PROTECTION OF THE SEA (SHIPPING LEVY) AMENDMENT BILL 1984

Date Introduced: 29 February 1984
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. P.F. Morris, MP, Minister for Transport

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To amend the category of ships liable to levy, consistently with a change to ship registration requirements set out in the Shipping Registration Amendment Bill 1984.

Background

The Shipping Registration Act 1981 currently requires that ships of 12 metres or more in length be registered, other than pleasure craft. The Shipping Registration Amendment Bill 1984 would replace the criterion with a "tonnage length" measurement incorporating both length and tonnage components. The method of calculation is to be specified in amended Shipping Registration Regulations. Ships of less than 24 metres in tonnage length are not required to register.

The Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy) Act 1981 imposes levy on ships exceeding 100 tonnes in tonnage, in any quarter in which the ship is in an Australian port with 10 tonnes or more of oil in bulk aboard. "Tonnage" is defined in section 4 of the Protection of the Sea (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1981 as the register tonnage of the ship.

The amendments to the Shipping Registration Act would mean that a ship of less than 24 metres in tonnage length and over 100 tonnes would be liable to levy even though she does not have a registration certificate evidencing her tonnage. The present Bill therefore exempts such a ship from the levy.
Main Provisions

Clause 3 amends section 8 to provide that levy is payable by ships the tonnage length of which is 24 metres or more. Clause 2 provides for commencement with the Shipping Registration Amendment Bill 1984.

A new subsection 8(2) provides for measurement of tonnage length in accordance with the Shipping Registration Regulations.

For further information, if required, contact:

15 March 1984

Economics and Commerce Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE