

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Supplementary Order Paper

Thursday, 23 September 1982

NEW ZEALAND PLANNING BILL

Proposed Amendments

MR WOOLLASTON, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

Clause 5: To omit this clause and substitute the following:**5. Functions and powers of the Council—**(1) The general functions of the Council shall be—

- (a) To advise the Government on medium-term planning for social, economic and cultural development in New Zealand:
 - (b) To study the possibilities for the long-term economic and social development of New Zealand:
 - (c) To advise the Government on the links between national and regional development and to facilitate sound regional planning.
- (2) In carrying out the functions specified in subsection (1) of this section, the Council—
- (a) Shall recommend the priorities to be accorded to programmes for social, economic and cultural development in New Zealand, and co-ordinate the development of such programmes:
 - (b) May prepare reports on any matter affecting the economic, social or cultural development of New Zealand for submission to the Minister:
 - (c) May publish any of its reports or other documents on planning topics which in the view of the Council merit wide consideration and public debate.
- (3) A copy of every report submitted to the Minister under subsection (2) (b) of this section shall be laid before Parliament.
- (4) The Council shall have—
- (a) Such other functions, powers and duties as are conferred or imposed on it by or under this Act or any other enactment:
 - (b) Such other powers as may be reasonably necessary to enable it to carry out its functions.

MR MARSHALL, in Committee, to move the following amendments:

Clause 7: To omit subclause (1) and substitute the following subclause:

- (1) The Council shall consist of—
 - (a) A chairperson, who shall be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the House of Representatives;
 - (b) The Secretary to the Treasury;
 - (c) Not more than 8 additional members to be appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the House of Representatives.

To omit in subclause (2) the words “the Minister shall have regard to”, and substitute the words “regard shall be had to”.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Clause 5: This amendment does three things:

1. It reinstates the advisory role of the Planning Council which was intended by the Task Force headed by Sir Frank Holmes and recommended in his report “New Zealand at the Turning Point”:
2. It makes explicit in the Bill the Government’s stated intention that the Planning Council shall assume the essential core of the work formerly done by the Commission for the Future:
3. It makes explicit the role of the Planning Council in advising the Government on matters affecting Regional Development and Regional Planning and ensures that the work done by the Planning Council in this area will continue.

Subsection (2) of amended section 5 sets out a number of procedures available to the Council in carrying out its general functions.

These procedures are designed to ensure that the Council retains its independence from the Government policy making processes and from Executive direction.

Clause 7: This amendment alters the membership of the New Zealand Planning Council to agree more closely with that suggested in the Holmes Report “New Zealand at the Turning Point”. In particular it aims to re-establish the principle of an independent Planning Council none of whose members are Cabinet Ministers or Members of Parliament, which was recommended in that report.
