

1987

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1987

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister representing the
Minister for Education)

STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1987

GENERAL OUTLINE OF BILL

The purpose of the Bill is to -

1. Supplement existing financial provisions relating to the 1987 and 1988 calendar years to take into account increases in price levels.
2. Enable capital grants for non-government schools in 1988 and subsequent years to be allocated as a block grant for distribution by approved block grant authorities.
3. Implement the Government's decision that full fee paying private overseas secondary students will not be eligible for general recurrent grants.
4. Make a technical amendment to enable alterations to be made to the list of schools.

Financial Impact

The Bill provides an estimated \$18 million increase in appropriations for schools programs in 1987, bringing 1987 schools funding to an estimated total of \$1629 million, consisting of \$1247 million for general recurrent grants, \$214 million for capital grants and \$168 million for specific purpose grants.

The Bill also provides an estimated \$9 million increase for schools programs in 1988.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1: Short title

Clause 2: Commencement

Act commences upon Royal Assent.

Clause 3: Interpretation

Inserts definition of a 'full fee paying private overseas secondary student'.

Clause 4: Determination of levels of funding for eligible new arrivals

Amends financial provision.

Clause 5: List of approved school systems

Amends section 6D in respect of non-government systemic schools to amend the date from which a variation can be made to the list of approved schools.

Clause 6: Non-government non-systemic schools - variation of list etc.

Amends section 7C in respect of non-government non-systemic schools in the same way as for section 6D.

Clause 7: Grants for recurrent expenditure in connection with government schools

Inserts new section 11A to provide that full fee paying private overseas secondary students will not be included in calculating numbers of students in government schools for the purposes of the payment of general recurrent grants.

Clause 8: Approval of block grant authorities

Inserts new sections 25A and 25B to provide for the approval of a body corporate as a block grant authority for the distribution of capital grants for non-government schools, and to provide the framework for the capital grants program for non-government schools from 1988.

Clause 9: Limits of grants under section 26 etc.

Amends financial provision.

Clause 10: Systemic schools - limits on funding where a number of students are full fee paying private overseas secondary students

Inserts new section 28C in respect of non-government systemic schools to make similar provision as for section 11A.

Clause 11: Non-systemic schools - limits on funding where a number of students are full fee paying private overseas secondary students

Inserts new section 29C in respect of non-government non-systemic schools to make similar provision as for section 11A.

Clauses 12-13: Limits on grants under sections 52 and 70B

Amend financial provisions.

Clause 14: Schedules

Substitutes new financial schedules to provide for increases in price levels.

Clause 15: Payments made before Royal Assent

Provides that payments (including advances) of grants under the Principal Act are not duplicated by payments under the Principal Act as amended.

