

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 53

TUESDAY, 5 OCTOBER 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 AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, made a statement informing the Senate that His Excellency the Governor-General this day determined the appointment of Senator the Hon. Peter Durack as Minister for Repatriation and appointed him as Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Senator Withers also informed the Senate of changes to the Administrative Arrangements Order made this day.

He further stated that, during the absence overseas of Mr Lynch, Mr Robinson would act as Treasurer, and during the absence overseas of Mr Street, Mr Howard would act as Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations.

- 4 PETITIONS: Senator Ryan presented a petition from 35 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 Ryan presented a petition from 85 citizens of Australia praying that the Government reverse its decision to re-introduce school bus fares in the Australian Capital Territory.

Petition received and read.

Senator Ryan presented two petitions, similar in wording, from 82 and 257 citizens of Australia praying that the Government substantially increase and index grants under the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme and not introduce fees for students.

Petitions received and one petition read.

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

Senator Carrick, from 49 citizens of Australia praying that the Government substantially increase and index grants under the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme and not introduce fees for students.

Senator Martin, from 80 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate make certain amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976.

Senator Bonner, from 44 citizens of Australia praying that the Government withdraw its proposed changes to Medibank.

Petitions received.

- 5 NOTICE OF MOTION: Senator Wood gave a Notice of Motion as follows—That, ten sitting days after today, he would move—That the *Industrial Relations Ordinance* 1976, as contained in Christmas Island Ordinance No. 1 of 1976, and made under the *Christmas Island Act* 1958, be disallowed.

Senator Wood, by leave, made a statement relating to the Notice of Motion.

6 QUESTIONS.

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. 35

Proposed law intituled:—

Family Law Amendment Act (No. 2) 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, 28 September 1976

JOHN R. KERR,

Governor-General

Message No. 36

Proposed laws intituled:—

Health Insurance Levy Act (No. 2) 1976

Health Insurance Levy Assessment Act (No. 2) 1976

National Health Amendment Act (No. 2) 1976

Health Insurance Commission Amendment Act (No. 2) 1976

Health Insurance Amendment Act (No. 2) 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, 29 September 1976

JOHN R. KERR,

Governor-General

Message No. 37

Proposed law intituled:—

Social Welfare Commission (Repeal) 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, 29 September 1976

8 AUSTRALIAN WOOL CORPORATION—INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT 1975–76—PAPER: The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Australian Wool Corporation—Interim Annual Report, for year 1975–76.

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

9 AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL—RESOLUTIONS OF 98TH MEETING—PAPER: The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Australian Agricultural Council—Resolutions of the 98th Meeting of the Council, held in Bundaberg, Queensland, on 2–3 August 1976.

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

10 AUSTRALIAN WINE BOARD—INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT 1975–76—PAPER: The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Australian Wine Board—Interim Annual Report, for year 1975–76.

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

- 11 LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORPORATION—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE PROCEDURES—PAPER:
The Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Durack), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Lockheed Aircraft Corporation—Agreement between Australia and the United States of America concerning procedures for mutual assistance in administration of justice in connection with the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation matter, signed at Washington on 13 September 1976.

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.

- 12 PAPERS: The following Paper was presented by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Estimates of Proposed Expenditure for year 1976–77—Explanatory notes of departments and authorities—Darwin Reconstruction Commission.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Australian Tourist Commission Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 208.

Broadcasting and Television Act—Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Australian Broadcasting Control Board, together with financial statement and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1975–76.

Christmas Island Act—Ordinances 1976—No. 4—Associations Incorporation.

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment—G. W. Kemp.

Defence Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 Nos 204, 205.

Defence Act, Naval Defence Act, Air Force Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 197.

Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 Nos 196, 207.

Dried Fruits Levy Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 200.

Foreign Takeovers Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 203.

Health Insurance Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 Nos 202, 214, 215, 216.

Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 212.

Judiciary Act—Rule of the High Court of Australia, dated 20 September 1976.

Lighthouses Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 211.

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances 1976—

No. 40—Radiographers.

No. 41—Hospitals and Medical Services.

No. 42—Adoption of Children.

No. 43—Administrator's Council.

No. 44—Interpretation.

No. 45—Disposal of Uncollected Goods.

Papua New Guinea (Members of the Forces Benefits) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 209.

Pollution of the Sea by Oil (Shipping Levy) Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 210.

Prices Justification Act—Third Annual Report of the Prices Justification Tribunal, for year 1975–76.

Quarantine Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 206.

Remuneration and Allowances Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 179
(*in substitution for Paper of same title, tabled on 7 September 1976*).

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Consumer Affairs Ordinance—Third Annual Report on the operations of the Consumer Affairs Council and the Consumer Affairs Bureau, for year 1975–76.

Variation of the Plan of Layout of the City of Canberra and its Environs, dated 1 October 1976.

Superannuation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 201.

Trade Commissioners Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 199.

- 13 AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON PROPOSALS FOR VARIATIONS OF THE PLAN OF LAY-OUT OF THE CITY OF CANBERRA AND ITS ENVIRONS: The Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Australian Capital Territory (Senator Knight) brought up the Report of the Committee on Proposals for Variations of the Plan of Lay-out of the City of Canberra and its Environs (Sixtieth and Sixty-first Series).

Ordered to be printed.

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

- 14 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 fifteen minutes past ten p.m., or such time as the President may take the Chair, to enable Estimates Committees A, B and C to meet.

Question—put and passed.

Suspension of Sitting: At eleven minutes to four p.m., the sitting of the Senate was suspended till fifteen minutes past ten p.m.

The Senate having resumed—

- 15 COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Science (Senator Webster), by leave, made a statement relating to a Government decision to appoint an independent Committee of Inquiry to review the objectives, structure and programs of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

Senator Georges, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Statement.

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

- 16 ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS—FINANCES—PAPER—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Department of Aboriginal Affairs—Delivery of Services—Report by Mr D. O. Hay, C.B.E., D.S.O., entitled “Review of Delivery of Services financed by Department of Aboriginal Affairs”, dated June 1976.

Senator Guilfoyle, by leave, made a statement relating to the Paper and the provision of additional funds for Aboriginal Affairs programs.

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

- 17 LEBANESE MIGRATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle), by leave, made a statement relating to Government initiatives on Lebanese migration to Australia.

Senator Mulvihill, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Statement.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

19 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Brown, Button, Cavanagh, Sir Magnus Cormack (on leave), Greenwood (on leave), McAuliffe (on leave), James McClelland, Melzer (on leave), Primmer, Scott (on leave), Wriedt, and Young (on leave).

J. R. ODGERS,
Clerk of the Senate