Date Introduced: 23 August 1979  
House: House of Representatives  
Presented by: Hon. J.E. McLeay, Minister for Administrative Services  

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To enable the Academic Salaries Tribunal to review salaries of staff at new Commonwealth tertiary institutions, for new categories of academic staff and for particular categories of academic staff without undertaking a general review.

Background

The Tribunal is established under the Remuneration Tribunals Act 1973 and is empowered to determine salaries for academic staff in institutions of tertiary education established under Commonwealth or Territory laws; these determinations have legal effect unless they are disallowed by either House of Parliament within the specified time.

The Tribunal also reviews and reports on salaries for Vice Chancellors and executive staff in these institutions and on academic salaries in institutions of tertiary education in the States. These reports do not have legal effect; accordingly, although they are tabled, they are not subject to disallowance.

The Act does not enable reviews for only some institutions or categories of staff.

Provisions

Clause 3 introduces more comprehensive definitions of the bodies covered by the legislation; these depend on definitions of "university" and "college of advanced education" in the Tertiary Education Commission Act 1977 and the effect is to exclude technical and further education institutions. The new terms are substituted in section 12C by clause 4.

Clause 5 repeals section 12D and replaces it with sections 12D to 12DD. The new material is in section 12DA, requiring determinations for new Commonwealth institutions; section 12DB requiring determinations and reports where new
categories of academic staff are created; and section 12DC enabling determinations and reports for particular categories of academic staff. All sections specifically state that no general review is required at these times.

The Bill is to come into operation at Royal Assent.

10 September 1979

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