To amend the Pollution of the Sea by Oil (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1972 to accord with the Navigation Amendment Bill 1979.

Background

One of the principal objects of the Navigation Amendment Bill 1979 is to give effect to a number of International Conventions to which Australia is a party. One of these is the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969 which lays down standard methods for computing tonnages.

The Pollution of the Sea By Oil (Shipping Levy Collection) Act 1972 together with the Pollution of the Sea by Oil (Shipping Levy) Act 1972 provides for the imposition of a levy on certain ships in Australian ports with oil on board. The rate of levy is laid down as an amount not exceeding 4 cents per ton of the tonnage of a ship. This Bill provides for tonnage measurements to be in accordance with the "register tonnage".

This term is used in the Navigation Amendment Bill 1979. For non-Convention ships "register tonnage" is that shown in the certificate of registry of a ship which is registered in a prescribed country. For other non-Convention ships it is a tonnage as determined in accordance with directions given by the Minister (New Section 405M in Part XA-Tonnage Measurement of Ships).

Provisions

Clause 3 of the Bill amends section 3 of the Act so as to give effect to the term "register tonnage".

12 June 1979