SUPPLY BILL (No 1) 1979-80

Date Introduced: 10 May 1979
House: House of Representatives

Purpose

To provide interim appropriations for the ordinary annual services of the Government for about the first five months of 1979-80 until the Appropriation Bill (No 1) for 1979-80 (which will subsume the amounts in this Bill) is passed.

Provisions

Clause 3 permits the appropriation of $4,061,602,000 from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purposes specified in the Schedule during 1979-80.

Clause 4 permits the appropriation between 30 June 1979 and 30 November 1979 of additional moneys for increases in wage and salary award rates after 1 May 1979.

Background

Since the main part of the Budget for 1979-80 (Appropriation Bills (Nos 1 and 2)) is normally not introduced until August and not passed until October or November, interim appropriations have to be made through these Supply Bills to cover expenditure in the first few months. Appropriation Bills (Nos 1 and 2) subsume the amounts in Supply Bills (Nos 1 and 2) respectively.

However, the Minister in his second reading speech said that the provisions in the Bill are not to be interpreted as anticipating what amounts might be included in the 1979-80 Budget. The amounts appropriated in the Supply Bills are roughly based on five-twelfths of the expenditure for the previous year with adjustments for payments known to fall due within the supply period.

Both Supply Bills include $100 million for the Advance to the Minister for Finance. This is provided to enable the Minister for Finance to meet any unexpected
commitments during the year for which there is at the time no authorising legislation, eg if a Department suddenly needs more funds than is appropriated in a Supply Bill prior to the passage of the relevant Appropriation Bill. Most of the Advance to the Minister for Finance is recovered when the required legislation is passed.

Finance, Industries, Trade & Development Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE

15 May 1979