

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 64

THURSDAY, 4 NOVEMBER 1976

- 1 MEETING OF SENATE: The Senate met at half-past ten a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The President (Senator the Honourable Condor L. Laucke) took the Chair.

## 2 PRAYERS.

- 3 PETITIONS: Senator Keffe presented a petition from 178 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate make certain amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976.

Petition received.

On the motion of Senator Keffe, the petition, exceeding 250 words, was read.

Senator Georges presented two petitions, similar in wording, from 123 and 210 citizens of Australia praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be preserved.

Petitions received and one petition read.

The Clerk announced that Senator Hall had lodged a petition for presentation, viz.:

From 104 citizens of Australia praying that the Senate make certain amendments to the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Bill 1976.

Petition received.

## 4 QUESTIONS.

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

Australian Defence—Report presented to Parliament by the Minister for Defence, the Hon. D. J. Killen, dated November 1976.

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

- 6 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 147

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to Authorize a further contribution by Australia to the Asian Development Bank for the purposes of the Asian Development Fund*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 2 November 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 Keffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 7 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (SPECIAL FUNDS CONTRIBUTIONS) 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. 148

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Asian Development Bank (Special Funds Contributions) Act 1970'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 2 November 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 Keeffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 8 ESTATE DUTY ASSESSMENT 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. 144

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Estate Duty Assessment Act 1914'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 2 November 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,  
Speaker

The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Keeffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 9 EXPORT FINANCE AND INSURANCE CORPORATION 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. 145

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Act 1974'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 2 November 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,  
Speaker

The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Keeffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 10 STATES GRANTS (FRUIT-GROWING RECONSTRUCTION) BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 146

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to an Agreement between the Commonwealth and the States with respect to the Provision of Assistance to Persons engaged in Fruit-growing*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 2 November 1976

B. M. SNEDDEN,  
Speaker

The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton) moved—That the Bill may be taken through all its stages without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

On the motion of Senator Keffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 11 NAURU (HIGH COURT APPEALS) BILL 1976—*Message from the House of Representatives*: The following Message from the House of Representatives was received and read:

MR PRESIDENT,

Message No. 149

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Appeals to the High Court from the Supreme Court of Nauru*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 2 November 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 Keffe the debate was adjourned.

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

- 12 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1976-77: The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the further consideration of the Bill.

*In the Committee*

Schedule 2 further considered.

Group A—

The following Votes were passed:

Divisions—

- 130-161 Administrative Services, \$239,997,000 (after further debate);
- 250 Rent (*Defence*), \$29,300,000;
- 252 Acquisition of Sites and Buildings (*Defence*), \$4,966,000;
- 101-109 Parliament, \$13,229,000 (after debate);
- 500-520 Prime Minister and Cabinet, \$83,429,000 (after debate);
- 430-436 National Resources, \$47,647,000 (after debate);
- 305-308 Foreign Affairs, \$432,127,000 (after debate); and
- 230-242 Defence, \$1,838,405,000.

Group B—

The following Votes were, by leave, taken together and passed:

Divisions—

- 380-387 Industry and Commerce, \$164,833,000;

- 470-474 Overseas Trade, \$65,299,000;
- 670-678 Treasury, \$251,644,000;
- 680 Advance to the Treasurer, \$110,000,000; and
- 490-497 Primary Industry, \$52,827,000.

Group C—

The following Votes were, by leave, taken together and debated:

Divisions—

- 270-281 Education, \$380,005,000;
  - 655-662 Transport, \$254,721,000;
  - 480-483 Postal and Telecommunications, \$151,294,000;
  - 296-303 Environment, Housing and Community Development, \$61,769,000; and
  - 248 Housing for Servicemen—Advances to States (*Defence*), \$36,200,000.
- Ordered—That the Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman) report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The President resumed the Chair; and Senator Drake-Brockman reported that the Committee had considered the Bill and had made progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered—That the Committee have leave to sit again at a later hour of the day.

13 EDUCATION COMMISSIONS—PROGRAMS FOR TRIENNium 1977-79—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:

The Minister for Education (Senator Carrick), by leave, made a statement relating to the programs of the Universities Commission, the Commission on Advanced Education, the Technical and Further Education Commission and the Schools Commission for the triennium 1977-79.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wriedt), 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 Wriedt have leave to continue his speech on the resumption of the debate.

14 CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION 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. 150

The House of Representatives transmits to the Senate a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904'*", in which it desires the concurrence of the Senate.

House of Representatives,  
Canberra, 4 November 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 Georges the debate was adjourned.

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

15 SUGAR AGREEMENT 1975—PRICE VARIATIONS—PAPER: The Minister for Industry and Commerce (Senator Cotton), by Command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper:

Sugar Agreement 1975—Exchange of letters, dated 25 August and 6 October 1976, between the Prime Minister and the Premier of Queensland concerning price variations to the Sugar Agreement 1975.

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

- 16 APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 1976-77: The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the further consideration of the Bill.

*In the Committee*

Schedule 2 further considered.

Group C—

The following Votes were further debated and passed:

Divisions—

- 270-281 Education, \$380,005,000;
- 655-662 Transport, \$254,721,000;
- 480-483 Postal and Telecommunications, \$151,294,000;
- 296-303 Environment, Housing and Community Development, \$61,769,000; and
- 248 Housing for Servicemen—Advances to States (*Defence*), \$36,200,000.

Group D—

The following Votes were, by leave, taken together and debated:

Divisions—

- 590-592 Social Security, \$215,404,000;
- 325-335 Health, \$1,803,485,000;
- 340-344 Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, \$32,975,000; and
- 120-125 Aboriginal Affairs, \$81,529,000.

*And it being eleven p.m.:* The Chairman of Committees (Senator Drake-Brockman), under Sessional Order, put the Question—That he do leave the Chair and report to the Senate.

Question—resolved in the affirmative.

The President resumed the Chair; and Senator Drake-Brockman reported accordingly.

- 17 ADJOURNMENT: The President, under Sessional Order, put the Question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—resolved in the affirmative.

The Senate adjourned at fifteen minutes to twelve o'clock midnight till Tuesday next at half-past two p.m.

- 18 ATTENDANCE: Present, all Senators except Senators Harradine, Martin, and Young (on leave).

J. R. ODGERS,  
Clerk of the Senate