SUPPLY BILL (NO. 2) 1985-86

Date Introduced: 8 May 1985
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. M.J. Young, M.P., Minister representing the Minister for Finance

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To make interim provision for the appropriation of $1,752,656,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for expenditure on capital works and services, payments to or for the States and the Northern Territory, and certain other services during the 1985-86 financial year.

Background

The Supply Bill (No. 1) 1985-86 together with the Supply Bill (No. 2) 1985-86 and the Supply (Parliamentary Departments) Bill 1985-86 provide interim appropriations for the period 1 July 1985 to 30 November 1985. It is expected that, by 30 November 1985, the Appropriation Bills, which are introduced on Budget night in August, would have been enacted. The amounts appropriated by the Supply Bills are later included in the Appropriation Bills for the financial year to which the expenditures relate.

Outline

The Bill provides for the appropriation of about $1,752.6 million which is about 2.4 per cent greater than the amount provided for in the 1984-85 Supply period.

According to the Minister's Second Reading Speech, the main increases result from:

- payments to the States for assistance to Legal Aid Commissions;
- the expected introduction of the new home and community care program on 1 July 1985;
- increased proportion of patients choosing to be treated as public patients under Medicare; and
increases in funding to the Northern Territory.

Main Provisions

The Minister for Finance may issue $1,752,656,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purposes outlined in Schedule 2 of the Bill for the 1985-86 financial year (clause 3).

Clause 4 deals with payments to the States and the Northern Territory. Payments out of the money allocated to the States and the Northern Territory in Schedule 2 are to be made for the purposes listed in Schedule 1, in accordance with the terms, conditions and determinations specified by the appropriate Minister (sub-clause 4(2)).

The Attorney-General will be responsible for determining conditions and payments to the States for legal aid services. The terms and conditions, amounts and times of payments for the Home Community Care Program will be determined by the Minister for Community Services.

The Minister for Primary Industry will be responsible for determining the terms, conditions and payments for special research, bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis eradication campaign, Australian Agricultural Council sponsored projects, soil conservation, exotic disease preparedness, plant genetic resource storage facilities, dried vine fruits adjustment assistance, extensions to fishing port facilities or for the construction of the grain handling terminal at Port Kembla and the provision of capital items for the Torres Strait Fisheries Program.

The States and the Northern Territory are to receive payments for natural disaster relief and restoration projects in the Whyalla region which provide infrastructure support for the steel regions, as well as for many other activities listed in Schedule 1 of the Bill.

For further information, if required, contact:

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