

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 56

TUESDAY, 12 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 ARRANGEMENTS: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, informed the Senate that, during the absence overseas of Mr Peacock, Mr Sinclair would act as Minister for Foreign Affairs.

4 PETITIONS: Senator Bonner presented a petition from 17 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate make certain amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976.

Petition received.

Senator Brown presented a petition from 51 citizens of Australia praying that the Government substantially increase and index grants under the Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme and not introduce fees for students.

Petition received and read.

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

Senator Withers (two), from 219 and 35 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate insist that the Budget provide for specific measures to increase building activity.

Senator Withers, from 210 citizens of Australia praying that the Government recommence the employment of articled clerks in the Attorney-General's Department.

Senator Button, from 110 citizens of Australia praying that the Government observe the promise in the Prime Minister's election speech to maintain Medibank and standards of health care.

Senators Webster and Rae, similar in wording, from 24 and 23 citizens of Australia, respectively, praying that the Government restore the Imperial system of measurement.

Senator Scott, from 187 citizens of Australia praying that the Government act to improve certain social security benefits for pensioners.

Senator Tehan, from 265 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, and that protection from imports of powdered goats' milk be given to the goats' milk production industry.

Petitions received.

5 QUESTIONS.

6 DISTINGUISHED VISITORS: The President drew attention to the presence in the gallery of a delegation from the Federal Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, led by Vice-President Rudi Kolac, and, on behalf of honourable Senators, extended to members of the delegation a warm welcome.

7 PERSONAL EXPLANATION: Senator Brown, by leave, made a personal explanation relating to a report appearing in the Sydney newspaper, *The Sun*, on 7 October 1976.

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

Airports (Surface Traffic) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 223.

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 219.

Dairy Adjustment Act—Dairy Adjustment Programs—Amending agreements between the Australian Government and—
Victorian Government, dated 31 August 1976.

Western Australian Government, dated 1 September 1976.

Defence Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 220.

Lands Acquisition Act—Statement by the Minister describing land acquired by agreement under sub-section 7 (1) of the Act, for specified public purposes.

Navigation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 224.

Public Works Committee Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 218.

Science and Industry Research Act—Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, together with financial statements and the Auditor-General's Report thereon, for year 1975–76.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances 1976—

No. 48—Remand Centres.

Regulations 1976—

No. 16—(Companies Ordinance).

No. 17—(Remand Centres Ordinance).

No. 18—(Health Commission Ordinance).

Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 221.

Telecommunications Act—By-laws 1976—Telecommunications (Charging Zones and Charging Districts) Amendment No. 5.

Wireless Telegraphy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 222.

9 NATIONAL HIGHWAYS—COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF ROADS—PAPER: The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

National Highways—Report by the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads on Standards for Construction and Maintenance of National Highways (1975).

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

10 FAWNMAC GROUP—ANNUAL REPORT 1975–76—PAPER: The Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Fawnmac Group—Annual Report and financial statements of the Fawnmac Group of Companies, for year 1975–76.

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

11 LEAVE OF ABSENCE: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers), by leave, moved—That Senator Greenwood be granted leave of absence for two months on account of ill-health.

Question—put and passed.

12 ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR INTER-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 127

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to establish an Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 7 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

Senator Carrick 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.

- 13 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 D, E and F to meet.

Question—put and passed.

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

The Senate having resumed—

- 14 AIR FORCE 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. 128

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to the establishment of an Air Training Corps*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 7 October 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 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 AUSTRALIA COUNCIL 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. 129

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

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 7 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

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.

- 16 AUSTRALIAN FILM COMMISSION 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. 130

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

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 7 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

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.

- 17 AUSTRALIAN FILM AND TELEVISION SCHOOL 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. 131

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Film and Television School Act 1973'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 8 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

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.

- 18 ADJOURNMENT: The Minister for Social Security (Senator Guilfoyle) moved—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

- 19 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Collard, Greenwood (on leave), McAuliffe (on leave), James McClelland, McIntosh, Primmer, Ryan, and Young (on leave).

J. R. ODGERS,

Clerk of the Senate