

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 59

TUESDAY, 19 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 PETITIONS: Senator Melzer presented a petition from 780 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.

Petition received and read.

The Clerk announced that Senator Ryan had lodged a petition for presentation, viz.: From 112 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.

- 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 relating to the Protection of Certain Shipwrecks and Relics of Historic Significance.

5 QUESTIONS.

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

Health Transport—Report by the Hospitals and Health Services Commission, entitled "Health Transport Policies for Australia", dated April 1976.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute:

Apple and Pear Stabilization Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 226.

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment—G. K. Abram.

Export Market Development Grants Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 228.

Homes Savings Grant Act—Twelfth Annual Report on the administration and operation of the Act, for year 1975–76.

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

Migration Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 225.

National Health Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 227.

Public Service Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1976 No. 229.

- 7 ESTIMATES COMMITTEES B AND F—REPORTS: Pursuant to Order, Senators Maunsell and Rae brought up the Reports from Estimates Committees B and F, respectively, on the Particulars of Proposed Expenditure for the year 1976–77, together with the respective *Hansard* records of the Committees' proceedings.

Ordered—That the Reports be printed.

Senator Rae, by leave, made a statement relating to the Report from Estimates Committee F.

- 8 BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY—FLOOD WARNINGS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: The Minister for Science (Senator Webster), by leave, made a statement relating to flood warnings by the Bureau of Meteorology.

Senator Ryan, by leave, made a statement relating thereto.

- 9 NEXT MEETING OF SENATE: The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Withers) moved—That the Senate, at its rising, adjourn till tomorrow at three p.m., or such later time as the President may take the Chair.

Question—put and passed.

- 10 LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Senator Georges, by leave, moved—That Senator James McClelland be granted leave of absence for one month.

Question—put and passed.

- 11 HANDICAPPED PERSONS ASSISTANCE 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. 132

The House of Representatives returns to the Senate the Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Handicapped Persons Assistance Act 1974' to increase the Handicapped Children's Benefit, and with respect to certain formal matters*", and acquaints the Senate that the House of Representatives has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 14 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

- 12 SOCIAL SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL (No. 3) 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 133

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

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 18 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Grimes the debate was adjourned.

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

- 13 NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT BILL (No. 3) 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 135

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'National Health Act 1953', and for related purposes*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 18 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Grimes the debate was adjourned.

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

- 14 HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 136

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

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 18 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

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

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Grimes the debate was adjourned.

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

- 15 REPATRIATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 134

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Repatriation and related Matters*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 18 October 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,
Speaker

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs (Senator Durack) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Grimes the debate was adjourned.

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

- 16 CHRISTMAS ISLAND AGREEMENT BILL 1976: Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Senator Douglas McClelland moved an amendment, viz.: At end of motion, add " , but the Senate is of the opinion that a public enquiry should be held into the terms of the *Christmas Island Agreement Act 1958* and the operations of the Christmas Island Phosphate Commission and the British Phosphate Commission ".

Debate continued.

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

The Senate divided—

| AYES, 23 | | NOES, 33 | |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Senator— | Senator— | Senator— | Senator— |
| Bishop | McIntosh | Archer | Maunsell |
| Brown | McLaren | Baume | Messner |
| Button | Melzer | Bonner | Missen |
| Cameron | Mulvihill | Carrick | Rae |
| Cavanagh | Ryan | Collard | Scott |
| Coleman | Sibraa | Cormack, | Sheil |
| Colston | Walsh | Sir Magnus | Sim |
| Devitt | Wheeldon | Davidson | Tehan |
| Gietzelt | Wriedt | Drake-Brockman | Thomas |
| Grimes | | Durack | Townley |
| Harradine | | Guilfoyle | Walters |
| Keeffe | | Hall | Webster |
| McClelland, | <i>Teller:</i> | Jessop | Withers |
| Douglas | Georges | Kilgariff | Wood |
| | | Knight | Wright |
| | | Lajovic | |
| | | Laucke | <i>Teller:</i> |
| | | Martin | Chaney |

Amendment negatived accordingly.

Question—That this Bill be now read a second time—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.

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.

- 17 ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR INTER-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS 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.

And it being half-past ten p.m.—

- 18 ADJOURNMENT: The Deputy-President (Senator Drake-Brockman), under Sessional Order, put the Question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—resolved in the affirmative.

The Senate adjourned at twenty-seven minutes to twelve o'clock midnight till to-morrow at three p.m., or such later time as the President may take the Chair.

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

J. R. ODGERS,
Clerk of the Senate