

1985

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 39

WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 1985

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- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Honourable Dr H. A. Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGES (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1985:**
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 Hunt (Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia) 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 is of the opinion that inadequate consultation has taken place with the export industries concerned to ensure that the most efficient and cost-effective export inspection system is adopted”.
Debate continued.
Ordered—That Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry) be granted an extension of time.
Amendment negatived.
Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved forthwith.
On the motion of Mr Kerin, the Bill was read a third time.
 - 3 **EXPORT INSPECTION (SERVICE CHARGE) BILL 1985:** 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 Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.
 - 4 **EXPORT INSPECTION (ESTABLISHMENT REGISTRATION CHARGE) BILL 1985:** 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 Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.
 - 5 **NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY VOLUNTARY ADJUSTMENT SCHEME LOAN GUARANTEE BILL 1985:** 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 Campbell addressing the House—

It being 12.45 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with sessional order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

6 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice being asked—

Member named and suspended: Mr Speaker named the honourable Member for O'Connor (Mr Tuckey) for defying the Chair.

Mr Young (Leader of the House) moved—That the honourable Member for O'Connor be suspended from the service of the House.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 76

Mr Beazley	Mr Duffy	Mr Jakobsen	Mr A. A. Morris
Mr Beddall	Mr Duncan	Mr Jones	Mr P. F. Morris
Mr Bilney	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Keating	Mr Mountford
Mr Blanchard	Ms Fatin	Mrs Kelly	Mr O'Keefe
Dr Blewett	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Kent	Mr O'Neil
Mr J. J. Brown	Mr Free	Mr Keogh	Mr Price
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Gayler	Mr Kerin	Mr Punch
Mr Brumby	Mr Gear	Dr Klugman	Mr Saunderson
Mr Campbell	Mr Gorman	Mr Lamb	Mr Scholes
Mr Charles	Mr Grace	Mr Langmore	Mr Scott*
Dr Charlesworth	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lee	Mr Simmons
Mrs Child	Mr Hand	Mr Lindsay	Mr Snow
Mr Cleeland	Mr Hawke	Ms McHugh	Dr Theophanous
Mr Cohen	Mr Hayden	Mr McLeay	Mr Tickner
Mr Cross	Mr Holding	Mr Maher	Mr Uren
Mr Cunningham*	Mr Hollis	Mr Martin	Mr West
Mrs Darling	Mr Howe	Mrs Mayer	Mr Willis
Mr Dawkins	Mr Hurford	Mr Mildren	Mr Wright
Mr Dubois	Mr Jacobi	Mr Milton	Mr Young

NOES, 61

Mr Adermann	Mr Cowan	Mr Hunt	Mr Rocher
Mr Aldred	Mr Dobie	Mr Katter	Mr Ruddock
Mr Andrew*	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Shack
Mr Beale	Mr Drummond	Mr McArthur	Mr Sharp
Mr Blunt	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McGauran	Mr Shipton
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr McVeigh	Mr Slipper
Mr Cadman	Mr P. S. Fisher	Mr Macphee	Mr Smith
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr Goodluck	Mr Miles	Mr Spender
Mr E. C. Cameron	Mr Hall	Mr Millar	Mrs Sullivan
Mr I. M. D. Cameron	Mr Halverson	Mr Moore	Mr Tuckey
Mr Carlton	Mr Hawker	Mr Nehl	Dr Watson
Mr Cobb	Mr Hicks*	Mr Peacock	Mr Webster
Mr Coleman	Mr Hodges	Mr Porter	
Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Reith	
Mr Conquest	Mr Howard	Mr Robinson	

* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The honourable Member was, therefore, suspended at 3.06 p.m. for 24 hours under standing order 305, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

Questions without notice concluded.

7 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

Advance Australia Logo Protection Act—Advance Australia Foundation—Report for period 13 October 1983 to 30 June 1984.

Advance to the Minister for Finance—Statements for April, May, June and July 1985.

Advance to the Minister for Finance for year 1984-85—Statement of heads of expenditure and the amounts charged thereto pursuant to section 36A of the *Audit Act 1901*.

Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations Act—Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations—Report 8—Implications of constitutional recognition for Australian local government.

Auditor-General's Office—Independent auditor—Statement by Senator Walsh, Minister for Finance, dated May 1985, concerning an extension of Mr E. D. Cameron's appointment as the independent auditor for the Auditor-General's Office.

Australian Capital Territory Apprenticeship Board—47th Annual Report, for year 1983-84.

Australian Safeguards Office—Report for year 1983-84.

Bankruptcy Act—Report for year 1983-84.

Family Law Act—Family Law (Institute of Family Studies) Regulations—Institute of Family Studies—5th Annual Report, for year 1984-85.

National Water Resources (Financial Assistance) Act—Document relating to financial assistance to New South Wales for the Chichester Water Treatment Plant, dated 18 June 1985.

Portfolio program statements 1985-86 together with statement by Senator Walsh, Minister for Finance.

Repatriation Hospital System—Final Report of review, dated 28 June 1985.

River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1983-84.

Returned Servicewomen of the Second World War—Report on study by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

8 INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Hayden (Minister for Foreign Affairs) presented the following paper:

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights—Second report submitted by Australia in accordance with Economic and Social Council Resolution 1988 (LX) concerning rights covered by Articles 6 to 9.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

9 AUSTRALIAN MEAT AND LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY SELECTION COMMITTEE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER: Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry) presented the following paper:

Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Selection Committee Act—Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Selection Committee—Report for year 1984-85.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr N. A. Brown—Deputy Leader of the Opposition), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

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

Mr Bilney, Mr Downer, Mr Hall and Mr Jacobi—from certain residents of South Australia praying that the principle that pensioner patients pay no more than their pension for nursing home care be restored and that certain other action be taken in relation to nursing home benefits.

Mr Blunt, Mr Rocher and Mr Tuckey—from certain citizens praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher in the same terms as the last preceding petition.

Mr Cross, Mr Hayden and Mr Webster—from certain citizens praying that there be no taxation on illness and no special taxation on those who seek to insure themselves against the cost of private health care.

Mr Beale and Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the national flag not be changed except by a referendum.

Mr Bilney and Mr Hurford—from certain citizens praying that cuts to pre-school funding be reversed.

- Mr Blunt and Mr T. A. Fischer—from certain citizens praying that the laws which banned the entry and sale of hard-core and violent pornography be re-enacted.
- Mr Blunt and Mr Grace—from certain citizens praying that any proposal to increase the burden of capital gains and wealth taxes be rejected.
- Mr Blunt and Mr Hand—from certain citizens praying that 1989 be proposed as the International Year for Repairing the Earth and certain other action be taken in support of world peace.
- Mr Brumby, Mr Free and Mr Scholes—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Braithwaite and Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that sufficient funds be allocated to the Australia Council to ensure ongoing funding of State arts councils.
- Mr Hurford and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that a service tax not be imposed.
- Mr Rocher and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that sales tax be replaced by a broad based consumption tax with a uniform ad valorem rate.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that all federal funding to children's services be restored.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that the Social Security and Repatriation Assets Test Abolition Bill be passed.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that the ordinance superseding the ACT Objectionable Publications Ordinance be disallowed and certain other action be taken in relation to censorship matters.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that all changes to benefits for veterans and conditions of service for military personnel announced in the May Economic Statement be withdrawn.
- Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that those laws which automatically increase the excise on beer, following an increase in the CPI, be repealed.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that the rights of private enterprise be protected and any inequitable additional taxes be rejected.
- Mr Cadman—from certain citizens praying that legislation be enacted to allow full compensation to all Australians where the Government requires the use of private property.
- Mr I. M. D. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the tax proposals outlined in the Government's White Paper be rejected.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher in the same terms as the last preceding petition.
- Mr Campbell—from certain citizens praying that gold remain tax free.
- Mr Goodluck—from certain citizens praying that the price of petrol be reduced by 3 cents per litre.
- Mr Hawker—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.
- Mr Hall—from certain citizens praying that the concessional price of fuel in rural areas be restored.
- Mr Hall—from certain citizens praying that the establishment of an Australian aerospace agency be supported.
- Mr Hand—from certain citizens praying that the proposed shift towards increased indirect taxation not be adopted.
- Mr Hand—from certain citizens praying that no form of broadly based indirect or consumption tax be levied but that gift and death duties and certain other taxes be imposed.
- Mr Hand—from certain citizens praying that \$20 million be restored to the ABC's budget for 1985-86 and that certain other steps be taken to ensure that ABC services are maintained.

Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the assets test on pensions be repealed.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the decision to close the Enterprise Migrant Hostel, Vic., be reversed.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the Government support the stand taken by the New Zealand Government on nuclear vessels and that the policy of developing zones of peace and nuclear free zones in the Indian and Pacific Oceans be implemented.

Mr Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the Australia Post agency at Joondanna, WA, continue to operate.

Mr. Rocher—from certain citizens praying that the right to work be acknowledged and protected and that certain other action be taken to protect workers.

Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the assets test be reconsidered.

Mr Smith—from certain citizens praying that Swan Island lighthouse continue to be a manned station.

Mr Webster—from certain citizens praying that the decision to resume land in the Orange-Bathurst area, NSW, for military purposes be abandoned and no site which includes prime farming land be chosen.

Petitions received.

- 11 **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—EFFECTS OF HIGH INTEREST RATES:** The Deputy Speaker informed the House that Mr Carlton had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The damaging effects of record high interest rates on home owners, small business and other borrowers".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Mr Carlton addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 12 **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY:** Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 5 to 9, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

- 13 **DAIRY PRODUCE AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to the dairy industry.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 14 **STATES GRANTS (GENERAL REVENUE) BILL 1985:** Mr Hurford (Minister Assisting the Treasurer), for Mr Keating (Treasurer), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for grants to the States.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 15 **LOANS BILL 1985:** Mr Hurford (Minister representing the Minister for Finance), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to authorise the borrowing and expending of money for certain purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

- 16 **INTERSTATE ROAD TRANSPORT BILL 1985:** Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to road transport.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr P. F. Morris moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Beale), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 17 **INTERSTATE ROAD TRANSPORT CHARGE BILL 1985:** Mr P. F. Morris (Minister for Transport) presented a Bill for an Act to impose a charge by way of or in the nature of a tax in respect of the registration of a motor vehicle or trailer under the *Interstate Road Transport Act 1985*.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr P. F. Morris moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Beale), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 18 **CUSTOMS TARIFF (STAND-BY DUTY) BILL 1985:** Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for a special duty of Customs in respect of certain petroleum oils in certain circumstances.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Jones moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Beale), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 19 **STATES GRANTS (PETROLEUM PRODUCTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Petroleum Products) Act 1965*, and for related purposes.
 Bill read a first time.
 Mr Jones moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate adjourned (Mr Beale), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.
- 20 **PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE—REPORT—PUBLICATION OF PAPER—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS:** Mrs Kelly presented the following report from the Joint Committee of Public Accounts:
 236th Report—Medical fraud and overservicing—Pathology.
 Mrs Kelly, by leave, moved—That this House, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Papers Act 1908*, authorises the publication of the 236th Report of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, entitled Medical fraud and overservicing: Report on pathology.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mrs Kelly, Mr Cadman, Mrs Mayer, Mr McGauran and Dr Watson, by leave, made statements in connection with the report.
- 21 **NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY VOLUNTARY ADJUSTMENT SCHEME LOAN GUARANTEE BILL 1985:** 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 Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

22 **FOREIGN FISHING BOATS LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** 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 Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

23 **FISHERIES AGREEMENTS (PAYMENTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1985:** 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 Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the Bill was read a third time.

24 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1985-86—BUDGET DEBATE:** 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 Peacock, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “the House condemns the Budget because—

- (1) it is only half a Budget which fails to outline any approach to the urgent problems of tax reform and tax relief;
- (2) it fails to remove the threat of new taxes on investment and jobs, such as a capital gains tax which will include death duties and gift taxes;
- (3) it condemns 750 000 Australians to higher marginal tax brackets during the year;
- (4) it fails to address the fundamental problems facing the Australian economy, particularly high inflation, the lack of international competitiveness and the need for further cuts in Government spending;
- (5) it fails to provide clear direction on the Government’s approach to discounting wage indexation for the effects of depreciation of the dollar and so potentially destroys its employment benefits;
- (6) it fails to move towards the deregulation of labour markets required to give all Australians the chance for a job, and
- (7) it burdens Australia with the threat of continued high interest rates which hurt not only homebuyers but hit business investment and jobs”—

Debate resumed.

Mr Maher addressing the House—

25 **ADJOURNMENT:** It being 7.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—Mr Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 10 a.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 September 1985:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposals for collection of information—1985—

No. 5—Quarterly survey of Australian portfolio and other investment abroad.

No. 6—Survey of superannuation funds.

Census and Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal for disclosure of information—1985—No. 4—List of names and addresses of agricultural establishments for Department of Primary Industry (Bureau of Agricultural Economics).

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Baldwin, Mr Bowen, Mr Everingham, Mr Humphreys, Mr Jull, Mr Staples, Mr White and Mr Wilson.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives