Date Introduced: 16 August 1978
House: House of Representatives
Presented by: Hon. Eric Robinson, M.P., Minister for Finance

Short Digest of Bill

Purpose

To exempt departments and authorities controlled by the Northern Territory Government from sales tax on goods purchased for their official use and not for sale.

Background

From 1 July 1978 the Northern Territory became a self-governing entity. The Bill will place Northern Territory Government Departments and authorities in the same position as regards exemptions from sales tax as Commonwealth and State Government Departments and authorities.

Provisions

Clause 2 provides that the amendment will be deemed to operate retrospectively as from 1 July 1978, the date the Northern Territory became self-governing.

Clause 3 relates to the amendments to be made to item 74 of the First Schedule to the Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act 1935. The First Schedule to this Act sets out the various categories of goods that are exempt from sales tax. Item 74 exempts the Commonwealth and States from sales tax and this clause will add the Northern Territory Government to these exemptions.

The amendments to item 74 proposed by clause 3 are designed to ensure that exemption will also apply under that item to goods for the official use and not for sale by Departments of the Government of the Northern Territory and authorities which are completely controlled by and the expenditure of which is exclusively borne by that Government, provided that, in the case of goods for the use of a Department or an authority of the Northern Territory, an arrangement has been made between the Governor-General and the Administrator-in-Council of the Northern Territory.
for the collection and payment by the Northern Territory of sales tax upon the sale value of goods sold by the Northern Territory, and by every such authority established under the law of the Northern Territory, in the conduct of an enterprise which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, is a trading enterprise.

22 August 1978

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