

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 27

THURSDAY, 6 MAY 1976

1 MEETING OF SENATE: The Senate met at eleven a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The President (Senator the Honourable Condor L. Laucke) took the Chair.

2 PRAYERS.

3 PETITIONS: Senator Colston presented a petition from 69 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 Messner presented a petition from 83 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.

Senator Button presented a petition from 20 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 Keffe presented a petition from 2778 citizens of Australia expressing support for equality of educational opportunities through continuing financial support for education by the Commonwealth Government.

Petition received and read.

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

Senator Greenwood, 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.

Senator Sir Magnus Cormack, from 213 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate take immediate steps to continue the Australian Assistance Plan.

Petitions received.

4 NOTICE OF MOTION: The Minister for Administrative Services (Senator Withers) gave a Notice of Motion as follows—That, on the next day of sitting, he would move—That leave be given to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the *Public Accounts Committee Act 1951–1973*.

5 QUESTIONS.

6 LAVERTON ROYAL COMMISSION 1975–76—PAPER: The Minister for Administrative Services (Senator Withers), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Laverton Royal Commission 1975–76—Report, dated 13 April 1976.

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

On the motion of Senator Withers the debate was adjourned.

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

- 7 ABORIGINAL HOSTELS LIMITED—PAPER: The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:
 Aboriginal Hostels Limited—Report, together with financial statements and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for period ended 28 June 1975.
 Senator Keefe, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Paper.
 Ordered—That the debate be adjourned till the next day of sitting, and that Senator Keefe have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.
- 8 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE—PAPER: The Minister for Science (Senator Webster), pursuant to Statute, laid upon the Table the following Paper:
 Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Australian Capital Territory—Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 30 June 1975.
 Senator Devitt, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Paper.
 Ordered—That the debate be adjourned till the next day of sitting, and that Senator Devitt have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.
- 9 PAPER: The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute:
 Urban and Regional Development (Financial Assistance) Act—Agreement between the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments in relation to the provision of financial assistance for Urban Expansion and Redevelopment (Moore River Study) (1975–76), by letters dated 3 December 1975, 22 March 1976.
- 10 PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers) moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, Government Business take precedence of General Business after three p.m. this day.
 Question—put and passed.
- 11 NEXT MEETING OF SENATE: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers) moved—That the Senate, at its rising, adjourn till Tuesday, 18 May 1976, at half-past two p.m., unless sooner called together by the President, or, in the event of the President being unavailable owing to illness or other cause, by the Chairman of Committees.
 Question—put and passed.
- 12 ESTIMATES COMMITTEES—VARIATION OF RESOLUTION REFERRING PARTICULARS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE 1975–76: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, moved—That the Resolution of the Senate of 28 April 1976 relating to consideration of Particulars of Proposed Additional Expenditure 1975–76 by the Estimates Committees be varied so that, unless otherwise ordered, Estimates Committees report to the Senate on or before Tuesday, 25 May 1976.
 Question—put and passed.
- 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.
 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.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wriedt) moved an amendment, viz.: Page 10, clause 7, sub-clause (3), line 4, after "State", insert ", but only after consultation with the Schools Commission and report to the Parliament".

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be inserted—put.

The Committee divided—

AYES, 19	
Senator—	Senator—
Bishop	McLaren
Brown	Melzer
Button	Mulvihill
Cavanagh	O'Byrne
Colston	Ryan
Gietzelt	Sibraa
Grimes	Walsh
Keeffe	Wheeldon
McAuliffe	
McClelland,	<i>Teller:</i>
Douglas	Georges

NOES, 31	
Senator—	Senator—
Archer	Martin
Baume	Maunsell
Bonner	Messner
Carrick	Missen
Collard	Rae
Cormack,	Scott
Sir Magnus	Sheil
Cotton	Sim
Drake-Brockman	Tehan
Durack	Thomas
Guilfoyle	Townley
Hall	Walters
Jessop	Webster
Kilgariff	Wood
Knight	
Lajovic	<i>Teller:</i>
Laucke	Chaney

Amendment negated accordingly.

Senator Wriedt moved a further amendment, viz.: Page 13, clause 11, sub-clause (2), after paragraph (a), insert the following new paragraph:

“(aa) after consultation with the Schools Commission, the Commonwealth Education Minister may permit the allocation of a specific amount from a school's allocation to be spent at the discretion of the school board;”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be inserted—put.

The Committee divided—

AYES, 22	
Senator—	Senator—
Bishop	McIntosh
Brown	McLaren
Button	Melzer
Cavanagh	Mulvihill
Colston	O'Byrne
Devitt	Robertson
Gietzelt	Ryan
Grimes	Sibraa
Keeffe	Walsh
McAuliffe	Wheeldon
McClelland,	<i>Teller:</i>
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Senator—	Senator—
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Guilfoyle	Townley
Hall	Walters
Jessop	Webster
Kilgariff	Wood
Knight	
Lajovic	<i>Teller:</i>
Laucke	Chaney

Amendment negated accordingly.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

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

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

14 DEFENCE FORCE RETIREMENT AND DEATH BENEFITS (PENSION INCREASES) 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 President resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator Maunsell) reported accordingly.

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

- 15 COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION 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.

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

- 16 ADJOURNMENT: The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick) moved—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

The Senate adjourned at three minutes to five p.m. till Tuesday, 18 May 1976, at half-past two p.m., unless sooner called together in accordance with the Resolution agreed to this day.

- 17 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Coleman, Davidson, Wright and Young.

J. R. ODGERS,
Clerk of the Senate