1990-91-92

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

BROADCASTING SERVICES (SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION BROADCASTING) AMENDMENT BILL 1992 (Amendments to be moved on behalf of the Government)

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by the authority of the Minister for Transport and Communications, Senator the Hon. Bob Collins)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed amendments will have no financial impact on the Commonwealth.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 amends proposed new section 100 so the Australian Broadcasting Authority must impose on all subscription television broadcasting licences a licence condition requiring them to provide domestic reception equipment on a rental basis, rather than just for purchase. This will provide consumers with protection from changes in technology, services not living up to expectations or services failing.

Clauses 2 and 3 amend proposed new section 102 so that it applies to all subscription television broadcasting services, not just those using satellite as a means of delivery. On equity grounds all subscription television broadcasting services should be subject to the same requirements for spending on new Australian drama as satellite subscription television broadcasting services. This amendment will ensure that opportunities are provided for the Australian drama production industry irrespective of the delivery technologies used.

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