

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 45

FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 1985

1 MEETING OF SENATE: The Senate met at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The President (Senator the Honourable Douglas McClelland) took the Chair.

2 PRAYERS.

3 PETITIONS: The following 11 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the Senators indicated, were received:

Senator Knowles, from 12 petitioners praying that the assets test be repealed.

Senator Haines, from 184 petitioners praying that the Senate request the Government to restore the review of the nursing home benefit rates in November 1985, provide nursing home care concessions for pensioner patients and to resolve its concerns over health care costs with the South Australian Government.

Senators Colston and Jones, from 4638 and 699 petitioners, respectively, praying that the Senate request the Government to ensure that no tax be imposed on health fund contributions or benefits.

Senator Zakharov, from 36 petitioners praying that the Senate legislate to close the joint Australian-United States electronic communications facilities at the Watsonia Army Barracks, Victoria.

Senator Robertson, from 14 petitioners praying that the Oath of Allegiance be not changed.

Senators Childs, Colston and Jones, from 2424, 1016 and 937 petitioners, respectively, praying that the Senate pass Senator Harradine's Bill to prohibit experiments involving the use of human embryos created by in vitro fertilization.

Senator Robertson, from 5 petitioners praying that the Senate request the Government to raise the tax threshold, increase permissible income and pensions, provide pensions on an individual basis and oppose the introduction of a broad-based indirect tax.

Senator Hill, from 12 petitioners praying that the Senate call for a withdrawal of Soviet-backed forces from the central and eastern European nations and support those nations in their attempt to regain full political independence.

4 NOTICE: Senator Lewis gave a Notice of Motion, as follows: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes with concern the failure of the Government to take any positive steps to resolve the industrial dispute with the Transport Workers' Union which is causing grave inconvenience to the people of the Australian Capital Territory; and

(b) calls on the Government to use its so-called solidarity with the trade union movement to achieve an immediate settlement.

5 QUESTIONS.

6 BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS—STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT: The President made a statement relating to the broadcasting of excerpts of Parliamentary proceedings and to the qualified privilege attracted to such broadcasts.

- 7 **HANSARD—DELAYS IN PRODUCTION—STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT:** The President made a statement relating to the delays in the production of the Senate *Hansard* for the week beginning 9 September 1985.
- 8 **PAPER:** The following Paper was tabled:
Lands Acquisition Act—Statement by the Minister describing land acquired by agreement under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act, for specified public purposes.
- 9 **ADJOURNMENT:** The Senate adjourned at 10.15 a.m. till Monday, 14 September 1985 at 2 p.m.
- 10 **ATTENDANCE:** Present, all Senators except Senators Bjelke-Petersen, Black, Boswell, Coleman (on leave), Grimes, Harradine, Hill, Jessop, Jones, McKiernan, Sibraa and Siddons.

A. R. CUMMING THOM,
Clerk of the Senate