

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 101

WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 1979

1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Bradfield, Dr Edwards, Mr Falconer, Mr Innes, Mr Kerin, Mr Lynch, Mr Macphee, Mr Martin, Mr Sainsbury and Mr Scholes—from certain citizens praying that pension payments be restored to twice-yearly adjustments and that pensions and unemployment benefits be raised to 30% of average weekly earnings. Mr Bradfield and Mr Lynch—from certain citizens praying that the Metric Conversion Act be repealed and the traditional and familiar weights and measures be restored.

Mr Bradfield—from certain citizens praying for the prohibition of oil exploration within the Great Barrier Reef region and that the entire region be declared a Marine Park.

Mr Dean—from certain citizens praying that the decision to close the Post Office at North Ward, Townsville, Qld, be reversed.

Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that action be taken to deter Taiwanese fishing boats from fishing Australian waters.

Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that the Commonwealth's contribution to the standard nursing home fee be reviewed and that further reviews be undertaken on a quarterly basis.

Mr Innes—from certain citizens praying for the appointment of an independent inquiry into the Australian Broadcasting Commission to investigate the qualifications of commissioners and certain other matters.

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that the decision not to establish a National Natural Disaster Insurance Scheme be reconsidered.

Mr L. R. Johnson—from certain citizens praying that Kingsford-Smith Airport, Sydney, not be extended and that no related decisions be taken without consultation with affected communities.

Mr J. L. McMahon—from certain citizens praying that there be no extension of Kingsford-Smith Airport, Sydney.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that major traditional Aboriginal land areas be resumed from the States eventually to become defined Aboriginal community co-operatives.

Mr Yates—from certain citizens praying that tax concessions be allowed to approved voluntary overseas aid organisations.

Petitions received.

3 DISTINGUISHED VISITORS: Mr Speaker informed the House that a delegation from the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, led by Vice Chairman Pavel Georgievich Gilashvili, was present in the gallery. On behalf of the House, Mr Speaker extended to the visitors a very warm welcome.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

*Paper:* Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Deflated beef price index, 1966-67 to 1978-79.

Questions without notice concluded.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Road System—An assessment: 1979—Part 1—Interim Report by Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated April 1979.

Pursuant to statute:

Australian Science and Technology Council Act—Australian Science and Technology Council—Report—The next generation of Australian telescopes, dated March 1979.

Fishing Industry Act—22nd Annual Report, for year 1977-78.

Fishing Industry Research Act—Fishing Industry Research Committee—9th Annual Report, for year 1977-78.

Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act—Local Government Grants Commissions—Reports for year 1978-79—

New South Wales.

Queensland.

South Australia.

Tasmania.

Victoria.

Western Australia.

6 AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION—REVIEW—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Staley (Minister for Post and Telecommunications), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's decision to hold an independent review of the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

Mr Innes, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

7 PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Bungey (Chairman) presented the following report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Report relating to the proposed construction of a research laboratory complex for the C.S.I.R.O.'s Division of Chemical Technology, Clayton, Vic. (3rd report of 1979).

Ordered to be printed.

Mr Simon and Mr L. K. Johnson, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

8 HERBICIDE 2, 4, 5-T—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Hunt (Minister for Health), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to a report submitted by Dr Field on the effects of the herbicide 2, 4, 5-T and on evaluation work being undertaken.

Dr Klugman, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the matter.

9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—DEFENCE AND COMMUNICATION BASES:

Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that both Mr Cairns and Mr Cohen had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, Mr Speaker had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Cairns, namely, "The need for defence and communication bases to operate effectively in Australia for this country's protection".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Cairns addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

10 COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES (REDEPLOYMENT AND RETIREMENT) BILL 1979: 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 Young, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the Bill be withdrawn and re-drafted to incorporate (a) specific reasoning for termination of employment, and (b) a comprehensive appeal system relating to termination of employment and redeployment”—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

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Mr Adermann	Mr Carlton	Mr Hodgman	Mr Moore
Mr Aldred	Mr Chapman	Mr Howard	Mr Neil
Mr Baillieu	Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr Nixon
Mr Baume	Mr Corbett*	Mr Hyde	Mr O’Keefe
Mr Birney	Mr Cotter	Mr Jarman	Mr Porter
Mr Bouchier	Mr Dean	Mr P. F. Johnson	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Bradfield	Mr Dobie	Mr Johnston	Mr Ruddock
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Drummond	Mr Jull	Mr Sainsbury
Mr N. A. Brown	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr Shack
Mr Bungey	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Simon
Mr Burns	Mr Fisher	Mr Lynch	Mr Staley
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Mr MacKellar	Mr Street
Mr Cadman	Mr Gillard	Mr McLean	Mr Thomson
Mr Cairns	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLeay	Mr Viner
Mr Calder	Mr Graham	Sir William McMahon	Mr Wilson
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Groom	Mr McVeigh	Mr Yates
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hodges*	Mr Macphee	

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Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr James	Mr Uren
Dr Blewett	Mr Holding	Dr Jenkins	Mr Wallis
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Howe	Mr L. K. Johnson*	Mr West
Mr Bryant	Mr Humphreys	Mr Kerin	Mr Willis
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Dr Klugman	Mr Young
Mr Dawkins	Mr Innes	Mr J. L. McMahon*	
Dr Everingham	Mr Jacobi	Mr Morris	

\*Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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. 151, dated 5 April 1979, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

*In the committee*

Clauses 1 to 6, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 7—

Mr Young moved the following amendment: Page 5, line 11, omit sub-paragraph (iii), substitute the following sub-paragraph:

“(iii) for the reason that he no longer possesses the essential educational or legal qualifications for his duties.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 8 agreed to.

Clause 9—

Mr Young, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Page 6, after sub-paragraph (1) (b) (i) insert the following sub-paragraph:

“(ia) shall make such findings as may be necessary to apply the procedures set out in a notice in force under sub-section 8 (1) (including any directions given by the Public Service Board under those procedures) insofar as they are relevant to the operation of the Department, to the Department; and”.

Page 6, line 36, after “under sub-section 8 (1)” insert “and in accordance with a finding made pursuant to sub-paragraph (ia)”.

Page 7, after sub-paragraph (2) (b) (i) insert the following sub-paragraph:

“(ia) shall make such findings as may be necessary to apply the procedures set out in a notice in force under sub-section 8 (2) (including any directions given by the Public Service Board under those procedures) insofar as they are relevant to the operation of the Department, to the Department; and”.

Page 7, line 9, after “under sub-section 8 (2)” insert “and in accordance with a finding made pursuant to sub-paragraph (ia)”.

Page 7, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clause:

“(4) Where a redeployment declaration is made pursuant to sub-paragraph (1) (b) (ii) or (2) (b) (ii), such declaration shall include full details of—  
(a) the declaration made and the reasons for it;  
(b) the date from which the redeployment declaration is to be effective; and  
(c) the rights of and methods for appeal against the declaration.”.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 10 to 14, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Clause 15—

Mr Young, by leave, moved the following amendments together:

Page 12, after line 29 insert the following paragraphs:

“(aa) the issue of a notice in writing under paragraph 8 (3) (c) in relation to the employee or a specified class of employees of which the employee is a member;

“(ab) the making of a finding under sub-paragraph 9 (1) (b) (ia) or 9 (2) (b) (ia) in relation to the employee or a specified class of employees of which the employee is a member.”.

Page 12, lines 41 and 42, omit sub-paragraph (2) (a) (iii).

Page 13, lines 25–46, omit sub-clauses (5) and (6).

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Giles reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Viner (Minister Assisting the Prime Minister), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

11 SUPPLY BILL (NO. 1) 1979–80: 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 Hurford who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not opposing the Bill, the House is of the opinion that the Government stands condemned for continuing to pursue a restrictive fiscal policy which has (a) greatly increased unemployment; (b) restricted economic growth; (c) failed to control inflation;

(d) reduced living standards of the great majority of the Australian population; (e) severely restricted important government programs, and (f) increased inequality and poverty in the community, and accordingly calls on the Government to produce a budget for the next financial year which implements an alternative program designed to promote employment, living standards and equity”.

Mr Holding (seconder) addressing the House—

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*Adjournment negatived:* It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—  
Question—put and negatived.

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Mr Holding continued his speech.

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

12 ADJOURNMENT: Mr Groom (Minister for Housing and Construction) moved—That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 11 p.m.—Mr Deputy Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

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PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 23 May 1979, pursuant to statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—  
Marine navigational aid services purposes—Troubridge Hill, S.A.  
Telecommunications services purposes—Mascot, N.S.W.

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MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr C. R. Cameron, Dr Cass, Mr Ellicott, Mr Fry, Mr Garland, Mr L. R. Johnson, Mr B. O. Jones\*, Mr Keating, Mr Martin, Mr Martyr, Mr Newman, Mr Scholes and Mr Shipton.

\* On leave

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J. A. PETTIFER,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives