An Act to supplement by legislation of the State of South Australia the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Act 1970 of the United Kingdom which provides, inter alia, for the transfer to Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited of the undertakings of Australia and New Zealand Bank Limited and The English, Scottish and Australian Bank, Limited, and for other purposes incidental thereto and consequential thereon; to supplement by legislation of the State of South Australia the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Act 1970 of the State of Victoria in so far as it relates to the transfer to Australia and New Zealand Savings Bank Limited of the undertaking of E.S. & A. Savings Bank Limited; and for purposes connected therewith.

[Assented to 17th September, 1970]

WHEREAS:

(1) By the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Act 1970 of the United Kingdom provision is made for the transfer to Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited of the undertakings of Australia and New Zealand Bank Limited and The English, Scottish and Australian Bank, Limited and for other purposes incidental thereto and consequential thereon, for the incorporation of Australia and New Zealand Savings Bank Limited in Victoria, for the cesser of
application to that company of provisions of the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 of the United Kingdom consequent upon such incorporation, and for other purposes incidental thereto:

(2) Australia and New Zealand Bank Limited (hereafter in this preamble referred to as "A.N.Z.") and The English, Scottish and Australian Bank, Limited (hereafter in this preamble referred to as "E.S.A.") are companies incorporated in the United Kingdom and are companies within the meaning of the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 of the United Kingdom and are companies limited by shares:

(3) A.N.Z. and E.S.A. each carries on the business of banking in South Australia as well as elsewhere in the Commonwealth and overseas:

(4) By a scheme of arrangement sanctioned under section 206 of the Companies Acts 1948 to 1967 of the United Kingdom which took effect on the twenty-third day of June, 1969, A.N.Z. and E.S.A. became wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Bank:

(5) The scheme of arrangement was proposed with a view to the merger of the undertakings of A.N.Z. and E.S.A.:

(6) On the twenty-second day of May, 1969 the Treasurer of the Commonwealth consented to the transfer of the businesses of A.N.Z. and E.S.A. in the Commonwealth to the Bank:

(7) To vest the undertakings of A.N.Z. and E.S.A. carried on in South Australia in the Bank, it is expedient to enact the provisions set out herein:

(8) E.S.A. Savings Bank Limited (hereafter in this preamble referred to as "E.S.A. Savings Bank") was incorporated in Victoria and is a company limited by shares:

(9) A.N.Z. Savings Bank and E.S.A. Savings Bank each carries on the business of a savings bank in South Australia as well as elsewhere in the Commonwealth:

(10) A.N.Z. Savings Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of A.N.Z. and E.S.A. Savings Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of E.S.A.:

(11) It is expedient in the interests of the Bank that the undertakings of A.N.Z. Savings Bank and E.S.A. Savings Bank should be merged:
(12) On the twenty-second day of May, 1969 the Treasurer of the Commonwealth consented to the transfer of the business of E.S.A. Savings Bank to A.N.Z. Savings Bank:

(13) By the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Act 1970 of the State of Victoria provision is made, inter alia, for A.N.Z. Savings Bank to become a company deemed to be incorporated in Victoria and for the transfer to A.N.Z. Savings Bank of the undertaking of E.S.A. Savings Bank and for other purposes incidental thereto:

(14) The incorporation of A.N.Z. Savings Bank in Victoria may be effected under the said Act of the State of Victoria prior to the appointed day under this Act:

(15) To vest the undertaking of E.S.A. Savings Bank carried on in South Australia in A.N.Z. Savings Bank, it is expedient to enact the provisions set out herein:

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

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. This Act may be cited as the “Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Act, 1970.”

2. This Act is divided as follows:

PART I—PRELIMINARY.

PART II—VESTING OF UNDERTAKINGS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANK LIMITED AND THE ENGLISH, SCOTTISH AND AUSTRALIAN BANK, LIMITED, IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANKING GROUP LIMITED.

PART III—VESTING OF UNDERTAKING OF E.S. & A. SAVINGS BANK LIMITED IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND SAVINGS BANK LIMITED.

PART IV—GENERAL.

3. This Act binds the Crown.

4. (1) In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears:
"A.N.Z. Savings Bank" means Australia and New Zealand Savings Bank Limited:

"appointed day" means the day appointed for the purposes of this Act under subsection (2) of this section:

"E.S.A. Savings Bank" means E.S. & A. Savings Bank Limited:

"excluded assets" means—

(a) any document required to be kept by an existing bank or by E.S.A. Savings Bank pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act, 1962, as amended;

and

(b) any land which is, immediately before the appointed day, vested in, belonging to or held by an existing bank or E.S.A. Savings Bank otherwise than by way of security and while so continuing to be vested, belonging to or held by such bank after that day,

and “excluded asset” shall be construed accordingly:

"existing banks" means Australia and New Zealand Bank Limited and The English, Scottish and Australian Bank, Limited,

and “existing bank” shall be construed accordingly:

"land" includes any estate, interest or right (whether legal or equitable) in, over or under land:

"liabilities" means duties and obligations of every description but does not include any duty or obligation of an existing bank or E.S.A. Savings Bank relating to an excluded asset:

"property" means property and assets of every description of an existing bank or E.S.A. Savings Bank, and includes securities, rights and powers of every description, vested in or exercisable by an existing bank or vested in or exercisable by E.S.A. Savings Bank:

"security" means a mortgage (whether legal or equitable), charge, debenture, bill of exchange, promissory note, guarantee, lien, pledge or other means of securing the payment of a debt, whether present or future, or the discharge of an obligation or liability, whether actual or contingent:

"the Bank" means Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited:
“the undertaking of an existing bank” means the business and all of the property, except any excluded asset or any right or power of an existing bank relating to an excluded asset, vested in or belonging to or held by that existing bank immediately before the appointed day and all of the liabilities to which that existing bank is subject immediately before that day,

and “the undertakings of the existing banks” shall be construed accordingly:

“the undertaking of E.S.A. Savings Bank” means the business and all of the property, except any excluded asset or any right or power of E.S.A. Savings Bank relating to an excluded asset, vested in or belonging to or held by E.S.A. Savings Bank immediately before the appointed day and all of the liabilities to which E.S.A. Savings Bank is subject immediately before that day.

(2) The Governor may, by proclamation, appoint a day for the purposes of this Act.

PART II

VESTING OF UNDERTAKINGS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANK LIMITED AND THE ENGLISH, SCOTTISH AND AUSTRALIAN BANK, LIMITED, IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANKING GROUP LIMITED.

5. On the appointed day the undertakings of the existing banks shall by virtue of this Act be divested from the existing banks and vested in the Bank.

6. (1) All contracts, agreements, conveyances, deeds, leases, licences and other instruments or undertakings entered into by or made with or addressed to an existing bank (whether alone or with any other person) in force immediately before the appointed day shall on and after that day to the extent that they were immediately before that day binding upon and enforceable by or against the existing bank, be binding and of full force and effect in every respect in favour of or against the Bank as fully and effectually as if, instead of the existing bank, the Bank had been a party thereto or bound thereby or entitled to the whole or any portion of the benefit thereof.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to any contract, agreement, conveyance, deed, lease, licence, instrument or undertaking relating to an excluded asset.
7. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions of this Part, the following provisions shall have effect in relation to the banking businesses of the existing banks:—

(a) The relationship between an existing bank and a customer at any office or branch of that existing bank shall, on and after the appointed day, be between the Bank and that customer, and shall give rise to the same rights and the same duties (including rights of set-off) as would have existed before that day if such relationship had been between the Bank and the customer, and so that any instruction, order, direction, mandate or authority given by that customer to the existing bank subsisting on or given after the appointed day shall, unless and until revoked or cancelled, be deemed to have been given to the Bank;

(b) Any security held by an existing bank as security for the payment of debts or liabilities (whether present or future, certain or contingent) of any person shall be transferred or deemed to be transferred to the Bank on the appointed day, and shall be held by and be available to the Bank as security for the payment of such debts and liabilities to the Bank; and, where the security extends to future advances to, or to future liabilities of, that person, the security shall, as on and after that day, subject to any agreement between the Bank and that person, be held by and be available to the Bank as security for future advances to that person by, and future liabilities of that person to, the Bank to the same extent to which future advances by, or liabilities to, the existing bank were secured thereby immediately before that day;

(c) The Bank shall, in relation to any security transferred or deemed to have been transferred to it in accordance with or by virtue of the provisions of this Act and the moneys thereby secured, be entitled to the same rights and priorities and subject to the same obligations and incidents as the existing bank from which the same has been transferred or deemed to have been transferred would have been entitled and subject to, if the same had continued to be held by that existing bank;

(d) The custody of any document, goods or thing held by an existing bank as bailee for any other person at any office or branch of that existing bank shall be transferred or deemed to be transferred to the Bank on the appointed day, and the rights and obligations of that existing bank under any contract of bailment relating to such document, goods or thing shall be transferred or deemed to be transferred on that day to the Bank;
and

(e) Any negotiable instrument or order for payment of money, whether drawn, given, accepted or endorsed before, on or after the appointed day, which is expressed to be drawn on, or given to, or accepted or endorsed by, an existing bank, or payable at any place of business of an existing bank shall have the same effect on and after the appointed day as if it had been drawn on, or given to, or accepted or endorsed by, the Bank, or payable at the same place of business of the Bank.

8. (1) This section shall apply to—

(a) any action, arbitration or proceeding or cause of action, arbitration or proceeding which shall on the appointed day be pending or existing by, against or in favour of an existing bank;

and

(b) any cause of action, arbitration or proceeding by, against or in favour of an existing bank arising after the appointed day but arising in respect of a contract made by an existing bank before the appointed day or arising in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by an existing bank before the appointed day,

but shall not apply to any action, arbitration or proceeding or to any cause of action, arbitration or proceeding relating to an excluded asset.

(2) Any action, arbitration or proceeding and any cause of action, arbitration or proceeding to which this section applies shall not abate or be discontinued or be in any way prejudicially affected by reason of the provisions of this Act, but the same may be prosecuted and, without amendment of any writ, pleading or other document, continued and enforced by, against or in favour of the Bank in its own name as and when it might have been prosecuted, continued and enforced by, against or in favour of the existing bank if this Act had not been passed: But the Court or other person making or entering any judgment, order or award for the payment of any sum of money, whether ascertained or to be ascertained, against the Bank in any such action, arbitration or proceeding shall, at the request of any party in whose favour such judgment, order or award is being made or entered, make or enter the same against both the existing bank and the Bank, and the same may, when so made or entered, be enforced against both the existing bank and the Bank.
PART II

9. Any party to any action, arbitration or proceeding relating to an excluded asset shall be entitled at any stage thereof to amend any writ, pleading or other document filed by him in such action, arbitration or proceeding by substituting therein for the name of the Bank the name of an existing bank as party, and no order shall be made against any party so amending to pay to the Bank or to an existing bank any costs occasioned by such amendment, and the action, arbitration or proceeding shall be continued as if the existing bank had originally been made a party thereto.

10. (1) Notwithstanding the vesting of the undertakings of the existing banks in the Bank under and in terms of this Act, the provisions of PART V of the Evidence Act, 1929, as amended, shall continue to apply in relation to the bankers' books of the existing banks which are transferred to the Bank by virtue of this Act as if such bankers' books were bankers' books used in the ordinary business of the Bank.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section a "banker's book" has the same meaning as that assigned to that expression in section 4 of the Evidence Act, 1929, as amended.

11. Where—

(a) any enactment other than an enactment in this Act; or

(b) any document whenever made or executed, other than a document constituting or relating to any pension scheme, provident fund or officers' guarantee fund of an existing bank,

contains any reference express or implied to an existing bank, such reference shall, on and after the appointed day, be read, construed and have effect as a reference to the Bank, except to the extent that the reference relates to an excluded asset and except where the context otherwise requires.

12. Nothing in this Act prejudices or affects any right that, immediately before the appointed day, had accrued or was accruing under any Act, award or industrial agreement, or under any document constituting or relating to any pension scheme, provident fund or officers' guarantee fund of an existing bank, to an employee under a contract of employment to which section 6 of this Act applies, and—

(a) any such right so accruing shall, until it is lawfully terminated or varied, continue to accrue as if—

(i) this Act had not been enacted; and
PART III

VESTING OF UNDERTAKING OF E.S. & A. SAVINGS BANK LIMITED IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND SAVINGS BANK LIMITED

13. On the appointed day the undertaking of E.S.A. Savings Bank shall by virtue of this Act be divested from E.S.A. Savings Bank and vested in A.N.Z. Savings Bank.

14. (1) All contracts, agreements, conveyances, deeds, leases, licences and other instruments or undertakings entered into by or made with or addressed to E.S.A. Savings Bank (whether alone or with any other person) in force immediately before the appointed day shall on and after that day to the extent that they were immediately before that day binding upon and enforceable by or against E.S.A. Savings Bank, be binding and of full force and effect in every respect in favour of or against A.N.Z. Savings Bank as fully and effectually as if, instead of E.S.A. Savings Bank, A.N.Z. Savings Bank had been a party thereto or bound thereby or entitled to the whole or any portion of the benefit thereof.

(2) The provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to any contract, agreement, conveyance, deed, lease, licence, instrument or undertaking relating to an excluded asset.

15. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions of this Part, the following provisions shall have effect in relation to the banking business of E.S.A. Savings Bank:
(a) The relationship between E.S.A. Savings Bank and a customer or depositor at any office or branch or agency of E.S.A. Savings Bank shall, on and after the appointed day, be between A.N.Z. Savings Bank and that customer or depositor, and shall give rise to the same rights and the same duties (including rights of set-off) as would have existed before that day if such relationship had been between A.N.Z. Savings Bank and the customer or depositor, and so that any instruction, order, direction, mandate or authority given by that customer or depositor to E.S.A. Savings Bank and subsisting on or given after the appointed day, shall unless and until revoked or cancelled, be deemed to have been given to A.N.Z. Savings Bank;

(b) Any security held by E.S.A. Savings Bank as security for the payment of debts or liabilities (whether present or future, certain or contingent) of any person shall be transferred or deemed to be transferred to A.N.Z. Savings Bank on the appointed day, and shall be held by and be available to A.N.Z. Savings Bank as security for the payment of such debts and liabilities to A.N.Z. Savings Bank; and, where the security extends to future advances to or to future liabilities of that person, the security shall, as on and after that day, subject to any agreement between A.N.Z. Savings Bank and that person, be held by and be available to A.N.Z. Savings Bank as security for future advances to that person by, and future liabilities of that person to, A.N.Z. Savings Bank to the same extent to which future advances by, or liabilities to, E.S.A. Savings Bank were secured thereby immediately before that day;

(c) A.N.Z. Savings Bank shall, in relation to any security transferred or deemed to have been transferred to it in accordance with or by virtue of the provisions of this Act and the moneys thereby secured, be entitled to the same rights and priorities and subject to the same obligations and incidents as E.S.A. Savings Bank would have been entitled and subject to if the same had continued to be held by E.S.A. Savings Bank;

(d) The custody of any document, goods or thing held by E.S.A. Savings Bank as bailee for any other person at any office or branch or agency of E.S.A. Savings Bank shall be transferred or deemed to be transferred to A.N.Z. Savings Bank on the appointed day and the rights and obligations of E.S.A. Savings Bank under any contract of bailment relating to such document, goods or thing shall be transferred or deemed to be transferred on that day to A.N.Z. Savings Bank;
(e) Any negotiable instrument or order for payment of money, whether drawn, given, accepted or endorsed before, on or after the appointed day, which is expressed to be drawn on, or given to, or accepted or endorsed by, E.S.A. Savings Bank, or payable at any place of business of E.S.A. Savings Bank shall have the same effect on and after the appointed day as if it had been drawn on, or given to, or accepted or endorsed by, A.N.Z. Savings Bank, or payable at the same place of business of A.N.Z. Savings Bank.

16. (1) This section shall apply to—

(a) any action, arbitration or proceeding or cause of action, arbitration or proceeding which shall on the appointed day be pending or existing by, against or in favour of E.S.A. Savings Bank:

and

(b) any cause of action, arbitration or proceeding by, against or in favour of E.S.A. Savings Bank arising after the appointed day but arising in respect of a contract made by E.S.A. Savings Bank before the appointed day or arising in respect of anything done or omitted to be done by E.S.A. Savings Bank before the appointed day,

but shall not apply to any action, arbitration or proceeding or to any cause of action, arbitration or proceeding relating to an excluded asset.

(2) Any action, arbitration or proceeding and any cause of action, arbitration or proceeding to which this section applies shall not abate or be discontinued or be in any way prejudicially affected by reason of the provisions of this Act, but the same may be prosecuted and, without amendment of any writ, pleading or other document, continued and enforced by, against or in favour of A.N.Z. Savings Bank in its own name as and when it might have been prosecuted, continued and enforced by, against or in favour of E.S.A. Savings Bank if this Act had not been passed: But the Court or other person making or entering any judgment, order or award for the payment of any sum of money, whether ascertained or to be ascertained, against A.N.Z. Savings Bank in any such action, arbitration or proceeding shall, at the request of any party in whose favour such judgment, order or award is being made or entered, make or enter the same against both E.S.A. Savings Bank and A.N.Z. Savings Bank, and the same may, when so made or entered, be enforced against both E.S.A. Savings Bank and A.N.Z. Savings Bank.
17. Any party to any action, arbitration or proceeding relating to an excluded asset shall be entitled at any stage thereof to amend any writ, pleading or other document filed by him in such action, arbitration or proceeding by substituting therein for the name of A.N.Z. Savings Bank the name of E.S.A. Savings Bank as party, and no order shall be made against any party so amending to pay to A.N.Z. Savings Bank or to E.S.A. Savings Bank any costs occasioned by such amendment, and the action, arbitration or proceeding shall be continued as if E.S.A. Savings Bank had originally been made a party thereto.

18. (1) Notwithstanding the vesting of the undertaking of E.S.A. Savings Bank in A.N.Z. Savings Bank under and in terms of this Act, the provisions of PART V of the Evidence Act, 1929, as amended, shall continue to apply in relation to the bankers' books of E.S.A. Savings Bank which are transferred to A.N.Z. Savings Bank by virtue of this Act as if such bankers' books were bankers' books used in the ordinary business of A.N.Z. Savings Bank.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section, a "banker's book" has the same meaning as that assigned to that expression in section 4 of the Evidence Act, 1929, as amended.

19. Where—

(a) any enactment other than an enactment in this Act;

or

(b) any document whenever made or executed,

contains any reference express or implied to E.S.A. Savings Bank, such reference shall, on and after the appointed day, be read, construed and have effect as a reference to A.N.Z. Savings Bank, except to the extent that the reference relates to an excluded asset and except where the context otherwise requires.
PART IV

GENERAL

20. The entry of the Bank upon, or the use, enjoyment or occupation by the Bank, of any land on or after the appointed day as tenant, sub-tenant or licensee of or under an existing bank or of or under E.S.A. Savings Bank shall not constitute an assignment, transfer, underletting, devolution, parting with possession or other disposition of that land for the purpose of any provision relating to assignment, transfer, underletting, devolution, parting with possession or other disposition contained in any instrument in existence on the appointed day and relating to that land; and no transfer or vesting effected by virtue of this Act shall invalidate or discharge any contract or security.

21. Service of a document, as defined in subsection (1) of section 5 of the Companies Act, 1962, as amended—

(a) on the Bank shall be deemed to be service on each of the existing banks;

(b) on an existing bank shall be deemed to be service on the Bank;

(c) on A.N.Z. Savings Bank shall be deemed to be service on E.S.A. Savings Bank;

or

(d) on E.S.A. Savings Bank shall be deemed to be service on A.N.Z. Savings Bank:

But—

(e) paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall cease to have any force and effect upon the relevant existing bank ceasing to be a subsidiary of the Bank within the meaning of subsection (1) of section 6 of the Companies Act, 1962, as amended;

and

(f) paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section shall cease to have any force and effect upon E.S.A. Savings Bank ceasing to be a subsidiary of the Bank within the meaning of subsection (1) of section 6 of the Companies Act, 1962, as amended.
22. (1) No person dealing—

(a) with the bank or an existing bank (in any capacity whatsoever); or

(b) with A.N.Z. Savings Bank or E.S.A. Savings Bank (in any capacity whatsoever),

nor the Registrar-General, nor any other person registering or certifying title to land or having the power or duty to examine or receive evidence as to title to land, shall, in respect of any dealing or transaction entered into or purporting to be entered into by the Bank, an existing bank, A.N.Z. Savings Bank or E.S.A. Savings Bank be concerned to see or enquire into whether any property the subject of the dealing or transaction (whether or not that property is land) is an excluded asset, or be affected by any notice, express, implied or constructive, that any such property is an excluded asset.

(2) If any dealing or transaction is entered into by the Bank or A.N.Z. Savings Bank with any person, in relation to or in connection with an excluded asset, it shall be deemed in favour of that person that the Bank or A.N.Z. Savings Bank, as the case may be, has full power and authority to enter into that dealing or transaction as if the excluded asset had vested in the Bank or A.N.Z. Savings Bank, as the case may be, under this Act.

(3) Nothing in this section affects the liability of the Bank to an existing bank, or of A.N.Z. Savings Bank to E.S.A. Savings Bank, in respect of anything done, or purporting to be done, by the Bank or A.N.Z. Savings Bank, as the case may be, in relation to or in connection with an excluded asset.

23. (1) Where, by virtue of this Act, any land of which an existing bank, or E.S.A. Savings Bank, is the registered proprietor is vested in the Bank, or (as the case may be) in A.N.Z. Savings Bank, that Bank shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any Act or law, be deemed to be the registered proprietor thereof for the purposes of the Real Property Act, 1886, as amended, and the land may be dealt with accordingly.

(2) Where any land becomes vested in the Bank or in A.N.Z. Savings Bank, as described in subsection (1) of this section, the Registrar-General shall, at the written request of that bank, register that bank as the proprietor of that land and for that purpose the Registrar-General may make such entries in the Register Book, kept in pursuance of the Real Property Act, 1886, as amended, as appear to the Registrar-General to be necessary or proper.
(3) Where an entry pursuant to subsection (2) of this section is not also made on the relevant duplicate registered instrument, the Registrar-General shall record that fact in the Register Book, and shall at the written request of the Bank, or A.N.Z. Savings Bank, make such entry on the duplicate registered instrument when produced to him for that purpose.

24. Nothing in this Act shall exempt the Bank or A.N.Z. Savings Bank from the provisions of any Act relating to companies carrying on the business of banking.

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

J. M. NAPIER, Governor's Deputy.