

**ACTS AMENDMENT (AUSTRALIAN DATUM) BILL 2000**

*Second Reading*

Resumed from 6 September.

**HON TOM STEPHENS** (Mining and Pastoral - Leader of the Opposition) [5.52 pm]: I have a long speech in front of me for this Bill, but out of kindness to the Government I shall simply express the support of the Opposition for this legislation. I have discovered, however, that the kinder one is to government members, the nastier they are in return.

**HON NORM KELLY** (East Metropolitan) [5.53 pm]: Australia's wartime leader said that we need to look to the United States of America. As a result of this Bill, we shall shift 200 metres towards the United States of America with the implementation of the new geocentric datum of Australia. It uses the centre of the earth as a reference point. Although in a sense it distorts the geographical coordinate system for Australia, it is a more accurate system on a worldwide basis for geographical plotting. It replaces the geodesic datum, which was established in 1966, and it reflects improved geographical technology that has occurred in the past three months. The Australian Democrats support the Bill.

**HON J.A. SCOTT** (South Metropolitan) [5.54 pm]: The Greens (WA) also support this legislation, which is simply updating our regulation of the measuring industry by taking note of the changes in technology. That technology has now been used pretty widely for probably 14 or 15 years, so it is about time it was incorporated into legislation. I believe it will be of great benefit to all people who require the use of surveys and it will make the life of many people rather easier.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*Committee*

The Chairman of Committees (Hon J.A. Cowdell) in the Chair; Hon N.F. Moore (Leader of the House) in charge of the Bill.

**Clauses 1 to 3 put and passed.**

**Clause 4: *Land Administration Act 1997* amended -**

Hon N.F. MOORE: I move -

Page 3, line 9 - To delete "After" and substitute "Before".

Page 3, line 10 - To delete "in Part 1".

Page 3, line 12 - To delete "**6A.**" and substitute "**5A.**"

In its present form, clause 4 inserts proposed new section 6A to the Land Administration Act. However, the Native Title (State Provisions) Act has already inserted a new section 6A in the Land Administration Act. Therefore, clause 4 will need to be amended to redesignate the proposed new section 6A to read "section 5A".

**Amendments put and passed.**

**Clause, as amended, put and passed.**

**Clauses 5 to 8 put and passed.**

**Title put and passed.**

*Report*

Bill reported, with, and the report adopted.

*Third Reading*

Bill read a third time, on motion by Hon N.F. Moore (Leader of the House), and returned to the Assembly with amendments.