

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 53

FRIDAY, 11 OCTOBER 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 6 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the Senators indicated, were received:

Senators Chipp and Cooney, each from 90 petitioners praying that the Senate legislate to close the joint Australia-United States electronic communications facilities at the Watsonia Army Barracks, Victoria.

Senator Short, from 15 petitioners praying that the Senate pass Senator Harradine's Bill to prohibit experiments involving the use of human embryos created by in vitro fertilization.

Senator Vanstone, from 108 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.

Senator Peter Rae, from 12 petitioners praying that the proposed introduction of compulsory identification cards be reconsidered and rejected.

Senator Bolkus, from 211 petitioners praying that home loan interest rates be reduced.

4 **NOTICES:** Notices of Motion were given, as follows—

The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Coates):

No. 1—To move 12 sitting days after today—That the Extradition (Republic of South Africa) Regulations (Amendment), as contained in Statutory Rules 1985 No. 158 and made under the *Extradition (Foreign States) Act 1966*, be disallowed.

No. 2—To move 12 sitting days after today—That the *New South Wales Acts Application Ordinance 1985*, as contained in Australian Capital Territory Ordinance No. 25 of 1985 and made under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*, be disallowed.

No. 3—To move 12 sitting days after today—That the *Meat (Amendment) Ordinance 1985*, as contained in Australian Capital Territory Ordinance No. 26 of 1985 and made under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*, be disallowed.

No. 4—To move 12 sitting days after today—That the *Blood Donation (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) Ordinance 1985*, as contained in Australian Capital Territory Ordinance No. 27 of 1985 and made under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*, be disallowed.

No. 5—To move 12 sitting days after today—That the Telecommunications (General) By-laws (Amendment), as contained in Telecommunications (General) By-laws No. 42 and made under the *Telecommunications Act 1975*, be disallowed.

Senator Coates, by leave, made a statement relating thereto.

Senator Vigor: To move 12 sitting days after today—That section 3 of the *New South Wales Acts Application Ordinance 1985*, as contained in Australian Capital Territory Ordinance No. 25 of 1985 and made under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*, be disallowed.

Senator Foreman: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate commends the Hawke Government on its recent tax package, which in the interests of taxation justice and economic growth contains both bold and imaginative changes, in particular, changes which will result in—

- (a) a stop to the unsavoury growth over recent years of tax evasion by the payment of untaxed perks instead of taxable income;
- (b) an effective capital gains tax which is necessary to discourage the conversion of what would be taxed income into untaxed capital gains; and
- (c) an effective capital gains tax component in the taxation armoury which will discourage unproductive over-investment in speculative areas such as domestic housing and rural land, which to date has resulted in home buyers paying a market price fuelled by speculation, and primary producers failing to obtain a decent return on investment because of overpriced farming land.

- 5 **EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION BILL 1985:** Senator Siddons, pursuant to Notice of Motion not objected to as a Formal Motion, moved—That leave be given to introduce a Bill for an Act to encourage the introduction of employee participation in Australian enterprises through reductions in company tax for enterprises classified as employee participation enterprises.

Question—put and passed.

Bill presented, and on the motion of Senator Siddons read a first time.

Senator Siddons, by leave, moved—That this Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Robertson the debate was adjourned.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be an Order of the Day for the next day of sitting.

- 6 **ORDER OF THE DAY DISCHARGED:** Senator Siddons, by leave, moved—That General Business, Order of the Day No. 138 (*Industrial Democracy Bill 1985*) be discharged from the Notice Paper.

Question—put and passed.

- 7 **ESTIMATES COMMITTEES—REPORTS:** Order of the Day read for the tabling of Estimates Committees Reports.

Estimates Committees A, B, C, D, E and F—Reports: Pursuant to Order, the Chairmen of Estimates Committees A, B, C, D and E (Senators Richardson, Giles, Childs, Colston and Zakharov) and Senator Townley, at the request of the Chairman of Estimates Committee F (Senator Georges), tabled the Reports from Estimates Committees A, B, C, D, E and F, respectively, on the Particulars of Proposed Expenditure for the Service of the year ending on 30 June 1986 in relation to the Parliamentary Departments, the Particulars of Proposed Expenditure for the Service of the year ending on 30 June 1986, the Particulars of Certain Proposed Expenditure in respect of the year ending on 30 June 1986 and the Expenditure under the Advance to the Minister for Finance for the year ended 30 June 1985, together with the *Hansard* records of the Committees' proceedings and attachments (9) for Estimates Committee D.

Ordered—That the Reports be printed.

- 8 **NORTHERN PRAWN FISHERY VOLUNTARY ADJUSTMENT SCHEME LOAN GUARANTEE BILL 1985:** Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Gietzelt)—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Deputy-President (Senator Hamer) resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator Tate) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Community Services (Senator Grimes) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

9 FOREIGN FISHING BOATS LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1985

FISHERIES AGREEMENTS (PAYMENTS) AMENDMENT BILL 1985:

Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Gietzelt)—That these Bills be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bills.

In the Committee

Bills, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bills to be reported without requests.

The Deputy-President (Senator Hamer) resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator Tate) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Community Services (Senator Grimes) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bills read a third time.

10 QANTAS AIRWAYS LIMITED (LOAN GUARANTEE) BILL 1985: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Community Services (Senator Grimes)—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Acting Deputy-President (Senator Townley) resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Hamer) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Gietzelt) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

11 EXPORT INSPECTION CHARGES (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) BILL 1985**EXPORT INSPECTION (SERVICE CHARGE) BILL 1985****EXPORT INSPECTION (ESTABLISHMENT REGISTRATION CHARGE) BILL 1985:**

Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Gietzelt)—That these Bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bills.

In the Committee

Bills, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bills to be reported without amendment.

The Acting Deputy-President (Senator Tate) resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Hamer) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Finance (Senator Walsh) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bills read a third time.

12 STATES (WORKS AND HOUSING) ASSISTANCE BILL 1985: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Community Services (Senator Grimes)—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Acting Deputy-President (Senator Townley) resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Hamer) reported accordingly.

On the motion of Senator Grimes the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

13 ORDER OF BUSINESS—POSTPONEMENT: The Manager of Government Business (Senator Grimes) moved—That Government Business, Order of the Day No. 6 (Interstate Road Transport Bill 1985; Interstate Road Transport Charge Bill 1985), be postponed till the next day of sitting.

Question—put and passed.

14 COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1985: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Community Services (Senator Grimes)—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Acting Deputy-President (Senator Townley) resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Hamer) reported accordingly.
On the motion of Senator Grimes the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

And it being 2 p.m.—

15 QUESTIONS.

16 PERSONAL EXPLANATION: The Minister for Resources and Energy (Senator Evans), by leave, made a personal explanation relating to an article in the magazine, *The Bulletin*, dated 8 October 1985.

17 PARLIAMENT HOUSE TELEPHONE SYSTEM—STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT: The President made a statement relating to the temporary technical difficulties with the Parliament House telephone system.

18 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE: The President informed the Senate that the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Chaney) had proposed that a matter of public importance be submitted to the Senate for discussion, viz: "The implications for the principle of ministerial responsibility arising out of the Prime Minister's handling of the \$500 000 payment to the former Chief Executive of the Australian Bicentennial Authority".

And at least 4 Senators having risen in support of the proposed discussion—

The President called upon Senator Chaney to speak.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

19 PAPER: The following Paper was tabled:

Banks (Shareholdings) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1985 No. 263.

20 ADJOURNMENT: The Senate adjourned at 3.59 p.m. till Monday next at 2 p.m.

21 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Archer, Bjelke-Petersen, Coleman (on leave), Elstob, Georges, Harradine, Kilgariff, Knowles, Lewis, MacGibbon, McKiernan, Macklin, Robert Ray, Reynolds and Ryan.

A. R. CUMMING THOM,
Clerk of the Senate