

1996-97

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 88

WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY 1997

1 The House met, at 9.30 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable Bob Halverson) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HEARING SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BILL 1997**

The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 231

Mr Speaker

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the bill for **An Act relating to hearing services**, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the bill with the amendment indicated by the annexed schedule, in which amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

MARGARET REID

President

The Senate

27 May 1997

Ordered—That the amendment be considered at a later hour this day.

3 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—HEARING SERVICES AND AGHS REFORM BILL 1997**

The following message from the Senate was reported:

Message No. 232

Mr Speaker

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the bill for **An Act to amend the *Hearing Services Act 1991*, to enact transitional provisions relating to the corporatisation of the Australian Government Health Service, and for other purposes**, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the bill with the amendments indicated by the annexed schedule, in

which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

MARGARET REID

President

The Senate

27 May 1997

Ordered—That the amendments be considered at a later hour this day.

#### 4 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1997

Mr Ruddock (Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Migration Act 1958*.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Ruddock presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

#### 5 FAMILY COURT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (ORDERS OF REGISTRARS) BILL 1997

Mr Williams (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act relating to certain ineffective orders of Registrars of the Family Court of Western Australia.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Williams presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

#### 6 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1997-98—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 G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—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 the Budget:

- (1) does nothing for jobs—the nation’s most overwhelming current economic and social problem;
- (2) squanders, by breaking the promise to introduce superannuation co-contributions, an historic opportunity to build a massive new private

savings pool, and does so in a way that undercuts decent retirement incomes for lower and middle income earners;

- (3) continues the assault on families, the elderly and the needy;
- (4) contains many mindless and counter-productive cuts affecting the quality and decency of life in Australia, and harming our international reputation;
- (5) for all its cuts and destructive impact, did not meet the exaggerated expectations the Government had created as to the size of its deficit reduction achievements and projected future surpluses; and
- (6) has been characterised by even the Government's best friends as lacking in shape, direction and vision"—

Debate resumed.

It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 101A, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

## 7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

---

*Suspension of standing and sessional orders moved*

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) moved to suspend standing and sessional orders to enable him to move a motion without notice.

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) having indicated that the Government would allow the motion to be debated after the question period—

Motion withdrawn, by leave.

---

Questions without notice continued.

## 8 SUSPENSION OF STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS MOVED

Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Leader of the Opposition moving forthwith—That:

- (a) recalling the Australian people's overwhelming decision in the 1967 Referendum to confer upon the Commonwealth Parliament responsibility for enhancement of the rights and well being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people;
- (b) reaffirming the abhorrence of racism shared by the Australian people and their Federal and State governments;
- (c) reaffirming Australia's recognition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the International Convention on the Prevention of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

- (d) recalling the Parliament's commitment in October 1996 to the principles of racial tolerance; and
- (e) recognising the profound economic and social disadvantage suffered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—

this House—

- (1) affirms that the tabling of "Bringing them Home", the report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families, presents the nation with an unprecedented historical opportunity to render justice and restitution to indigenous Australians, for the good of all Australians;
- (2) acknowledges the immense trauma inflicted upon the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia as a result of the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families under past government policies in place from before the time of federation until the early 1970s;
- (3) affirms that these racially discriminatory policies and their continuing consequences are a matter of national shame;
- (4) affirms that current and future Federal and State governments are responsible for assisting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to rectify the ongoing effects of those policies;
- (5) affirms its commitment to a just and proper settlement of the grievances of people adversely affected by those policies; and

on behalf of the nation—

- (6) unreservedly apologises to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians for the separation policies;
- (7) calls upon Federal and State governments to establish, in consultation with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, appropriate processes to provide compensation and restitution, including assistance for the reunification of families and counselling services;
- (8) calls on the Federal Government and State governments to establish appropriate education programs to enhance community awareness of the history and continuing consequences of past practices and policies of racial discrimination; and
- (9) calls upon the Federal Government to declare a National Day in recognition and remembrance of the great suffering which flowed from the separation policies, and to affirm our nation's commitment to justice for indigenous Australians, today and for the future.

Debate ensued.

The time allowed by standing order 91 for debate on the motion having expired—

Question—put.

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

## AYES, 46

Mr Adams	Ms Ellis	Mr Jones	Mr O'Connor
Mr Albanese	Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Kerr	Mr Price
Mr Andren	Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr Quick
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beazley	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr McClelland	Mr Sercombe*
Mr Beddall	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr McLeay	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Bevis	Mr E. L. Grace*	Mr McMullan	Mr Tanner
Mr Brereton	Mr Griffin	Mr Martin	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Brown	Mr Hatton	Mr Melham	Mr Willis
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Wilton
Mrs Crosio	Mr Hollis	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Dargavel	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mossfield	

## NOES, 83

Mr Abbott	Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mrs Elson	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Entsch	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr McArthur*	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mr Fahey	Mr McDougall	Mr A. C. Smith
Mrs Bailey	Mr Forrest	Mr McGauran	Mr Somlyay
Mr R. C. Baldwin	Mrs Gallus	Mr McLachlan	Dr Southcott
Mr Barresi	Ms Gambaro	Mr Marek	Mrs Stone
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gash	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mr Billson	Mr Georgiou	Mr Moore	Mr Taylor
Mrs Bishop	Mrs E. J. Grace	Mrs Moylan	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mr Bradford	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Mutch	Mr Truss
Mr Broadbent	Mr Hawker	Mr Nairn	Mr Tuckey
Mr Brough	Mr Hicks*	Dr Nelson	Mr M. A. J. Vaile*
Mr Cadman	Mr Hockey	Mr Neville	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Causley	Mr Howard	Mr Prosser	Mr Wakelin
Mr Charles	Ms Jeanes	Mr Pyne	Mrs West
Mr Cobb	Mrs Johnston	Mr Randall	Mr Williams
Mr Costello	Mr Jull	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Dondas	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	Mr Zammit
Mr Downer	Miss J. M. Kelly	Mr Ronaldson	

\* Tellers

And so it was negated.

**9 PAPER**

The following paper was presented:

Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand—Record and resolutions—9th meeting, Melbourne, 28 February 1997.

**10 PROPOSED DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—STEEL INDUSTRY**

The House was informed that Mr Crean had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The need for the Prime Minister to go to Newcastle to see at first hand the impact on the

community of BHP's decision to close the Newcastle steelworks and explain why he has not developed a new national Steel Plan for the industry".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Crean rising to address the House—

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the business of the day be called on.

Question—put.

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

AYES, 84

Mr Abbott	Mrs Draper	Mr Lieberman	Mr Ruddock
Mr Anderson	Mrs Elson	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr Entsch	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sharp
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr McArthur*	Mr Sinclair
Mr Anthony	Mr Fahey	Mr McDougall	Mr Slipper
Mrs Bailey	Mr Forrest	Mr McGauran	Mr A. C. Smith
Mr R. C. Baldwin	Mrs Gallus	Mr McLachlan	Mr Somlyay
Mr Barresi	Ms Gambaro	Mr Marek	Dr Southcott
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gash	Mr Miles	Mrs Stone
Mr Billson	Mr Georgiou	Mr Moore	Mr Sullivan
Mrs Bishop	Mrs E. J. Grace	Mrs Moylan	Mr Taylor
Mr Bradford	Mr Hardgrave	Mr Mutch	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mr Broadbent	Mr Hawker	Mr Nairn	Mr Truss
Mr Brough	Mr Hicks*	Dr Nelson	Mr Tuckey
Mr Cadman	Mr Hockey	Mr Neville	Mr M. A. J. Vaile*
Mr Causley	Ms Jeanes	Mr Prosser	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Charles	Mrs Johnston	Mr Pyne	Mr Wakelin
Mr Cobb	Mr Jull	Mr Randall	Mrs West
Mr Costello	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Reid	Mr Williams
Mr Dondas	Miss J. M. Kelly	Mr Reith	Dr Wooldridge
Mr Downer	Dr Kemp	Mr Ronaldson	Mr Zammit

NOES, 45

Mr Adams	Mr G. J. Evans	Mr Kerr	Mr Price
Mr Albanese	Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Latham	Mr Quick
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Dr Lawrence	Mr Sawford*
Mr Beddall	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr McClelland	Mr Sercombe*
Mr Bevis	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr McLeay	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Brereton	Mr E. L. Grace*	Mr McMullan	Mr Tanner
Mr Brown	Mr Griffin	Mr Martin	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mr Campbell	Mr Hatton	Mr Melham	Mr Willis
Mr Crean	Mr Holding	Mr A. A. Morris	Mr Wilton
Mrs Crosio	Mr Hollis	Mr P. F. Morris	
Mr Dargavel	Mr Jenkins	Mr Mossfield	
Ms Ellis	Mr Jones	Mr O'Connor	

\* Tellers

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

**11 WOOL INTERNATIONAL AMENDMENT BILL 1997**

Mr Anderson (Minister for Primary Industries and Energy), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool International Act 1993*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Anderson presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**12 COMMONWEALTH VEHICLES (REGISTRATION AND EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION) BILL 1997**

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to provide for the registration of, and to exempt from taxation certain transactions relating to, vehicles owned by, or leased to, the Commonwealth or Commonwealth authorities, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Fahey presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**13 COMMONWEALTH MOTOR VEHICLES (LIABILITY) AMENDMENT BILL 1997**

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Motor Vehicles (Liability) Act 1959*.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Fahey presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**14 HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1997**

Mr Abbott (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs), for Dr Kemp (Minister for Schools, Vocational Education and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

*Paper*

Mr Abbott presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

**15 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 1997—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Second Deputy Speaker reported that the Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Amendment Bill 1997 had been fully considered by the Main Committee, a Governor-General's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the Bill had been agreed to with an amendment (*see item No. 2, Minutes of Proceedings of the Main Committee*), and presented a certified copy of the Bill together with a schedule of the amendment.

Amendment made by the Main Committee agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Family Services), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**16 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (REGISTRATION CHARGE—EXCISE) BILL 1997—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Second Deputy Speaker reported that the Industrial Chemicals (Registration Charge—Excise) Bill 1997 had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Family Services), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**17 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (REGISTRATION CHARGE—CUSTOMS) BILL 1997—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Second Deputy Speaker reported that the Industrial Chemicals (Registration Charge—Customs) Bill 1997 had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Ronaldson (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Development), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**18 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (REGISTRATION CHARGE—GENERAL) BILL 1997—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Second Deputy Speaker reported that the Industrial Chemicals (Registration Charge—General) Bill 1997 had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.



Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Ronaldson (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Development), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**19 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (RATITE SLAUGHTER) LEVY BILL 1997—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE**

The Second Deputy Speaker reported that the National Residue Survey (Ratite Slaughter) Levy Bill 1997 had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the Bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Ronaldson (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Development), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

**20 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1997-98—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 G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.—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 the Budget:*

- (1) does nothing for jobs—the nation’s most overwhelming current economic and social problem;
- (2) squanders, by breaking the promise to introduce superannuation co-contributions, an historic opportunity to build a massive new private savings pool, and does so in a way that undercuts decent retirement incomes for lower and middle income earners;
- (3) continues the assault on families, the elderly and the needy;
- (4) contains many mindless and counter-productive cuts affecting the quality and decency of life in Australia, and harming our international reputation;
- (5) for all its cuts and destructive impact, did not meet the exaggerated expectations the Government had created as to the size of its deficit reduction achievements and projected future surpluses; and
- (6) has been characterised by even the Government’s best friends as lacking in shape, direction and vision”—

Debate resumed.

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

**21 HEARING SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BILL 1997—SENATE’S AMENDMENT**

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendment made by the Senate, viz.:

**SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE**

Clause 5, page 4 (line 7), omit “18”, substitute “21”—

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Family Services), the amendment was agreed to, after debate.

*Suspension of standing and sessional orders moved*

Mr Lee moved—That so much of the standing and sessional orders be suspended as would prevent the Member for Dobell moving forthwith an additional amendment to the Bill.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

## 22 HEARING SERVICES AND AGHS REFORM BILL 1997—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Senate, viz.:

### SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE

- (1) Schedule 1, item 3, page 17 (lines 22 and 23), omit the item.
- (2) Schedule 1, item 5, page 17 (lines 26 and 27), omit the item.
- (3) Schedule 1, item 24, page 20 (line 28), omit “Australian children”, substitute “young Australians”.
- (4) Schedule 1, item 29, page 21 (line 22), omit “Australian children”, substitute “young Australians”.
- (5) Schedule 1, item 29, page 21 (line 23), omit “Australian children”, substitute “young Australians”.
- (6) Schedule 1, item 29, page 22 (lines 29 to 31), omit the definition of *Australian children*.
- (7) Schedule 1, item 29, page 23 (after line 12), after the definition of *referred Commonwealth employee*, insert:

*young Australians* means:

- (a) Australian citizens under 21 years of age; or
- (b) Australian permanent residents under 21 years of age—

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Family Services), amendment (1) was agreed to.

Mr Lee moved the following consequential amendment:

Schedule 1, item 24, page 20 (after line 27), at the end of paragraph (a), add:

- (aaa) to provide hearing services to a person who is the holder of a seniors health card within the meaning of the:
  - (i) *Social Security Act 1991*; or
  - (ii) *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*

Question—That the consequential amendment be agreed to—put.

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

## AYES, 46

Mr Adams	Mr L. D. T. Ferguson	Mr Kerr	Mr Mossfield
Mr Albanese	Mr M. J. Ferguson	Mr Latham	Mr O'Connor
Mr P. J. Baldwin	Mr Filing	Dr Lawrence	Mr Price
Mr Beddall	Mr Fitzgibbon	Mr Lee	Mr Sawford*
Mr Bevis	Mr E. L. Grace*	Mr McClelland	Mr Sercombe*
Mr Brown	Mr Griffin	Ms Macklin	Mr S. F. Smith
Mr Campbell	Ms Hanson	Mr McLeay	Mr Tanner
Mr Crean	Mr Hatton	Mr McMullan	Mr K. J. Thomson
Mrs Crosio	Mr Holding	Mr Martin	Mr Willis
Mr Dargavel	Mr Hollis	Mr Melham	Mr Wilton
Ms Ellis	Mr Jenkins	Mr A. A. Morris	
Mr M. J. Evans	Mr Jones	Mr P. F. Morris	

## NOES, 80

Mr Abbott	Mrs Elson	Mr Lieberman	Mr Ronaldson
Mr Anderson	Mr Entsch	Mr Lindsay	Mr Scott
Mr J. N. Andrew	Mr R. D. C. Evans	Mr Lloyd	Mr Sinclair
Mr K. J. Andrews	Mr Fahey	Mr McArthur*	Mr Slipper
Mr Anthony	Mr Forrest	Mr McDougall	Mr A. C. Smith
Mrs Bailey	Mrs Gallus	Mr McGauran	Mr Somlyay
Mr Barresi	Ms Gambaro	Mr McLachlan	Dr Southcott
Mr Bartlett	Mrs Gash	Mr Marek	Mrs Stone
Mr Billson	Mr Georgiou	Mr Miles	Mrs Sullivan
Mrs Bishop	Mrs E. J. Grace	Mr Moore	Mr Taylor
Mr Broadbent	Mr Hardgrave	Mrs Moylan	Mr A. P. Thomson
Mr Brough	Mr Hawker	Mr Mutch	Mr Truss
Mr Cadman	Mr Hicks*	Mr Nairn	Mr Tuckey
Mr Causley	Mr Hockey	Mr Nehl	Mr M. A. J. Vaile*
Mr Charles	Ms Jeanes	Dr Nelson	Mrs D. S. Vale
Mr Cobb	Mrs Johnston	Mr Neville	Mr Wakelin
Mr Costello	Mr Jull	Mr Pyne	Mrs West
Mr Dondas	Mrs D. M. Kelly	Mr Randall	Mr Williams
Mr Downer	Miss J. M. Kelly	Mr Reid	Dr Wooldridge
Mrs Draper	Dr Kemp	Mr Reith	Mr Zammit

\* Tellers

And so it was negatived.

On the motion of Dr Wooldridge, amendments (2) to (7) were agreed to.

## 23 MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message No. 233, dated 27 May 1997, from the Senate was reported acquainting the House that Senator Ferguson had been discharged from attendance on the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories, and Senator Lightfoot had been appointed a member of the committee.

**24 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:

28 May 1997—Message No. 143—

Retirement Savings Accounts 1997.

Retirement Savings Accounts (Consequential Amendments) 1997.

Retirement Savings Accounts Supervisory Levy 1997.

**25 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 1997-98—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 G. J. Evans (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), viz.*—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 the Budget:

- (1) does nothing for jobs—the nation’s most overwhelming current economic and social problem;
- (2) squanders, by breaking the promise to introduce superannuation co-contributions, an historic opportunity to build a massive new private savings pool, and does so in a way that undercuts decent retirement incomes for lower and middle income earners;
- (3) continues the assault on families, the elderly and the needy;
- (4) contains many mindless and counter-productive cuts affecting the quality and decency of life in Australia, and harming our international reputation;
- (5) for all its cuts and destructive impact, did not meet the exaggerated expectations the Government had created as to the size of its deficit reduction achievements and projected future surpluses; and
- (6) has been characterised by even the Government’s best friends as lacking in shape, direction and vision”—

Debate resumed.

Mrs Stone addressing the House—

---

**26 ADJOURNMENT**

It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 8 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

---

**PAPERS**

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 28 May 1997:

Income Tax Assessment Act—RHQ company determinations—

1996 No. 6.

1997 Nos. 1, 2.



**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Fischer, Mr Nugent, Mr O'Keefe and Ms Worth.



**L. M. BARLIN**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1996-97

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 88

**MAIN COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY 1997**

---

1 The Main Committee met at 10 a.m.

---

*Suspension of sitting*

At 10 a.m., the Deputy Speaker left the Chair due to the lack of a quorum.

*Resumption of sitting*

At 10.05 a.m., the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair, and a quorum being present—

---

2 **INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT) AMENDMENT BILL 1997**

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. 141, dated 17 April 1997, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

*Consideration in detail*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs) moved the following amendment:

Schedule 2, page 61 (line 16), at the end of paragraph (1)(b), add:

; and (c) any fees received under subsection 110(1) of that Act.

*Paper*

Mr Scott presented a supplementary explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Amendment agreed to.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House with an amendment.

**3 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (REGISTRATION CHARGE—EXCISE) BILL 1997**

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

**4 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (REGISTRATION CHARGE—CUSTOMS) BILL 1997**

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

**5 INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS (REGISTRATION CHARGE—GENERAL) BILL 1997**

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

**6 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (RATITE SLAUGHTER) LEVY BILL 1997**

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 the question on the report to be put forthwith.

Question—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

**7 WINE EXPORT CHARGE BILL 1997**

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.

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

**8 ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mr. M. A. J. Vaile, the Main Committee adjourned at 12.59 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed tomorrow at 10 a.m. for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

---

---

**I. C. HARRIS**  
Clerk of the Main Committee