

1990

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM BILL 1989 [1990]

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Amendments and New Clauses to be Moved
on Behalf of the Government

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for
the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories,
the Hon. Ros Kelly, MP)

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM BILL 1989 [1990]

OUTLINE

The purpose of the Bill is to establish the Australian National Maritime Museum (the Museum) as a statutory authority. The functions of the Museum will include exhibiting, in co-operation with other public and private institutions, maritime historical material in the national maritime collection or otherwise held by the Museum; developing, preserving and maintaining the national maritime collection and informing the community on Australian maritime history and on the Museum itself.

The Council of the Museum is to ensure the proper and efficient performance of the functions of the Museum. The Minister will have the power to give a direction to the Council with respect to the performance of a function, or the exercise of a power. The Council must comply with any such direction which, under the amendments proposed, must be tabled in Parliament.

The Museum will submit three year strategic plans and annual operational plans to the Minister. The strategic plans are to be tabled in Parliament within 15 sitting days of approval by the Minister. The amendments will ensure that the Museum's annual report will include details of strategic and annual operational plans and directions given by the Minister in that year.

The purpose of the amendments is to give the Council greater flexibility in considering options for the disposal of items from the national maritime collection and to assist in the scrutiny of the Museum's operations by Parliament.

Financial Impact Statement

These amendments will have no financial implications.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Amendment 1 - Clause 10 - Disposal of material in national maritime collection

This amendment deletes the existing subclause 10(3) and inserts a new subclause which increases the range of initial options available to the Council when material is to be disposed of from the national maritime collection. The clause currently provides that the sale of any item be the first option considered. The new clause increases the range of initial options to sale, exchange or gift.

Amendment 2 - Clause 14 - Directions to Council

This amendment inserts two subclauses - 14(3) and 14(4), requiring the Minister to table in each House of Parliament a copy of each direction given to the Council within 6 sitting days after the direction is given. If a direction is not tabled in the time allowed, it will cease to have effect. The amendment will assist scrutiny of the Museum's operations by Parliament.

Amendment 3 - Clause 48 - Application to Museum of Division 3 of Part XI of the Audit Act

This amendment deletes the existing subclause 48(3) and inserts a new subclause requiring the Museum to include in its annual report each year:

- . each direction given to the Council by the Minister during that year;
- . the approved operational plan (and any revisions) for that year, and
- . an assessment of the Museum's performance against the strategic plan and annual operational plan which relate to that year.

