Date introduced: 21 August 1985
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. Chris Hurford, M.P., Minister Assisting the Treasurer

DIGEST OF BILL

Purpose

To extend parts of the Census and Statistics Act 1905 (the Principal Act) to the external Territories and to correct a drafting anomaly.

Background

A census of Australian households is held at regular intervals and provides much statistical data on Australia. At present, censuses in the external Territories are carried out under the authority of various local ordinances. This Bill will include prescribed external Territories in the Principal Act for the 1986 and future censuses of population and housing.

Main Provisions

Clause 2 inserts a new section 2 into the Principal Act thereby extending the provisions of that Act, other than Part III, to prescribed external Territories.

Clause 3 substitutes a new sub-section 14(2) in the Principal Act to clear up drafting difficulties. The intention of the existing provision is maintained i.e. persons are not liable to any penalty for omitting, or refusing to state their religion.
For further information, if required, contact the Law and Government Group.

12 September 1985

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LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE

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