians waiting up to five years to get their teeth fixed”—

Debate resumed.

Suspension of sitting

At 4.42 p.m., a division having been called in the House, the proceedings were suspended.

Resumption of sitting

At 4.53 p.m., the proceedings were resumed.

Debate continued.

Paper

Mr Jenkins, by leave, tabled the following paper:

Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR)—Healing Hands: Indigenous Health Rights—
Extract from AMA report on indigenous health.

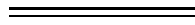
Debate continued.

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

3 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Neville, the Main Committee adjourned at 8.33 p.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