1996

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF QUEENSLAND

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

NO. 13

SECOND SESSION OF THE FORTY–EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY, 16 MAY 1996

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MEETING OF ASSEMBLY
The Assembly met at 9.30am pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Honourable N J Turner) read prayers.

MATTER OF PRIVILEGE
Mr Mackenroth asked Mr Speaker to rule whether the matter raised by him in the House on 15 May would be referred to the Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee.
Mr Speaker advised that he needed to give further consideration to the matter before he could give a decision.
Mr Mackenroth moved — That the matter raised by the Member for Chatsworth on 15 May be referred to the Members' Ethics and Parliamentary Privileges Committee for consideration and report.
Question put.
The House divided.

AYES, 41

Beanland
Barton
Beattie
Bird
Bligh
Braddy
Bredhauer
Briskey
Bums
Campbell
De Lacy
Edmond
Elder
Foley
Fouras
Goss W
Gamin
Gilmore
Harper
Healy
Hegarty
Hobbs
Horan
Johnson

Hamill
Hayward
Hollis
Livingstone*
Mackenroth
McEligott
McGrady
Milliner
Mulherin

Nunn
Nutall
Palaszczuk
Pearce
Roberts
Robertson
Rose
Schwarten

Spence
Sullivan J
Sullivan T*
Wells
Welford

41

NOES, 41

Beanland
Borbidge
Carroll*
Connor
Cooper
Cunningham
Davidson
Elliott
FitzGerald
Gamin
Gilmore
Harper
Healy
Hegarty
Hobbs
Horan
Johnson

Laming
Lester
Lingard
Littleproud
McCauley
Malone
Mitchell
Perrett
Quinn

Radke
Rowell
Santoro
Sheldon
Simpson
Sack
Springborg*
Stephan
Stoneman

Veivers
Warwick
Watson
Wilson
Woolner

Pairs – Mr Gibbs and Mrs Woodgate (AYES) and Messrs Tanti and Baumann (NOES)
*Tellers
The numbers being equal, Mr Speaker cast his vote with the NOES.
Question negatived.

PETITIONS
The following petitions, lodged with The Clerk by the Members indicated, were received—
Mr Veivers, from 858 petitioners, requesting the House to provide the Ipswich area with a direct telephone number for the ambulance service within the Ipswich area.
Mr Barton, from 185 petitioners, requesting the House to legislate against the ownership and possession of automatic and semi-automatic weapons.

GOVERNMENT PAPER
The following paper was tabled—
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice (Mr Beanland)—Mundingburra Election 1996 – Statistical Returns

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS
(a) Premier (Mr Borbidge), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to a Business Co-operation Agreement between the Queensland Government and the Papua New Guinea Government.
(b) Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for the Arts (Mrs Sheldon), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to Queensland Treasury’s State Accounts for the December quarter.
Paper: Mrs Sheldon, during her statement, tabled the following paper—
Queensland State Accounts – December Quarter, 1995

(e) Minister for Health (Mr Horan), by leave, made a ministerial statement concerning
the Leukaemia Foundation’s Annual Appeal for 1996.

(c) Minister for Economic Development and Trade and Minister Assisting the Premier
(Mr Slack), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to Commonwealth export
assistance packages.

(d) Minister for Environment (Mr Littleproud), by leave, made a ministerial statement
concerning consultation for the discussion paper on environmental protection
(mining and petroleum industries) policy

(f) Minister for Local Government and Planning (Mrs McCauley), by leave, made a
ministerial statement relating to the Taskforce to review the proposed Planning,
Environment and Development Assessment Bill.

(g) Minister for Local Government and Planning (Mrs McCauley), by leave, made a
ministerial statement concerning petitions from communities affected by the forced
amalgamations of certain Local Government councils.

(h) Minister for Public Works and Housing (Mr Connor), by leave, made a ministerial
statement relating to the Home Ownership Made Easy (HOME) Scheme and the
Rental Purchase Plan.

Papers: Mr Connor, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
Memorandum, dated 15 January 1996, from the Director–General, Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning advising that
additional assistance would be available to all Rental Purchase Plan
customers
Letter, dated 15 January 1996, from Director–General, Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning advising that a subsidy would
be provided to HOME loan borrowers
Schedule of houses sold at a loss

6 Suspension of Standing and Sessional Orders – Plant Protection Amendment Bill 1996 and Local Government (Robina Town Centre Planning Agreement) Bill
Leader of Government Business (Mr FitzGerald), by leave, moved – That so much of the
Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended to enable the following Bills to pass through their remaining stages at this day’s sitting—
Plant Protection Amendment Bill 1996
Local Government (Robina Town Centre Planning Agreement) Bill

Question put and passed.

7 Criminal Justice Committee – Report
Chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee (Mr Lester) tabled the following paper—
Report on section 23(c) of the Criminal Justice Act 1989

8 Notices of Motion
Paper: Ms Bligh tabled the following paper—
Article entitled “New protocols for health staff”

9 Notice of Motion – Disallowance of Statutory Instrument

10 Private Members’ Statements
Private Members’ statements were made.

Papers: Leader of the Opposition (Mr Beattie), during his statement, tabled the
following papers—
Letter, dated 16 May 1996, from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Beattie) concerning the Carruthers Inquiry
Letter, dated 15 May 1996, from Peter Carne to the Chairman of the Criminal Justice Commission concerning the ALP and Sporting Shooters Department of Economic Development and Trade – Statistical details relating to the Queensland economy

Papers: Mr Robertson, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
Department of Economic Development and Trade – Statistical details relating to the Queensland economy

11 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE
Questions without notice were asked.

Paper: Leader of the Opposition (Mr Beattie) tabled the following paper—
Extract from Gold Coast Bulletin entitled “Nats Guns Backlash”

Questions continued.

12 JURY AMENDMENT BILL 1996
Attorney–General and Minister for Justice (Mr Beanland), by leave, moved – That leave be granted to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the Jury Act 1995.
Question agreed to.
Bill and Explanatory Notes presented by Mr Beanland, Bill read a first time and ordered to be printed.
Mr Beanland moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr Foley moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question agreed to.
Resumption of the debate ordered for tomorrow.

13 QUEENSLAND LAW SOCIETY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1996
Attorney–General and Minister for Justice (Mr Beanland), by leave, moved – That leave be granted to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the Queensland Law Society Act 1952, and for related purposes.
Question agreed to.
Bill and Explanatory Notes presented by Mr Beanland, Bill read a first time and ordered to be printed.
Mr Beanland moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr Foley moved – That the debate be now adjourned.
Question agreed to.
Resumption of the debate ordered for tomorrow.

14 APPROPRIATION BILL 1996
Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for the Arts (Mrs Sheldon), by leave, moved – That leave be granted to bring in a Bill for an Act to appropriate certain amounts for services in the financial year starting 1 July 1996.
Question agreed to.

Message: The following message from Her Excellency the Governor was received and read—

"MESSAGE
APPROPRIATION BILL 1996
Constitution Act 1867, section 18

I, LENEEN FORDE, Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intituled—
A Bill for an Act to appropriate certain amounts for services in the financial year starting 1 July 1996.

Leneen Forde
GOVERNOR

9 May 1996"
Bill and Explanatory Notes presented by Mrs Sheldon, Bill read a first time and ordered to be printed.  
Mrs Sheldon moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr Hamill moved – That the debate be now adjourned.  
Question agreed to.  
Resumption of the debate ordered for tomorrow.

15 Appropriation (Parliament) Bill 1996

Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for the Arts (Mrs Sheldon), by leave, moved – That leave be granted to bring in a Bill for an Act to appropriate certain amounts from the consolidated fund for services of the Parliament in the financial year starting 1 July 1996.  
Question agreed to.

Message: The following message from Her Excellency the Governor was received and read—

“MESSAGE
APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL 1996
Constitution Act 1867, section 18

I, LENEEN FORDE, Governor, recommend to the Legislative Assembly a Bill intituled—

A Bill for an Act to appropriate certain amounts from the consolidated fund for services of the Parliament in the financial year starting 1 July 1996.

Leneen Forde
GOVERNOR

9 May 1996”

Bill and Explanatory Notes presented by Mrs Sheldon, Bill read a first time and ordered to be printed.  
Mrs Sheldon moved – That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr Hamill moved – That the debate be now adjourned.  
Question agreed to.  
Resumption of the debate ordered for tomorrow.

16 Stamp Amendment Bill 1996

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for the Arts (Mrs Sheldon) – That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate resumed.  
Question put and passed.  
Bill read a second time.  
Bill committed on the motion of Mrs Sheldon.

In the Chair – The Chairman  
Clause 1 agreed to.  
Clause 2 (Commencement)—  
The following amendment was proposed by Mr Hamill—  
At page 4, line 5—  
omit, insert—  
‘2. This Act commences on 1 July 1996.’.  
Amendment agreed to.  
Clause 2, as amended, agreed to.  
Clauses 3 to 5 agreed to.  
Bill to be reported with an amendment.

Deputy Speaker (Mr Stephan) resumed the Chair.  
Bill reported with an amendment.
Bill, as amended, ordered to be taken into consideration.
Mrs Sheldon, by leave, moved – That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time and passed.
Title agreed to.

17 **Primary Industries Legislation Amendment Bill 1996**
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Perrett) – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
Bill committed on the motion of Mr Perrett.

In Committee
In the Chair – The Chairman
Clauses 1 to 57 agreed to.
Schedule agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

Deputy Speaker (Mr Stephan) resumed the Chair.
Bill reported without amendment.
Mr Perrett, by leave, moved – That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time and passed.
Title agreed to.

18 **Postponement – Government Business**
Leader of Government Business (Mr FitzGerald) moved – That Government Business Orders of the Days Nos. 3 to 5 be postponed until a later hour of the sitting.
Question put and passed.

19 **Plant Protection Amendment Bill 1996**
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Perrett) – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
Bill committed on the motion of Mr Perrett.

In Committee
In the Chair – The Chairman
Clauses 1 to 22 agreed to.
Schedule agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

Deputy Speaker (Mr Stephan) resumed the Chair.
Bill reported without amendment.
Mr Perrett, by leave, moved – That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time and passed.
Title agreed to.

20 **Local Government (Robina Town Centre Planning Agreement) Amendment Bill 1996**
Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Local Government and Planning (Mrs McCauley) – That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate resumed. 
Question put and passed. 
Bill read a second time. 
Bill committed on the motion of Mrs McCauley. 

In the Chair – The Chairman 
Clauses 1 to 11 agreed to. 
Bill to be reported without amendment. 

Deputy Speaker (Mr Stephan) resumed the Chair. 
Bill reported without amendment. 
Mrs McCauley, by leave, moved – That the Bill be now read a third time. 
Question put and passed. 
Bill read a third time and passed. 
Title agreed to. 

21 Murray-Darling Basin Bill 1996

Minister for Natural Resources (Mr Hobbs), by leave, moved – That leave be granted to bring in a Bill for an Act to approve and provide for carrying out an agreement entered into between the Commonwealth, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia with regard to the water, land and other environmental resources of the Murray-Darling Basin, and for other purposes. 

Question agreed to. 
Bill and Explanatory Notes presented by Mr Hobbs, Bill read a first time and ordered to be printed. 
Mr Hobbs moved – That the Bill be now read a second time. 
Debate ensued. 
Mr Palaszczuk moved – That the debate be now adjourned. 
Question agreed to. 
Resumption of the debate ordered for tomorrow. 

22 Motor Accident Insurance Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 1996 – Motion for Disallowance

Mr Hamill, pursuant to notice, moved – That the Motor Accident Insurance Legislation Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 1996 (Subordinate Legislation No. 75 of 1996) tabled in the Parliament on 30 April 1996, be disallowed. 

Debate ensued. 

Paper: Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for the Arts (Mrs Sheldon), during her speech, tabled the following paper—
Trowbridge Consulting – Queensland CTP Premiums – Basis for 1995–96 Premiums

Debate continued. 

Papers: Leader of the Opposition (Mr Beattie), during his speech, tabled the following papers—
Hansard, dated 1 May 1996, page 806
Extract from The Courier-Mail entitled “56 jump tipped in third party premiums”

Debate continued. 
Question put. 
The House divided.
AYES, 40

Ardill
Barton
Beattie
Bird
Bligh
Braddy
Bredhauer
Briskey
Burns
Campbell
D'Arcy
De Lacy
Dollin
Edmond
Elder
Foley
Fouras
Goss W

NOES, 40

Baumann
Beanland
Borbidge
Carroll
Connor
Cooper
Cunningham
Davidson
Elliott

Hamill
Hollis
Livingstone*
Mackenroth
McEligott
McGrady
Millner
Mulherin
Nunn

Palaszczuk
Pearce
Purcell
Roberts
Robertson
Rose
Schwarten
Spence

Sullivan J
Sullivan T*
Welford
Wells

Pairs – Messrs Gibbs and Hayward and Mrs Woodgate (AYES) and Messrs Gilmore, Quinn and Slack (NOES)

* Tellers

The numbers being equal, Mr Speaker cast his vote with the NOES.

Question negatived.

23 Statement by Mr Speaker – Answers to Questions on Notice

Mr Speaker made the following statement concerning a matter of privilege raised in the House on 15 May by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Beattie)—

"Yesterday, the Leader of the Opposition rose on a matter of privilege suddenly arising in relation to answers to Questions on Notice. I would like to clarify some points regarding these matters.

Firstly, may I point out to all Honourable Members that it has never been the responsibility of officers of the Bills and Papers Office to chase up answers to Questions on Notice. Since the commencement of these procedures in March 1995, it has been the sole responsibility of each Minister to ensure that answers to Questions on Notice are provided in accordance with Standing Order 67e.

In his statement, Mr Beattie claimed “that dates recorded by the Bills and Papers Office could not be vouched for as necessarily accurately reflecting the dates on which material was received at Parliament House”. This is correct, the Bills and Papers Office can only vouch for the date that the hard copy of each answer to a Question on Notice was received by them.

Furthermore, the Bills and Papers Office has advised me that on many occasions during 1995 and 1996, there has existed confusion between ministerial and departmental officers with regard to the answering of Questions on Notice. The Bills and Papers Office has often received calls from departmental officers to check the date that an answer was received only to find that the answer had not yet been sent to the Bills and Papers Office.

The Bills and Papers Office has advised me that on many occasions during 1995 and 1996, there has existed confusion between ministerial and departmental officers with regard to the answering of Questions on Notice. The Bills and Papers Office has often received calls from departmental officers to check the date that an answer was received only to find that the answer had not yet been sent to the Bills and Papers Office.

Furthermore, the Bills and Papers Office has advised me that on many occasions the hard copy of answers have been sent to other areas of Parliament House and not to the Bills and Papers Office. This has occurred despite advice to Ministers in both correspondence sent on 22 March 1995 by The Clerk of the Parliament and the Seventh Edition of the “Information Booklet on Parliamentary Procedures” which was sent to all Ministers of the former Government on 26 October 1995."
"With regard to the nine questions specifically referred to by Mr Beattie yesterday, that he answered as Minister for Health, just as he is sure that he forwarded those answers on time, so too is the Bills and Papers Office sure that they did not receive a hard copy of the answer until 20 December 1995.

As was pointed out by both the Premier and Leader of the Opposition yesterday, problems have existed with regard to the provision of answers to Questions on Notice by both ALP and Coalition Ministers.

This is a matter that I, as Speaker of this House, am not prepared to tolerate in the future. Therefore, I propose to issue new guidelines to Ministers next week for the procedures by which their officers hand deliver these answers to the Bills and Papers Office. I will keep the Leader of the Opposition fully informed of these guidelines once they are finalised.

Whilst it is the ultimate responsibility of Ministers to ensure that answers to Questions on Notice are provided to the Bills and Papers Office in accordance with Standing Order 67e, I feel confident that the proposed guidelines will prevent any further situations arising whereby Ministers may think that they have answered Questions on Notice but the Bills and Papers Office has not received them."

24 NOTICE OF MOTION – DEATH OF MRS SANAWAI AND MR JOHN ARAGU

Mr Bredhauer, pursuant to notice, moved – That this House—

(a) notes with regret the tragic circumstances surrounding the recent helicopter crash in the Torres Strait which claimed the lives of the Chairperson of the Dauan Island Council, Mrs Sanawai Aragu and her husband, and Council Deputy Chair, Mr John Aragu;

(b) further notes the important contribution which Mr and Mrs Aragu have made to their own community on Dauan and to the development of the Torres Strait and its people; and

(c) conveys its deepest sympathies not only to the relatives of Mr and Mrs Aragu but to all of the Dauan Island community who have suffered this shocking loss of two of the Island’s most respected leaders.

Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

25 NOTICE OF MOTION – PERFORMANCE OF THE TREASURER

Mr Beattie, pursuant to notice, moved – That this House expresses its deep concern regarding the performance of the Treasurer by—

(a) planning to keep Government spending in the deep freeze until at least 10 June – a total of 113 days, or nearly a third of the year;

(b) assuring Queenslanders on 27 March this year, after she had made her false allegations about there being all sorts of alleged holes in the Budget, that there would be no increases in taxes and charges in this Budget when colleagues, including the Premier, his deputy, the Minister for Families, Youth and Community Care, the Minister for Health, the Minister for Natural Resources and the Minister for Emergency Services are plainly signalling that taxpayers will have to pay more to meet this minority Government’s unfunded election promises;

(c) misleading this House with her blatant and false claim that there is no economic freeze when she has said there is and hundreds of Queensland businesses are complaining about being frozen out of Government business, especially in the construction industry;

(d) keeping at least one – and presumably all – of her Government’s directors–general completely in the dark about whether or not the Government has any policies and leading them to believe right up until 9 May that they would learn from a May Economic Statement what actions they could take to start the economy going again;
(e) being unable to, or refusing to, give informative answers to legitimate questions in this Parliament;

(f) not having the ability to give Queensland any economic direction despite having had the power to do so for nearly 100 days since she told Queenslanders in this House: “Queensland must be returned to an era in which things get done and are not just talked about”;

(g) being part of a Government which has squandered benefits to Queensland of more than $700m through its decision to obey the wishes of 800 voters and cancel the sort of power scheme that already links many countries, let alone states or provinces; and

(h) removing road tolls which affected her electorate without publicly revealing how she intends to deal with the resulting $200m debt although secretly intending to require the users of other toll roads in Labor electorates to pay the bill.

Debate ensued.

*Paper:* Leader of the Opposition (Mr Beattie), during his speech, tabled the following paper—
Letter, dated 13 March 1996, from the Manager, Western Queensland Property Services Division, Department of Public Works and Housing relating to the Queensland Housing Commission property at 190 Pulgul Street, Urangan

Debate continued.

*Paper:* Mr Grice, during his speech, tabled the following paper—
Extract from *The Courier-Mail* dated 29 November 1995 entitled “$56 jump tipped in third party premiums”

Debate continued.

Question put.

The House divided.

AYES, 40

Ardill
Barton
Beattie
Bird
Bingle
Braddy
Bredhauer
Briskey
Burns

Campbell
D’Acuty
De Lacy
Dollin
Edmond
Elder
Foley
Fouras
Goss W

Hamill
Hollis
Livingstone*
Mackenroth
McElligott
McGrady
Milliner
Mulherin
Nunn

Nutall
Palaszczuk
Pearce
Purcell
Roberts
Robertson
Rose
Schwarten
Spence

Sullivan J
Sullivan T*
Welford
Wells

NOES, 40

Baumann
Beanland
Carroll
Connor
Cooper
Cunningham
Davidson
Elliott
FitzGerald

Gamin
Gilmore
Goss J
Grice
Harper
Healy
Hegarty
Hobbs
Horan

Johnson
Laming
Lester
Lingard
Littleproud
McCauley
Malone
Mitchell
Perrett

Radke
Rowell
Sanboro
Sheldon
Simpson
Springborg*
Stephan
Tani
Veivers

Warwick
Watson
Wilson
Woolmer

*Tellers

The numbers being equal, Mr Speaker cast his vote with the NOES.

Question negatived.

26 GRIEVANCE DEBATE

Grievances were noted.

*Papers:* Mr Hegarty, during his speech, tabled the following papers—
Video of defective building work undertaken by Ross Richard Stone (attachment to written statement of M A Bornhorst)
Submissions and questionnaires to the Inquiry into the Security of Payments in the Building and Construction Industry
Papers:  Mr T Sullivan, during his speech, tabled the following papers—
Santo’s No Tollway Bulletin, dated 14 November 1994
Extracts from *Northern News* entitled “Listen to people plea” and “Choice
backed”

27 Suspension of Sessional Orders – Hours of Sitting for this Day
Leader of Government Business (Mr FitzGerald) moved – That so much of sessional
orders be suspended to enable the House to sit past 7.30pm.
Question put and passed.

28 Special Adjournment
Leader of Government Business (Mr FitzGerald) moved – That the House, at its rising, do
adjourn to a date and at a time to be fixed by Mr Speaker in consultation with the
Government of the State.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

29 Adjournment
Leader of Government Business (Mr FitzGerald) moved – That the House do now
adjourn.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned at 8.05pm.

30 Attendance
The following Members were present—

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N J TURNER  R D DOYLE
Speaker  The Clerk of the Parliament

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