

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 22

TUESDAY, 27 APRIL 1976

1 MEETING OF SENATE: The Senate met at half-past two p.m., pursuant to adjournment. The President (Senator the Honourable Condor L. Laucke) took the Chair.

2 PRAYERS.

3 MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, informed the Senate that the Minister for Transport would now be represented in the Senate by Senator Carrick instead of Senator Cotton.

4 PETITIONS: Senator Baume presented a petition from 37 citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Heritage Commission be appointed, and that there be a proper balance between the Government's programme of public austerity and the need for action in conservation.

Petition received and read.

Senator Missen presented a petition from 13 citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Government reverse its decision to cut expenditure on overseas aid, reaffirm Australia's commitment of Overseas Development Assistance at a minimum of 0.7 per cent of the Gross National Product, and establish an independent statutory authority to administer overseas aid.

Petition received and read.

The Clerk announced that the following Senators had lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Senator Douglas McClelland, from 31 citizens of Australia praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes be not introduced.

Senator Guilfoyle, from 440 citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Government reverse its decision to cut expenditure on overseas aid, reaffirm Australia's commitment of Overseas Development Assistance at a minimum of 0.7 per cent of the Gross National Product, and establish an independent statutory authority to administer overseas aid.

Petitions received.

5 NOTICE OF MOTION: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers) gave a Notice of Motion as follows—That, on the next day of sitting, he would move—That—

- (1) Unless otherwise ordered, the annual Estimates, as contained in the Papers presenting the Particulars of Proposed Expenditure, and the Additional Estimates, as contained in the Papers presenting the Particulars of Proposed Provision for Additional Expenditure, shall on motion be referred for examination and report to six Committees, to be known as Estimates Committees A, B, C, D, E and F, which are appointed by this Resolution.

- (2) Each Estimates Committee shall consist of six Senators, three being members of the Government, to be nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, and three being Senators who are not members of the Government, to be nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate or by an Independent Senator.
- (3) The particular Estimates Committees in respect of which the Leader of the Opposition or the Independents make nominations shall be determined by agreement between the Leader and the Independents, and, in the absence of agreement duly notified to the President, the question as to the representation on any particular Committee shall be determined by the Senate.
- (4) Each Committee may proceed to the despatch of business notwithstanding that all members have not been appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.
- (5) Each Committee shall elect a Government member as Chairman.
- (6) The Chairman may from time to time appoint another member of the Committee to be Deputy-Chairman and the member so appointed shall act as Chairman of the Committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the Committee.
- (7) In the event of an equality of voting, the Chairman, or the Deputy-Chairman when acting as Chairman, shall have a casting vote.
- (8) Three members of a Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- (9) A Senator, though not a member of a Committee, may attend and participate in its deliberations, and question witnesses, unless the Committee orders otherwise, but shall not vote.
- (10) The Committees shall sit in open session, unless otherwise ordered, may sit during any adjournment or suspension of the Senate, and may adjourn from time to time.
- (11) A Committee shall not meet while the Senate is actually sitting, unless by special order of the Senate.
- (12) Not more than three Committees shall sit simultaneously.
- (13) In considering the Estimates, the Chairman shall, without motion, call on divisions of expenditure in the order decided upon and declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.
- (14) The Committees may ask for explanations from Ministers of State in the Senate, or officers, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
- (15) The Resolution referring the Estimates to the Committees may fix a day for the reporting of their proceedings to the Senate, by which day the final Reports of the Committees shall be brought up.
- (16) The Report of a Committee shall be presented to the Senate by the Chairman and, if considered necessary, may propose the further consideration of any particular items. A reservation by any member of a Committee may be added to the Report.
- (17) The Reports from the Committees shall be received by the Senate without debate and their consideration deferred until consideration of the Appropriation Bills.
- (18) A *Hansard* report of Committee proceedings shall be circulated, in manner similar to the daily Senate *Hansard*, as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
- (19) The foregoing provisions of this Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, shall have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

7 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S MESSAGES—ASSENT TO BILLS: The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented by the President:

JOHN R. KERR,
Governor-General

Message No. 11

Proposed law intituled:—

Phosphate Fertilizers Bounty Amendment Act 1976

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said law.

Government House,
Canberra, 8 April 1976

JOHN R. KERR,
Governor-General

Message No. 12

Proposed laws intituled:—

Nitrogenous Fertilizers Subsidy Amendment Act 1976

Loans (Qantas Airways Limited) Act 1976

Loans (Australian National Airlines Commission) Act 1976

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said laws.

Government House,
Canberra, 12 April 1976

JOHN R. KERR,
Governor-General

Message No. 13

Proposed law intituled:—

Commonwealth Teaching Service Act 1976

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said law.

Government House,
Canberra, 13 April 1976

8 PAPERS: The following Papers were presented, by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Agricultural Council—Resolutions of the Ninety-fifth Meeting of the Australian Agricultural Council, held in Perth, 31 January 1976.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Fruitgrowing, dated 16 January 1976—

Part A: Fruitgrowing Reconstruction.

Part B: Apples and Pears.

Part C: Dried Vine Fruit.

Part D: South Australian Riverland.

Miscellaneous Industrial Machinery, dated 30 December 1975.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Dairy Adjustment Act—Dairy Adjustment Programs—Amending Agreement between the Australian Government and the Western Australian Government, dated 9 March 1976.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land, etc., acquired for—

Australian Atomic Energy Commission, at Mascot, New South Wales.

Defence, at Amberley, Queensland (2).

Extension to Stores and Transport Depot, at Pennington, South Australia.

Telephone Services—

Koongawa, South Australia.

Murbko, South Australia.

Murtho, South Australia.

Yabmana, South Australia.

Statements (2) by the Minister describing land acquired by agreement under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act, for specified public purposes.

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—

Ordinances—1976—

No. 13—Transfer of Executive Powers 1975.

No. 14—Interpretation 1975.

No. 15—Crown Lands (No. 4) 1975.

No. 16—Darwin Town Area Leases 1975.

No. 17—Unit Titles 1975.

No. 18—Real Property (Unit Titles) 1975.

Public Service Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, Nos 94, 95, 96.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances—1976—

No. 13—Education.

No. 14—Festival Australia Incorporation.

No. 15—Lake Burley Griffin.

Regulations—1976—No. 7—(Building and Services Ordinance).

States Grants (Dwellings for Pensioners) Act—First Annual Statement for year 1974–75.

Student Assistance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 92.

Telecommunications Act—By-laws—Telecommunications (General) Amendment No. 5.

Trade Commissioners Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976, No. 93.

- 9 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—REPORT: Senator Baume, on behalf of the Joint Statutory Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Report from the Committee:

One hundred and fifty-seventh Report—The Report of the Auditor-General—Financial year 1973–74.

Senator Baume, by leave, made a statement relating to the Report.

- 10 COMMONWEALTH TEACHING SERVICE BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 41

The House of Representatives returns to the Senate the Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Commonwealth Teaching Service Act 1972–1973'*", and acquaints the Senate that the House of Representatives has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 8 April 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

- 11 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 42

The House of Representatives acquaints the Senate that, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1951–1973*, Mr Crean, a Member of the House of Representatives, has been appointed a member of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts in the place of Mr Innes, discharged.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 8 April 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

- 12 STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS) BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives:*
The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 40

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to provide Financial Assistance to the States for and in relation to Schools, and for related purposes*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 8 April 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Senator Carrick the Bill was read a first time.

Senator Carrick moved—That this Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wriedt) the debate was adjourned.

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

- 13 ROADS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives:*
The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 43

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Financial Assistance to the States in relation to Roads*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 9 April 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Senator Carrick the Bill was read a first time.

Senator Carrick moved—That this Bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Keeffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 14 FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE—STANDING COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF MATTER:
Senator Knight, pursuant to notice, moved—That there be referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the following matter: The implications for Australia's foreign policy and national security of proposals for a new international economic order.

Senator Primmer moved an amendment, viz.: Leave out "Senate Standing", insert "Joint".

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be left out be left out—put and negatived.

Amendment negatived accordingly.

Main Question—put and passed.

- 15 FINANCIAL AGREEMENT BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—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 Mulvihill) resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator Wood) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

- 16 NATIONAL DEBT SINKING FUND AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That this Bill be now read a second time.

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 Mulvihill) resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator Wood) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

- 17 SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Senator Grimes moved an amendment, viz.: At end of motion, add “, but the Senate deplores the failure of the Government to index dependants allowances to meet increases in the cost of living”.

Debate continued.

Senator Harradine proposed an amendment to the proposed amendment, viz.: At end of proposed amendment, add “, and deplores the failure of the Government to backdate all increased payments to the first of January 1976”.

Senator Harradine's proposed amendment lapsed for want of a seconder.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added by Senator Grimes' amendment be added—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 25		NOES, 33	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Button	McIntosh	Archer	Maunsell
Cameron	McLaren	Baume	Messner
Cavanagh	Melzer	Bonner	Missen
Colston	Mulvihill	Carrick	Rae
Devitt	O'Byrne	Collard	Scott
Gietzelt	Primmer	Cormack,	Sheil
Grimes	Robertson	Sir Magnus	Sim
Harradine	Ryan	Cotton	Tehan
Keeffe	Sibraa	Drake-Brockman	Thomas
McAuliffe	Walsh	Greenwood	Townley
McClelland,	Wheelodon	Guilfoyle	Walters
Douglas	Wriedt	Hall	Webster
McClelland,	<i>Teller:</i>	Jessop	Withers
James	Georges	Kilgariff	Wood
		Knight	Wright
		Lajovic	
		Laucke	<i>Teller:</i>
		Martin	Chaney

Amendment negatived accordingly.

Question—That this Bill be now read a second time—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

Clauses 1 to 6, by leave, taken together, debated and agreed to.

Clause 7 debated—

Question—That the clause stand as printed—put.

The Committee divided—

AYES, 26		NOES, 32	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Archer	Martin	Bishop	McIntosh
Baume	Maunsell	Bonner	McLaren
Carrick	Messner	Button	Melzer
Collard	Scott	Cameron	Missen
Cormack,	Sheil	Cavanagh	Mulvihill
Sir Magnus	Sim	Colston	Primmer
Cotton	Tehan	Devitt	Rae
Drake-Brockman	Thomas	Gietzelt	Robertson
Greenwood	Walters	Grimes	Ryan
Guilfoyle	Webster	Hall	Sibbra
Kilgariff	Withers	Harradine	Townley
Knight	Wright	Jessop	Walsh
Lajovic	Teller:	Keeffe	Wheeldon
Laucke	Chaney	McAuliffe	Wood
		McClelland,	Wriedt
		Douglas	
		McClelland,	Teller:
		James	Georges

Clause 7 negatived accordingly.

Clauses 8 to 10, by leave, taken together and agreed to.

Clause 11 debated—

Question—That the clause stand as printed—put.

The Committee divided—

AYES, 26		NOES, 32	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Archer	Martin	Bishop	McIntosh
Baume	Maunsell	Bonner	McLaren
Carrick	Messner	Button	Melzer
Collard	Scott	Cameron	Missen
Cormack,	Sheil	Cavanagh	Mulvihill
Sir Magnus	Sim	Colston	Primmer
Cotton	Tehan	Devitt	Rae
Drake-Brockman	Thomas	Gietzelt	Robertson
Greenwood	Walters	Grimes	Ryan
Guilfoyle	Webster	Hall	Sibbra
Kilgariff	Withers	Harradine	Townley
Knight	Wright	Jessop	Walsh
Lajovic	Teller:	Keeffe	Wheeldon
Laucke	Chaney	McAuliffe	Wood
		McClelland,	Wriedt
		Douglas	
		McClelland,	Teller:
		James	Georges

Clause 11 negatived accordingly.

And it being after half-past ten p.m.: The Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman), under Sessional Order, put the Question—That he do leave the Chair and report to the Senate.

Which Question was negatived.

Remainder of Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.
Bill to be reported with amendments.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

- 18 ADJOURNMENT: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers) moved—
That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

The Senate adjourned at eighteen minutes past eleven p.m. till to-morrow at half-past two p.m.

- 19 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Coleman, Davidson, Durack and Young.

J. R. ODGERS,
Clerk of the Senate