

2004-05-06-07

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 170

WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2007



1 The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (the Honourable David Hawker) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (TARGETED ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT (2007 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2007

Ms J. Bishop (Minister for Education, Science and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000*, and for related purposes.

Document

Ms J. Bishop presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ms J. Bishop moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

3 SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE (LEARNING TOGETHER—ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH CHOICE AND OPPORTUNITY) AMENDMENT (2007 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2007

Ms J. Bishop (Minister for Education, Science and Training), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Schools Assistance (Learning Together—Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Act 2004*, and for related purposes.

Document

Ms J. Bishop presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ms J. Bishop moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

4 AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2007 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2007

Mrs Ley (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to agriculture, fisheries and forestry, and for related purposes.

Document

Mrs Ley presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Ley moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

5 FISHERIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2007

Mrs Ley (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation about fisheries, and for related purposes.

Document

Mrs Ley presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Ley moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

6 FISHERIES LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 2007

Mrs Ley (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Fisheries Levy Act 1984*, and for related purposes.

Document

Mrs Ley presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Ley moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

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

7 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (PERSONAL INCOME TAX REDUCTION) BILL 2007

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.

Document

Mr Swan, by leave, presented the following document:

Tax Laws Amendment (Personal Income Tax Reduction) Bill 2005—Proposed Opposition amendments.

Debate continued.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Dutton (Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer), the bill was read a third time.

8 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2007 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2007

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Dutton (Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer), the bill was read a third time.

9 POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY

Ordered—That orders of the day Nos 3 and 4, government business, be postponed until a later hour this day.

10 AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY CHEMICALS (ADMINISTRATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2007

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

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

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 289, 9 May 2007, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mrs Ley (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the bill was read a third time.

11 GOVERNANCE REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION (TREASURY PORTFOLIO AGENCIES) BILL 2007—SENATE'S AMENDMENT

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

On the motion of Mr Pearce (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer), the amendment was agreed to.

12 COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CONTENT SERVICES) BILL 2007

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.

It being 2.30 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with the resolution agreed to on 22 May 2007, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

13 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Mr Howard (Prime Minister) informed the House that, during the absence overseas of Mr Downer (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Mr Truss (Minister for Trade) would answer questions on his behalf.

14 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

Documents

Mr McGauran (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry) presented the following documents:

Budget 2007-08—

Budget disappointment for farmers—Media statement by Senator O'Brien, 9 May 2007.

The budget and rural Australia—Doorstop interview by Senator O'Brien, 15 May 2007.

Questions without notice continued.

15 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The Speaker presented the following document:

Auditor-General—Audit report No. 38 of 2006–2007—Performance audit—Administration of the community aged care packages program: Department of Health and Ageing.

Ordered to be made a Parliamentary Paper.

16 DOCUMENT

The following document was presented:

Australian Maritime College—Report for 2006.

17 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—WORKING FAMILIES

The House was informed that Mr Tanner had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, "The Government's failure to address the problems confronting working families while spending vast amounts of money on its own political survival".

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Mr Tanner addressing the House—

Member directed to leave

At 4.03 p.m. the Member for Denison (Mr Kerr) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Mr Tanner continued to address the House.

Discussion ensued.

The time allotted under sessional order No. 1 having expired, the discussion was interrupted.

18 VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2007 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2007—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE

The Deputy Speaker reported that the bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee, a Governor-General's message recommending an appropriation had been reported, and the bill had been agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the bill.

Bill agreed to.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

19 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORTS—STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Mrs Moylan (Chair) presented the following documents:

Public Works—Parliamentary Standing Committee—Reports—

Defence Force School of Signals redevelopment, Simpson Barracks, Watsonia, Victoria (2nd report of 2007).

National Towers Program stage 1—Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne, Rockhampton (3rd report of 2007).

Lavarack Barracks redevelopment stage 4, Townsville, Queensland (4th report of 2007).

Reports ordered to be made Parliamentary Papers.

Mrs Moylan and Mr B. P. O'Connor, by leave, made statements in connection with the reports.

20 COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CONTENT SERVICES) BILL 2007

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

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

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs), the bill was read a third time.

21 DEFENCE FORCE (HOME LOANS ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 2007

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

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

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 290, 11 May 2007, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Billson (Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence), the bill was read a third time.

22 AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AMENDMENT BILL 2007

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

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

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 291, 21 May 2007, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr Hunt (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs), the bill was read a third time.

23 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2007 MEASURES NO. 3) BILL 2007

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.

Document

Mr Bowen, by leave, presented the following document:

Withholding tax on property income distributed by listed property trusts to non-residents—Report prepared for Speed and Stracey Lawyers by Econotech Pty Ltd., 18 April 2006.

Mr Bowen moved, as an amendment—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for its lack of commitment to the Australian managed funds industry and its lack of commitment to ensure Australia becomes an Asian financial services hub and calls on the Government to reduce the withholding rate applied to non dividend, royalty and interest distributions from managed investment funds to non-residents to a flat and final rate of 15 per cent”.

Debate continued.

24 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 7.59 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 9 a.m.

DOCUMENTS

The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 23 May 2007:

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act—Determination—2007 Recipient created tax invoice—GST terminologies amending legislative instrument [F2007L01466].

ACIS Administration Act—Variation—2006 Stage 2 motor vehicle producer research and development scheme (No. 1) [F2007L01448].

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Act—Instrument fixing charges to be paid to APRA—2007 No. 2 [F2007L01450].

Australian Research Council Act—Determination—2007 No. 46.

Civil Aviation Act—

Civil Aviation Regulations—Exemption—2007 No. CASA EX15 [F2007L01028].

Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—Airworthiness Directives—

Part 39-105—2007—26 (3) April [F2007L01395], [F2007L01396], [F2007L01397].

Part 39-107—2007—27 April [F2007L01363].

Customs Act—Orders—

Tariff Concession—2007—

4 (5) May [F2007L01416], [F2007L01419], [F2007L01420], [F2007L01421], [F2007L01422].

9 May [F2007L01415].

11 (5) May [F2007L01435], [F2007L01437], [F2007L01438], [F2007L01439], [F2007L01442].

Tariff Concession Revocation—2007—

26 April [F2007L01403].

30 (4) April [F2007L01405], [F2007L01406], [F2007L01407], [F2007L01408].

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—

Instruments under—
subsection 269A(7)—9 May 2007 [F2007L01469].
paragraph 303EC(1)(a)—1 May 2007 [F2007L01434].
Recovery plan—South-eastern red-tailed black-cockatoo [F2007L01320].
Fisheries Management Act—
Declaration—2007 Fish receiver permits [F2007L01461].
Northern Prawn Fishery Management Plan 1995—Direction—2007 No. NPF 108 [F2007L01454].
Higher Education Support Act—
Guidelines—Administration—7 May 2007 [F2007L01375].
Higher education provider—Notice of approval—2007 No. 7 [F2007L01402].
Motor Vehicle Standards Act—Determination—2007 Vehicle Standard (Australian design rule 19/01—
Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices on L-group vehicles) [F2007L01429].
Private Health Insurance Act—Rule—2007 Prostheses (No. 3) [F2007L01458].
Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act—Notice—2007 Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation
(Definition of *employee*) (No. 1) [F2007L01291].
Telecommunications Act 1997—
Determination under section 463—2007 Telecommunications (Freephone and local rate numbers)
Allocation (No. 1) [F2007L01427].
Variation—2007 Telecommunications numbering plan (No. 2) [F2007L01428].

ATTENDANCE

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Ms Corcoran, Mr Downer, Ms Hoare, Jackie Kelly and Mr Sercombe.

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives

2004-05-06-07

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUPPLEMENT TO VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 170

MAIN COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, 23 MAY 2007

1 The Main Committee met at 9.30 a.m.

2 MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Members' statements were made.

3 VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2007 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2007

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

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

Message from the Governor-General

Message No. 280, 12 April 2007, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

Leave granted for the question on the report to be put immediately.

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

4 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2007-2008—BUDGET DEBATE

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Tanner, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the bill a second reading, the House is of the view that:

- (1) despite record high commodity prices from surging demand from India and China and rising levels of taxation, the Government has failed to secure Australia's long term economic fundamentals and should be condemned for its failure to:
 - (a) address Australia's flagging productivity growth;
 - (b) stem the widening current account deficit and trade deficits;
 - (c) attend to the long term relative decline in education and training investment undercutting workplace productivity;
 - (d) provide national leadership on infrastructure including a high speed national broadband network for the whole country;
 - (e) expand and encourage research and development to move Australian industry and exports up the value-chain; and
 - (f) reform our health system to equip it for a future focused on prevention, early intervention and an ageing population;
- (2) the Government's failure to address the damaging consequences of climate change is endangering Australia's future economic prosperity;
- (3) the Government's extreme industrial relations laws will lower wages and conditions for many workers and do nothing to enhance productivity, participation or economic growth; and

(4) the Government's Budget documents fail the test of transparency and accountability"—
Debate resumed.

Suspension of meeting

At 1.01 p.m., the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of meeting

At 4.30 p.m., the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

Debate continued.

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

5 ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr Neville, the Main Committee adjourned at 7.26 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker fixed 9.30 a.m. tomorrow for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee