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JUDGES (LONG LEAVE PAYMENTS) BILL 1979

Date Introduced: 3 April 1979
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. R.I. Viner, Minister for Employment and Youth Affairs.

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To provide for payments in lieu of long leave upon the death in office or retirement of Judges of federal courts (other than the High Court), the Supreme Courts of the internal Territories and other persons having the status of Judges.

Background

The Background to this Bill is similar to that for the High Court Justices (Long Leave Payments) Bill 1979. Payments in lieu of long leave have been made to Judges of federal and Territory courts and other persons, such as presidential members of the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, if they retire or to their widows or dependants if they die in office. This practice has been criticized by the Senate Estimates Committees. The Bill makes provision for these Judges, similar to that made in the High Court Justices (Long Leave Payments) Bill 1979.

Provisions

Clause 4 provides for the payment on retirement after at least 10 years or death at any time before retirement of 5.2 weeks salary for every year of service less periods of long leave with a maximum of 52 weeks salary. Clause 5 provides that payment is to be made to the Judge or to his widow, dependents or legal personal representative.

Under clause 7 Judges who are removed from office are not entitled to payment unless the Governor-General directs otherwise.