To appropriate $426,018,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, in addition to the sums appropriated by the Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1984-85, in order to meet expenditure for the ordinary annual services of the Government.

Background

This Bill together with Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 1984-85 form the Additional Estimates for 1983-84. Post-Budget commitments, cost and price increases, exchange rate fluctuations and costs of awards, determinations and staffing increases have been largely responsible for the additional appropriations. An estimated $42.3m is appropriated for wages and salaries to meet increases in award rates, other wage and salary costs and a 0.4 per cent increase in Budget approved average staffing levels.[1]

A detailed outline of the appropriations is provided by the Schedule to the Bill. Over half of the total appropriation is being sought by the Department of Defence ($249.7m).

The amounts appropriated by the Additional Estimates are partly offset by savings of $198m in the appropriations made by Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1 and 2) 1984-85. The Additional Estimates appropriate a total of $564.5m of which $426m is sought in Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 1984-85 and $138.5m in Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 1984-85. There will be a net increase of $366.5m in expenditures financed from the appropriations after allowing for prospective savings.
Main Provisions

The Minister for Finance may spend $426,018,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purposes set out in the Schedule to the Bill, for the year ending 30 June 1985 (clause 3).

The amount of expenditure provided by this Bill shall be deemed to have been appropriated as from 1 July 1984 (clause 4).

Section 5 of the Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1984-85 enables the Minister for Finance to pay from Consolidated Revenue, increases in wages and salaries (for which provision is made in Schedule 2 of that Act), arising from any law, award etc., which become payable in 1984-85. The effect of clause 5 is to apply the Minister's power contained in section 5 to this Bill.

This Bill has effect subject to the Loan Act 1984 (clause 6).

For further information, if required, contact:

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Reference