

1980-81

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
THE SENATE

(Presented pursuant to leave granted and read 1^o, 9 June 1981)

(SENATOR MCLAREN)

No. 144

A BILL

FOR

An Act to provide for the promotion of research and planning in connection with freshwater resources and for that purpose to establish an Australian Institute of Freshwater Studies

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen, and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Institute of Freshwater Studies Act 1981*.

Commencement

2. This Act shall come into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

Interpretation

3. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—
“the Council” means the Council of the Institute;

“the Institute” means the Australian Institute of Freshwater Studies provided for by this Act;

“the Interim Council” means the Interim Council for the Institute.

Establishment of Institute

4. (1) There shall be an institute to be known as the Australian Institute of Freshwater Studies.

(2) The Institute shall be governed by a Council, to be constituted as provided by the Parliament after the Minister has received recommendations of the Interim Council with respect to the constitution of the Council.

(3) On and after a date to be fixed by Proclamation, being a date after persons to constitute the Council have been appointed, the Institute—

- (a) shall be a body corporate under the name “Australian Institute of Freshwater Studies”;
- (b) shall have a seal;
- (c) shall have power to acquire, hold and dispose of real and personal property; and
- (d) may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

Functions of Institute

5. The Institute shall have such functions and powers in relation to freshwater management and research and associated matters as the Parliament provides after the Minister has received recommendations of the Interim Council with respect to those functions and powers.

Interim Council

6. (1) There shall be an Interim Council for the Institute.

(2) The Interim Council shall consist of a Chairman and four other members.

(3) The Chairman and members of the Interim Council shall be appointed by the Minister.

(4) At least two members of the Interim Council shall be persons possessing scientific qualifications relevant to freshwater science.

(5) The Chairman and each member of the Interim Council hold office during the pleasure of the Minister.

(6) Meetings of the Interim Council may be convened by the Chairman.

(7) The Chairman and each member of the Interim Council shall be paid such fees and allowances as the Minister respectively determines.

(8) The Interim Council shall cease to exist when the first members of the Council are appointed.

Functions of Interim Council

7. (1) The functions of the Interim Council are to make recommendations to the Minister with respect to matters related to the establishment of the Institute, including recommendations with respect to—

- (a) the functions and powers of the Institute;
- (b) the constitution of the Council;
- (c) the site of the seat of the Institute; and
- (d) co-operation with any Department or authority of the Government of the Commonwealth or a State, university or other institution or person carrying out research in freshwater science or related areas,

and to furnish to the Minister estimates of the capital and recurrent costs of the Institute.

(2) In making recommendations with respect to the functions of the Institute, the Interim Council shall give consideration to the need for—

- (a) information and research necessary to provide for the efficient management by the Commonwealth and the relevant States of the inter-state river systems, with particular reference to be given to the River Murray and its tributaries;
- (b) information and research in relation to the biological, environmental, economic and physical aspects of freshwater science; and
- (c) development of appropriate technology for the efficient use of water resources.

(3) The Interim Council may make such inquiries, and confer with such persons and authorities, as it thinks necessary for the purpose of performing its functions.

