1988

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATES GRANTS (SCHOOLS ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1988

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Employment, Education and Training, The Hon J.S.Dawkins MP)

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GENERAL OUTLINE

The main purpose of this Bill is to supplement existing financial provisions in the <u>States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act 1984</u> for the 1988 calendar year to take account of increases in price levels. The Bill also removes the requirement that proposed non-government schools be able to demonstrate that they have reasonable prospects of financial viability prior to receiving approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Bill provides an estimated additional \$21.6 million in appropriations for schools programs in 1988, bringing 1988 schools funding to a total of \$1,797 million, consisting of \$1,376 million for general recurrent grants, \$231 million for capital grants and \$190 million for specific purpose grants.

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NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 : short title.

Clause 2 : the date of effect of removal of the financial viability criterion (see clause 3) is 25 May 1988. The rest of the Act to commence upon Royal Assent.

Clauses 3 to 5: enables cost supplementation to be provided in respect of general recurrent grants to those non-government schools and systems which have implemented in 1988 the 3% productivity superannuation agreement.

Clause 6 : amends certain amounts in the Act to allow for price increases and removes the requirement that proposed non-government schools be able to demonstrate that they have reasonable prospects of financial viability prior to receiving approval.

<u>Clause 7</u>: amends the financial schedules to the Act to allow for price increases.

<u>Clause 8</u>: technical drafting matter.