

1989

PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

SENATE

MIGRATION AMENDMENT BILL 1989

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of the
Minister for Immigration, Local Government
and Ethnic Affairs
Senator The Hon Robert Ray

MIGRATION AMENDMENT BILL 1989

GENERAL OUTLINE

The Bill gives legislative effect to elements of the Master Plan for Passenger Processing (the Plan) as they relate to the Migration Amendment Act (No 2) 1988 (the 1988 Act) which cannot be proclaimed in its present form for some time.

Section 6AA of the 1988 Act was intended to implement part of the Plan by allowing all visas, issued after commencement of that provision where the person enters Australia in certain circumstances, to operate as an entry permit upon entry. The 1988 Act was to be proclaimed when the computer support systems for such visas were in place; however, some overseas posts are not yet so equipped and will remain so in the near future. Accordingly, as section 6AA currently refers to all visas to be issued after its commencement, the 1988 Act cannot be proclaimed and the procedural and administrative benefits to be conferred by it are not available in relation to a large number of visas which could otherwise be operating in accordance with section 6AA.

The Bill is essential, both from an administrative point of view and to take advantage of the computer technology already installed at considerable cost, so that the amended section 6AA of the 1988 Act may be proclaimed immediately.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There will be no effect on either Commonwealth revenue or Commonwealth expenditure as a result of this Bill.

NOTES ON INDIVIDUAL CLAUSES

Clause 1 - Short Title

1 Provides for the Act to be cited as the Migration Amendment Act 1989.

Clause 2 - Commencement

2 Provides that the Act shall come into operation immediately after the commencement of section 7 of the Migration Amendment Act (No 2) 1988.

Clause 3 - Entry permitted by visa

3 Provides that section 6AA of the 1988 Act, is amended to refer to an 'entry visa' which is in force and which is to be in a manner and form determined in writing by the Minister. In such a way the visas which will operate under the master plan are to be distinguished from other visas.