

1998

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 2

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 1998

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

2 SPEAKER'S PANEL

The following warrant nominating members of the Speaker's panel, pursuant to standing order 18, was laid on the Table:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 18, I nominate—

Dick Godfrey Harry Adams,
Kevin James Andrews,
Janice Ann Crosio,
Colin Hollis,
De-Anne Margaret Kelly,
Frank William Mossfield, and
Harry Vernon Quick,

to be members of the Speaker's panel to assist the Chair when requested to do so by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

Given under my hand on 11 November 1998.

NEIL ANDREW
Speaker

3 MAIN COMMITTEE—DAY OF NEXT MEETING

The Speaker reported that the Deputy Speaker had fixed Wednesday, 11 November 1998, at 3.30 p.m., or at such later time as he takes the Chair, as the time for the next meeting of the Main Committee, unless an alternative day or hour is fixed.

4 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Remembrance Day

At 11 a.m., to commemorate Remembrance Day, all Members present stood, in silence.

Debate continued.

Debate adjourned (Mrs D. S. Vale), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

5 WOOL INTERNATIONAL AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), 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 M. A. J. Vaile moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr M. A. J. Vaile presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS—INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, MOTION FOR SECOND READING AND REFERRAL TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—

- (1) That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the introduction and passage through all stages without delay of the following bills:

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety 1998;

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (Licence Charges) 1998;

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (Consequential Amendments) 1998;

States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Amendment 1998;

Higher Education Funding Amendment 1998;

Film Licensed Investment Company 1998;
Taxation Laws Amendment (Film Licensed Investment Company) 1998;
Child Support Legislation Amendment 1998; and
States Grants (General Purposes) Amendment 1998; and

- (2) That each of the bills stand referred to the Main Committee following the adjournment of debate on the motion for the second reading.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

7 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY BILL 1998

Mrs B. K. Bishop (Minister for Aged Care), for Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to regulate activities involving radiation, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs B. K. Bishop moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mrs B. K. Bishop presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

8 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY (LICENCE CHARGES) BILL 1998

Mrs B. K. Bishop (Minister for Aged Care) presented a Bill for an Act to impose charges on licences issued under the *Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs B. K. Bishop moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mrs B. K. Bishop presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day

9 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998

Mrs B. K. Bishop (Minister for Aged Care), for Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to deal with consequential matters arising from the enactment of the *Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Act 1998*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs B. K. Bishop moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mrs B. K. Bishop presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day

10 STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (Primary and Secondary Education Assistance) Act 1996*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Dr Kemp moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Dr Kemp presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day

11 HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Dr Kemp (Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Higher Education Funding Act 1998*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Dr Kemp moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Dr Kemp presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day

12 FILM LICENSED INVESTMENT COMPANY BILL 1998

Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish the film licensed investment company scheme, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr McGauran presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

13 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (FILM LICENSED INVESTMENT COMPANY) BILL 1998

Mr McGauran (Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation) presented a Bill for an Act to provide income tax deductions for investment in film licensed investment companies, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr McGauran presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day

14 CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Truss (Minister for Community Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to child support, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Truss presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

15 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *States Grants (General Purposes) Act 1994*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Hockey presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate adjourned (Mr McClelland), and the Bill was referred to the Main Committee in accordance with the resolution agreed to this day.

16 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

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.

17 ALLOCATION OF THE CALL, SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS AND APPLAUDING IN THE CHAMBER—STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

The Speaker made a statement on the conduct of Members seeking the call, the practice of allowing supplementary questions and Members applauding in the Chamber.

18 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence abroad of Mr Scott (Minister for Veterans' Affairs), Mr Moore (Minister for Defence) would be Acting Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

19 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Papers

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following papers:

Goods and services tax—Australian Labor Party advertisement published in the *Herald Sun*, 2 October 1998.

Household expenditure survey—Papers (12).

Questions without notice continued.

20 PAPERS

Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report relating to Warlmanpa (Muckaty Pastoral Lease) land claim No. 135 (No. 51).

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act—

Aboriginals Benefit Reserve—Report for 1997-98.

Building on land rights for the next generation—Review of Act by John Reeves, Q.C.—

Appendices.

Report, August 1998.

Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act—

Administrative Appeals Tribunal—Report for 1997-98.

Administrative Review Council—

22nd report, for 1997-98.

Report No. 42—Contracting out of government services.

Affirmative Action (Equal Employment Opportunity for Women) Act—Affirmative Action Agency—Report for period 1 June 1997 to 31 May 1998.

Archives Act—National Archives of Australia and National Archives of Australia Advisory Council—Reports for 1997-98.

Australia-Japan Foundation Act—Australia-Japan Foundation—Report for 1997-98.

Australia-Korea Foundation—Report for 1996-97.

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—

- Australian Bureau of Statistics—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Statistics Advisory Council—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Act—Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Federal Police Act—Australian Federal Police—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian National Training Authority Act—
- Australian National Training Authority—Australia's vocational education and training system—Report for 1997—Volumes 1, 2, 3.
- Australian National Training Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act—Australian Security Intelligence Organization—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Sports Drug Agency Act—Australian Sports Drug Agency—Operational plan for 1998-99.
- Bureau of Meteorology—Report for 1997-98.
- Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act—Classification Board and Classification Review Board—Report for 1997-98.
- Coal Industry Act—Joint Coal Board—51st report, for 1997-98.
- Commissioner of Taxation—Report for 1997-98.
- Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission—Report for 1997-98.
- Aboriginal Hostels Limited—Report for 1997-98.
- ADI Limited—Report for 1997-98.
- Airservices Australia—Report for 1997-98.
- Army and Air Force Canteen Service Board of Management—Report for period 1 February 1997 to 30 June 1998.
- Australia Council—Report for 1997-98.
- Australia New Zealand Food Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Broadcasting Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Broadcasting Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Communications Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Dairy Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Film Commission—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Film Finance Corporation Limited—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Film, Television and Radio School—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Heritage Commission—Report for 1997-98.

- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Institute of Criminology and the Criminology Research Council—26th report, for 1997-98.
- Australian Institute of Family Studies—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Meat and Live-stock Corporation—Final report, for 1997-98.
- Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian National Maritime Museum—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Pork Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Sports Drug Agency—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian War Memorial—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation—Report for 1997-98.
- Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Dairy Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—13th report, for 1997-98.
- Defence Housing Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Energy Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Federal Airports Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Film Australia Limited—Report for 1997-98.
- Fisheries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Health Services Australia—Report for 1997-98.
- Immigration Review Tribunal—Report for 1997-98.
- Indigenous Land Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Maritime Industry Finance Company Limited—Report for period 8 April to 30 June 1998.
- Meat Research Corporation—Final report, for 1997-98.
- National Gallery of Australia—Report for 1997-98.
- National Library of Australia—38th report for 1997-98.
- National Museum of Australia—Report for 1997-98.
- National Occupational Health and Safety Commission—Report for 1997-98.
- Pig Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Report for 1997-98.

- Repatriation Medical Authority—4th report, for 1997-98.
- Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust—Report for 1997-98.
- Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund—Report for period 1 January 1997 to 30 June 1998.
- Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund—Report for period 1 January 1997 to 30 June 1998.
- Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1997-98.
- Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)—Report for 1997-98.
- Stevedoring Industry Finance Committee—Report for 1997-98.
- Telstra—Report/Review for 1998.
- Torres Strait Regional Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Wool International—Report for 1997-98.
- Commonwealth Electoral Act—Australian Electoral Commission—Reports for 1997-98.
- Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report for 1997-98.
- Commonwealth Services Delivery Agency Act—Centrelink—Report for 1997-98.
- Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act—Federal Police Disciplinary Tribunal—Report for 1997-98.
- Customs Administration Act—Australian Customs Service—Report for 1997-98.
- Data-matching Program (Assistance and Tax) Act—Data-matching program—Department of Veterans' Affairs—Report for 1995-98.
- Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Report for 1997-98.
- Department of Social Security—Compliance activity in Centrelink—Report for period 1 July 1997 to 31 March 1998.
- Director of Public Prosecutions Act—Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions—Report for 1997-98.
- Equal Employment Opportunity (Commonwealth Authorities) Act—
Equal Employment Opportunity Program—Reports for 1997-98—
Army and Air Force Canteen Service (AAFCANS).
- Australia Post.
- Australian Film, Television and Radio School.
- Reserve Bank of Australia.
- Equity and Diversity Program 1994-98—Airservices Australia—Progress report for 1997-98.
- Family Law Act—
- Family Court of Australia—Report for 1997-98.

Family Law Council—Reports—

For 1997-98.

Child contact orders: Enforcement and penalties.

Parental child abduction.

Finance—

Advance to the Minister for Finance—

Statement for June 1998.

Supporting applications of issues from the Advance during June 1998.

Final budget outcome 1997-98.

Provision for running costs borrowings—

Statement for June 1998.

Supporting applications of issues from the Provision during June 1998.

Financial Transaction Reports Act—Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)—Report for 1997-98.

Health Insurance Act—Professional Services Review—Report for 1997-98.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act—Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—

Report for 1997-98.

Report on Article 18—Freedom of religion and belief.

Industrial Chemicals (Notification and Assessment) Act—National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme—Report for 1997-98.

Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security Act—Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security—Report for 1997-98.

Insurance and Superannuation Commission—Report for 1997-98.

International Air Services Commission Act—International Air Services Commission—Report for 1997-98.

Military Superannuation and Benefits Act—Military Superannuation and Benefits Board of Trustees No.1—Report for 1997-98.

National Film and Sound Archive—Review for 1997-98.

National Office for the Information Economy—Report for 1997-98.

National Road Transport Commission Act—National Road Transport Commission—Report for 1997-98.

National Science and Technology Centre (Questacon)—Report for 1997-98.

Native Title Act—National Native Title Tribunal—Report for 1997-98.

Nuclear Non-Proliferation (Safeguards) Act and Chemical Weapons (Prohibition) Act—Australian Safeguards Office and the Chemical Weapons Convention Office—Report for 1997-98.

Office of Asset Sales and Information Technology Outsourcing—Report for 1997-98.

Office of Government Information Technology—Report for 1997-98.

Official Establishments Trust—Report for 1997-98.

Ombudsman Act—Commonwealth and Defence Force Ombudsman—Report, including a report pursuant to the Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act, for 1997-98.

Parliamentary Counsel Act—Office of Parliamentary Counsel—Report for 1997-98.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority—Report for 1997-98.

Privacy Act—Privacy Commissioner—10th report, for 1997-98.

Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act—Report on the Act and National Cultural Heritage Fund for 1997-98.

Public Lending Right Act—Public Lending Right Committee—Report for 1997-98.

Public Service Act—

Attorney-General's Department—Report for 1997-98.

Commissioner for Superannuation—Report, incorporating reports on the administration and operation of the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act and the Superannuation Act, for 1997-98.

Department of Communications and the Arts—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Defence—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Finance and Administration—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Health and Family Services—Report, including report on the administration and operation of the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service and the Therapeutic Goods Administration, for 1997-98.

Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Report, including a report on the Adult Migrant English Program under the Immigration (Education) Act and a statement under the Australian Citizenship Act, for 1997-98.

Department of Industry, Science and Tourism—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Primary Industries and Energy—Report for 1997-98.

Department of the Environment—Report, including reports of the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Supervising Scientist for the Alligator Rivers Region and on the operation of the Hazardous Waste (Regulations of Exports and Imports) Act and the Ozone Protection Act, for 1997-98.

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet—Report for 1997-98.

Department of the Treasury—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Transport and Regional Development—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Workplace Relations and Small Business—Report, incorporating a report on the operation of Part V of the Workplace Relations Act, for 1997-98.

Public Service and Merit Protection Commission—Report, incorporating the report of the Merit Protection and Review Agency in accord with the Merit Protection (Australian Government Employees) Act, for 1997-98.

Reserve Bank of Australia Act—Reserve Bank of Australia—Report for 1997-98.

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act—Comcare Australia, including the reports of the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission and QWL Pty Limited—Report for 1997-98.

Social Security Act—

And Public Service Act—Department of Social Security—Report for 1997-98.

Social Security Appeals Tribunal—Report for 1997-98.

Superannuation Act 1976—CSS Board—Report for 1997-98.

Superannuation Act 1990—PSS Board—Report for 1997-98.

Taxation reform—Documents relating to market research conducted by the Treasury under the community education and information program on taxation reform.

Telecommunications (Interception) Act—Telecommunications (Interception) Act—Report for 1996-97.

Trade Practices Act—National Competition Council—Report for 1997-98.

Treaties—

Bilateral with national interest analyses—

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Malaysia concerning the Status of Forces, done at Kuala Lumpur on 3 February 1997.

Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of Ukraine on Trade and Economic Cooperation, done at Kyiv on 17 March 1998.

Exchange of Letters, done at Canberra on 14 July 1998, between Australia and the Republic of France constituting an Agreement relating to the Movement of Nationals between the Two Countries.

Exchange of Letters, done at London on 29 May 1998, constituting an Agreement to amend the Agreement on Health Services between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of 21 March 1986.

General Agreement on Development Cooperation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, done at Jakarta on 9 July 1998.

List of multilateral treaty action under negotiation or consideration by the Australian Government.

United Nations—International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Australia's reports under the covenant—

Report for period March 1987 to December 1995 (Third).

Report for period January to December 1996 (Fourth).

Veterans' Entitlements Act—Veterans' Review Board—Report for 1997-98.

Veterans' Entitlements Act and Public Service Act—Repatriation Commission, Department of Veterans' Affairs and the National Treatment Monitoring Committee—Report for 1997-98.

War Crimes Act—Report for 1997-98.

Workplace Relations Act—

Agreement making under the Workplace Relations Act—

Report for 1997.

Report for period January to June 1998.

Australian Industrial Relations Commission and the Australian Industrial Registry—Report for 1997-98.

Employment Advocate—Report for 1997-98.

21 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following papers:

Coal Industry Act—Joint Coal Board—51st report, for 1997-98.

Commissioner of Taxation—Report for 1997-98.

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—

Energy Research and Development Corporation—Report for 1997-98.

Maritime Industry Finance Company Limited—Report for period 8 April to 30 June 1998.

Wool International Act—Wool International—Report for 1997-98.

Commonwealth Grants Commission Act—Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report for 1997-98.

Commonwealth Services Delivery Agency Act—Centrelink—Report for 1997-98.

Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Report for 1997-98.

Finance—

Advance to the Minister for Finance—

Statement for June 1998.

Supporting applications of issues from the Advance during June 1998.

Final budget outcome 1997-98.

Provision for running costs borrowings—

Statement for June 1998.

Supporting applications of issues from the Provision during June 1998.

Military Superannuation and Benefits Act—Military Superannuation and Benefits Board of Trustees No.1—Report for 1997-98.

Office of Asset Sales and Information Technology Outsourcing—Report for 1997-98.

Office of Government Information Technology—Report for 1997-98.

Public Service Act—

Commissioner for Superannuation—Report, incorporating reports on the administration and operation of the Papua New Guinea (Staffing Assistance) Act and the Superannuation Act, for 1997-98.

Department of Finance and Administration—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Industry, Science and Tourism—Report for 1997-98.

Department of Primary Industries and Energy—Report for 1997-98.

Superannuation Act 1976—CSS Board—Report for 1997-98.

Superannuation Act 1990—PSS Board—Report for 1997-98.

Taxation reform—Documents relating to market research conducted by the Treasury under the community education and information program on taxation reform.

Trade Practices Act—National Competition Council—Report for 1997-98.

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

22 PAPERS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Public Service Act—

Department of the House of Representatives—Report for 1997-98.

Department of the Parliamentary Library—Report for 1997-98

Department of the Parliamentary Reporting Staff—Report for 1997-98—
Report.

Report—Interactive multimedia CD-ROM version.

23 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS

The Speaker presented the following papers:

Auditor-General Act—Auditor-General—

Audit reports of 1998-99—

No. 3—Performance audit—Assessable Government Industry Assistance—
Follow-up audit: Australian Taxation Office.

No. 4—Performance audit—Client service initiatives—Australian Trade
Commission (Austrade).

No. 5—Performance audit—Commonwealth agencies' security preparations for
the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

No. 6—Audit activity report: January to June 1998—Summary of audit
outcomes.

No. 7—Performance audit—Management of the implementation of the new
employment services market: Department of Employment, Education, Training
and Youth Affairs.

No. 8—Performance audit—Safeguarding our national collections.

No. 9—Performance audit—Accountability and performance information: Australian Sports Commission.

No. 10—Performance audit—Sale of one-third of Telstra..

No. 11—Performance audit—OGIT and FedLink Infrastructure: Office of Government Information Technology, Department of Finance and Administration.

No. 12—Performance audit—Taxation reform: Community Education and Information Program.

Australian National Audit Office—Report for 1997-98.

Severally ordered to be printed.

24 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House take note of the following paper:

Auditor-General Act—Auditor-General—Australian National Audit Office—Report for 1997-98.

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

25 REGISTRAR OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The House was informed that the Speaker, in accordance with resolution (3) of the House of Representatives relating to the registration of Members' Interests, had appointed Mr B. C. Wright, Deputy Clerk of the House of Representatives, as Registrar of Members' Interests in the 39th Parliament.

26 PAPER

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Rt. Hon. I. McC. Sinclair—Retirement—Letter from Mr Sinclair, 11 November 1998.

27 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

The House was informed that Mr Beazley (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The threat posed to those on low incomes by the Government's proposed GST".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

28 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

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

29 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Tuckey (Minister for Forestry and Conservation) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

PAPERS

The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 11 November 1998:

Australian Bureau of Statistics Act—Australian Bureau of Statistics—Proposal 1998 No. 15.

Broadcasting Services Act—Notice 1994 Broadcasting Services (Events) No. 1 (1998 Amendment No. 4).

Child Care Act—Direction No. IMCA/12G/98/3.

Corporations Act—Accounting standard No. AASB 1016A.

Currency Act—Determination 1998 No. 6.

Financial Management and Accountability Act—Determinations to establish components of the Reserved Money Fund 1998 Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10.

Income Tax Assessment Act 1936—Guidelines 1998 Income Tax (Farm Management Deposits - Deduction Exemption Certificates).

National Health Act—Determination 1998 No. HIG 7.

Parliamentary Entitlements Act—Advice of decisions under regulation 18.

Taxation Administration Act—Determination 1998 No. TD 98/25.

Telecommunications Act 1997—Declaration 1998 Carrier Licence Conditions (28 GHz and 31 GHz Bands).

Therapeutic Goods Act—Therapeutic Goods Order No. 62

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Scott.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 2

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 1998

1 The Main Committee met at 3.30 p.m.

2 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY BILL 1998

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 (Mrs Elson), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

3 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY (LICENCE CHARGES) BILL 1998

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 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998

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 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY

Ordered—That orders of the day Nos. 4 to 8, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

6 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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 Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

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

7 CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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. 2, 11 November 1998, 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 Swan, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (1) to (3) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

Ordered—That the Bill be reported to the House without amendment.

8 FILM LICENSED INVESTMENT COMPANY BILL 1998

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.

9 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (FILM LICENSED INVESTMENT COMPANY) BILL 1998

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.

10 AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY BILL 1998

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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 1, 11 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

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.

11 STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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 Lee 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 condemns the Government for damaging Australia’s schools, including by failing to provide them with adequate resources to cope with the expected increase of up to 27,000 students a year as a result of the introduction of the Youth Allowance”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 3, 11 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

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.

12 STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 5, 11 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

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.

13 HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 1998

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 Lee 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 condemns the Government for damaging Australia’s vitally important higher education system by:

- (1) slashing funding to Australian universities resulting in 21,000 fewer student places; and
- (2) driving down University application rates by 3.3% in 1997 and a further 3.1% in 1998 by increasing HECS charges and lowering the repayment threshold”.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put and passed—Bill read a second time.

Messages from the Governor-General

Message No. 4, 11 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

Message No. 6, 11 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of an amendment to the Bill.

Consideration in detail

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs) moved the Government amendment as circulated.

Paper

Ms Worth 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.

14 **ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Mrs Elson, the Main Committee adjourned at 7 p.m.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee