Date Introduced: 13 April 1978
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. E. Robinson, Minister for Finance

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To appropriate moneys from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for commitments for the ordinary annual services of the Government in 1977-78 additional to those originally provided in Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1977-78.

Background

Appropriation Bills (No. 3) and (No. 4) or "the additional estimates" are usually introduced a few months before the end of each financial year to provide for new or essential and unavoidable expenditure commitments not included in Appropriation Acts (No. 1) and (No. 2) respectively in the original Budget at the beginning of the financial year.

In some cases, actual expenditure for a particular item turns out to be less than appropriated but such savings cannot be applied to another item where extra funds are needed unless in the same appropriation sub-division. A separate list of such savings based on current expectations has been provided by the Department of Finance "Statement of Savings Expected in Appropriations". The savings totalled $158 million for Appropriation Act (No. 1) 1977-78 and $50 million for Appropriation Act (No. 2) 1977-78.

Provisions

Appropriation Bill (No. 3) permits the appropriation from CRF of $283,232,000 for 1977-78 (clause 3) for the purposes specified in the Schedule to the Bill.

Some of the most significant items are:

- Commonwealth Police: $5.1
- Legal Aid Office: $4.9
- Construction: $8.9
ANU cost supplementation & 5.7 &  
N.E.A.T. & 30.7 &  
Home Savings Grant & 14.0 &  
Community Health Program & 5.7 &  
Ship purchases & 6.7 &  
Aged Persons Homes and Hostels & 6.0 &  
Australian National Railways - subsidy & 8.6 &  

The Schedule includes appropriations for increases in award rates payable since the last Budget, totalling $77 million.

16 May 1978

Finance, Industries, Trade and Development Group
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE