WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES CONSERVATION AMENDMENT BILL 1986

(Private Senator's Bill)

Date introduced: 7 May 1986
House: Senate
Presented by: Senator the Hon. Michael Macklin

DIGEST OF BILL

Purpose

To provide for the automatic protection of areas listed in the World Heritage List or areas of cultural or national heritage.

Background

The World Heritage Properties Conservation Act 1983 (the Principal Act) was passed principally to protect the South-West Tasmanian wilderness area. However, the Principal Act could also apply to other identified property, i.e. property on the World Heritage List or declared by regulation to be part of the natural or cultural heritage. As sections 6 and 7 of the Principal Act currently stand the Governor-General has an option to proclaim identified property which is likely to be damaged or destroyed to come under the protective provisions of the Principal Act.

Main Provisions

Clause 3 will repeal sections 6 and 7 of the Principal Act and substitute a new section 6. Under the new section, identified property that is being, or is likely to be, damaged or destroyed will gain automatic protection.

Clause 4 will amend section 11 of the Principal Act to extend the Governor-General's option to declare an Aboriginal site to come under the protective provisions of the Principal Act to cases where the site is not being or likely to be damaged. Such a declaration may only be revoked by resolution of both Houses of Parliament.
Clause 5 will amend section 9 of the Principal Act as a consequence of the proposed new section 6.

Section 16 of the Principal Act, which deals with the revocation of Proclamations, will be repealed by clause 7.

For further information, if required, contact the Law and Government Group.

18 August 1986