Date Introduced: 23 April 1980
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. W.C. Fife, Minister for Education

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To amend the States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1978 to -

i) adjust grants for 1979-81 in respect of cost increases;

ii) ensure that grants for 1981 for universities and colleges of advanced education are not expended on academic salaries which exceed the levels recommended by the Academic Salaries Tribunal.

Background

The States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1978 provides grants for tertiary education for the 1979-81 triennium. The grants were last adjusted for cost increases in November 1979.

In October 1979 the Commonwealth and State Ministers for Education, meeting as the Australian Education Council, agreed on the inclusion in the States Grants legislation of a condition aimed at ensuring that universities and colleges of advanced education pay academic salaries in accordance with the recommendations of the Academic Salaries Tribunal. This Bill will give effect to that decision from 1 January 1981.

Main Provisions

Clause 4 inserts a new sub-section 2AA which provides that grants for university purposes are payable to the States on the condition they ensure that universities will not pay academic salaries in excess of the levels recommended by the Academic Salaries Tribunal. Clause 8 makes the same provision for colleges of advanced education.
Clause 18 amends s.32 to require the States to repay to the Commonwealth funds equivalent to the amount of the total of the salaries paid to academics in excess of the levels recommended by the Academic Salaries Tribunal.

30 April 1980
Education and Welfare Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE