To appropriate money from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in order to provide for proposed expenditure on the construction of public works and buildings, the acquisition of sites and buildings, certain advances and loans, items of plant and equipment, new policy initiatives; for payments to the States and the Northern Territory, and for other services.

Main Provisions

Clause 3 allows the Minister for Finance to spend $2,790,895,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, in the year ending 30 June 1985, on items specified in Schedule 2.

Under the Supply Act (No. 2) 1984-85, expenditure of $1,711,770,500 for the period 1 July 1984 to 30 November 1984 was authorised. Clause 4 appropriates $4,502,666,000 for the expenditures authorised in Schedule 2 of the Bill. The sum comprises $1,711,770,500 authorised by the Supply Act (No. 2) 1984-85, together with $2,790,895,500 to be issued by this Bill.

Clause 5 deals with payments to the States and the Northern Territory. Payments to a State for Technical and Further Education building projects which provide infrastructure support for steel regions will be made in accordance with terms and conditions determined by the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs. The Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations will determine the terms and conditions applicable to payments to the States for projects in the Whyalla region which provide infrastructure support for the steel regions.

The terms and conditions of payments to the States and the Northern Territory for natural disaster relief and restoration, of payments to Tasmania for the termination of the Gordon River Power Development, Stage Two, and of payments to Western Australia for the America's Cup Defence,
will be determined by the Minister for Finance.

The Minister for Health will be responsible for setting the terms and conditions of payments to the States, a Territory, a person (including a local government body) or an organization, for home and community care as specified in item 3 of Division 883 in Schedule 2. Payments for home and community care in item 4 of Division 950 in Schedule 2 will come under the responsibility of the Minister for Social Security.

Payments to the States or the Northern Territory for special research, the bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis eradication campaign, supplementary assistance for apple and pear exports, Australian Agricultural Council sponsored projects, canning tree removal, soil conservation, exotic disease preparedness, or for plant genetic resource storage facilities, will be made on terms and conditions determined by the Minister for Primary Industry. The Minister will also be responsible for the payments made to New South Wales for extensions to fishing port facilities or for construction of the grain handling terminal at Port Kembla which provide infrastructure support for steel regions.

The Minister for Resources and Energy will be responsible for setting the terms and conditions of payments to the Northern Territory for the Federal Water Resources Assistance Program.

Payments to Queensland for the subsidisation of diesel fuel costs of Great Barrier Reef island tourist resorts, and payments to a State for tourism projects which provide infrastructure support for the steel regions will be on terms and conditions set by the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism.

The Minister for Transport will be responsible for determining the terms and conditions applicable to payments to Tasmania for the construction of the second Hobart Bridge, to the States for road projects which provide infrastructure support for the steel regions, and to the Northern Territory for the upgrading of the Stuart Highway.

Payments to a State, a Territory, a person (including a local government body) or an organization for home help services under item 1 of Division 989 in Schedule 2 will be made according to terms and conditions set by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

For further information, if required, contact:

19 September 1984

Economics and Commerce Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE