OVERSEAS STUDENTS CHARGE COLLECTION BILL 1979

Date Introduced: 10 October 1979
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. M.J.R. MacKellar, Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To provide for the collection of the charge to be imposed by the Overseas Students Charge Bill 1979.

Background

See Digest of the Overseas Students Charge Bill 1979.

Provisions

Clause 4 provides that the charge in respect of the enrolment of an overseas student in a prescribed course for a year will be due for payment on the day the enrolment commences or 15 March, whichever is the later.

Clause 5 ensures that students will not be required to pay the charge twice if they change courses during the year.

Clause 6 provides that prospective students shall not be granted temporary entry permits unless the charge has been paid.

Clause 7 provides that students who have been granted scholarships by Commonwealth Departments or authorities, or who are the subject of arrangements between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and other countries, shall not be liable to pay the charge.

Clause 9 provides for the making of regulations. The Minister has indicated that the regulations will exempt the following categories of students from the charge:

a) postgraduate students on University or College scholarships of $3,500 p.a. or more

b) postgraduate students on Australian-American Educational Foundation awards
c) students on approved exchange agreements

d) external studies students coming to Australia

e) postgraduate students on fellowships awarded by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau, international organisations or overseas governments.

f) residents of external territories.

There will also be a number of categories of transitional exemptions for students already in Australia.

The regulations will also provide for full or partial refund of the charge in certain circumstances.

18 October 1979

Education and Welfare Group
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