Overseas Students Charge Amendment Bill 1988

Date Introduced: 3 November 1988
House: House of Representatives

Digest of Bill

Purpose
To set the 1989 rate of charge and extend the charge to non-degree higher education students.

Background
Overseas students attending Australian educational institutions are required to contribute to the cost of their tuition by the Overseas Students Charge Act 1979 (the Principal Act). The percentage of the cost of education paid by overseas students has been increased in recent years. For students who commenced study before 1 January 1986, the charge is approximately 32% of the full cost of the tuition. The rate rose to 45% for students commencing after that date, and to 55% for students enrolling in the 1988 academic year. As announced in the 1988–89 Budget, the Overseas Student Charge (OSC) will be extended to overseas students attending non-degree courses. Increased charges and the wider coverage to apply in 1989 are estimated to raise $66.8 million, an increase of $9.7 million over 1987–88 receipts.1

Main Provisions
The OSC will be payable by overseas students attending non-degree courses at higher education institutions (clause 4).

Clause 5, which will amend section 6 of the Principal Act, contains the new charges. For courses of medicine, veterinary science and dentistry (class A courses) commenced before 1 January 1986, the cost will be $4546. For other courses commenced before that date, the cost will be $3753.

For courses commenced between 1 January 1986 and 31 December 1987, the cost for class A courses will be $6128 and $5288 for other courses.

For courses commenced after 1 January 1988, the cost will be $7311 for class A courses and $6471 for other courses and for enrolment as a non-degree higher education student.

Costs for TAFE courses will be $606 for courses commenced before 1 January 1987; $853 for commencements between 1 January and 31 December 1987; and $1042 for commencements after that date.
A fee of $350 will apply for secondary education courses commenced after 1 January 1989.

References

For further information, if required, contact the Education and Welfare Group.

16 November 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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