

LETTERS PATENT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF
VICTORIA ISSUED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN ON 14 FEBRUARY
1986 (Operative 3 March 1986)

Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

To All to Whom these Presents shall come, Greeting!

Whereas by the Australia Act 1986 of the Commonwealth of Australia provision is made in relation to the office of the Governor of the State of Victoria and corresponding provision will also be made in the Act which is expected to result from the Australia Bill at present before Parliament in the United Kingdom (which Acts are hereinafter together referred to as "the Australia Acts"):

And whereas We desire to make new provisions relating to the office of Governor and for persons appointed to administer the government of the State.

Now know Ye that We do hereby declare Our Will and Pleasure, and direct and ordain as follows:—

I. There shall be a Governor of the State of Victoria.

II. The Letters Patent dated the 29th October 1900, as amended by Letters Patent dated the 30th April 1913, relating to the office of Governor of the State of Victoria, and Our Instructions to the Governor dated the 29th October 1900, as amended by Our Instructions dated the 30th April 1913, are revoked.

III. There shall be an Executive Council to advise the Governor on the occasions when the Governor is permitted or required by any statute or other instrument to act in Council. The Premier (or in his absence the Acting Premier) shall tender advice to the Governor in relation to the exercise of the other powers and functions of Governor.

IV. No person shall act as Governor without first taking before the Chief Justice or another Judge of the Supreme Court the usual Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance and the usual Oath or Affirmation of Office.

V. An Administrator shall act as Governor if and so long as there is a vacancy in the office of Governor or the Governor is administering the Government of the Commonwealth or is unable or unwilling to act as Governor or not having commissioned a Deputy Governor is on leave or is out of the State.

VI. The Lieutenant-Governor shall be the Administrator but if there is no Lieutenant-Governor or if he is unable or unwilling to act as Governor then the Chief Justice shall be the Administrator and if there is no Chief Justice or if he is unable or unwilling to act as Governor then the next most senior Judge of the Supreme Court able and willing to act as Governor shall be the Administrator.

VII. A request in writing under the hand of the Premier (or in his absence the Acting Premier) that the person named therein (being one of the persons referred to in Clause VI) shall assume office as Administrator shall be sufficient authority for that person to do so.

VIII. The Governor with consent of the Premier (or in his absence the Acting Premier) may commission a Deputy Governor to perform and exercise for not more than two months some or all of the powers and functions of the Governor.

IX. The existing Commissions relating to the office of Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and Administrator and all existing appointments to the Executive Council shall continue in force until revoked.

X. The Governor in Council by Letters Patent may from time to time make alter or revoke any Letters Patent relating to the office of Governor.

XI. These Our Letters Patent shall come into operation at the same time as the Australia Acts come into force.

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the fourteenth day of February in the Thirty-fifth year of Our Reign.

By Warrant under The Queen's Sign Manual

(L.S.)

OULTON