FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA AMENDMENT BILL 1979

Date Introduced: 6 June 1979
House: Senate
Presented by: Senator the Honourable F. Chaney, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To maintain present appointments and enable future appointments, of Judges of the Northern Territory Supreme Court to the Federal Court of Australia.

Background

This Bill is consequential on the Northern Territory Supreme Court (Repeal) Bill 1979 (see Digest). At present 4 resident Judges of the Northern Territory Supreme Court hold appointments to the Federal Court of Australia and a number of Federal Court judges hold appointments as additional Judges of the Northern Territory Supreme Court. This Bill will continue this arrangement and enable similar future appointments.

Main Provisions

Clause 3 amends s.6 of the Principal Act so that the qualification for appointment as a Federal Court Judge includes appointment to the Northern Territory Supreme Court which will no longer be a "court created by Parliament" within the meaning of the Act. A similar amendment is made to sub-section 6(5) in relation to the holding of dual appointments by Federal Court Judges.