United States Naval Communication Station
(Civilian Employees') Bill 1988

Date Introduced: 27 April 1988
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. Brian Howe, M.P., Minister for Social Security

Digest of Bill

Purpose
To apply the provisions of the proposed Commonwealth Employees' Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 to civilian employees of the United States Government employed at the joint Australian/United States naval communication station at North West Cape.

Background
Refer to the Digest for the Commonwealth Employees' Rehabilitation and Compensation Bill 1988.

Civilian employees of the United States Government employed at the joint Australian/United States naval communication station at North West Cape are currently subject to the provisions of the Compensation (Commonwealth Government Employees') Act 1971, an Act which is to be repealed. This Act makes provision for compensation in respect of employees of the Commonwealth and certain other persons, who sustain injury or disease, or loss or destruction of, or damage to, certain property, in circumstances connected with their employment.

Under the terms of the United States Naval Communication Station Act 1963, which established the naval communication station at North West Cape, the United States Government would reimburse the Commonwealth for expenditure incurred under this Bill.

Purpose
Clause 2 provides that this Bill commences at the commencement of Part X of the Principal Act.
Clause 3 defines the principal terms used in the Bill. Some of the more important terms provided by the Bill include: 'Civilian employee' means a person who is employed by the United States Government in or in connection with the maintenance or operation of the Station, and is not a citizen or national of the United States, but is employed by the Government of the United States; or is a citizen or national of the United States, but is employed by the Government of the United States in accordance with terms and conditions of employment agreed to between the United States Government and an organisation registered under a law of the Commonwealth or the State of Western Australia, with respect to industrial relations. The definition of civilian employee does not include members of the United States defence forces.

Clause 4 provides that the proposed 'Commonwealth Employees' Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988' apply to civilian employees of the United States Government as if they were employed by the Commonwealth Government, subject to the modifications as set out in the Schedule to the Bill.

Clause 5 repeals the United States Naval Communications Station (Civilian Employees) Act 1971, and subsequent amending Acts.

The Schedule makes consequential amendments to the proposed 'Commonwealth Employees' Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988', to enable that Act to apply to civilian employees of the United States Government at the naval communication station at North West Cape.

For further information, if required, contact the Defence Group.

29 June 1988

Bills Digest Service
Legislative Research Service

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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