

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 28

20 December 1972

PUBLIC SERVICE LEAVE

The Australian Government will support a claim by Commonwealth Public Service Unions for 4 weeks' annual leave to be heard on 21 December.

The first meeting of Labor's Cabinet decided not to oppose the claim for extra leave by Commonwealth Public Servants.

The extra leave provisions will apply only to members of recognised unions and associations involved in work within the Service.

Departments, however, will assume that all staff are members unless advised otherwise by a union.

Provision will be made for conscientious objectors to unionism to obtain the new leave entitlements upon payment of union dues to a nominated charity.

The Public Service Board had previously opposed the Public Servants' 4 weeks' leave application.

The new provisions will apply to all Public Servants whose annual leave is accruing on or after 1 January 1973.

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