

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

No. 174

MONDAY, 11 MAY 1987

- 1 The House met, at 2 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2 **DEATH OF HIS EXCELLENCY SIR JAMES PLIMSOLL:** Madam Speaker informed the House of the death on 8 May 1987 of His Excellency Sir James Plimsoll, AC, CBE, Governor of Tasmania.
As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.
- 3 **QUESTIONS:** Questions without notice were asked.
- 4 **PAPER:** Madam Speaker presented the following paper:
Committee reports—Schedule of Government responses to the reports of House of Representatives and joint committees, for period 18 November 1986 to 7 May 1987, and outstanding responses to reports presented from 1980.
- 5 **PAPERS:** The following papers were presented:
Atomic Energy Act—Australian Atomic Energy Commission—Report for 1985-86—Addendum.
Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Act—Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust—Report and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for 1985-86.
- 6 **PETITIONS:** The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:
Mr R. J. Brown, Mr T. A. Fischer, Mrs Kelly, Mr Lloyd and Mr A. A. Morris—from certain citizens praying that the pension discounting effect of the Superannuation and Other Benefits Legislation Amendment Act be limited to restore the base level for pension adjustment and certain other action be taken in relation to the Commonwealth Occupational Superannuation Schemes.
Mr Cross, Mrs Darling, Mr Humphreys, Mr Katter and Mr O'Keefe—from certain citizens praying that pension adjustments related to November and May CPI increases not be deferred but paid immediately.
Mrs Jakobsen, Mr Kent, Mr Milton and Mr Scott—from certain citizens praying that importation of cobalt 60 and other radioactive substances be banned and regulations permitting irradiation of food in Australia be disallowed.
Dr Charlesworth and Mr Cross—from certain citizens praying that family allowance payments be restored to their 1976 real money value and certain other action be taken in relation to family allowance payments.

Mr T. A. Fischer and Mr Ruddock—from certain citizens praying that the Department of Veterans' Affairs remain a separate department.

Mr Hawker and Mr Wilson—from certain citizens praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.

Mr Blunt—from certain citizens praying that the fringe benefits tax legislation be repealed.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that the capital gains tax be repealed.

Mr Blunt—from certain residents of the Division of Richmond praying that Veterans' Affairs pharmaceutical benefits be restored to war widows.

Mr Connolly—from certain citizens praying that the Killarney Heights post office agency, NSW, not be closed.

Mrs Darling—from certain electors of the Division of Lilley praying that the higher education administration charge be discontinued and certain other action be taken in relation to the charge.

Mr T. A. Fischer—from certain citizens praying that any act which would desecrate the Australian War Memorial be prevented.

Mr T. A. Fischer—from certain citizens praying that further financial cutbacks not be imposed on veterans in the May 1987 economic statement.

Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the closure of post office agencies be prevented and their services be extended.

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

Mr Hawker—from certain residents of the Division of Wannon praying that the proposal for an identification card be rejected.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.

Mr Kent—from certain citizens praying that the US Government be urged to join the Soviet Union's nuclear test ban.

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 Millar—from certain citizens praying that food irradiation in Australia be prevented.

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

Petitions received.

- 7 ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES:** Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of section 10 of the *Archives Act 1983*, this House appoints Mr Hollis as a member of the Advisory Council on Australian Archives for a period of 3 years from 6 June 1987.

Question—put and passed.

- 8 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—HOME OWNERSHIP:** The House was informed that Mr Porter had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The crushing impact of Labor's high tax and high interest rate policies on Australian families and their dream of owning their own home".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Porter addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 9 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL AMENDMENT BILL 1987: Message No. 424, dated 7 May 1987, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for “*An Act to amend the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918’ and for related purposes*”.

Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an order of the day for the next sitting.

- 10 STATUTE LAW (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL (NO. 1) 1987: 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—

Statement by Minister: Mr Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, made a statement relating to a proposed government amendment to the Bill.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

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 Bowen, the following amendment was made: Schedule 1, page 67, item relating to proposed subsection 10 (2) of the *Wine Grapes Levy Collection Act 1979*, after “any such return or information that is furnished” insert “, and any information or thing (including any document) obtained as a direct or indirect consequence of the furnishing of the return or information.”

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr McLeay reported accordingly.

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

- 11 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BILL 1987: 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 Bowen (Attorney-General), the Bill was read a third time.

- 12 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS)

BILL 1987: 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.

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 Bowen (Attorney-General), by leave, the following amendments were made together:

Schedule—

Page 3, proposed subsection 11AB (1) of the *Migration Act 1958*, omit “a person”, substitute “an officer of that Department”.

Page 3, proposed subsection 11AB (2) of the *Migration Act 1958*, after “authorised officer” insert “(as defined by subsection 5 (1))”.

Page 3, proposed subsection 11AB (4) of the *Migration Act 1958*, omit “a person”, substitute “an officer of that Department”.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr McLeay reported accordingly.

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

13 PROCEEDS OF CRIME BILL 1987: 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 Spender 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 notes that—

- (1) it comprises a major and novel legislative package of 104 clauses;
- (2) it was introduced on Thursday, 30 April 1987, and has been called on for debate on the second reading on 11 May 1987, a period which allows less than adequate time for examination and consultation by the Opposition, and
- (3) it imposes on financial institutions heavy obligations for the retention of records concerning financial transactions, yet no statement from the Business Regulation Review Unit of the cost of such measures has been provided to the House”.

Mr Cleland addressing the House—

14 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.15 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 11 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 May 1987:

Excise Act—Declaration pursuant to section 78B, dated 6 April 1987.

National Health Act—Notice for the purpose of subsection 47 (2B), dated 23 April 1987.

Navigation Act—Navigation (Orders) Regulations—Orders—1987—

No. 1—Marine, Part 49.

No. 2—Marine, Part 50.

Nursing Homes Assistance Act—Notice for the purposes of subsection 13 (1A), dated 23 April 1987.

Proclamation by His Excellency the Governor-General fixing the date on which the following Acts and sections of Acts shall come into operation—*Migration Act 1958*—Repeal and re-enactment of section 5A by the *Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (No. 2) 1986*—11 May 1987.

Public Service Act—Determination—1987—No. 18.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr N. A. Brown, Mr Everingham, Mr Fife, Mr Hayden, Mr Hicks, Mr McArthur, Mr Snow and Mr Webster.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives