

1998

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 11

THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER 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 BILL REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Ronaldson (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the Space Activities Bill 1998 be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration.

Question—put and passed.

3 MOTOR VEHICLE STANDARDS AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Anderson (Minister for Transport and Regional Services), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989*.

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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SUPERANNUATION) BILL 1998

Mr Reith (Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* and the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Reith presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

5 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1998-99—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1998-99

Message No. 15, 30 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1999; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the money appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1998-99*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1999, and for related purposes.

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the money appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1998-99*, for the service of the year ending on 30 June 1999, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

6 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 1998-99—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1998-99

Message No. 16, 30 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of certain proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1999; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the money appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1998-99*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1999, and for related purposes.

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the money appropriated by the *Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1998-99*, for certain expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1999, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

7 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE IN RELATION TO THE PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS FOR YEAR 1998-99—APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 1998-99

Message No. 17, 30 November 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced:

- (a) transmitting to the House of Representatives particulars of proposed additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1999; and
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, recommending to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the money appropriated by the *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act 1998-99*, for certain expenditure in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1999, and for related purposes.

Mr Fahey (Minister for Finance and Administration) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional to the money appropriated by the *Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Act 1998-99*, for certain expenditure in relation to the Parliamentary Departments in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1999, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

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

8 CUSTOMS (ANTI-DUMPING AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998

Mr Williams (Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Act 1901*, and for related purposes.

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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

9 CUSTOMS TARIFF (ANTI-DUMPING) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998

Mr Williams (Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Tariff (Anti-Dumping) Act 1975*, and for related purposes.

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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

10 LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend various Acts relating to law and justice, and for related purposes.

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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

11 JUDICIARY AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Judiciary Act 1903*, and for related purposes.

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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

12 HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Williams (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to human rights, and for related purposes.

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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

13 QUARANTINE 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 *Quarantine Act 1908*, 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 (Ms Macklin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

14 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (EXCISE) LEVIES BILL 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a Bill for an Act relating to the imposition of primary industries levies that are duties of excise.

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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

15 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (CUSTOMS) CHARGES BILL 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a Bill for an Act relating to the imposition of primary industries charges that are duties of customs.

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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

16 PRIMARY INDUSTRIES LEVIES AND CHARGES (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to make consequential amendments relating to the *Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1998* and the *Primary Industries (Customs) Charges Act 1998*, and for other 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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

17 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Residue Survey (Excise) Levy Act 1998*, 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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

18 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Residue Survey (Customs) Levy Act 1998*, 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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

19 AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998

Mr M. A. J. Vaile (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend various Acts administered by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, 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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

20 MIGRATION (VISA APPLICATION) CHARGE AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Ruddock (Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Migration (Visa Application) Charge Act 1997*, and for related purposes.

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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

21 CORPORATE LAW ECONOMIC REFORM PROGRAM BILL 1998

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Corporations Law and the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 1989*, 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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

22 SALES TAX LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1998

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation.

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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

23 SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to superannuation, 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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

24 TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1998

Mr Hockey (Minister for Financial Services and Regulation) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation.

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 Martin), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

25 POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICES

Ordered—That notices Nos. 12 to 14, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

26 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1998

Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), for Dr Wooldridge (Minister for Health and Aged Care), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to health, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Worth moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Ms Worth presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

27 AUSTRALIAN SPORTS DRUG AGENCY AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Jackie Kelly (Minister for Sport and Tourism), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Sports Drug Agency Act 1990*, and for other purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Jackie Kelly moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Jackie Kelly presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

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

28 NATIONAL MEASUREMENT AMENDMENT (UTILITY METERS) BILL 1998

Ms Worth (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs), for Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *National Measurement Act 1960*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Worth moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Ms Worth 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.

29 INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1998

Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Industry Research and Development Act 1986*, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

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

Paper

Mr Entsch 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.

30 SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Mr Reith (Leader of the House) moved—That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Monday, 7 December 1998, at 12.30 p.m., unless the Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting.

Question—put and passed.

31 COMMITTEES—STANDING ORDERS—AMENDMENTS

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, the following amendments to the standing orders be made:

- (1) Omit standing orders 26 to 29.
- (2) Standing order 302:
Omit 'select'.
- (3) Omit standing orders 323 to 368 and substitute the following standing orders:

CHAPTER XXIV STANDING COMMITTEES

Appointment

323 Standing committees shall be appointed at the commencement of each Parliament in accordance with the provisions of standing orders 324 to 331.

General purpose standing committees

324 (a) The following general purpose standing committees shall be appointed:

- (i) Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs;
- (ii) Standing Committee on Communications, Transport and the Arts;
- (iii) Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration;
- (iv) Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Workplace Relations;

- (v) Standing Committee on Environment and Heritage;
- (vi) Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs;
- (vii) Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Resources;
- (viii) Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs; and
- (ix) Standing Committee on Primary Industries and Regional Services.

(b) A standing committee appointed pursuant to paragraph (a) shall be empowered to inquire into and report on any matter referred to it by either the House or a Minister, including any pre-legislation proposal, bill, motion, petition, vote or expenditure, other financial matter, report or paper.

Annual reports of government departments and authorities and reports of the Auditor-General tabled in the House shall stand referred to the relevant committee for any inquiry the committee may wish to make. Reports shall stand referred to committees in accordance with a schedule tabled by the Speaker to record the areas of responsibility of each committee:

Provided that:

- (i) any question concerning responsibility for a report or a part of a report shall be determined by the Speaker;
- (ii) the period during which an inquiry concerning an annual report may be commenced by a committee shall end on the day on which the next annual report of that department or authority is presented to the House; and
- (iii) if a committee intends to inquire into all or part of a report of the Auditor-General, it shall notify the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit, in writing, of its intention.

(c) Each committee appointed under subparagraphs (a)(i) to (viii) shall consist of 10 members, six government and four non-government Members. A committee appointed under subparagraph (a)(ix) shall consist of 12 members, seven government and five non-government Members. Each committee may be supplemented with up to two members for a particular inquiry: provided that a maximum of one government and one non-government member may be appointed as supplementary members.

Committee of Privileges

325 (a) A Committee of Privileges shall be appointed to inquire into and report on complaints of breach of privilege or contempt which may be referred to it by the House under standing order 95 or by the Speaker under standing order 97A or any other matter referred to it pursuant to a resolution of the House.

(b) The committee shall consist of the Leader of the House or his or her nominee, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition or his or her nominee and nine other Members.

Library Committee

326 (a) A Library Committee shall be appointed to consider any matter relating to the provision of library services to Members referred to it by the House or by the Speaker.

(b) The committee shall consist of the Speaker and six other Members.

House Committee

327 (a) A House Committee shall be appointed to consider any matter relating to the provision of facilities in Parliament House referred to it by the House or by the Speaker.

(b) The committee shall consist of the Speaker and six other Members.

Publications Committee

328 (a) A Publications Committee shall be appointed to consider all documents presented to the House which have not been ordered to be printed by either House of the Parliament. The committee shall report from time to time in connection with documents presented to the House and may make recommendations as to what documents ought to be printed and whether wholly or in part.

(b) The committee shall consist of seven Members.

(c) When conferring with a similar committee of the Senate the committee shall have power to inquire into and report on the printing, publication and distribution of parliamentary and government publications and on such matters as are referred to it by the relevant Minister.

Committee of Members' Interests

329 (a) A Committee of Members' Interests shall be appointed—

- (i) to inquire into and report upon the arrangements made for the compilation, maintenance and accessibility of a Register of Members' Interests;
- (ii) to consider any proposals made by Members and others as to the form and content of the register;
- (iii) to consider any specific complaints made in relation to the registering or declaring of interests;
- (iv) to consider what changes to any code of conduct adopted by the House are necessary or desirable;
- (v) to consider what classes of persons (if any) other than Members ought to be required to register and declare their interests; and
- (vi) to make recommendations upon these and any other matters which are relevant.

(b) The committee shall consist of seven Members, four government Members and three non-government Members: provided that, where the Opposition is composed of two parties, the committee shall consist of four government Members, two Members of the larger opposition party, and one Member of the smaller opposition party.

(c) The committee shall have power to call for witnesses and documents but shall not exercise that power, nor undertake an investigation of the private interests of any person, unless approved by not less than four members of the committee other than the chair.

(d) The committee shall, as soon as practicable after 31 December in each year, prepare and present to the House a report on its operations during that year and shall also have power to report from time to time.

Standing Committee on Procedure

330 (a) A Standing Committee on Procedure shall be appointed to inquire into and report on the practices and procedures of the House generally with a view to making recommendations for their improvement or change and for the development of new procedures.

(b) The committee shall consist of seven members, four government members and three non-government members.

Selection Committee

331 (a) A Selection Committee shall be appointed to arrange the timetable and order of business for private Members' business and committee and delegation reports on each sitting Monday pursuant to standing order 101.

(b) The committee shall consist of the Deputy Speaker, the Chief Government Whip, the Chief Opposition Whip, the Third Party Whip, four government members and three opposition or other non-government members.

(c) Private Members' business which is to be accorded priority, the order of consideration and the times allotted for debate on each item and the time limits allotted for each Member speaking shall be approved by a majority of the members present at a meeting of the committee and in accordance with general principles adopted by the House after report by the committee.

(d) The Selection Committee may determine the order of precedence and times allotted for consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business and shall report its determinations to the House in sufficient time for its decisions to be published on the Notice Paper of the sitting Thursday prior to the Monday to which the determinations apply.

(e) Reports of the committee made pursuant to paragraph (d) shall be deemed adopted when presented and shall be printed in Hansard.

(f) Five members of the committee shall constitute a quorum of the committee.

(g) For the purpose of private Members' business in this and any other standing or sessional order, a private Member is any Member of the House other than the Speaker or a Minister.

CHAPTER XXV OPERATION OF COMMITTEES

Application

332 Except as provided in another standing or sessional order, or as otherwise ordered by the House, the provisions in standing orders 333 to 354 apply to all committees of the House.

Appointment of members

333 Members shall be appointed to, or discharged from, a committee on motion moved on notice. Provided that, during a period when the House is not sitting and is not expected to meet for a further period of at least two weeks, the Chief Government Whip or Whips, in the case of a government member, or the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips, in the case of a non-government member, may nominate, by writing to the Speaker, the appointment or discharge of a member of a committee. The change in membership shall take effect from the time the Speaker receives the nomination from the relevant whip and the Speaker shall, at the next sitting, report the change to the House which shall resolve the membership of the committee.

For the purpose of consideration of a bill referred to a committee pursuant to standing order 217A, one or more members of a committee may be replaced by other Members by motion on notice. This does not affect the provision for a general purpose standing committee to be supplemented by up to two members.

Speaker and Deputy Speakers

334 The Speaker, the Deputy Speaker or the Second Deputy Speaker shall not be appointed to serve on a committee except with his or her consent or as specified in a standing or sessional order.

No Member to be on a committee if pecuniarily interested

335 No Member may sit on a committee if he or she has any direct pecuniary interest in a matter which is the subject of an inquiry before the committee. If the right of a Member to sit on a committee is challenged, the committee may report the matter to the House for resolution.

Election of chair and deputy chair

336 (a) A committee, before the commencement of business, shall elect a government member as its chair. The chair shall have only a casting vote.

(b) A committee shall elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.

Quorum

337 (a) Three members of a committee shall constitute a quorum of that committee. If at any time a quorum is not present, the chair shall

suspend proceedings of the committee until a quorum is present or adjourn the committee.

(b) If, after the lapse of 15 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting of a committee, a quorum is not present, the members present may retire, and their names shall be entered in the minutes. The secretary of the committee shall notify members of the next meeting.

Subcommittees

338 (a) A committee shall have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of three or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.

(b) A committee shall appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.

(c) The quorum of a subcommittee shall be two members of that subcommittee.

(d) Members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.

Proceedings and sittings of committee

339 (a) A committee or any subcommittee may conduct proceedings using any means approved by the House and in the following manner:

- (i) in private meeting;
- (ii) by hearing witnesses, either in public or in private; and
- (iii) in the form of another meeting, discussion or inspection conducted in accordance with the practice of committees of the House.

(b) A committee or any subcommittee may adjourn from time to time, move from place to place and sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House.

Power to call for witnesses and documents

340 (a) A committee or any subcommittee shall have the power to call witnesses and require that documents be produced.

(b) The chair of a committee or subcommittee shall direct the secretary of the committee or subcommittee to invite or summon witnesses and request or require the production of documents, as determined by the committee or subcommittee.

Power to make use of records of previous committees

341 A committee or any subcommittee shall have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of similar committees appointed during previous Parliaments.

Conferring with Senate committees

342 A committee shall have power to confer orally or in writing with a similar committee of the Senate.

Records of proceedings and divisions

343 (a) All proceedings of a committee or a subcommittee shall be recorded by the secretary of the committee. These records shall constitute the minutes of proceedings and shall be signed by the chair after confirmation by the committee or subcommittee.

(b) Any documents presented to the committee or subcommittee shall be signed by the secretary.

Admission of visitors

344 When a committee or subcommittee is examining a witness, or engaged in other proceedings for the purpose of gathering information, visitors may be admitted. They shall withdraw if requested by the chair or if any member of the committee or subcommittee asks the chair to request their withdrawal. All visitors must withdraw when the committee or subcommittee is deliberating or taking evidence in camera.

Admission of other Members

345 Members of the House may be present when a committee or subcommittee is examining a witness, or engaged in other proceedings for the purpose of gathering information, but shall withdraw if the committee or subcommittee so resolves. They shall always withdraw when the committee or subcommittee is deliberating or taking evidence in camera.

Publication of evidence

346 (a) A committee or subcommittee shall have power to authorise publication of any evidence given before it or any document presented to it.

(b) The evidence taken by a committee or subcommittee and documents presented to it, and proceedings and reports of it, which have not been reported to the House, shall not, unless authorised by the House or the committee or subcommittee, be disclosed or published to any person other than a member or officer of the committee.

Provided that a committee may resolve to:

- (i) publish press releases, discussion or other papers or preliminary findings for the purpose of seeking further input to an inquiry; or
- (ii) divulge any evidence, documents, proceedings or report on a confidential basis to any person or persons for comment for the purpose of assisting the committee in its inquiry or for any administrative purpose associated with the inquiry.

Power to report from time to time

347 A committee shall have leave to report from time to time.

Chair to prepare report

348 The chair of a committee shall prepare a draft report and submit it to the committee.

Consideration of draft report

349 At a meeting convened for the purpose, the chair shall present his or her draft report to the committee. The report may be considered at once, provided copies have been circulated in advance to each member of the committee. The report shall be considered paragraph by paragraph, and appendixes shall be considered in order at the conclusion of consideration of the report itself.

A member objecting to any portion of the report shall vote against it or move an amendment at the time the particular paragraph or appendix is under consideration.

If any member dissents from all or part of the report or wishes to attach a protest to a report, the member may add a protest or dissenting report to the main report.

Alternative draft report

350 If any member, other than the chair, submits a draft report to the committee, the committee shall first decide upon which report it will proceed.

Reconsideration

351 After the draft report has been considered, the whole or any paragraph may be reconsidered and amended.

Chair to sign report

352 Every report of a committee shall be signed by the chair. Any protest or dissenting report shall be signed by the member or members protesting or dissenting.

Report and minutes presented

353 The report of a committee, together with the minutes of the proceedings, shall be presented to the House by a member of the committee.

Provided that, if the House is not sitting when a committee has completed a report of an inquiry, the committee may send the report to the Speaker, or in the absence or unavailability of the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker. Upon receipt of the report by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker:

- (i) the publication of the report is authorised by this standing order; and
- (ii) the Speaker or Deputy Speaker, as the case may be, is authorised to give directions for the printing and circulation of the report.

The report shall be presented to the House in accordance with this standing order as soon as possible.

Consideration set down

354 Upon the presentation of a report, the report may be ordered to be printed with or without the documents accompanying it. Subject to any determinations of the Selection Committee pursuant to standing order 102B, its consideration may be set down for a subsequent sitting when a specific motion without notice in connection with it may be moved.

CHAPTER XXVA SELECT AND JOINT COMMITTEES

Select committees

Appointment

355 The House may appoint select committees by motion.

Report from select committee

356 On the appointment of a select committee, a day shall be fixed for the reporting of its proceedings to the House, by which day the report of the committee shall be presented by a member of the committee, unless the House grants an extension of time. The report of the committee may be presented prior to the date fixed.

Joint committees

Proposal to appoint

357 A proposal for a joint committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate agreed to by the House shall state the number of Members the House will appoint to serve on the committee and be forwarded to the Senate by message.

Quorum of joint committee

358 The House may fix the quorum of its Members required to constitute a sitting of a joint committee. Subject to this a joint committee shall fix its own quorum.

Appointment of Members

359 On receipt of a message from the Senate agreeing to appoint a joint committee in the same terms as agreed to by the House, the House will proceed to appoint the number of Members agreed upon to serve on the committee.

Report of proceedings

360 The proceedings of a joint committee shall be reported to the House by one of the Members it has appointed to serve on the committee.

Provided that, if the House is not sitting when a joint committee has completed a report of an inquiry, the committee may send the report to the Speaker, or in the absence or unavailability of the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker. Upon receipt of the report by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker:

- (i) the publication of the report is authorised by this standing order; and
- (ii) the Speaker or Deputy Speaker, as the case may be, is authorised to give directions for the printing and circulation of the report.

The report shall be presented to the House in accordance with this standing order as soon as possible.

Consideration of bills by House members of joint committees

361 The House of Representatives members of a joint committee shall be considered to be a committee for the purpose of considering bills referred by the House under standing order 217A and shall operate under the provisions applying to general purpose standing committees.

CHAPTER XXVB WITNESSES BEFORE THE HOUSE OR A COMMITTEE

Summoning of witnesses

362 (a) Witnesses who are not Members may be ordered to attend before the House by summons under the hand of the Clerk of the House, or before a committee, by summons under the hand of the secretary of the committee.

(b) If a witness fails or refuses to attend or to give evidence, the House, on being acquainted with the matter, shall deal with it.

Attendance of Member before the House or a committee

363 (a) When the attendance of a Member is ordered by the House for examination by the House, the Member shall be summoned by the Speaker to attend in his or her place.

(b) If a committee desires the attendance of a Member as a witness, the chair shall, in writing, invite the Member to attend; but should the Member refuse to come, or to give evidence or information as a witness to the committee, the committee shall advise the House, and not again summon the Member to attend the committee.

Charges against Members

364 (a) No committee, except the Committee of Privileges and the Committee of Members' Interests, shall inquire into, or make findings in respect of, the conduct of any Member of the House, unless it is directed to do so by the House.

(b) If any information comes before any committee or any allegation is made to a committee, except the Committee of Privileges and the Committee of Members' Interests, charging any Member, the committee shall inform the Member concerned of the details of the charge and give the Member an opportunity to make any statement to it bearing on the matter. Unless the committee considers the matter is without substance, it shall report the matter to the House and shall not proceed further on that information or allegation without being directed by the House to do so.

Attendance of Senators or officers of the Senate

365 When the attendance of a Senator, or any officer of the Senate, is desired by the House or any committee of the House, a message shall be sent to the Senate to request that the Senate give leave to the Senator or officer to attend for examination.

Request by Senate for Member or officer to appear before the Senate or a Senate committee

366 Should the Senate request by message the attendance of a Member of the House before the Senate or any of its committees, the House may forthwith authorise that Member to attend, if the Member thinks fit. The House, if similarly requested by the Senate, may, if the House thinks fit, also instruct its own officers to attend the Senate or any of its committees.

Witness entitled to protection

367 All witnesses giving evidence to the House, or any of its committees, are entitled to the protection of the House in respect of anything that may be stated by them in their evidence.

Witness to be examined at the Bar of the House

368 A witness before the House shall be examined at the Bar unless the House otherwise orders.

Examination of witnesses

368A(a) When a witness appears before the House the witness shall be examined by the Speaker, and any questions addressed by the Members are taken to be put through the Speaker.

(b) During consideration in detail of a bill in the House, any Member may put questions directly to a witness.

(c) A Member of the House giving evidence to the House shall be examined in his or her place.

(d) The examination of witnesses before a committee or a subcommittee shall be conducted according to the mode of procedure agreed on by the committee.

Officers not to give evidence without leave

368B An officer of the House, or other staff employed to record evidence before the House or any of its committees, may not give evidence elsewhere in respect of any proceedings or examination of any witness without the leave of the House.

(4) Standing order 369:

Omit 'select'.

(5) Omit standing orders 385 to 389.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

32 ROUTINE OF BUSINESS, COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS AND PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—SESSIONAL ORDERS

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, the following amendments to the standing orders be adopted to operate during 1999:

(1) Standing order 101 be amended to read:

Routine of business

101 The House shall proceed on the days indicated with its ordinary business in the following routine:

Monday

1. Presentation of, and statements on, reports from parliamentary committees and delegations. 2. Orders of the day for the resumption of debate on motions moved in connection with committee and delegation reports. 3. Private Members' business (debate to be interrupted at 1.45 p.m.). 4. Members' statements (at approximately 1.45 p.m.). 5. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 6. Presentation of petitions. 7. Private Members' business (in continuation for 1 hour). 8. Grievance debate (debate to continue for 1 hour and 20 minutes). 9. Notices and orders of the day.

Tuesday

1. Questions without notice. 2. Presentation of papers. 3. Ministerial statements, by leave. 4. Matter of public importance. 5. Notices and orders of the day.

Wednesday and Thursday

1. Notices and orders of the day. 2. Questions without notice (at 2 p.m.). 3. Presentation of papers. 4. Ministerial statements, by leave. 5. Matter of public importance. 6. Notices and orders of the day.

- (2) Standing order 102C be amended to read:

Precedence to motions regarding committee and delegation reports

102C Following the presentation of reports pursuant to standing order 102A, the resumption of proceedings on motions relating to committee and delegation reports shall have precedence according to the order of priority and times allotted for debate determined by the Selection Committee, each Member speaking for a period not exceeding 10 minutes or any lesser period determined by the Selection Committee.

- (3) Standing order 104A be amended to read:

Private Members' business—procedure

104A In the period during which private Members' business is accorded precedence pursuant to standing order 104, notices and orders of the day relating to private Members' business shall be called on by the Clerk in the order in which they appear on the Notice Paper. When the time allotted by standing order 101, or by the Selection Committee, for an item of business has expired, consideration shall be interrupted by the Chair and the question before the Chair shall be put:

Provided that, where the Selection Committee has determined that consideration of a matter should continue on a future day, at the time fixed for interruption, or when debate has concluded, the Chair shall interrupt proceedings and further consideration of the matter shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

Notices by private Members of their intention to present bills shall stand referred to the Selection Committee which shall give priority to them over other notices and orders of the day and determine the order in which they are to be presented. Upon the respective notice being called on by the Clerk, the Member in whose name the notice stands shall present the bill and may speak for a period not exceeding five minutes in support of it. The bill shall then be read a first time and the motion for the second reading shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

If the motion for the second reading of any private Member's bill is agreed to by the House, further consideration shall be accorded precedence of other private Members' business and the Selection Committee may allot times for consideration of the remaining stages of the bill.

Question—put and passed.

33 DISCLOSURE OF *IN CAMERA* COMMITTEE EVIDENCE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—That:

- (1) The following conditions apply to the disclosure of evidence taken *in camera* by a committee of the House:
 - (a) Committees may take evidence in the following manner:
 - (i) By written submissions, whether in hard copy or electronic form;
 - (ii) By oral evidence taken in public; and
 - (iii) In private session.
 - (b) A committee may, on its own initiative or at the request of, or on behalf of, a witness or organisation, hear evidence in private session. A witness shall be informed that it is within the power of the committee and the House to disclose all or part of the evidence subsequently. Publication of evidence would be the prerogative of the committee and it would only be disclosed if the majority of the committee so decided by resolution.
 - (c) Where a committee has agreed to take evidence *in camera*, and has given an undertaking to a witness that his or her evidence will not be disclosed, such evidence will not be disclosed by the committee or any other person, including the witness. With the written agreement of the witness, the committee may release such evidence in whole or in part.
 - (d) Where a Member of the House of Representatives discloses *in camera* evidence other than as prescribed, the House may impose a penalty on the Member following investigation and report of the matter by the Committee of Privileges.
 - (e) Evidence taken *in camera* which discloses a serious crime may, in respect to that part, be conveyed to the Speaker for appropriate action by the Chair, with the committee's approval.

- (f) No person not being an officer of the committee when the evidence was given will have access to evidence taken *in camera*, unless authorised by the full committee.
 - (g) If a motion is to be moved in the House to release evidence taken *in camera* by one of its committees, notice must be given. Such notice will not be placed on the *Notice Paper* without the approval of the Speaker, who must consult the Attorney-General, the Chair of the relevant committee, the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition and report the outcome of that consultation to the House.
- (2) Unless otherwise ordered, this resolution have effect until the end of 1999.
- Question—put and passed.

34 CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES—PROPOSED POWERS AND PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That, in accordance with section 242 of the *Australian Securities Commission Act 1989*, matters relating to the powers and proceedings of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities shall be as follows:
 - (a) That the committee consist of 10 members, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 1 Senator to be nominated by any minority groups or independent Senators.
 - (b) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (c) That the committee elect a member nominated by the Government Whips or the Leader of the Government in the Senate as its chair.
 - (d) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (e) That, in the event of the votes on a question before the committee being equally divided, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote.
 - (f) That 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.

- (g) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (h) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of a subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (i) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
 - (j) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
 - (k) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
 - (l) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
 - (m) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
 - (n) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
 - (o) That the committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities appointed during previous Parliaments.
 - (p) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

35 NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY—PROPOSED POWERS AND PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That, in accordance with section 54 of the *National Crime Authority Act 1984*, matters relating to the powers and proceedings of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority shall be as follows:
 - (a) That the committee consist of 10 members, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 2

Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 1 Senator to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.

- (b) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (c) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
- (d) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
- (e) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote.
- (f) That 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (g) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (h) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.
- (i) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (j) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (k) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (l) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
- (m) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- (n) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.

- (o) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the committee appointed during previous Parliaments.
 - (p) That, in carrying out its duties, the committee or any subcommittee, ensure that the operational methods and results of investigations of law enforcement agencies, as far as possible, be protected from disclosure where that would be against the public interest.
 - (q) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

36 NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND—PROPOSED POWERS AND PROCEEDINGS OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That, in accordance with section 204 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, matters relating to the powers and proceedings of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund shall be as follows:
- (a) That the committee consist of 10 members, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 1 Senator to be nominated by any minority groups or independent Senators.
 - (b) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (c) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
 - (d) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (e) That, in the event of the votes on a question before the committee being equally divided, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote.
 - (f) That 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall

include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.

- (g) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (h) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of a subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (i) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
 - (j) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
 - (k) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
 - (l) That the committee have power to examine and report on such annual and related reports as may be referred to it by the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (m) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
 - (n) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
 - (o) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
 - (p) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

37 ELECTORAL MATTERS—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters be appointed to inquire into and report on such matters relating to electoral laws and practices and their administration as may be referred to it by either House of the Parliament or a Minister.

Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the House shall stand referred to the committee for any inquiry the committee may wish to make. Reports shall stand referred to the committee in accordance with a schedule tabled by the Speaker to record the areas of responsibility of each committee, provided that:

- (a) any question concerning responsibility for a report or a part of a report shall be determined by the Speaker; and
 - (b) the period during which an inquiry concerning an annual report may be commenced by a committee shall end on the day on which the next annual report of that Department or authority is presented to the House.
- (2) That the committee consist of 10 members, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 1 Senator to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 2 Senators to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.
 - (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint standing committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
 - (5) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
 - (6) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (7) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, shall have a casting vote.
 - (8) That 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
 - (9) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (10) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the

subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.

- (11) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (12) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (13) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (14) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
- (15) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- (16) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
- (17) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to consider and make use of:
 - (a) submissions lodged with the Clerk of the Senate in response to public advertisements placed in accordance with the resolution of the Senate of 26 November 1981 relating to a proposed Joint Select Committee on the Electoral System, and
 - (b) the evidence and records of the Joint Committees on Electoral Reform and Electoral Matters appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (19) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

38 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade be appointed to consider and report on such matters relating to foreign affairs, defence and trade as may be referred to it by:
 - (a) either House of the Parliament;
 - (b) the Minister for Foreign Affairs;
 - (c) the Minister for Defence; or
 - (d) the Minister for Trade.

Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the House shall stand referred to the committee for any inquiry the committee

may wish to make. Reports shall stand referred to the committee in accordance with a schedule tabled by the Speaker to record the areas of responsibility of each committee, provided that:

- (a) any question concerning responsibility for a report or a part of a report shall be determined by the Speaker; and
 - (b) the period during which an inquiry concerning an annual report may be commenced by a committee shall end on the day on which the next annual report of that Department or authority is presented to the House.
- (2) That the committee consist of 32 members, 12 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 8 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 5 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 5 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 2 Senators to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.
 - (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
 - (5) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
 - (6) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (7) That in the event of an equality of voting, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, shall have a casting vote.
 - (8) That 6 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
 - (9) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (10) That, in addition to the members appointed pursuant to paragraph (9), the chair and deputy chair of the committee be *ex officio* members of each subcommittee appointed.
 - (11) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the

subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.

- (12) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (13) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (14) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (15) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
- (16) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
- (18) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committees on Foreign Affairs and Defence and Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (20) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

39 MIGRATION—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee on Migration be appointed to inquire into and report upon:
 - (a) regulations made or proposed to be made under the *Migration Act 1958*;
 - (b) all proposed changes to the *Migration Act 1958* and any related acts; and
 - (c) such other matters relating to migration as may be referred to it by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.

Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the House shall stand referred to the committee for any inquiry the committee may wish to make. Reports shall stand referred to the committee in accordance with a schedule tabled by the Speaker to record the areas of responsibility of each committee, provided that:

- (a) any question concerning responsibility for a report or a part of a report shall be determined by the Speaker; and
 - (b) the period during which an inquiry concerning an annual report may be commenced by a committee shall end on the day on which the next annual report of that Department or authority is presented to the House.
- (2) That the committee consist of 10 members, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 1 Senator to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 1 Senator to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.
 - (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
 - (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint standing committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
 - (5) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
 - (6) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (7) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, shall have a casting vote.
 - (8) That 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
 - (9) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
 - (10) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (11) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.

- (12) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (13) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (14) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
- (15) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
- (16) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Committees on Migration Regulations and the Joint Standing Committee on Migration appointed in previous Parliaments.
- (17) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (18) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

40 NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories be appointed to inquire into and report on:
 - (a) matters coming within the terms of section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974* as may be referred to it by:
 - (i) either House of the Parliament; or
 - (ii) the Minister responsible for administering the *Parliament Act 1974*; or
 - (iii) the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (b) such other matters relating to the parliamentary zone as may be referred to it by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (c) such amendments to the National Capital Plan as are referred to it by a Minister responsible for administering the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*;
 - (d) such other matters relating to the National Capital as may be referred to it by:
 - (i) either House of the Parliament; or
 - (ii) the Minister responsible for administering the *Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988*; and

- (e) such matters relating to Australia's territories as may be referred to it by:
 - (i) either House of Parliament; or
 - (ii) the Minister responsible for the administration of the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands; the Territory of Christmas Island; the Coral Sea Islands Territory; the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands; the Australian Antarctic Territory, and the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands, and of Commonwealth responsibilities on Norfolk Island.

Annual reports of government departments and authorities tabled in the House shall stand referred to the committee for any inquiry the committee may wish to make. Reports shall stand referred to the committee in accordance with a schedule tabled by the Speaker to record the areas of responsibility of each committee, provided that:

- (a) any question concerning responsibility for a report or a part of a report shall be determined by the Speaker; and
 - (b) the period during which an inquiry concerning an annual report may be commenced by a committee shall end on the day on which the next annual report of that Department or authority is presented to the House.
- (2) That the committee consist of 12 members, the Deputy Speaker, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 2 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, the Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 2 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 1 Senator to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.
 - (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate.
 - (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint standing committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
 - (5) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
 - (6) That the committee elect a deputy chair who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
 - (7) That, in the event of an equality of voting, the chair or the deputy chair when acting as chair, shall have a casting vote.

- (8) That 3 members of the committee (of whom one is the Deputy President or the Deputy Speaker when matters affecting the parliamentary zone are under consideration) constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (9) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (10) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.
- (11) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall comprise 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (12) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (13) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (14) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
- (15) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- (16) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
- (17) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories, the Joint Committees on the Australian Capital Territory, the Joint Standing Committees on the New Parliament House, the Joint Standing Committee on the Parliamentary Zone and the Joint Committee on the National Capital appointed during previous Parliaments and of the House of Representatives and Senate Standing Committees on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure when sitting as a joint committee on matters relating to the Australian Capital Territory.
- (18) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (19) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

41 **TREATIES—PROPOSED JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE**

Mr Reith (Leader of the House), pursuant to notice, moved—

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee on Treaties be appointed to inquire into and report upon:
 - (a) matters arising from treaties and related National Interest Analyses and proposed treaty actions presented or deemed to be presented to the Parliament;
 - (b) any question relating to a treaty or other international instrument, whether or not negotiated to completion, referred to the committee by:
 - (i) either House of the Parliament, or
 - (ii) a Minister; and
 - (c) such other matters as may be referred to the committee by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and on such conditions as the Minister may prescribe.
- (2) That the committee consist of 16 members, 6 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Government Whip or Whips, 3 Members of the House of Representatives to be nominated by the Opposition Whip or Whips or by any independent Member, 3 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 3 Senators to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and 1 Senator to be nominated by any minority group or groups or independent Senator or independent Senators.
- (3) That every nomination of a member of the committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (4) That the members of the committee hold office as a joint committee until the House of Representatives is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time.
- (5) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair.
- (6) That the committee elect a non-Government member as its deputy chair to act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chair at that meeting.
- (7) That in the event of an equality of voting, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, shall have a casting vote.
- (8) That 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum of the committee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (9) That the committee have power to appoint not more than 3 subcommittees each consisting of 3 or more of its members, and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.

- (10) That, in addition to the members appointed pursuant to paragraph (9), the chair and deputy chair of the committee be ex officio members of each subcommittee appointed.
- (11) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting.
- (12) That the quorum of a subcommittee be 2 members of that subcommittee, provided that in a deliberative meeting the quorum shall include 1 member of either House of the Government parties and 1 member of either House of the non-Government parties.
- (13) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum.
- (14) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records.
- (15) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place.
- (16) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any adjournment of the Senate and the House of Representatives.
- (17) That the committee have leave to report from time to time.
- (18) That the committee have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the Joint Standing Committees on Treaties appointed during previous Parliaments.
- (19) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders.
- (20) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Question—put and passed.

42 **ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998**

The order of the day having been read for the further consideration in detail of the Bill—

Bill, as a whole—

Mr Melham, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (1) and (2) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr Melham moved Opposition amendment (3), as circulated.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr Melham, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (11), (22), (25), (28), (31) and (32) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr Melham, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (4), (5), (6), (21), (23), (24), (29) and (30) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr Melham, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (7), (8), (9), (10), (14), (15), (16), (18), (19) and (20) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr Melham, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (12), (13) and (17) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Mr Melham, by leave, moved Opposition amendments (26) and (27) as circulated, together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Consideration in detail concluded.

On the motion of Mr Slipper (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

43 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS**

The order of the day having been read for the consideration of the amendments made by the Senate—

Constitutional significance of Senate amendments—Statement by Deputy Speaker

The Deputy Speaker made the following statement:

It is my duty to draw to the attention of the House an issue concerning the Senate's amendments to this bill.

The Senate has returned the bill to the House with 9 amendments.

Amendment (8) inserts new provisions in the Child Support (Assessment) Act concerning what is known as 'liable parents reportable fringe benefits totals'. As I understand it the effect of the proposals is that in calculating a liable parent's liability, the value of fringe benefits will be taken into account as well as ordinary income. This can increase the assessment of the amount of child

support that the liable parent must pay and thus the amount collected under the Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act.

Under the Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act, amounts equal to those collected are paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund. This means that where amounts payable by liable parents are increased, the amounts to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund must be increased automatically.

Because of the provisions of section 56 of the Constitution it would therefore seem that such alterations should be accompanied by a message from the Governor-General recommending the appropriation.

The House will need to consider the way it should proceed to deal with the matters raised in Senate amendment (8). If it wishes to entertain the proposals reflected in the amendment, it may choose to proceed by alternative means.

Mrs Sullivan (Parliamentary Secretary (Foreign Affairs)) moved—That the House endorses the statement of the Deputy Speaker in relation to the constitutional questions raised by message No. 9 transmitted by the Senate in relation to the Child Support Legislation Amendment Bill 1998.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Mrs Sullivan, Senate amendments (1) to (7) and (9) were agreed to, after debate.

On the motion of Mrs Sullivan, the Senate's purported amendment (8) was disagreed to.

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 18, 3 December 1998, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of amendments to the Bill.

On the motion of Mrs Sullivan, the Government amendment as circulated, was made, after debate.

44 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY 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 having been resumed by Mr Lee—

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.

45 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Paper

Mr Costello (Treasurer) presented the following paper:

A guide to tax reform, July 1985—Extract.

Questions without notice continued.

46 PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commercial Development Corporation—
Report for 1997-98.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Report for 1997-98.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 1997-98.

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

Department of Defence—Special purpose flights—Schedule for period January
to June 1998.

International Labour Organisation—

International Labour Conference—83rd Session, Geneva, 20 June 1996—

Convention 177 Home work.

Recommendation 184 Home work.

Submission report—Instruments on home work adopted June 1996.

Witness Protection Act—Report for 1997-98.

47 PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS

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

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—Civil Aviation Safety
Authority—Report for 1997-98.

International Labour Organisation—

International Labour Conference—83rd Session, Geneva, 20 June 1996—

Convention 177 Home work.

Recommendation 184 Home work.

Submission report—Instruments on home work adopted June 1996.

Witness Protection Act—Report for 1997-98.

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

48 DEATHS OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Mr Ronaldson, by leave, moved—That this House expresses its sympathy and
support for the families of the five volunteer firefighters who died in the fires at
Linton, Vic.

Debate ensued.

All Members present having risen, in silence—

Question—put and passed.

49 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 damage to families and pensioners which will be caused by the imposition of the GST”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Beazley addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

50 MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Messages from the Senate, 3 December 1998, were reported returning the following Bills without amendment:

Message—

No. 15—Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment (No. 1) 1998.

No. 16—Telecommunications Amendment (No. 2) 1998.

No. 17—1998 Budget Measures Legislation Amendment (Social Security and Veterans’ Entitlements) 1998.

No. 18—Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Resolution of Complaints) 1998.

51 SPACE ACTIVITIES BILL 1998—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the Bill 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 Mrs Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

52 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY 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:

- (1) notes that Australia’s future economic and social prosperity depends on a well resourced, quality education and training system; and
- (2) condemns the Government for:
 - (a) refusing to provide growth funds to support Australia’s vocational education and training needs;

- (b) failing to meet its commitment to ‘enhance the role of TAFE’ and ‘reinvigorate the TAFE system’; and
- (c) imposing a GST which will make education and training more expensive and less accessible”.

Debate continued.

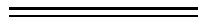
Debate adjourned (Mrs Stone—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

53 ADJOURNMENT

Mrs Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage) moved—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The House continuing to sit until 6 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until Monday, 7 December 1998, at 12.30 p.m., in accordance with the resolution agreed to this sitting.



PAPERS

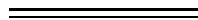
The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 3 December 1998:

Civil Aviation Act—Civil Aviation Regulations—Civil Aviation Orders—Instrument 1998 No. CASA 476.

Health Insurance Act—Determination 1998 No. HS/4.

Radiocommunications Act—Determination 1998 Radiocommunications Licence Conditions (Maritime Coast Licence).

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination 1998 No. 24.



ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Brereton, Mr Katter, Mr Moore and Mr Tanner.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

1998

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 11

MAIN COMMITTEE**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER 1998

1 The Main Committee met at 9.40 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 SPACE ACTIVITIES BILL 1998

The order of the day having been read for the second reading—Mr Entsch (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources) moved—That the Bill be now read a second time.

Paper

Mr Entsch presented an explanatory memorandum to the Bill.

Debate ensued.

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 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 Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to (*see item number 19, page 13*)—

Debate resumed.

Mrs Gash addressing the Main Committee—

5 ADJOURNMENT

It being 12.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the Committee do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

At 1 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned the Main Committee.



B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee