

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 54

WEDNESDAY, 6 OCTOBER 1976

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- 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 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER MR D. E. COSTA: The President informed the Senate of the death, on 23 September 1976, of Dominic Eric Costa, a Member of the House of Representatives for the Division of Banks (N.S.W.) from 1949 to 1969.

All Senators present rose and stood in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the former Member.

- 4 PETITIONS: Senator Davidson presented a petition from 1110 citizens of Australia praying that a special grant of funds be made for the St Albans Community Health Centre building programme.

Petition received and read.

Senator Gietzelt presented a petition from 20 citizens of Australia praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be preserved.

Petition received and read.

Senator Bishop presented a petition from 119 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate implement a total economic boycott of South Africa and take certain other action in relation to that country.

Petition received and read.

Senator Brown presented a petition from 68 citizens of Australia praying that the Government reconsider its decision to re-introduce the Cadet scheme.

Petition received and read.

Senator Walsh presented a petition from 321 citizens of Australia praying that the Government not re-introduce radio and television licence fees.

Petition received and read.

Senator Colston presented a petition from 28 citizens of Australia praying that the Government reconsider its decision to cut the budgets of St Luke's Hospital, Garden Settlement and other institutions providing care for the aged within Queensland.

Petition received and read.

Senator Davidson presented a petition from 160 citizens of Australia praying that the Australian Government use its diplomatic resources to secure the well-being and release of Gunars Rode and other prisoners of conscience in Soviet prisons.

Petition received and read.

Senator Brown presented a petition from 135 citizens of Australia praying that the Government reaffirm its election promise to support Medibank on the universal basis upon which it was introduced by the previous Government.

Petition received and read.

Senator Brown presented a petition from 41 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.

The Clerk announced that Senator Colston had lodged a petition for presentation, viz.:  
From 49 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate ensure that agreements between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments relating to health matters be maintained and that Medibank not be altered in cost or complexity.

Petition received.

# 5 QUESTIONS.

- 6 STUDENT ASSISTANCE SCHEMES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick), by leave, made a statement relating to a review of Student Assistance Schemes and moved—That the Senate take note of the Statement.

Debate ensued.

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

- 7 URGENCY MOTION: The President informed the Senate that he had received a letter from Senator Keeffe advising that this day he intended to move—"That in the opinion of the Senate the following is a matter of urgency: The failure of the Government to rectify the critical unemployment situation in Australia, and in particular the serious problems now confronting those under 20 years of age."

And at least four Senators having risen in support of the motion—

*Proposed suspension of Standing Order 64:* Senator Harradine moved—That so much of Standing Order 64 be suspended as would prevent time being made for any Senator from the State of Tasmania speaking on the matter of urgency concerning unemployment, which in Tasmania is at a higher level than any other State.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

Senator Keeffe thereupon moved the motion relating to the matter of urgency.

Debate ensued.

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

*Motion to table document:* Senator Brown, pursuant to Standing Order 364, moved—That the document quoted from by Senator Archer during his speech be laid upon the Table.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

Question—That the Question be now put—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 29		NOES, 21	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Archer	Martin	Bishop	McIntosh
Baume	Maunsell	Brown	McLaren
Bonner	Messner	Button	Mulvihill
Carrick	Missen	Cameron	O'Byrne
Collard	Rae	Coleman	Robertson
Cotton	Sheil	Colston	Ryan
Davidson	Sim	Devitt	Sibraa
Durack	Tehan	Gietzelt	Wheeldon
Guilfoyle	Thomas	Grimes	
Hall	Townley	Harradine	
Jessop	Walters	Keeffe	
Kilgariff	Wood	McClelland,	<i>Teller:</i>
Knight	Wright	Douglas	Georges
Lajovic	<i>Teller:</i>		
Laucke	Chaney		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Main Question (Senator Keffe's motion)—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 21		NOES, 29	
Senator—	Senator—	Senator—	Senator—
Bishop	McIntosh	Archer	Martin
Brown	McLaren	Baume	Maunsell
Button	Mulvihill	Bonner	Messner
Cameron	O'Byrne	Carrick	Missen
Coleman	Robertson	Collard	Rae
Colston	Ryan	Cotton	Sheil
Devitt	Sibraa	Davidson	Sim
Gietzelt	Wheeldon	Durack	Tehan
Grimes		Guilfoyle	Thomas
Harradine		Hall	Townley
Keffe		Jessop	Walters
McClelland,	<i>Teller:</i>	Kilgariff	Wood
Douglas	Georges	Knight	Wright
		Lajovic	<i>Teller:</i>
		Laucke	Chaney

And so it was negatived.

- 8 AUSTRALIAN DAIRY 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 Dairy Corporation—Interim Annual Report, for year 1975-76.

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

- 9 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION—CRUDE OIL PRICING—PAPER: The Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Durack), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Industries Assistance Commission—Report—Crude Oil Pricing, dated 30 September 1976.

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.

- 10 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION—ANNUAL REPORT 1975-76—PAPERS: The Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Durack), pursuant to Statute, laid upon the Table the following Papers:

Industries Assistance Commission Act—

Annual Report of the Industries Assistance Commission, for year 1975-76.

Statement by the Minister on action taken in respect of Reports under Part IV of the Act.

Senator Keffe, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the Papers.

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.

- 11 INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION—TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY—REPORT ON PAPER—PAPER: The Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Durack), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Industries Assistance Commission—Temporary Assistance Authority—Report—Paper, dated 25 August 1976.

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.

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

Christmas Island—Report on the Territory of Christmas Island, for period 1 July 1972—31 December 1975.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Family Law Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 213.

Lands Acquisition Act—Land, etc., acquired for—

Approach lighting system for Sydney Airport, St. Peters, New South Wales.

Pipeline Authority, Parishes of Monos, Machado, Tualta, John and Omicron, Queensland.

Telecommunications services, Dunham Hill, Western Australia.

National Health Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 217.

- 13 NEXT MEETING OF SENATE: The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) moved—That the Senate, at its rising, adjourn till tomorrow at half-past ten a.m.  
Question—put and passed.

- 14 EXPORT FINANCE AND INSURANCE CORPORATION 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.

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*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 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.

- 15 HANDICAPPED PERSONS ASSISTANCE 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.

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*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 Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

- 16 TELEVISION STATIONS LICENCE FEES 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.

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*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 Education (Senator Carrick) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

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

Debate ensued.

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*Paper:* Senator Sheil, by leave, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Nema Constructions Pty Ltd—Allegations—Letter, dated 21 September 1976, from Mr H. R. Hamilton, State Secretary, Building Workers Industrial Union of Australia (Queensland Branch) to Mr Bill Stockwell, Nema Constructions Pty Ltd, concerning allegations in relation to Nema Constructions Pty Ltd.

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Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

The Senate adjourned at twenty-seven minutes to twelve o'clock midnight till tomorrow at half-past ten a.m.

18 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators 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