States Grants (TAFE Assistance) Bill 1989

Date Introduced: 26 October 1989
House: House of Representatives
Portfolio: Employment, Education and Training

Digest of Bill

Purpose
To provide funding for TAFE institutions for 1990.

Background
The Commonwealth provides funding for TAFEs on an annual basis. Commonwealth contributions account for approximately 9% of TAFE recurrent costs and 65% of capital funding. Recently, grants to the States for TAFEs have been falling. From $334.1 million in 1986–87, the amount had fallen to $283.7 million in 1988–89. The estimated expenditure in 1989–90 is $347.9 million, an increase of 22.7% over the previous year. This Bill is largely procedural and continues the practice of annual States Grants Acts in respect of education.

Main Provisions

Clause 10 will authorise the Minister to make grants for recurrent expenditure in 1990 to States (including the Northern Territory and A.C.T.) that have entered a financial assistance arrangement. The limit for such grants will be $133 700 000. Clause 11 will impose conditions on grants relating to equal funding by the State, audits and the State not charging student fees.

Capital grants will be authorised by clause 12 and are not to be made unless there is an arrangement in place or assistance was authorised by the States Grants (Technical and Further Education Assistance) Act 1989 and the State spent money on the project in 1989. The Minister may set conditions for grants. The limit for such grants in 1990 will be $195 196 000 (clause 13).

Clause 14 deals with conditions for capital grants, and include that the funds be committed by 1 January 1991, that accounts be audited and that the State not charge student fees.

For further information, if required, contact the Education and Welfare Group.
This Digest does not have any official legal status. Other sources should be consulted to determine the subsequent official status of the Bill.

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