

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SELECTION COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 28

Committee and delegation business

and

private Members' business

3 July 2024

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Chair Hon M Dick MP Speaker

Members Ms J Ryan MP (Chief Government Whip)

 Mr B van Manen MP (Chief Opposition Whip)

 Mr S Bates MP

 Ms A Byrnes MP

 Hon M Coulton MP

 Dr M Freeland MP

 Dr C Garland MP

 Hon M Price MP

 Mr R Ramsey MP

 Ms T Roberts MP

 Ms R Sharkie MP

 Mr D Smith MP

 Ms A Stanley MP

Ms S Claydon MP, Deputy Speaker

This committee is supported by staff of the Department of the House of Representatives

Report relating to the consideration of committee and delegation business and of private Members' business

1. The Committee met in private session on Tuesday, 2 July 2024.
2. The Committee deliberated on items of committee and delegation business that had been notified, private Members' business items listed on the Notice Paper and notices lodged on Tuesday, 2 July 2024, and determined the order of precedence and times on Monday, 12 August 2024, as follows:

Items for House of Representatives Chamber (10.10 am to 12 noon)

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION BUSINESS

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices

1 DR HAINES: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the importance of affordable and well-located housing in regional, rural and remote Australia and the fundamental human right to shelter;
- (2) notes the:
 - (a) housing crisis is getting worse, with rents and house prices reaching record highs across regional Australia in the first half of 2024; and
 - (b) National Housing Accord's target of building 1.2 million new homes over five years from 1 July 2024 contains no specific targets for regional, rural and remote Australia;
- (3) acknowledges that:
 - (a) there is a housing affordability and availability crisis in regional, rural and remote Australia;
 - (b) this Government has no housing policies specifically targeted at addressing the housing needs of regional, rural and remote Australia; and
 - (c) the Housing Australia Future Fund and the Housing Support Program contain no dedicated funding or targets for regional, rural and remote Australia; and
- (4) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) commit to providing 30 per cent of all housing funding to regional, rural, and remote Australia, which would reflect a fair share of funding for the regions; and
 - (b) establish a dedicated regional housing infrastructure fund to provide the critical infrastructure the regions need to unlock new housing.

(Notice given 1 July 2024.)

Time allotted — 20 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Dr Haines — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 4 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

2 MS J RYAN: To move—That this House:

- (1) congratulates the efforts of Australia's Olympic Team at the 2024 Olympic Games; and
- (2) wishes the best of luck to the Australian Paralympic Team competing in the 2024 Paralympics between 28 August and 8 September 2024.

(Notice given 2 July 2024.)

Time allotted — 40 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Ms J Ryan — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

3 MR VAN MANEN: To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges that Australians are struggling through a cost of living crisis and are being failed by the Government;
- (2) notes that Australians have lost tens of thousands of dollars over the past two years through no fault of their own, with:
 - (a) workers paying 20 per cent more in personal income tax;
 - (b) real wages collapsing by nearly nine per cent;
 - (c) living standards falling by eight per cent;
 - (d) household savings reducing by almost ten per cent;
 - (e) prices on goods rising by around ten per cent;
 - (f) inflation remaining higher than any other developed nation; and
 - (g) homeowners with a typical mortgage of \$750,000 being some \$35,000 a year worse off; and
- (3) calls on the Government to address the economic pressures being placed on Australian families.

(Notice given 2 July 2024.)

Time allotted — remaining private Members' business time prior to 12 noon.

Speech time limits —

Mr van Manen — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking = 10 x 5 mins]

The Committee determined that consideration of this matter should continue on a future day.

Items for Federation Chamber (11 am to 1.30 pm)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices

1 MS TINK: To move—That this House:

(1) notes that:

- (a) the politicisation of tax reform is holding this country and economy back; and
- (b) this process of politicisation is frequently felt by small to medium sized businesses through their contact and engagement with the Australian Tax Office (ATO); and

(2) calls on the Government to recognise the importance of improving productivity within the small to medium business sector and ensure the ATO is working with businesses towards this outcome.

(Notice given 2 July 2024.)

Time allotted — 20 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Ms Tink — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking = 4 x 5 mins]

The Committee determined that consideration of this matter should continue on a future day.

2 MR PERRETT: To move—That this House:

(1) recognises that:

- (a) 12 August 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, the foundation of modern international humanitarian law; and
- (b) they are as relevant to armed conflict today as in 1949;

(2) acknowledges that the conventions, while universally accepted, are not being uniformly respected in times of war, underscoring the need for ongoing commitment;

(3) recalls that the conventions and their additional protocols protect civilians, medical personnel, chaplains and humanitarians as well as non-military places such as hospitals;

- (4) emphasises that compliance with international humanitarian law during armed conflict can reduce the human, economic, social and environmental cost of war, and facilitate the return to sustainable peace;
- (5) honours the role of Australian Red Cross in:
 - (a) disseminating and ensuring respect for international humanitarian law; and
 - (b) providing education about the correct use of the emblems of the conventions and their additional protocols;
- (6) pays respect to the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in assisting victims of armed conflict and working for the advancement of international humanitarian law; and
- (7) determines that Australia should remain a global leader in the promotion and implementation of the conventions and their additional protocols.

(Notice given 6 June 2024.)

Time allotted — 40 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Mr Perrett — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

3 MS BELL: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) it has been over 12 months since the Government introduced its Cheaper Child Care policy, and out of pocket costs have increased by 7.2 per cent in the past six months;
 - (b) all families saw an increase to their child care fees following the introduction of this policy, with some families slugged with multiple increases over the past 12 months;
 - (c) the Government has no idea how much of the \$4.7 billion that was spent on higher child care subsidies was actually eaten by inflation and increased fees; and
 - (d) the Government's policy has done nothing to increase access to early childhood education and care, particularly in regional, rural and remote communities; and
- (2) calls on the Government to deliver:
 - (a) more access to early childhood education and care places to support Australians to return to the workforce; and
 - (b) real cost of living relief to families.

(Notice given 2 July 2024.)

Time allotted — 30 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Ms Bell — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 6 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

Orders of the day

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Resumption of debate (*expected to be from 4 July 2024*)
on the motion of Mr Burns—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) safe and affordable housing is central to the security and dignity of Australians;
 - (b) Australia does not have enough homes and has not for a long time; and
 - (c) the Government has committed to an ambitious housing reform agenda which will boost the supply of all housing, including more public and social housing, more affordable housing, more homes to rent, and more homes to buy;
- (2) acknowledges the \$6.2 billion in new investment in the 2024-25 budget to build more homes more quickly, bringing the Government's new housing initiatives to \$32 billion, which includes:
 - (a) additional funding for the new \$9.3 billion National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness (including a doubling of Commonwealth homelessness funding to \$400 million every year, matched by states and territories);
 - (b) directing \$1 billion to Housing Australia towards crisis and transitional accommodation for women and children experiencing domestic violence;
 - (c) assisting nearly 1 million Australian households with the cost of rent by delivering \$1.9 billion for the first back-to-back increase to Commonwealth Rent Assistance in more than 30 years; and
 - (d) providing up to \$1.9 billion in concessional finance for community housing providers and other charities to support delivery of the 40,000 social and affordable homes under the Housing Australia Future Fund and National Housing Accord; and
- (3) further acknowledges the Government's ambitious goal of building 1.2 million homes by the end of the decade.

Time allotted — 30 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 6 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

Notices – continued

4 MR WALLACE: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) two and half years since the further illegal and immoral invasion of Ukraine by Russia, Ukrainian military forces continue to bravely defend their homeland;
 - (b) Australia risks, again, falling behind like-minded partners in supporting Ukraine unless the Government moves to quickly back the G7 agreement of a \$50 billion USD loan for Ukraine obtained through frozen Russian assets;
 - (c) having claimed legal difficulties as justification to not use Russian assets, the Government now needs to stop finding excuses to not support Ukraine and wholeheartedly commit to doing all that Australia possibly can;
 - (d) unlike the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Canada and France, Australia has not yet made any contribution to the unfolding global debate to the transfer of funds from Russia’s frozen assets to Ukraine to assist with their war effort;
 - (e) if Australia’s laws need amending to better target Russian assets or make more effective sanctions on Russia, then the Opposition will support sensible amendments to facilitate this;
 - (f) the Opposition, since the beginning of Russia’s abhorrent and illegal further invasion of Ukraine, has offered full bipartisan support to the Government to implement all possible mechanisms that would aid Ukraine’s self-defence;
 - (g) instead of acting wherever it can to assist Ukraine, the Government has let Australia’s relative support decline by:
 - (i) junking Taipan military helicopters;
 - (ii) refusing assistance by not sending Hawkeii protected mobility vehicles;
 - (iii) ignoring calls to reinstate Australia’s embassy in Kyiv; and
 - (iv) turning down requests for coal; and
- (2) condemns the Government for its failure to assist Ukraine in its hour of dire need.
(Notice given 25 June 2024.)

*Time allotted — remaining private Members’
business time prior to 1.30 pm.*

Speech time limits —

Mr Wallace — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 6 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

Items for Federation Chamber (4.45 pm to 7.30 pm)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Orders of the day – continued

1 TAX CUTS: Resumption of debate (*from 1 July 2024*) on the motion of Mr R Mitchell—That this House:

- (1) notes that on Monday, 1 July 2024, every Australian taxpayer will receive a tax cut; and
- (2) acknowledges the Government's number one priority is to tackle the cost of living pressures facing Australians by ensuring they earn more and keep more of what they earn.

Time allotted — 40 minutes.

Speech time limits —

All Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

Notices – continued

5 MR CONAGHAN: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) successive, biannual increases in beer and spirits excise on alcohol now sees Australia having amongst the highest excises in the world;
 - (b) combined with the cost of living pressures, increased costs in energy, refrigeration, wages, raw materials and transport, the cost of alcohol products has risen substantially;
 - (c) the excise regime is now putting at risk the viability of Australian distillers, brewers, distributors, pubs, clubs and related industries; and
 - (d) this excise regime is untenable against the current global backdrop, with crucial trading partners including Japan, United Kingdom, and Canada having already moved to freeze alcohol excise duties to relieve pressure on their domestic industries; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) provide immediate cost of living measures for the domestic beer and spirits industry; and
 - (b) develop a sensible package of tax reform and policy settings that:
 - (i) balances the responsible consumption of alcohol by the majority of Australians;
 - (ii) supports industry sustainability and growth; and
 - (iii) addresses the social and health impacts of risky and excessive drinking behaviours.

(Notice given 2 July 2024.)

Time allotted — 40 minutes.

Speech time limits —

Mr Conaghan — 5 minutes.

Other Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

Orders of the day – continued

2 LOW PAID WORKERS: Resumption of debate (*from 1 July 2024*) on the motion of Ms J Ryan—That this House:

- (1) notes that on Monday, 1 July 2024, 2.6 million low paid workers will receive a third consecutive pay rise; and
- (2) acknowledges the Government’s number one priority is to tackle the cost of living pressures facing Australians by ensuring they earn more and keep more of what they earn.

Time allotted — 40 minutes.

Speech time limits —

All Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

3 NATURAL GAS: Resumption of debate (*from 1 July 2024*) on the motion of Mr R Wilson—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges that:
 - (a) natural gas is a key pillar of the Australian economy which employs 80,000 people in the industry supply chain, largely in regional areas;
 - (b) natural gas is connected to more than five million Australian homes and provided 42 per cent of the energy consumed by the Australian manufacturing sector in 2022;
 - (c) natural gas is essential to Australia achieving its net zero target by 2050;
 - (d) Australia has a critical role in providing a reliable source of natural gas to trusted trading partners which rely on our supplies for energy security; and
 - (e) regional Australia has benefitted enormously from long-term investment in the natural gas sector;
- (2) notes that:
 - (a) new natural gas supply is needed to meet energy demand and reduce emissions in Australia and overseas;
 - (b) natural gas shortfalls will severely impact energy security and add to cost of living pressures; and

- (c) the natural gas sector provided \$17.1 billion in taxes, royalties and charges in 2023-24 allowing governments to invest in critical services and public infrastructure; and
- (3) urges the Government to take urgent action to provide policy certainty which allows the industry to bring on the new gas supply needed to address forecast shortfalls, ensure Australia's energy security, and rebuild investor confidence.

Time allotted — remaining private Members' business time prior to 7.30 pm.

Speech time limits —

All Members — 5 minutes each.

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking
= 9 x 5 mins]

The Committee determined that consideration of this matter should continue on a future day.

THE HON D. M. DICK MP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

3 July 2024