

1980-82

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATES GRANTS (TERTIARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE)

AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1981

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

(Circulated by authority of the
Minister for Education the Hon. Wal. Fife)

- Clause 6 : Grants for expenditure by colleges of advanced education on college purposes This clause, relating to colleges of advanced education, contains provisions similar to those in Clause 5
- Clause 7 : Grants for expenditure in connection with the provision of courses of advanced education at technical and further education institutions. This clause, relating to the provision of advanced education courses in TAFE institutions, contains provisions similar to those in Clauses 5 and 6.
- Clause 8 : Carry-forward of amounts specified in Schedule 8. Fees income is to be taken into account in determining whether colleges of advanced education and TAFE institutions have incurred over-expenditure or under-expenditure of their annual grants on advanced education purposes.
- Clause 9 : Grants to Northern Territory for recurrent expenditure in respect of courses of advanced education, etc This clause, relating to the provision of courses of advanced education at institutions in the Northern Territory, contains provisions similar to those in Clauses 5, 6, 7 and 8.
- Clause 10: Grants for courses of teacher education provided by non-government teachers colleges. This clause, relating to the provision of teacher education courses by non-government teachers colleges, contains provisions similar to those in Clauses 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9
- Clause 11: Further recurrent grants in relation to advanced education. This clause relates to the provision of recurrent grants to colleges of advanced education which were listed in Column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 8 to the States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1978 but not listed in Schedule 8 of the 1981 Act. The clause applies provisions similar to those in Clauses 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.
- Clause 12: Grants for recurrent expenditure. The purpose of this clause is to exclude advanced education courses conducted by TAFE institutions, from the general condition that TAFE institutions should not charge tuition fees.
- Clause 13: Report by the Minister. The purpose of this clause is to require the Minister to table in Parliament

annual reports setting out details of his determinations of the amounts of money from fees charged by universities, colleges of advanced education, TAFE institutions, institutions conducting advanced education courses in the Northern Territory and non-government teachers colleges.

NOTES ON CLAUSES

Clause 1 : Short title

Clause 2 : Commencement date

Clause 3 : Interpretation

Clause 4 : Determinations with respect to fees. This clause empowers the Minister to make determinations as to the circumstances in which students should be charged tuition fees for university and advanced education courses. The clause prescribes the limits within which such determinations may be made viz. fees may not be charged for students who -

- . do not hold a degree, diploma or equivalent award
- . commenced a particular course before January 1982
- . have paid charges levied under the Overseas Students Charge Act 1979 or are exempted from such charges under Section 7 of the Overseas Students Charge Collection Act 1979.

The clause also prescribes that no student may be charged a fee in excess of \$1,000 per year.

The clause requires the Minister to Gazette determinations.

Clause 5 : Grants for expenditure on university purposes. This clause makes provision for the Minister to determine the amount of money from the annual tuition fees charges of each university (on the basis of information supplied to him by the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission) and to reduce the recurrent grant to each university by that amount.

It is to be a condition of recurrent grants that the States ensure that institutions charge fees in accordance with the Minister's determinations and the limitations set out in Clause 4.

Fees income is to be taken into account in determining whether a university has incurred over-expenditure or under-expenditure of the annual grant.

OUTLINE

States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 1981

The purpose of this Bill is to provide for the charging of tuition fees on a limited basis in tertiary education institutions in the States and in the Northern Territory. The Bill amends the States Grants (Tertiary Education Assistance) Act 1981.

