BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows:

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the “Coroners Act Amendment Act, 1969”.

(2) The Coroners Act, 1935-1952, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the “Coroners Act, 1935-1969”.

(3) The Coroners Act, 1935-1952, is hereinafter referred to as “the principal Act”.

2. Section 5 of the principal Act is amended by inserting after the word “Adelaide” in subsection (4) the passage “or within the municipality of Elizabeth or Salisbury or within the district council district of East Torrens, Meadows, Mount Barker, Munno Para, Noarlunga, Onkaparinga or Stirling”.

3. Section 6 of the principal Act is amended by striking out from subsection (3) the passage “when practicable” and inserting in lieu thereof the passage “subject to subsection (4) of section 5 of this Act”.

4. Section 8 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by striking out from subsection (1) the passage “one guinea” and inserting in lieu thereof the passage “two dollars ten cents”;
and

(b) by striking out from subsection (1) the word "sixpence" and inserting in lieu thereof the passage "five cents".

5. Section 10 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by striking out from paragraph (a), paragraph (b) and paragraph (c) of subsection (1) the word "sudden";

(b) by striking out from paragraph (c) of subsection (2) the passage "section 27 of the Bush Fires Act, 1933" and inserting in lieu thereof the passage "section 96 of the Bush Fires Act, 1960-1968";

and

(c) by inserting after subsection (2) the following subsection:

(3) A coroner shall have jurisdiction to, and shall, hold or re-open an inquest if the Attorney-General directs him to do so.

6. Section 11 of the principal Act is amended by striking out from subsection (1) the passage "or fire".

7. Section 15 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by striking out the word "grave" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "reasonable";

and

(b) by striking out the word "sudden".

8. Section 21 of the principal Act is amended—

(a) by inserting after the passage "subsection (3)" in subsection (1) the passage "but subject to subsections (4) and (5)";

and

(b) by inserting after subsection (3) the following subsections:

(4) The Attorney-General may, by notice in writing, given to a coroner, direct that the evidence to be given at all or any inquests taken by or before the coroner may be taken down in
shorthand by a shorthand writer approved by the coroner or may be recorded by means of a sound recording apparatus or such other means as may be prescribed by regulations under this Act.

(5) Any evidence taken down or recorded in pursuance of a direction referred to in subsection (4) of this section shall subsequently be reduced to writing and the transcript thereof shall be certified or signed as prescribed by regulation under this Act.

(6) Any evidence taken down or recorded in pursuance of a direction referred to in subsection (4) of this section may be proved by the production of a transcript of the evidence certified or signed as prescribed by regulation under this Act.

(7) The Governor may make regulations for the purposes of this section and to give full effect thereto.

9. Section 30a of the principal Act is amended by striking out from subsection (2) the passage “sections 32 and 33 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1935-1947” and inserting in lieu thereof the passage “sections 34 and 37 of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1966”.

10. The Second Schedule to the principal Act is amended by striking out the forms entitled “Warrant of Commitment” and “Coroner’s Certificate where an Inquest on a Fire is deemed Unnecessary.”.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

J. W. HARRISON, Governor.