

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 30

THURSDAY, 20 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 Mulvihill presented a petition from 108 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate ensure that the embargo on entry to Lawley House is lifted, and that Lawley House remain open.

Petition received and read.

Senator Walters presented a petition from 25 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 Ryan presented a petition from 18 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 Colston presented a petition from 68 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 Missen 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 Knight presented a petition from 41 citizens of Australia similar in wording to the petition presented by Senator Missen.

Petition received and read.

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

Senator Missen, from 179 citizens of Australia praying that the immigration of teachers recruited outside Australia be prevented while students with similar university qualifications are refused entry into Diploma of Education courses, and school leavers are refused entry into the State Colleges of Victoria.

Senator Walters, from 5 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.

Senator Tehan, from 214 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate take immediate steps to continue the Australian Assistance Plan.

Petitions received.

4 QUESTIONS.

- 5 AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS—PAPER: The Minister for Administrative Services (Senator Withers), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Australian Council for the Arts—Second Annual Report, for 1974.

Senator Douglas McClelland, 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 Douglas McClelland have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.

- 6 PUBLICATIONS—STANDING COMMITTEE—THIRD REPORT: The Chairman of the Standing Publications Committee (Senator Missen) brought up the following Report of the Committee:

THIRD REPORT

The Publications Committee has the honour to report that it has met in conference with the Publications Committee of the House of Representatives.

The Joint Committee, having considered Petitions and Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, and other papers previously presented, recommends that the following be printed:

Aboriginal Hostels Limited—First Annual Report, for period 6 June 1973 to 28 June 1975, and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report for period 30 June 1974 to 28 June 1975.

Australian Film Commission Act—Australian Film Commission—First Annual Report, for period 7 March to 30 June 1975, and financial statements, together with the Auditor-General's Report, for period 5 May to 30 June 1975.

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

Bilingual education program in schools in the Northern Territory—Second Progress Report, dated December 1974.

Brisbane Airport—Economic evaluation of alternative development strategies—Report by Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport, dated July 1975.

Consumer preferences in urban buses and bus services—Report by Bureau of Transport Economics, Department of Transport—Part A—Main Report, dated December 1975.

Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Fund—Report by the Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board together with a report to the Board by the Australian Government Actuary on the assets and liabilities of the Fund at 30 September 1972.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Footwear—Interim Report, dated 31 October 1975.

Fruitgrowing—

Part A: Fruitgrowing reconstruction, dated 16 January 1976.

Part B: Apples and pears, dated 16 January 1976.

Part C: Dried vine fruit, dated 16 January 1976.

Part D: South Australian Riverland, dated 16 January 1976.

Miscellaneous industrial machinery, dated 30 December 1975.

Spectacle and sunglass frames, sunglasses, etc., dated 20 February 1976.

Tourist Accommodation industry—Short-term assistance, dated 30 November 1975.

Welding consumables and flux cored solder, dated 6 February 1976.

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

Petroleum—Royal Commission—Fourth Report entitled “The Marketing and Pricing of Petroleum Products in Australia”.

Repatriation Act—War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunals Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4—Reports for year 1974–75.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Statement of receipts and expenditure for the Australian Capital Territory for year 1974–75.

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

States Grants (Science Laboratories) Act—Statement of schools assisted by grants for year 1974–75.

Sugar Agreement Act—Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee—Forty-fourth Annual Report, and statement of receipts and expenditure certified by the Auditor-General, for year 1974–75.

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A. J. MISSEN,
Chairman

Senator Missen, by leave, moved—That the Report be adopted.

Question—put and passed.

7 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—REPORTS: Senator Baume, on behalf of the Joint Statutory Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Reports from the Committee:

One hundred and fifty-eighth Report—Expenditure from the Advance to the Treasurer (Appropriation Acts 1974–75).

One hundred and fifty-ninth Report—Treasury Minutes on the 144th and 146th Reports, together with a Summary of those Reports.

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

8 PAPERS: The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land, etc., acquired for—

Airport purposes, Brisbane, Queensland.

Pathology Laboratory, Hobart, Tasmania.

Pipeline Authority, Moomba, South Australia.

Radio Telephone Services, Moomba, South Australia.

Telecommunication Services, Wentworth Falls, New South Wales (*Corrigenda notice*).

Television Translator Station, Table Cape, Tasmania.

Statement by the Minister describing land acquired by agreement under subsection 7 (1) of the Act, for specified public purposes.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances 1976—No. 17—Misrepresentation.

9 DAYS AND TIMES OF MEETING OF SENATE AND PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—
VARIATION OF SESSIONAL ORDERS FOR THIS DAY: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), pursuant to Notice of Motion not objected to as a Formal Motion, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, on Thursday, 20 May 1976:

(1) The times of meeting of the Senate be as follows:

11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

2.15 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

8.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

(2) The Sessional Order relating to the adjournment of the Senate have effect at half-past ten p.m.

(3) Government Business take precedence of General Business after three p.m.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), pursuant to Notice of Motion not objected to as a Formal Motion, moved—That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) making a Ministerial Statement at eight p.m. on Thursday, 20 May 1976, and, when making the Statement, speaking without limitation of time.

Question—put and passed.

Senator Douglas McClelland, by leave, made a statement.

- 11 DAYS AND TIMES OF MEETING OF SENATE AND PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS— VARIATION OF SESSIONAL ORDERS FOR REMAINDER OF PERIOD OF SITTINGS: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), pursuant to notice, moved—That, unless otherwise ordered, on and from Tuesday, 25 May 1976, and for the remainder of this period of sittings:

(1) The Sessional Order relating to the days and times of meeting of the Senate be varied to be as follows:

Tuesday	2.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. 8.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.
Wednesday	2.15 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. 8.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.
Thursday	10.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. 2.15 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. 8.00 p.m. to 11.00 p.m.

(2) The Sessional Order relating to the adjournment of the Senate have effect at the terminating time each day.

(3) Government Business take precedence of General Business after three p.m. on Thursdays.

Question—put and passed.

- 12 SUSPENSION OF SITTING TO ENABLE ESTIMATES COMMITTEES TO MEET: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers) moved—That the sitting of the Senate be suspended till eight p.m. to enable Estimates Committees C, D and F to meet.

Question—put and passed.

Suspension of Sitting: At twenty-two minutes past twelve o'clock midday the sitting of the Senate was suspended till eight p.m.

The Senate having resumed—

- 13 ECONOMIC POLICY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) made a statement relating to the implementation of the Government's economic policy and, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Statement.

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.

- 14 GUIDELINES FOR TRIENNIAL REPORTS OF EDUCATION COMMISSIONS AND OTHER MEASURES—
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick), by leave, made a statement relating to guidelines for triennial reports of education commissions and other measures and moved—That the Senate take note of the Statement. 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.
- 15 GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—PROPOSED PROGRAMME—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, made a statement relating to the proposed programme of Government Business next week.
Senators Douglas McClelland and Georges, by leave, made statements relating thereto.
- 16 ROADS ACTS AMENDMENT 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, debated and agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

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- 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.
- 17 ACTS CITATION 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.

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- The President resumed the Chair; and the Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman) reported accordingly.
On the motion of the Minister for Administrative Services (Senator Withers) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.
- 18 AUDIT 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. 60

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Audit Act 1901-1975'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 19 May 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Douglas McClelland the debate was adjourned.

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

- 19 STEVEDORING INDUSTRY (TEMPORARY PROVISIONS) 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. 61

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Stevedoring Industry (Temporary Provisions) Act 1967-1974'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 19 May 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Button the debate was adjourned.

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

- 20 STEVEDORING INDUSTRY CHARGE 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. 62

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to extend the operation of the 'Stevedoring Industry Charge Act 1975'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 19 May 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Button the debate was adjourned.

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

- 21 ADJOURNMENT: The Senate adjourned at eight minutes past ten p.m. till Tuesday next at half-past two p.m.
- 22 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Brown, Coleman, Davidson, Devitt, Greenwood, McAuliffe, Melzer and O'Byrne.

J. R. ODGERS,
Clerk of the Senate