1985

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATES GRANTS (EDUCATION ASSISTANCE -PARTICIPATION AND EQUITY)

AMENDMENT BILL (NO 2) 1985

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the Minister for Education, Senator the ton. Susan Ryan)

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STATES GRANTS (EDUCATION ASSISTANCE -PARTICIPATION AND EQUITY) AMENDMENT BILL (NO 2) 1985

OUTLINE

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the States Grants (Education Assistance - Participation and Equity) Act 1983 to:

- supplement for cost increases the grants available to government and non-government education authorities in the States and the Northern Territory to conduct projects and programs under the Participation and Equity Program (PEP) in the years 1985 and 1986.
- to put into effect the Government's decision to extend the program to 1987 and to spread the funds currently provided for 1986 evenly over 1986 and 1987. The present Act as amended provides funds for PEP activities in 1984, 1985 and 1986.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The financial impact of this Bill will be to provide an additional \$0.624 million in 1985, to reduce the amount currently legislated for 1986 by \$38.462 million and to provide an additional \$42.423 million for 1987.

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- Clause 1 Short title.
- <u>Clause 2</u> provides that legislation will come into operation on the day on which it receives Royal Assent.
- <u>Clause 3</u> amends Section 4 of the Principal Act. It provides for a definition of the year 1987.
- <u>Clause 4</u> amends Section 5 of the Principal Act to extend the operation of the Act to 1987.
- <u>Clause 5</u> provides a new Section 8B in the Principal Act which places a limit on payments to the States in respect of Government schools projects and programs in 1986.
- <u>Clause 6</u> provides a new Section 12B in the Principal Act which places a limit on payments to the States in respect of non-government schools projects and programs in 1986.
- <u>Clause 7</u> provides a new Section 15B in the Principal Act which places a limit on payments to the States in respect of TAFE institutions projects and programs in 1986.
- <u>Clause 8</u> amends Section 18 of the Principal Act. It places a limit on payments to the States in 1985 and 1986 in respect of projects and programs which are not conducted in schools or TAFE institutions. Such projects may be conducted by community organizations and are funded from the amounts provided for government schools and TAFE institutions.
- <u>Clause 9</u> amends Section 21 of the Principal Act. It places a limit on payments to the States in 1985 and 1986 in respect of projects and programs of national significance.

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- <u>Clause 10</u> amends Section 22A of the Principal Act. It places a limit on payments to the States in 1985 and 1986 in respect of projects and programs related to Aboriginal education.
- <u>Clause 11</u> amends the existing Section 24 of the Principal Act to include a limit on total payments to the States for the year 1987.
- <u>Clause 12</u> provides for a new Section 25B in the Principal Act which allows the Commonwealth Minister, acting on a request from a State Education Minister, to transfer funds provided for 1986 between the government schools sector and the TAFE sector. Existing Sections 25 and 25A provide for such action in relation to 1984 and 1985 funds.
- <u>Clause 13</u> provides for new financial tables which will cost supplement 1985 funds and provide funds for government schools, non-government schools and TAFE institutions in 1986.
- Clause 14 provides for minor and consequential amendments.
- <u>Clause 15</u> provides that payments made under the Principal Act shall be deemed to have been made for the purposes of that Act as amended by the changes proposed in this Bill.