

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 77

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 1982

1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.

3 **EFFICIENCY AUDIT—REPORT OF AUDITOR-GENERAL—COLLECTION OF EXCISE DUTIES AND DEFERRED CUSTOMS DUTIES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS—PUBLICATION OF PAPER AND REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE:** Mr Speaker presented the following paper:

Efficiency Audit—Collection of excise duties and deferred customs duties by the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs—Report of Auditor-General, dated 11 March 1982.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—

- (1) That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act* 1908 authorises the publication of the report of the Auditor-General on an efficiency audit of the collection of excise duties and deferred customs duties by the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs, and
- (2) That the report be referred to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts for inquiry and report.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

4 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented, pursuant to statute:

Australian Citizenship Act—Return for year 1980-81.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies Act—Council of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1980-81.

Canberra College of Advanced Education Act—Council of the Canberra College of Advanced Education—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1980.

Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs—Review of activities to 30 June 1981, including report by the Minister, pursuant to the Immigration (Education) Act, on the operation of the Act.

National Library Act—Council of the National Library of Australia—21st Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1980-81.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Legal Aid Ordinance—Legal Aid Commission (A.C.T.)—4th Annual Report and financial statements, together with the auditor's report, for year 1980-81.

5 COMMONWEALTH SCHOOLS COMMISSION—RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 1983—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Fife (Minister for Education), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Commonwealth Schools Commission—Recommendations for 1983—Report, dated March 1982.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

6 SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON AUSTRALIAN MARINE SCIENCE—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Thomson (Minister for Science and Technology), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Science and the Environment—Senate Standing Committee—Report on Australian Marine Science—Government response.

Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the paper.

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

7 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.

It being 12.15 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 106 (as amended by sessional order adopted on 20 August 1981).

Question—That grievances be noted—put and passed.

8 NUCLEAR ENERGY—AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Mr Street (Minister for Foreign Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:

Nuclear energy—Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Japan for co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, signed at Canberra on 5 March 1982, together with annexures, agreed minutes and letters—

and, by leave, made a ministerial statement in connection with the agreement.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement in connection with the agreement.

9 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—JOINT COMMITTEE—AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION OF APPOINTMENT: The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 223

Mr Speaker,

The Senate, having considered Message No. 234 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following Resolutions in connection therewith, viz.:

- (1) that the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 234 of the House of Representatives relating to the Resolution of appointment of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence.
- (2) That the provisions of the Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

HAROLD YOUNG,
President

The Senate,
Canberra, 10 March 1982

10 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE: A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

10 March 1982—Message No. 224—International Organizations (Privileges and Immunities) Amendment 1982.

11 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILL: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bill:

9 March 1982—Message No. 124—Freedom of Information 1982.

12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOUSING PROBLEMS: Mr Deputy Speaker informed the House that both Mr Uren and Mr Sainsbury 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 Uren, namely, “The Government’s failure to develop and implement programs to relieve critical housing problems”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Uren addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

13 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE—LEAVE TO MOVE NOT GRANTED: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) asked leave to move a motion without notice.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

14 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED: Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition moving—That this House—

- (1) views with the greatest alarm public allegations today that a senior Minister of the Government has been responsible for preventing any action being proceeded with against Nugan Hand in spite of clear evidence that Nugan Hand was involved in heroin deals, laundering money and had connections with organised crime and the C.I.A., and
- (2) requires the Prime Minister forthwith to respond to these allegations and to assure this House that neither he nor any other Minister who has served or serves with him has taken or caused to be taken any steps which would prevent or hinder inquiries into any of the above matters or matters related to them.

Closure of Member: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Sir Billy Snedden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 59

Mr Adermann	Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Peacock
Mr Anthony	Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Dean	Mr Hyde	Mr Rocher
Mr Bourchier	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bradfield	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Bungey	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lusher	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Tambling
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Thomson
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr McVeigh	Mr Tuckey
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr Moore	Mr Viner
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks	Mr Newman	Mr Wilson
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodges*	Mr Nixon	

NOES, 46

Mr Armitage	Mrs Darling	Dr Jenkins	Mr Morris
Mr Beazley	Mr Dawkins	Mr Johnson*	Mr Morrison
Dr Blewett	Mr Duffy	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Mountford
Mr Bowen	Mr Free	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Fry	Mr Keating	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Hawke	Mrs Kelly	Dr Theophanous
Dr Cass	Mr Holding	Mr Kent	Mr Uren
Mr Charles	Mr Howe	Mr Kerin	Mr Wallis
Mrs Child	Mr Humphreys*	Mr McLeay	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Mr Innes	Mr Mildren	
Mr Cunningham	Mr Jacobi	Mr Milton	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr Bowen (Deputy Leader of the Opposition—Seconder) addressing the House—
Closure of Member: Mr Sinclair moved—That the honourable Member be not further heard.

Question—put and passed.

Question—That the motion for the suspension of the standing orders be agreed to—put.
 The House divided (the Speaker, Sir Billy Snedden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 46

Mr Armitage	Mrs Darling	Dr Jenkins	Mr Morris
Mr Beazley	Mr Dawkins	Mr Johnson*	Mr Morrison
Dr Blewett	Mr Duffy	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Mountford
Mr Bowen	Mr Free	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Fry	Mr Keating	Mr Scott
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Hawke	Mrs Kelly	Dr Theophanous
Dr Cass	Mr Holding	Mr Kent	Mr Uren
Mr Charles	Mr Howe	Mr Kerin	Mr Wallis
Mrs Child	Mr Humphreys*	Mr McLeay	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Hurford	Mr McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Mr Innes	Mr Mildren	
Mr Cunningham	Mr Jacobi	Mr Milton	

NOES, 63

Mr Adermann	Mr Connolly	Mr Hunt	Mr Peacock
Mr Anthony	Mr Cowan	Mr Hyde	Mr Porter
Mr Baume	Mr Dean	Mr Jarman	Mr Robinson
Mr Birney	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Rocher
Mr Bourchier	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bradford	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Bungey	Mr Giles	Mr Lusher	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Goodluck	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr Groom	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Street
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr McLean	Mr Tambling
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Hicks	Mr Moore	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hodges*	Mr Newman	Mr Viner
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Nixon	Mr Wilson
Mr Coleman	Mr Howard	Mr O'Keefe	

* Tellers

And so it was negative.

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

Mr Millar, Mr O'Keefe and Mr Peacock—from certain citizens praying that the proposed sales tax on books, magazines and newspapers be withdrawn from the Budget proposals.

Mr Beazley—from certain citizens praying that a curfew be implemented and a parallel runway constructed at Perth Airport and legislation be introduced to allow payment for injurious affection.

Dr Blewett—from certain citizens praying that the health care card system be reviewed and pharmaceutical, optical benefits and other entitlements be extended to the unemployed.

Dr Blewett—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill 1981 be passed.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that Australia Day be celebrated on 26 January each year and that a public holiday be declared on that day, regardless of which day of the week it falls.

Mr Chapman—from certain residents of South Australia praying that interest rates on housing loans be lowered and alternative expansionary economic policies be pursued.

Mr Coleman—from certain citizens praying that all provisions of the Heritage Act and the Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act be fully complied with in respect of national estate areas.

Mr Duffy—from certain members of the Australian Postal and Telecommunications Union praying that action be taken to seek the resignation or dismissal of the Minister for Communications because of the effects of staff ceilings imposed at his direction.

Mr Howe—from certain residents of Australia praying that urgent steps be taken to formulate and approve a social security agreement with the Italian Government and that certain questions related to pensions of Italian immigrants be urgently resolved within such an agreement.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that additional funds be provided under the Youth Accommodation Services Program to prevent the possible closure of the Westernport Youth Refuge, Vic.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the present children's services program be maintained and no recommendations of the Spender report be implemented without full consultation with community groups.

Mr McVeigh—from certain citizens praying that the Senate's requested amendments to the Sales Tax Bills be supported.

Mr Mountford—from certain citizens praying that disabled people be recognised as citizens who should have equal rights and that certain actions be taken to enable adequate planning of services needed by partially or totally disabled people to be undertaken.

Petitions received.

16 REPATRIATION AMENDMENT BILL 1982: Mr Thomson (Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Repatriation Act 1920*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

17 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL 1982: Mr Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff Act 1966*. Bill read a first time.

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

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

18 EXPENDITURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Lusher (Chairman) presented the following report from the Standing Committee on Expenditure:

Australian National Railways Commission—Report, dated 4 February 1982, together with copies of the minutes of proceedings and the transcript of evidence and copies of published exhibits.

Ordered—That the report be printed.

Mr Lusher, Mr Porter, Mr Morris and Mr Wallis, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

19 STATES (TAX SHARING AND HEALTH GRANTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1982: 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.

Messages from the Governor-General: The following messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced:

No. 125, dated 18 February 1982, recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill, and

No. 126, dated 9 March 1982, recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of amendments to be moved to the Bill by a Minister.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Minister for Transport), by leave, the following amendments were made together, after debate:

Clause 3—

Page 2, line 4, omit “and”.

Page 2, omit paragraph (b), substitute the following paragraphs:

“(b) by omitting sub-section (2) and substituting the following sub-section:

‘(2) For the purposes of sub-section (1), the basic tax sharing grant, in relation to a State in respect of the year commencing on 1 July 1981, shall be an amount that is the product of \$6,524,600,000 and the factor obtained by dividing the adjusted population figure in relation to that State in respect of that year by the total of the adjusted population figures in relation to all the States other than the Northern Territory in respect of that year.’; and

“(c) by omitting sub-paragraphs (3) (b) (v) and (vi) and substituting the following word and sub-paragraph:

‘and (v) in the case of Tasmania—2.00188.’.”.

Clause 6, page 2, line 22, omit “‘State’”, substitute “‘States’”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr Jarman reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hunt, by leave, the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

20 CUSTOMS TARIFF PROPOSALS NOS. 7 AND 8 (1982): Mr Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) moved Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 7 and 8 (1982).

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

21 PAPERS: Mr Moore (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs), by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Cork and articles of cork, dated 29 September 1981 (No. 279).

Floor and wall coverings, dated 8 October 1981 (No. 280).

Ginger and ginger products, dated 15 June 1981 (No. 265).

22 TOBACCO CHARGE (NO. 1) AMENDMENT BILL 1982: 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 Hunt (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

23 **TOBACCO CHARGE (NO. 2) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** 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 Hunt (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

24 **TOBACCO CHARGE (NO. 3) AMENDMENT BILL 1982:** 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 Hunt (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

25 **SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1981 [NO. 2]:** 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 Spender was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Debate adjourned, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

26 **NUGAN HAND—INVESTIGATION OF ACTIVITIES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPERS:** Mr Newman (Minister for Administrative Services), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the Joint Police Task Force investigation into the activities of Nugan Hand, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following papers:

Nugan Hand—Investigation of activities—Copies of—

Letters from—

Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) to Mr N. Wran, Premier of New South Wales, dated 26 August 1980.

Mr Anthony (Acting Prime Minister) to Mr Wran, dated 9 September 1980.

Telex from Mr Wran to Mr Fraser.

Mr Hayden (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

27 **SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1981 [NO. 2]:** 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.

Mr Hunt (Minister representing the Minister for Social Security) moved—That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 62

Mr Adermann	Mr Dean	Mr Hyde	Mr Rocher
Mr Anthony	Mr Dobie	Mr Jull	Mr Ruddock
Mr Baume	Mr Drummond	Mr Katter	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Bourchier	Mr Falconer	Mr Killen	Mr Shack
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shipton
Mr Bungey	Mr Fisher*	Mr Lusher	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr Giles	Sir Phillip Lynch	Mr Spender
Mr Cadman	Mr Goodluck	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Street
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Groom	Mr McLean	Mr Tambling
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr McVeigh	Mr Thomson
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Harris	Mr Moore	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hicks	Mr Newman	Mr Viner
Mr Chapman	Mr Hodges*	Mr Nixon	Mr White
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodgman	Mr O'Keeffe	Mr Wilson
Mr Connolly	Mr Howard	Mr Peacock	
Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Porter	

NOES, 43

Mr Armitage	Mr Dawkins	Mr Johnson*	Mr Morrison
Mr Beazley	Mr Duffy	Mr B. O. Jones	Mr Mountford
Dr Blewett	Mr Free	Mr C. K. Jones	Mr Scholes
Mr Bowen	Mr Fry	Mrs Kelly	Mr Scott
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Hawke	Mr Kent	Dr Theophanous
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Holding	Mr Kerin	Mr Uren
Dr Cass	Mr Humphreys*	Dr Klugman	Mr Wallis
Mr Charles	Mr Hursford	Mr McLeay	Mr West
Mr Cross	Mr Innes	Mr McMahon	Mr Willis
Mr Cunningham	Mr Jacobi	Mr Mildren	Mr Young
Mrs Darling	Dr Jenkins	Mr Milton	

*Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a third time.

28 AIRCRAFT CARRIER PURCHASE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE

NOTE OF PAPER: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House)—That the House take note of the paper (*presented on 25 February 1982*), viz.:

Aircraft carrier purchase—Ministerial statement, 25 February 1982—

Debate resumed by Mr Morrison who moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “this House requests that, as a matter of urgency, the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence consider and report on:

- (a) the relevance of an aircraft carrier to Australia’s current and perceived strategic environment;
- (b) the role of an aircraft carrier in the defence force structure of Australia, and
- (c) the effects of the purchase of an aircraft carrier on the future defence procurement program;

and that the Committee be requested to report to the Parliament on this matter not later than 1 September 1982, unless an extension of this date is approved by the House”.

Debate continued.

Mr Katter addressing the House—

29 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.30 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at 1.45 p.m.

PAPER: The following paper was deemed to have been presented, on 11 March 1982, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—Dr R. H. Meyer.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting except Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Campbell and Mr MacKellar).

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