APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 1983-84

Date Introduced: 23 August 1983
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. Paul Keating, M.P., Treasurer

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To appropriate money from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the ordinary annual services of Government provided for in the 1983-84 Budget.

Background

The Second Reading Speech on Appropriation Bill No.1 is the vehicle used by the Treasurer to introduce the Budget for the current financial year. The Speech and attached statements (Budget Paper No.1) cover all expenditures of the Commonwealth Government in the year under all forms of appropriations and sources of revenue.

In accordance with section 81 of the Constitution, all revenues or moneys raised or received are paid to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund and, in accordance with section 83, no money shall be drawn from the Treasury except under appropriation made by law.

Appropriation Bill No.1 covers expenditure for the ordinary annual services of the Government, which the Senate does not have the power to amend. Appropriation Bill No.2 covers expenditure on capital works and services, payments to or for the States and other services not authorised by special legislation. As a result of the report of the Senate Select Committee on Parliament's Appropriations and Staffing, tabled on 18 August 1981, the appropriation for Parliamentary Departments in 1982-83 was made by a separate Bill. In previous years, such appropriation was included in Appropriation Bill (No.1). Authority to spend under these Bills lapses on 30 June.

Where the amount provided in the Appropriation Acts (Nos.1 and 2) is insufficient in a financial year, additional appropriation may be sought in further Appropriation Bills. These are commonly known as the Additional Estimates and also lapse on 30 June.
In the period between 30 June and the time of the Budget when Appropriation Bills (Nos. 1 and 2) are presented, authority to spend is obtained from Supply Acts (Nos. 1 and 2). These are normally passed a month or two before the beginning of the new financial year, and usually allow for not more than five months expenditure. The amounts authorised in the Supply Acts are later included in the Appropriation Acts (Nos. 1 and 2) of the financial year to which the expenditure relates.

Main Provisions

Clause 3 allows the Minister for Finance to spend $8,049,737,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund on items set out in Schedule 2, in the year ending 30 June 1984.

Under the Supply Act (No. 1) 1983-84, expenditure of $5,741,316,000 was authorized for the period 1 July 1983 to 30 November 1983. Clause 4 appropriates $13,791,053,000 for expenditure on items set out in Schedule 2. Of this, $8,049,737,000 is authorized by clause 3 of the Bill, the remaining $5,741,316,000 having been authorized by Supply Act (No. 1) 1983-84.

Clause 5 authorizes the Minister for Finance to pay, from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, additional amounts necessary for increases in salaries, for which provision is made in Schedule 2, which become payable during 1983-84 under any law, award, etc.

Clause 6 provides that the amounts paid under the Supply Act (No. 1) 1983-84 for increases in salaries are to be deemed to have been issued and applied under this Bill.

Clause 8 allows the Minister for Finance to pay sums from the Consolidated Revenue Fund in 1983-84 into the Loan Consolidation and Investment Reserve. This provision has been used in the past to handle surpluses arising in the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

Clause 9 provides that this Bill has effect subject to the Loan Act (No. 2) 1983.

For further information, if required, contact:

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26 August 1983