**WATER RESOURCES ACT AMENDMENT BILL 1976**

**House of Assembly, 20 October 1976, page 1681**

Second Reading

**Mr. ARNOLD (Chaffey)** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Water Resources Act, 1976. Read a first time.

Mr. ARNOLD: I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time.*

I seek leave to have the second reading explanation inserted in Hansard without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Bill

This Bill extends the council by the addition of one further member, being a person experienced in the control of salinity in the Murray River. The Water Resources Act, 1976, provides for a council of 12 members consisting of:

(a) two persons nominated by the Local Government Association of South Australia Incorporated;

(b) one person nominated by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, South Australia Incorporated;

(c) one person nominated by the governing body of the prescribed conservation body;

(d) two persons nominated by the Minister as being persons experienced respectively in irrigated horticulture or viticulture and other primary production;

(e) six other persons nominated by the Minister respectively having professional experience in engineering, geo-science, agriculture, environment or conservation, public health and Crown lands administration.

However, the Act does not specifically provide for the appointment of a person experienced in the control of salinity in the Murray River. Since the Murray River is called on at times to provide up to 80 per cent of the total water requirements of South Australia, the control of salinity becomes a major provision of the Water Resources Act. Therefore the appointment of an appropriate person would fulfil the intent of the Act. Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 amends section 9 of the principal Act:

(a) by striking out from subsection (2) the passage “twelve members” and inserting in lieu thereof the passage “thirteen members” and

(b) by inserting after paragraph (d) of subsection (2) the following paragraph:

(da) one person nominated by the Minister as being a person experienced in the control of salinity in the Murray River.

I commend the Bill to honourable members.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN secured the adjournment of the debate.