

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 181

FRIDAY, 29 MAY 1987

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- 1 The House met, at 10 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. Madam Speaker (the Honourable Joan Child) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 - 2 **MEMBERS' INTERESTS COMMITTEE—PAPER:** Dr Klugman (Chairman) presented the following paper:

Committee of Members' Interests—Register of Members' Interests—Notifications of alterations received during the period 26 November 1986 to 27 May 1987.
 - 3 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE:** A message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment:

28 May 1987—Message No. 436—Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) (No. 2) 1986-87.
 - 4 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1987:** Message No. 437, dated 27 May 1987, from the Senate was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the House a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976', 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.
 - 5 **COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL AMENDMENT 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 Blunt who moved, as an amendment—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "while not declining to give the Bill a second reading, this House deplores the Government's decision to continue to spend millions of dollars of taxpayers' money supporting election campaigns of political parties".

Debate continued.

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

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

AYES, 66

Mr Baldwin	Mr Dubois	Mrs Kelly	Mr Mountford
Mr Beazley	Mr Duncan	Mr Kent	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Beddall	Mr R. F. Edwards	Mr Keogh	Mr O'Neil
Mr Bilney	Ms Fatin	Mr Kerin	Mr Price
Mr Blanchard	Mr Fitzgibbon	Dr Klugman	Mr Punch
Dr Blewett	Mr Gayler	Mr Lamb	Mr Saunderson
Mr Bowen	Mr Gear	Mr Langmore	Mr Scholes
Mr R. J. Brown	Mr Grace	Mr Lee	Mr Scott
Mr Brumby	Mr Griffiths	Mr Lindsay	Mr Simmons
Mr Campbell	Mr Hand	Ms McHugh	Mr Snow
Mr Charles	Mr Holding	Mr Maher	Dr Theophanous
Mr Chynoweth	Mr Hollis	Mr Martin	Mr Uren
Mr Cleeland	Mr Howe	Mrs Mayer	Mr West
Mr Cohen	Mr Humphreys*	Mr Mildren	Mr Willis
Mr Cross	Mr Hurford	Mr Milton	Mr Wright
Mr Cunningham*	Mrs Jakobsen	Mr A. A. Morris	
Mrs Darling	Mr Jenkins	Mr P. F. Morris	

NOES, 52

Mr Adermann	Mr Connolly	Mr Hodgman	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Mr Conquest	Mr Hunt	Mr Reith
Mr Andrew*	Mr Cowan	Mr Jull	Mr Robinson
Mr Beale	Mr Downer	Mr Lloyd	Mr Rocher
Mr Blunt	Dr H. R. Edwards	Mr McArthur	Mr Sharp
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Everingham	Mr McGauran	Mr Shipton
Mr N. A. Brown	Mr Fife	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Burr	Mr T. A. Fischer	Mr Macphee	Mr Smith
Mr D. M. Cameron	Mr P. S. Fisher	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 Wilson

* 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.

The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

In the committee

Clauses 1 to 13, by leave, taken together.

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

Clause 5, page 3, at the end of the clause add the following word and paragraph:

“; and (e) by omitting from subsection (10) ‘one-tenth’ (wherever occurring) and substituting ‘one-fifth’.”.

Clause 7—

Page 4, line 22, proposed paragraph 66 (3) (a), omit “98% or more than 102%”, substitute “90% or more than 110%”.

Page 4, at the end of the clause add the following word and paragraph:

“; and (c) by omitting from subsection (3) ‘one-tenth’ (wherever occurring) and substituting ‘one-fifth’.”.

Clause 13—

Page 7, lines 39 and 40, proposed paragraph 73 (4) (a), omit “98% or more than 102%”, substitute “90% or more than 110%”.

Page 7, after paragraph (c) insert the following paragraph:

“(ca) by omitting from subsection (4) ‘one-tenth’ (wherever occurring) and substituting ‘one-fifth’; and”.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Clauses agreed to.

Clauses 14 to 28, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

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

Clause 29, page 18, line 32, proposed subparagraph 228 (5) (c) (i), omit "13 days", substitute "17 days".

Clause 35, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

Disclosure of donations

"35. Division 4 of Part XX comprising sections 303 to 307 of the Principal Act is repealed."

Schedule—

Page 33, omit—

"Subsections 93 (6) and (9):

Omit the subsections.

Subsection 96 (12):

Omit ' , within the meaning of subsection 93 (6), '."

Page 33, omit—

"Subsection 194 (3):

Omit '10 days', substitute '13 days'.

Subsection 200 (1):

Omit '10 days', substitute '13 days'."

substitute—

"Subsection 194 (3):

Omit '10 days', substitute '17 days'.

Subsection 200 (1):

Omit '10 days', substitute '17 days'."

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Remainder of Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr Mountford reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Kerin (Minister for Primary Industry), the House adopted the report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

6 NEW SUBMARINES—PROVISION—APPROVAL OF WORK: Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, and by reason of the urgent nature of the work, it is expedient that the following proposed work be carried out without having been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works: Provision of new submarines.

Debate ensued.

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.

7 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Bowen (Deputy Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the respective absences abroad of Mr Hawke (Prime Minister) and Mr Hayden (Minister for Foreign Affairs), he was acting as Prime Minister, Senator Evans (Minister for Resources and Energy) was acting as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and he was representing the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs in this House.

8 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

9 PAPER: The following paper was presented:

Audit Act—Department of Territories—Report on the operations of the Canberra Commercial Development Authority and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 1 July 1985 to 27 February 1986.

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

Mr Brumby, Mr R. F. Edwards, Ms Fatin, Mr Hodges, Mr Milton and Mr Moore—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 Beddall, Mr D. M. Cameron, Mr Hunt and Mr Katter—from certain citizens praying that pension adjustments related to November and May CPI increases not be deferred but paid immediately.

Mr Kent, Mr Saunderson 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.

Mr Katter—from certain citizens in similar terms to the last preceding petition.

Mr Beddall and Mr Rocher—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 Blunt and Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Divisions of Richmond and Fisher, respectively, praying that prescription drugs continue to be provided to pensioners without fee.

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

Mr Blanchard—from certain citizens praying that certain action be taken to prevent France from testing nuclear devices in the Kerguelen Islands.

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

Mr D. M. Cameron—from certain citizens praying that the proposed introduction of a \$2 coin not proceed.

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

Mr Duncan—from certain citizens praying that all action to close Telecom business offices cease immediately.

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

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

Mr Hawker—from certain citizens praying that the term of the Costigan Commission be extended, all necessary resources be provided to enable it to conclude its investigations and Parliament not be dissolved until its report has been fully debated by both Houses.

Mr Hawker—from certain residents of Mortlake, Vic., praying that monies allocated to the Victorian Government for road funding be increased to allow adequate funding for the construction and maintenance of roads in south-west Victoria.

Mr Hodges—from certain citizens praying that pensions be increased to 25% of average weekly earnings and the 2% reduction in superannuation be reconsidered.

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 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 any proposal for a national identification numbering system be rejected.
- Mr McArthur—from certain citizens praying that continued assistance be provided to the footwear industry.
- Mr Nehl—from certain citizens praying that funding be provided to improve the Pacific Highway between Port Macquarie and Woolgoolga, NSW.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland praying that public funding for projects which are undesirable or of dubious worth be halted.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland 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 Queensland praying that the Australian Bill of Rights Bill be repealed.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of Queensland praying that the further means testing of veterans' disability pensions not proceed.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that deletion of the 45 commonly prescribed drugs from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme be reconsidered.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that family allowances be restored to 1976 real values and certain other action be taken in relation to family incomes.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the fringe benefits tax be abandoned.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that home loan interest rates be tax deductible.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the assets test be reconsidered.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the capital gains tax proposal be abandoned.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that means be sought for the protection of the people's interests to reverse the decision to hand Ayers Rock over to an Aboriginal Land Council.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that the existing national flag remain sacrosanct.
- Mr Slipper—from certain residents of the Division of Fisher praying that unemployed people in the CES district serving Caboolture, Qld, be allowed to lodge their completed unemployment benefits forms at the Caboolture Job Centre.

Petitions received.

11 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE: Messages from the Senate were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

29 May 1987—Message—

No. 438—Appropriation (No. 3) 1986-87 (*without requests*).

No. 439—Appropriation (No. 4) 1986-87.

No. 440—Supply (Parliamentary Departments) 1987-88.

No. 441—Supply (No. 1) 1987-88 (*without requests*).

No. 442—Supply (No. 2) 1987-88.

12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PRIME MINISTER'S PROMISES: The House was informed that Mr Howard (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The abject failure of the Prime Minister to honour his promises to the Australian people".

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

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

- 13 **ADJOURNMENT NEGATIVED:** It being approximately 3.45 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Mr Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

- 14 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AND EXCISE TARIFF PROPOSALS:** Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) moved—
Customs Tariff Proposals No. 13 (1987),
Customs Tariff (Coal Export Duty) Proposals No. 1 (1987), and
Excise Tariff Proposals No. 6 (1987).

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

- 15 **CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the validation of certain collections of duties of Customs.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Jones presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

- 16 **EXCISE TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1987:** Mr Jones (Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce) presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the validation of certain collections of duties of Excise.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Jones presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

- 17 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1987:** Mr Uren (Minister for Local Government and Administrative Services), by leave, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986*.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper: Mr Uren presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

- 18 **NEW SUBMARINES—PROVISION—APPROVAL OF WORK:** The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction)—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, and by reason of the urgent nature of the work, it is expedient that the following proposed work be carried out without having been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works: Provision of new submarines—

Question—put and passed.

- 19 **PROPERTY HOLDINGS, TOKYO—RATIONALISATION AND REDEVELOPMENT—APPROVAL OF WORK:** Mr Uren (Minister for Local Government and Administrative Services), for Mr West (Minister for Housing and Construction), pursuant to notice, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, and by reason of the urgent nature of the work, it is expedient that the following proposed work be carried out without

having been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works: Rationalisation and redevelopment of property holdings in Tokyo.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

20 **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr Holding (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Paper: Mr Mountford, by leave, presented the following paper:

Immigration—Advertisement for Hardy's Investigations from page 44 of the *Daily Telegraph*, dated Tuesday, 12 May 1987.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 4.30 p.m., adjourned until Monday next at 2 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 29 May 1987: Postal Services Act—Australian Postal Commission—By-laws—1987—Postal—Amendment—No. 2.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Variation of plan of lay-out of City of Canberra and its environs, dated 28 May 1987.

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr J. J. Brown, Dr Charlesworth, Mr Coleman, Mr Dawkins, Mr Free, Mr Goodluck, Mr Gorman, Mr Hawke, Mr Hayden, Mr Hodges, Mr Jacobi, Mr Katter, Mr McVeigh, Mr Ruddock, Mr Shack, Mr Slipper, Mr Staples, Mr Tickner, Mr Webster and Mr White.

A. R. BROWNING
Clerk of the House of Representatives