

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 41

TUESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 1983

- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment.
- 2 **ABSENCE OF MR SPEAKER:** The Clerk having informed the House that Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) was absent on Parliamentary business overseas, the Chairman of Committees (the Honourable L. R. Johnson) took the Chair as Acting Speaker, and read Prayers.
- 3 **COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE TO MEMBERS:** Mr Acting Speaker announced that he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following Commission:

HIS EXCELLENCY the Right Honourable Sir Ninian Martin Stephen, a member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight of the Order of Australia, Knight Grand Cross of The Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of The Royal Victorian Order, Knight Commander of The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Knight of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Force.

To the Honourable LESLIE ROYSTON JOHNSON, Esquire, Member of Parliament, Acting Speaker of the House of Representatives

GREETING:

WHEREAS by section 42 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia it is provided, amongst other things, that every Member of the House of Representatives shall before taking his seat make and subscribe before the Governor-General, or some person authorised by him, an oath or affirmation of allegiance in the form set forth in the schedule to the Constitution:

NOW THEREFORE I, SIR NINIAN MARTIN STEPHEN, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, hereby authorise you, during any absence of the Speaker, at Parliament House, Canberra, in the Australian Capital Territory, to administer the oath or affirmation of allegiance to such Members of the House of Representatives as have not already made and subscribed that oath or affirmation since their election or last election to the House of Representatives.

GIVEN under my Hand on 11 November 1983

NINIAN STEPHEN
 Governor-General

By His Excellency's Command,

BOB HAWKE

Prime Minister

4 RETURN TO WRIT—MORETON DIVISION: Mr Acting Speaker announced that he had received a return to the writ which Mr Speaker had issued on 12 October 1983 for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Moreton, in the State of Queensland, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Honourable Sir James Killen, K.C.M.G., and that, by the endorsement on the writ, it was certified that Donald Milner Cameron had been elected.

5 OATH OF ALLEGIANCE BY MEMBER: Donald Milner Cameron was introduced, and made and subscribed the oath of allegiance required by law.

6 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the respective absences abroad of Mr J. J. Brown (Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism, Minister for Administrative Services and Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce) and Mr Jones (Minister for Science and Technology), Mr Cohen (Minister for Home Affairs and Environment) was acting as Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism, Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications) was acting as Minister for Administrative Services and Minister Assisting the Minister for Industry and Commerce and Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport) was acting as Minister for Science and Technology.

7 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—
Paper: Mr Wilson, in accordance with standing order 321, having called for a document quoted from by Mr Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs)—
 Mr Holding laid upon the Table the following paper:
 Uluru National Park—Central Land Council/Pitjantjatjara Council joint press release—Telex from Mr J. Coldrey, Director of Legal Services, Central Land Council, to Mr Holding, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, dated 15 November 1983.
 Questions without notice continued.

8 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:
 Australian Capital Territory—
 Building Review Committee—6th Annual Report, for year 1982-83.
 Building and Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board—Report for year 1981-82.
 Building Standards Committee—7th Annual Report, for year 1982-83.
 Surveyors Board—Report for year 1982-83.
 Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Act—Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Commission—22nd Annual Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for year 1982-83.
 Department of Aboriginal Affairs—Report for year 1982-83, including the report on the operation of the *States Grants (Aboriginal Assistance) Act 1976*.
 Department of the Treasury—5th Annual Report, for year 1982-83.
 Fisheries Act—Copy of agreement, together with 7 attachments, between the Commonwealth and Kailis Kaohsiung Fishing Company Pty Ltd for a joint fishing venture off northern Australia, signed on 21 October 1983.
 Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council—7th meeting, Townsville, Qld, 3 June 1983—Communique.
 Primary Industry Bank Act—6th Report on the operation of Part II of the Act, dated 15 November 1983.

9 BROADCASTING SYSTEM—DEVELOPMENT OF SATELLITE-RELATED SERVICES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Duffy (Minister for Communications), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of the Government's intentions relating to the impact of the satellite system upon broadcasting, ownership of Aussat Pty Ltd and supplementary licences for television and radio, and presented the following paper:
 Broadcasting system—Development of satellite-related services—Ministerial statement, 15 November 1983.

Mr Lloyd, by leave, also made a statement in connection with the paper.

Mr Duffy moved—That the House take note of the paper.

Debate adjourned (Mr Sinclair—Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

10 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: 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 Bills:

14 November 1983—Message No. 83—

States (Works and Housing) Assistance 1983.

Northern Territory Grant (Special Assistance) 1983.

Migration (Miscellaneous Amendments) 1983.

Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) 1983-84.

River Murray Waters 1983.

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

Mr Blanchard, Dr Blewett, Mr Burr, Mr Cadman, Mr Connolly, Mr Fife, Mr Gayler, Mr Hand, Mr Humphreys, Mr Hunt, Mr Lindsay, Mr Lusher, Mr McVeigh, Mr P. F. Morris, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Robinson, Mr Saunderson and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that chiropractic services be included in Medicare when it is introduced.

Mr Braithwaite, Mr Drummond, Mr Fisher, Mr Hodgman, Mr Lloyd, Mr McGauran, Mr McVeigh, Mr Moore and Mr Porter—from certain elected representatives and officers of local governments praying that the Local Government (Personal Income Tax Sharing) Act be amended to provide a real term minimum guarantee to local government general revenue sharing arrangements.

Mr Charles, Mr Dobie, Mr Fife and Mr Humphreys—from certain citizens praying that the ban on the export of kangaroo products be re-applied.

Mr Andrew, Mr O'Neil and Mr Porter—from certain citizens praying that parent clubs in government schools be granted exemption from bank account debits tax.

Ms McHugh and Mr Snow—from certain citizens praying that all foreign bases be removed from Australia.

Mr Andrew—from certain citizens praying that the excise on grape spirit used in fortifying wine be either withdrawn or modified in its method of application and collection.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that the decision to reorganise the Australian Cadet Corps be reconsidered.

Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the findings of the Major Airport Needs of Sydney Committee be endorsed and proposals for an airport at Scheyville, N.S.W., be rejected.

Mr Cowan—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill not be allowed to pass into law as it now stands.

Mr Fife—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to issue Medicard to 14 year olds be amended so that Medicard is issued only to children upon leaving school.

Mr Groom—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill be amended to prevent inconsistencies with the principles of justice and equality and that a conscience vote on the Bill be permitted to all Members of Parliament.

Mr Groom—from certain citizens praying that the Sex Discrimination Bill be delayed and a joint parliamentary committee be established to examine the Bill and related matters.

Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that holders of health care cards and pensioner health benefit cards be provided with free dental care through private dentists and dental care be included in the formulation of Medicare.

Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the Government refrain from ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Mr Hayden—from certain citizens praying that the proposal to increase tax on superannuation be rescinded.

Mr Lindsay—from certain citizens praying that the North Queensland Army Band be maintained at its current strength and position and be encouraged to continue its work.

Mr MacKellar—from certain officers and members of the Order of the White Cross International praying that future moves to establish a Republic of Australia be rejected.

Mr Macphee—from certain residents of Victoria praying that the settlement needs of Vietnamese refugees be taken into account in the Government's South-East Asia policy.

Mrs Mayer—from certain citizens praying that mining and export of uranium, except for bio-medical purposes, be banned and that the Australian Atomic Energy Commission be transformed into an Australian energy commission.

Mr O'Neil—from certain residents of South Australia praying that legislation be enacted to ban the advertising of alcohol from commercial television and radio.

Mr O'Neil—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the Alice Springs-Darwin railway project be re-addressed in light of the detrimental consequences to the iron triangle cities in terms of the economy, employment prospects, national defence and tourist opportunities.

Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Ukrainian famine of 1932-33 be denounced, a day to honour victims of genocidal acts and imperialistic aggression be set aside and a standing committee be established to monitor adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Mr Shipton—from certain citizens praying that Australia raise in the United Nations a request that the Polish Government honour its obligations under the Helsinki Agreement.

Mr Staples—from certain citizens praying that the establishment of nuclear power plants in Australia and the export of Australian uranium be prohibited and a moratorium on all mining and treatment of uranium be declared.

Petitions received.

12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—NORTHERN TERRITORY: Mr Acting Speaker informed the House that Mr Peacock (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The callous disregard by this Government of the needs and aspirations of the people of the Northern Territory".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Peacock addressed the House.

Paper: Mr Cohen (Minister for Home Affairs and Environment), by leave, during his speech, presented the following paper:

Aboriginal land rights—Address by Mr Paul Everingham, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, to the National Press Club, Canberra, entitled "A question of balance", dated 28 July 1982.

Discussion continued.

Discussion concluded.

13 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS: Mr Cadman (Vice-Chairman) presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:

212th Report—Finance Minute on Report 203—Medical fraud and overservicing—Progress report.

Mr Cadman, Mr Connolly and Mrs Mayer, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.

14 MEDICAL FRAUD AND OVERSERVICING—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: Dr Blewett (Minister for Health), by leave, made a ministerial statement informing the House of action taken or being taken by the Government to deal with problems of medical benefits fraud and overservicing.

Mr Carlton, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.

15 REPRESENTATION BILL 1983: 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.

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

AYES, 75

Mr Adermann	Mrs Darling	Mr Humphreys*	Mr A. A. Morris
Mr Anthony	Mr Dawkins	Mr Hunt	Mr P. F. Morris
Mr Baldwin	Mr Duffy	Mr Hurford	Mr Morrison
Mr Beazley	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Jacobi	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beddall	Dr Everingham	Mr Katter	Mr O'Neil
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Keating	Mr Punch
Dr Blewett	Mr Fisher	Mr Kent	Mr Reeves
Mr Bowen	Mr Free	Mr Keogh	Mr Saunderson
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr Scholes
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gayler	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr Brumby	Mr Gear	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sinclair
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Gorman	Mr McGauran	Mr Snow
Mr Charles	Mr Griffiths	Ms McHugh	Mr Staples
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Hand	Mr McLeay	Mr Steedman
Mrs Child	Mr Hayden	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wells
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hicks*	Mr Maher	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Holding	Mrs Mayer	Mr Willis
Mr Cowan	Mr Hollis	Mr Milden	Mr Young
Mr Cross	Mr Howe	Mr Milton	

NOES, 26

Mr Aldred	Mr Coleman	Mr Hawker	Mr Rocher*
Mr Andrew	Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Ruddock
Mr Burr	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr Howard	Mr Street
Mr Cadman	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr White
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Goodluck	Mr Macphee	Mr Wilson
Mr E. C. Cameron*	Mr Groom	Mr Moore	
Mr Carlton	Mr Hall	Mr Porter	

* Tellers

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

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

Mr Beazley (Special Minister of State) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 84, dated 3 November 1983, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr Beazley, the Bill was read a third time.

16 INTER-STATE COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1983: 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.

Message from the Governor-General: Message No. 85, dated 3 November 1983, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation of revenue for the purposes of the Bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.

On the motion of Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), the Bill was read a third time.

17 ADJOURNMENT: Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11.38 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 10.30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr J. J. Brown, Mr Campbell, Mr Cunningham, Dr Jenkins, Mr Jones, Mrs Kelly, Mr Kerin, Mr Millar, Mr Mountford, Mr Newman, Dr Theophanous and Mr Tuckey.

D. M. BLAKE
Clerk of the House of Representatives