Date Introduced: 10 May 1978
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. J. Howard, M.P., Treasurer and Acting Minister for Finance

**Short Digest of Bill**

**Purpose**

To provide interim appropriations for capital works and services, payments to or for the States and certain other services for about the first five months of 1978-79 until the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) for 1978-79 (which will subsume the amounts in this Bill) is passed.

**Background**

See Digest for Supply Bill (No. 1) 1978-79.

Supply Bill (No. 2) 1978-79 provides for a total of $592 million less than the $745 million for the equivalent Bill the previous year which in turn was less than the $818 million provided for 1976-77. However, since the Supply Bills are roughly based on a proportion of the previous year's expenditure, the reduction reflects more the cut in capital spending in 1977-78 than an expectation of a further cut in 1978-79. Appropriation Bill (No. 2) provided for only $1330 million in 1977-78 compared with $1725 million in 1976-77.

**Provisions**

Clause 3 provides for the appropriation from C.R.F. of $592,418,000 for the purposes specified in the Schedule during 1978-79.