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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Export Market Development Grants Amendment Bill 1982

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Trade and  
Resources the Rt Hon. J.D. Anthony)



## OUTLINE

This Bill provides for the amendment of the Export Market Development Grants Act 1974 to extend the operation of the scheme until 30 June 1988 and for a number of other changes including an increase in the grant ceiling, the introduction of promotional visit allowances and the extension of benefits to certain types of export promotional expenditures incurred by the Australian tourist and construction industries.

Certain technical changes necessary to facilitate the administration of the legislation have also been incorporated into the Bill.



## DESCRIPTION OF BILL

Clause 1 : Cites the short title of the Bill and identifies the Export Market Development Grants Act 1974 as the Principal Act.

Clause 2 : Provides for the Bill to come into operation on receipt of Royal Assent.

Sub-sections 3(1) and 4(2) and sections 5, 6 and 7 shall take effect from 1 July 1982.

Sub-section 4(1) shall have effect from 6 December 1978 and sub-sections 3(3) and 4(3) will come into operation on 1 July 1983.

Clause 3 : Paragraph 3(1)(a) deletes from the Principal Act the definition of 'Government sponsored promotion'.

Paragraph 3(1)(b) makes changes to the definition of 'grant entitlement' consequent upon changes to sections 15 and 16 of the Principal Act.

Paragraph 3(1)(c) provides a definition of 'recognised tourism promotion' and for the Secretary to the Department of Trade and Resources and the Secretary to the Department of Industry and Commerce, or their delegates, to authorise such a promotion by instrument in writing.

Sub-section 3(2) provides for 5 additional grant years.

Sub-section 3(3) amends the definition of 'recognised tourism provision' to restrict retrospective approval to the grant year 1982/83.

Clause 4 : Sub-section 4(1) corrects a typographical error in the Principal Act.

Sub-section 4(2) expands the fields of operation in which a person may be accorded 'approved body' status to include eligible services, eligible internal services, eligible industrial property rights and eligible know-how. The sub-section further provides for additional types of tourist industry expenditure, viz, promotional discounts (paragraph 4(2)(b)(cb) and the preparation of tenders and quotations (paragraph 4(2)(b)(ca). The sub-section also provides the basis on which the Export Development Grants Board is to assess tender and quotation costs claimed by the construction industry.

Sub-section 4(3) outlines circumstances in which expenses involved in respect of travel, accommodation, sustenance or entertainment may be claimed.

Clause 5 : Repeals and replaces section 6 of the Principal Act setting minimum levels of expenditure to be incurred in the promotion of eligible tourist services.

Clause 6 : Defines 'export earnings'. This definition is currently incorporated in the Export Expansion Grants Act 1978, the last grant year of which ends on 30 June 1983. The export earnings requirement is redefined for the purposes of the Principal Act.

Clause 7 : Repeals and replaces sections 15 and 16 of the Principal Act. New provisions pertaining to the introduction of 'promotional visit allowances', are set out in section 15. The grant rate and provision for a higher grant ceiling are included in the redrafted section 16.

Clause 8 : Provides for the disclosure of pecuniary interests by members of the Export Development Grants Board in line with the recommendations of the Bowen Committee on Public Duty and Private Interest.

Clause 9 : Provides that the Board may delegate powers of the Board to any member of the Board.

Clause 10: Obliges the Export Development Grants Board to notify, in writing, any claimant affected by a decision of the Board.

Clause 11: Obliges the Export Development Grants Board, where it has notified a claimant of a decision, to also notify the person of his rights of appeal against the Board's decision.

