THE SENATE

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (TARGETED ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT (2008 BUDGET MEASURES) BILL 2008

Second Reading

SPEECH

Thursday, 19 June 2008

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE
Senator BERNARDI (South Australia) (1.39 pm)—The coalition supports the Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment (2008 Budget Measures) Bill 2008 in its entirety. It is an uncontroversial bill but it does build upon what has hitherto been a bipartisan approach to improving the education and literacy and numeracy of Indigenous students. This bill appropriates a modest amount of money to carry through for the next financial year in which literacy and numerous other programs can be built upon and it will also assist with boarding house measures which are very similar to the previous coalition government’s policy. We support this bill. It is a very important continuation of the previous coalition government’s determination for Aboriginal Australians to have a better go. Accordingly, I flag our complete support for this bill.