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**PRIME MINISTER**

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 109

3 JULY 1973

Federal Cabinet has approved amendments to the Public Service Act to enable the Public Service Board to grant permission to public servants to become directors of companies and societies in certain prescribed circumstances.

At the present time, unless the company is a co-operative society, there is a prohibition against public servants holding directorships in companies and incorporated societies, such as building societies formed for the purpose of providing home finance for public servants.

The Government recognises that there are situations where it is to the benefit of the community for a public servant to accept a directorship. But it is essential that there should be no conflict of interest between the directorship and his public duties.

Accordingly the Government has approved the drafting of amendments to the Public Service Act which will enable the Public Service Board to grant permission to public servants to accept directorships only in such cases or circumstances and subject to such conditions as are prescribed by regulations.

CANBERRA