Date Introduced: 12 May 1983
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. J.S. Dawkins, M.P., Minister for Finance

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To provide interim appropriations for expenditure on capital works and services, payments to or for the States and the Northern Territory, and certain other services, for the period 1 July to 30 November 1983.

Background

In the period 1 July to the introduction of the Budget in August, when the Appropriation Bills (Nos. 1 and 2) and the Appropriation Bill for Parliamentary Departments are introduced, authority to spend is obtained from the Supply Acts which provide expenditure for the period ending 30 November. It is expected that, by this date, the Appropriation Bills 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 $998,737,000 which is about 25.3 per cent greater than the amount provided by the Supply Act (No.2) 1982-83. The Minister outlined, in his Second Reading Speech, the main areas of increased spending. They include expenditure on the establishment costs of the proposed Medicare Medical Benefits arrangements, and increased grants for welfare housing (a decision of the former Government). The Bill does not anticipate decisions in respect of the 1983-84 Budget.

Main Provisions

Clause 3 allows the Minister for Finance to issue $998,737,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the
purposes outlined in the Schedule of the Bill for the 1983-84 financial year.

Clause 4 provides that payments to the States and the Northern Territory for natural disaster relief and restoration, must be made in accordance with terms and conditions determined by the Minister for Finance. With regard to supplementary assistance for apple and pear exports, the Minister for Primary Industry determines the terms and conditions of payments. The Minister for Transport is responsible for the terms and conditions of payments to Tasmania for the construction of the second Hobart Bridge.

Clause 5 provides that a reference to the Australian Broadcasting Commission in the Bill's Schedule, will be read, after the commencement of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act, as including a reference to the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

For further information, if required, contact:

17 May 1983
Economics and Commerce Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE