

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 26

WEDNESDAY, 5 MAY 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 PETITIONS: Senator Sibraa presented a petition from 22 citizens of Australia praying that a system of double income tax on personal incomes not be introduced.

Petition received and read.

Senator Colston presented a petition from 72 citizens of Australia praying that cows' milk substitutes be restored to the Schedule of Pharmaceutical Benefits for children up to the age of six years as soon as possible.

Petition received and read.

Senator Knight presented a petition from 227 residents of Turner, Australian Capital Territory, praying that the Senate note their objections to the construction of up to 150 family flats on the site between Condamine Court flats and Construction House.

Petition received and read.

Senator Knight presented a petition from 19 citizens of Australia praying that the Australian National Library be accessible to readers between 9.30 a.m. and 10.00 p.m. daily.

Petition received and read.

Senator Melzer presented a petition from 47 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate give urgent consideration to the continuation of federal finance for family planning and similar organisations.

Petition received and read.

Senator Melzer presented a petition from 13 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 Melzer presented a petition from 17 citizens of Australia praying that the Government take no measures to interfere with the Schools Commission.

Petition received and read.

Senator Mulvihill presented a petition from 146 citizens of Australia similar in wording to the petition presented by Senator Sibraa.

Petition received and read.

4 QUESTIONS.

- 5 URGENCY MOTION: The President informed the Senate that he had received a letter from Senator Gietzelt advising that this day he intended to move—"That in the opinion of the Senate the following is a matter of urgency: The situation in East Timor and in particular:

- (1) The military action of Indonesia and its consequent effects upon the Timorese people.
- (2) The need for Indonesia to respond to the decisions of the United Nations.
- (3) The denial of self-determination for the people of East Timor and the inadequacy of the steps taken to ensure the right to determine their own future.

- (4) The failure of the Australian Government to make a concerted effort to provide adequate communication with the people of East Timor and to provide appropriate humanitarian aid.”.

And at least four Senators having risen in support of the motion—
Senator Gietzelt thereupon moved the motion.

Document tabled: Senator Harradine moved—That, pursuant to Standing Order 364, the document quoted from by Senator Gietzelt be laid upon the Table.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Senator Gietzelt thereupon laid upon the Table the following document:

East Timor—Text of document quoted from by Senator Gietzelt on the situation in East Timor.

Debate continued.

Closure: Senator Chaney moved—That the Question be now put.

Question—That the Question be now put—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 31		NOES, 25	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Archer	Maunsell	Bishop	McIntosh
Baume	Messner	Brown	McLaren
Bonner	Missen	Button	Melzer
Carrick	Rae	Cameron	Mulvihill
Collard	Scott	Colston	O'Byrne
Cormack,	Sheil	Devitt	Primmer
Sir Magnus	Sim	Gietzelt	Robertson
Cotton	Tehan	Grimes	Ryan
Drake-Brockman	Thomas	Hall	Sibraa
Durack	Townley	Harradine	Walsh
Greenwood	Walters	McAuliffe	Wheeldon
Guilfoyle	Webster	McClelland,	
Jessop	Wood	Douglas	
Kilgariff	Wright	McClelland,	<i>Teller:</i>
Knight		James	Georges
Lajovic	<i>Teller:</i>		
Martin	Chaney		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Main Question—put and negated.

- 6 BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY—SECOND PROGRESS REPORT—
PAPER—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick),
by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the
following Paper:

Bilingual Education—Second Progress Report on the Bilingual Education Program
in Schools in the Northern Territory, dated December 1974.

Senator Carrick, by leave, made a statement relating to the Paper.

Senator Robertson, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Paper.

Debate ensued.

Ordered—That the debate be adjourned till the next day of sitting, and that Senator
Bonner have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.

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

North-South Highway—Report by the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads on a
North-South Highway connecting Darwin to Melbourne via Mount Isa and
Broken Hill, dated 8 April 1976.

Urban Buses and Bus Services—Consumer Preferences—Report by the Bureau of
Transport Economics, entitled “Consumer Preferences in Urban Buses and Bus
Services—Part A: Main Report”, dated December 1975.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Australian National Railways Act—Australian National Railways Commission—Annual Report on the operations of the Commonwealth Railways, together with financial statements and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1974–75.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—Ordinances 1976—No. 1—Lands Acquisition (Repeal).

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land, etc., acquired for—

Telecommunication Services, at Wentworth Falls, New South Wales.

Telephone Engineering Centre, at Burnie, Tasmania.

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. 19—Criminal Injuries (Compensation) 1975.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances 1976—No. 16—Motor Traffic (No. 2).

- 8 POSTPONEMENTS: Ordered, on the motions of Senator Wood—That Business of the Senate, Notices of Motion No. 1, relating to the disallowance of the A.C.T. *Misrepresentation Ordinance* 1975, No. 2, relating to the disallowance of the A.C.T. *Manufacturers Warranties Ordinance* 1975, and No. 5, relating to the disallowance of regulation 13 of the amendments of the Australian Rifle Club Regulations (Statutory Rules 1976 No. 37), be postponed till five sitting days after today.

Ordered, on the motion of Senator Wood at the request of Senator Wright—That Business of the Senate, Notice of Motion No. 6, relating to the disallowance of the amendments of the Air Navigation Regulations (Statutory Rules 1976 No. 67), be postponed till five sitting days after today.

- 9 A.C.T. FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS ORDINANCE—STATEMENT BY SENATOR: The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wood), by leave, made a statement informing the Senate that the objection of the Committee to paragraphs (d) and (e) of sub-section (1) of section 10 of the *Flammable Liquids Ordinance* 1976, as contained in Australian Capital Territory Ordinance No. 2 of 1976, and made under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act* 1910–1973, would be substantially overcome by amendments which the Minister for the Capital Territory had undertaken would be made.

Notice of Motion withdrawn: Senator Wood thereupon withdrew Business of the Senate, Notice of Motion No. 3.

- 10 DEFENCE FORCE (SALARIES) REGULATIONS AND MILITARY FINANCIAL REGULATIONS—STATEMENT BY SENATOR: The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wood), by leave, made a statement informing the Senate that the Committee had now received explanations and assurances in relation to:

(a) regulation 2 of the amendments of the Defence Force (Salaries) Regulations, as contained in Statutory Rules 1976 No. 3, and made under the *Defence Act* 1903–1975, the *Naval Defence Act* 1910–1975 and the *Air Force Act* 1923–1975, and

(b) the amendments of the Military Financial Regulations, as contained in Statutory Rules 1976 No. 7, and made under the *Defence Act* 1903–1975.

Notice of Motion withdrawn: Senator Wood thereupon withdrew Business of the Senate, Notice of Motion No. 4.

- 11 SCIENCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT—STANDING COMMITTEE—CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP: The President informed the Senate that he had received a letter from the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate requesting that Senator Gietzelt be discharged from service on the Standing Committee on Science and the Environment, and nominating Senator Colston to be a member in his place.

The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick), by leave, moved—That Senator Gietzelt be discharged from service on the Standing Committee on Science and the Environment and that Senator Colston be appointed to fill the vacancy.

Question—put and passed.

- 12 SUPERANNUATION AMENDMENT BILL 1976: The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the further consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee

Bill further considered and agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator Devitt) 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.

- 13 STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS) 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.

Document tabled: Senator Button, at the request of Senator Harradine, by leave, laid upon the Table the following document:

Education—Letter from The Rev. F. M. Martin, Executive Director, Catholic Education Commission of Victoria, to Senator J. N. Button, dated 30 April 1976, relating to Government decisions on education issues in the near future.

Debate continued.

The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick) addressing the Chair—

And it being eleven p.m.—

- 14 ADJOURNMENT: The President, under Sessional Order, put the Question—That the Senate do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.

Documents tabled: Senator Wright, at the request of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wriedt), by leave, laid upon the Table the following documents:

Purchase of Lockheed Electra Aircraft—

Extract from Brogden, Stanley. *Australia's Two-Airline Policy*, 1968, pp. 136–147.
 Extracts—

Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, p. 1211, dated 14 June 1975; p. 1876, 30 August 1975; p. 2018, 20 September 1975.

The Australian Financial Review, dated 19 February 1976, 2 March 1976.

The Economist, London, dated 20 February 1976.

The Herald, Melbourne, dated 14 February 1976, 20 February 1976.

The Times, London, dated 7 February 1976.

The Washington Post, dated 6 March 1976.

Debate continued.

And the Senate having continued to sit till twelve o'clock midnight—

THURSDAY, 6 MAY 1976, A.M.

Debate continued.

Question—resolved in the affirmative.

The Senate adjourned at one a.m. till this day at eleven a.m.

- 15 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Coleman, Davidson, Keefe and Young.

J. R. ODGERS,
 Clerk of the Senate