

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT (FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) BILL 1995

GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT

General Outline

This amendment has been prepared to reflect the Government's commitment to consult with the States and representatives of Local Government in the formulation of national principles by its preparedness to subject these principles to parliamentary scrutiny.

Notes on Amendment

Amendment (1)

This amendment inserts new subclauses 6(6) and (7).

Subclause 6(6) provides that any instrument formulating, revoking or varying national principles shall be a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*, ie. the instrument is to be gazetted and placed before each House of Parliament and may be disallowed by either House.

Subclause 6(7) provides that if there are no national principles in force under the section, the elements the Minister is to have regard to in formulating national principles as set out in subclauses 6(2) and (3), namely, horizontal equalisation, minimum per capita payments and effort neutrality, will be the principles the State Grants Commissions must adopt in making their recommendations.

Financial Impact

This amendment has no separate financial impact.

